

Road Dogs MC Hog Roast 2005

Started to pack the stuff on the bike at noon on Friday. I tried to keep the comments like "Just How Much Stuff Do You Need"? to a minimum and said things like, "For only three days you can wear the same clothes the whole time". I eventually went with, "Just put it here in a pile and I'll find a place for it somewhere!". Ended up even finding room for my little stove and coffee fixing stuff.

We arrived at the Gin Mill at around 3:30. Rode to the spot way in the back of the field north of the bar and band tent. Set up the tent and got all situated. Had a little time so got back on the bike and rode up to the free beer trailer. First one tasted very good. Had some time before the entertainment so rode to Fountain City. Picked up a few items that would be high priced at the party and headed back. Got to the big tent about when Tuck Pence was about to start. He is up on the stage with one of the Road Dogs. He tells the biker to go down by us cause, "Mike has a joke to tell you". He says, "That's Mike and Marcia from Neillsville". Anyway we ended up swapping a few jokes. Tuck played for 3 hours or so. Beer was tasting better all the time which was something for tap Old Milwaukee Light. Not much for choices this year.

The next band, 7 Day Weekend, started at around 11:00. We checked out the entertainment in the club a few times and watched the strippers but Marcia didn't seem very interested. Back to the band. We finally worked our way up front and were right by the speakers and the bass guitar player. They were doing Metallica and such and Marcia was really getting in to it. The bass player gave her a thumbs up when they finished their last song. Must have been around 2 when they finished. We got back to the tent at 2:15 or so and I think that we fell asleep as we were laying down.

Somebody rode up to the tent next to us at 5:00 AM and woke those people up. Of course they woke us up also too!! We went back to sleep but I got up at 6:00 and made some coffee in my kitchen. I walked around till 7 and went back to the tent. It was then I found out that Marcia hadn't packed a towel. I had to change my t shirt so I could use the old one for a towel. Otherwise you can wear three days worth. At 8 we left for a ride. Ended up in Durand with the thought of riding to Rice Lake for a poker run. It was about this time that the amount of tap beer consumed the night before started to catch up with me. Turned west to Prescott and rode back south on "35". There was seemingly hundreds on bikers in town. Stopped at a few places and towns, finally felt good enough to try to drink a diet Pepsi. Having some fun now!!! Watched some bikers, some boaters, and other things for awhile in Alma.

Got back to the party at 2:00 or so and Marcia wanted to try to take a nap. I walked down and found some people from my short time hanging around with a motorcycle club. Talked the them for an hour or so and went back to the band tent. Tried some of the rootbeer and it seemed like it was going to stay with me. Found Marcia and we decided to wait there for Tuck to sing.

About that time the roast pig was done and they started serving food. Good stuff!!!! Always good food and plenty of it. After eating I walked back to the tent and got our chairs and we settled in.

Watched Great White set up their equipment. Tuck was going to use their stuff so he did his sound checks in about 10 min. Then Great White did theirs and it literally took hours. They went through most of Tuck's time and he ended up only getting about an hours time. He seemed a little frustrated but said it didn't bother him too much. While Tuck was singing, the next band "Next to Nothing" set up their equipment.

At about 7 they started to play and were a heavy metal type band. Tried a different approach to the beer and bought a can instead of the tap beer. Still wasn't happening. We took the chairs back to the tent and sat there for an hour or so listening to the band. Sat there while the sun set, no bugs and just a nice breeze.

Went back to the band tent and walked around but Marcia didn't want to walk much cause of the bruise on her leg. We had gone for a little ride Thursday and came close to hitting a deer. Went into emergency braking mode and almost lost control. Bike was fishtailing, deer was in front, and at the last possible instant it was over and no crash. Marcia's feet had come off the footpegs during the fishtailing and must have banged back into a peg. Big black and blue with green spreading out.

At about 10 or so we went back and snuck some more roast pig dinner but smaller than the first time. They just keep it going till it is all gone. They still had roast pork sandwiches till after midnight.

At 11:30 Great White started to play and Marcia wasn't very impressed. We hung around till midnight or so and Marcia was ready to sleep. They still had to do the "naughty t shirt" contest and the bike bonfire to do later. Went back to the tent and fell asleep to the gentle tones of Great White. I woke up at 2:18 to hear the bike on top of the bonfire. They drain out the oil from the engine before they put it on top of the pile. Then they tie the throttle open and start it up. Then they start the fire. Some places they sell guesses on how long it will run before it blows up and then start the fire. Some fireworks went off and the bonfire was going but I went back to sleep.

Slept in till 6, went for coffee. Walked around the grounds and viewed some after effects being slept off. Packed up and headed out. Were going to stop at The White Pig in Mondovi but it wasn't open, stopped at the Norske Nook in Osseo for some eggs. Got home in time to sleep through most of the NASCAR race. Now time to plan for the next adventure.

2006 party June 9th-10th-11th for info www.ginmillinc.com or call 608-687-4466.

