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To Build A Harley Davidson Motorcycle

Elwood always loved motorcycles. Ever since he met Jaysee he had wanted to build a Harley Davidson motorcycle from scratch. He loved looking at Jaysee's Knucklehead, running his hand along the flowing lines and pretending that his hair and beard were being buffeted by the howling highway wind. After an intense conversation with a "shade-tree" mechanic at a certain swap meet, Elwood decided to go and get himself a job building Harley Davidson motorcycles. "Why, if that ol' boy can do it, how hard can it be?" he asked no one in particular.



Elwood packed a bag, said goodbye to mama and the dog, and set out for "Harley Heaven," Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USofA. This was no mean trick, to hitch-hike all the way to Milwaukee, in those days. Elwood didn't realize that no bikers could give him a lift with the tote he was carrying. One fella in an old Ford station wagon stopped and Elwood crowded into the back seat with four kids and two dogs. Most of the rest of the way he waited in truck stops for good hearted truckers to give him a ride.

When Elwood got to the great Midwest, he located the Harley Davidson motorcycle factory just outside of Milwaukee. It was an impressive plant compared with anything around Elwood's hometown, and Elwood became excited to go to work there, building Harley Davidson motorcycles. Bright and early on Monday morning, Elwood went to Harley and made an application to go to work for Harley Davidson, assuming that filling out the paperwork correctly would be all the qualifications he would need. "How hard can it be to be a motorcycle mechanic, anyway?" he asked no one in particular.

Well, Harley had some other idea about that, so Elwood found himself out on the street with no job. When what little food mama had fixed him had run out, Elwood became a little desperate for some kind of income. He decided that he would either embark on a life of crime, or have to give up putting together Harley Davidson motorcycles, at least for the time being. As he wandered around an industrial park looking for something to earn eating money, he came across a little two-bit bike shop with a note in the window that said, "Help Wanted." I guess you could say that this was a sign. Elwood went inside and was hired – to put together motorcycles! "A dream come true! How hard can it be?" he said to himself.

Over the next few weeks, Elwood learned how to put together a motorcycle. It wasn't much of a motorcycle, well, in fact, it was just a two-bit scooter. But Elwood was putting it together. It was almost, real close, to what his dream had always been. He would spend his day getting parts out of a bin that had been loaded somewhere overseas, cleaning them up, and assembling them into something that looked, sort of, like a Harley Davidson motorcycle.

Elwood settled into his new job, and pretended that he was building Harley Davidson motorcycles. It was almost as good as the real thing, but, not really. The Two-Bit, that's what Elwood called it, was a "knock-off," and everyone knew it. The parts came from all over the globe – globalization, they called it – and it took some real wrenchin', and bangin', and filin' and forcin', to get them to fit

together. The finished product had a lifetime guarantee. It was guaranteed for the life of the product. If it quit working, well, it was dead!

Somewhere deep down, Elwood knew he wasn't really living the dream. It was all pretense. He was getting paid to put together fake parts to make a fake motorcycle, that wasn't worth the money one paid for it. He thought he had chosen against a life of crime, but what he was doing made him feel like a criminal. What Elwood was getting paid wasn't worth what the job was costing him in the end. You can't take fake parts and make them into the real thing. What he was building was really a counterfeit of the real thing. His desire had been to build Harley Davidson motorcycles, but he had settled for something far less than that, and it was humiliating. Elwood decided it was time to get real, and determined to do whatever was necessary for him to become a real builder of real Harley Davidson motorcycles. And he did.

Many of us today have experienced an Elwood moment. We have settled for something less than real living. We have followed a wandering path through life, wondering if – knowing - there is something more than we have yet experienced. We have enjoyed many blessings, living in the greatest country the world has known 'til now, but most of us seem unaware of where these blessing come from, and are unacquainted with the One who has blessed us so much. There is a real life that God intends for his children, which goes far beyond the daily grind that most of us are living.

We don't just accidentally fall into this real life, we have to prepare for it. The Bible calls this being "born again." By the grace of God, through faith – that He provides – we can be saved from our sinful existence and be born into God's family. Our dream of heaven will come true, and God will give us strength and grace to live our everyday lives for His glory, as long as we are upon this earth. However, you can't take fake religion and make it into the real thing. The Bible tells us that we must repent of our sins and turn to God to be saved. Elwood found out that his wages weren't satisfying, and we know that the wages of sin is death. That will satisfy no one. But Jesus Christ died on the cross for us – in our place – that whoever would believe in him should not die, but have eternal life. God is willing to forgive and cleanse all who will receive Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, and make them part of His real family Come to Him, today. He's calling you. "How hard can it be?" Jesus already did the hard part.

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Dave Zien Attends Bike Show

His First Appearance Since March Bike Crash

On June 5, 2011 Zien appeared at the Graybeard Promotions Bike Show in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Always eager to help out where he can, his appearance helped boost attendance at the show that raises money for Children's Hospital. He was kept busy all day autographing photos of himself on his record winning FXR for well wishers. This was his first major outing since his crash and it did him good to be among his family of bikers again. It was also a treat for the many riders who stopped by to shake his hand, pose for a picture or thank him for all he has done for the motorcycle community. We wish Dave the best and whatever he chooses to do in the coming months, he has the support of tens of thousands of admirers.

Watch for Motorcycles Campaign Continues

If your vehicle has a Watch for Motorcycles cling or magnet on the bumper and its spotted by one of our motorcycle team members, you could win \$1,000. If you find a card on your windshield like the one to the left, read the instructions carefully and participate in this free drawing. If you need a bumper cling or magnet, contact Tony Pan at 1-800-800-5678 or email him at pan@hupy.com and request your cling or magnet.

The drawing will take place on October 9, 2011 at the ABATE of Wisconsin State Seminar. You need not be present or a member of ABATE to be eligible. Three prizes will be awarded for Illinois and three for Wisconsin: \$1,000, \$250 and \$150. If the grand prize winner in either state is an ABATE of Wisconsin member at the time of the drawing, we will donate another \$500 to ABATE of Wisconsin. This program is solely sponsored by Hupy and Abraham S.C. and is not a promotion of ABATE of Wisconsin.

Have a wonderful riding season, be safe and good luck if you're entered in the bumper sticker drawing.

Sincerely,

Tony "Pan" Sanfelipo

Hupy and Abraham S.C.

For the full story go to

http://myemail.constantcontact.com/News-from-the-desk-of-Tony-Pan.html?soid=1102681823029&aid=C7rPb9jJViE



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