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A letter that was sent to Free Riders press. I figure it would be easiest to answer the question as I went.

Dudes- I have a couple of issues to bring up. It's nice to read Laura's stories again. But I thought she was done writing for the FRP! And I was sad to see her go from your paper.

Laura's never been gone from the FRP, she just goes on hiatus for extended periods like all the FRP writers do from time to time.

So is she going to be a regular column again?

Laura is welcome to write whenever the mood hits.

It would be great to ride around the US of A! I would love that except I became a victim of unemployment. Anybody have a job handy?

I am thinking this letter may land you something. Job Wanted in Minneapolis area... Inquire within.

But back to the article. Laura has kids? A 22 year old daughter? How is that possible. Laura looks 22 yrs old herself. No I've never met her in person, I'm just going by the picture in the paper!

She feels young, therefore she looks young.

And for those of "us" like me for instance, who is Dave? I'll just assume he's her Hubby or boyfriend or something.

Laura is a single woman. She said bring it on.

Her new place sounds very nice. But wait, I've been meaning to ride out to her shop to see about getting a mug made, but I guess I waited to long to go to Silver Creek. Now I get to ride around Buffalo. How do we put in an order for a mug?

I'm thinking give her a call at the studio 763-682-1180

Laura is right though, we as riders should support groups like ABATE and St. Croix Valley Riders etc.

Now the other thing I noticed is the picture of Dave Zien with Tony "Pan" must be from like 30 years ago! Because there's two other pictures of Dave. The bottom pic with Preacher, Tommy & Tony must be from 15 years ago, and the top picture with Sue. What the hell happened? He grew a great big Santa Clause beard, and looks like he's about 80 yrs old! Apparently this Dave person has been around for a while, living on his bike. A million miles worth, holy crap! Talk about a sore butt.

Bikers can change as fast as the weather. We all know that.

What is an Apache tear stone?

It's a black stone that comes with a story. I will let him know to explain them some time.

I've always wanted to write something for your paper but never got around to it and didn't know what! Till I read this issue of FRP. (May issue) Now I'm not bitchin'. I seen this stuff and told myself wait a minute, I think I've got something to say now.

Recently I went on my first Flood Run, WOW! It appears as though Wisconsin people really, really like to ride! Maybe more than Minnesota riders?

I think we all in the upper mid west ride our ass's off due to the short season.

I met some very nice people over there along Hwy 35 in some of those small towns. Oh man I've never seen so many bikes in one place.

Check out Tomahawk Fall Ride in September if you want to see bikes.

No I've not been to Sturgis Rally yet. Well, I tink it would be fun to ride around and then write about my not as exciting stories as Laura's, or Skypilot's or Ken's or Dave's, but then maybe some of your Wisconsinites might like hearing about stuff over here.

We encourage ALL riders to let us know of any great times that where had in the saddle. We all have places and events we could share with others. Spread the wealth, man. As far as the other writers, they say the, "Truth is Stranger than Fiction". For all intent and purposes that's true.

Like are any of you going to the Minnesota State Hog Rally in Duluth in June?

I'm not but get some picture's, write a short story of how good a time you had and send it in.

I'll be hanging with the TCHD North Metro Chapter in the parade. One other thing, I thought FRP was pulling out of Minnesota?

We pulled in the rains a bit. Instead of having papers at 100 plus place's, we mainly send to the dealerships along the border.

I realize it was due to the lack of advertisers over here.

That's an understatement. I was there for over 5 years hot and heavy. I started the FRP in St. Cloud for crying out loud. My bet is that most of the business's in MN thought they were above a great, personal and down to earth paper. Most had gloss in their eyes. Hope it worked for you. To the ones that advertised with me like Hardtails in St. Cloud, Maximum Motor sports in Brainerd, a few select bars and other shop that allowed Minnesotans to keep the paper coming for even that long, deserve a round of applause.

But there has got to be a bunch more places along the border that should at least consider advertising and carrying your paper? Has anyone checked into this? Maybe there has and the folks were a little tight with the pennies.

Yes, I still have papers going up and down along the border. Most places are happy with the clientele they get at the moment. Did you say you needed a job?

Anyway, I know that I'm one person in the big city that enjoys reading your paper.

And it's because of riders like you that I keep putting it out.

Once a month I make the trip up to the Harley dealership to get it and can't wait to get home to read it. Forgive me if my grammar isn't that good, but I'd rather be holding a wrench than an ink pen. I can't do the computer because I don't have one, let alone know how to use one. Well enough of my blubbering. I need to go for a ride. So if this makes it to print, wow that would be cool, otherwise I hope someone just enjoys reading this stuff anyway.

So thanks for letting me air out my thoughts. Keep on riding and I hope to see you on the road.

Thanks

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