## **Chicagoland Toys for Tots Motorcycle Parade**

This year is the 30th Anniversary of the Chicagoland Toys for Tots Motorcycle Parade to assist the 60th year of the USMCR Toys for Tots program. Back in 1978 six bikers started a little Toy ride in Chicago to assist underprivileged children. Unbelievable that what was once six is now known as the World's Largest Toys for Tots Motorcycle Parade! Every year thousands of motorcycle riders deliver brand new toys to assist the Marines Toys for Tots program on the First Sunday in December. This year it is on December 2, 2007. For a printable poster reminder visit our web site. Line up begins at 6:00 am at Dan Ryan Woods at 83rd Street and Western. Parade departure is scheduled for 9:30 am. It may start earlier if there is a large turn out. We ask all participants in the woods to recite the Pledge of Allegiance at 9:11 to honor and respect our fallen soldiers. The traditional patriotic balloon release honoring our POW's and MIA's kicks off thousands of iron sleighs led by Santa and his elves on white Harley Davidson's behind a replica 1954 Santa Fe Train. The toy-bearing motorcyclist attending will than proceed for 17 miles northbound to the 24TH Marine Reserve Center located at Foster and Troy Avenue to deliver their toys. NOTE: Traffic can be affected in all local areas surrounding Western Avenue from approximately 9:00 am thru 2:30 pm. If you do not plan to participate: PLEASE RE-ROUTE to avoid possible traffic congestion. The parade will be divided into four or five groups of motorcycles, to allow traffic and pedestrians to cross Western Avenue. There will be an express, ride-thru drop-off area south of the woods (near the corner 87th street), for those riders who wish to drop off their toy donations and leave, just follow the signs.

All the Anniversary 30 year parade product and run pins are now in stock. The sweatshirts have our Bear Logo in color on the front and again on the back in black and white. This year our collectible glass Christmas ornament number 5 has a gloss black finish, with our mascot Bear inside celebrating 30 years. They are only \$10.00 each. Our second year glass like crystal thanks Chicagoland via laser artistry inside. Even though it is larger than last year's crystal they are still only \$15.00 each .All of the aforementioned items highlight 30 years of aiding children. New for this year is a limited amount of TFT Bikers Bells, they are only \$10.00. Also generic Toys for Toys Patch is available .As you know our items sell fast, so get your Christmas shopping done before the Parade Day. Product will be available at the following motorcycle dealers: Oak Lawn, Chi -Town, and Illinois Harley Davidson dealers, and also Otto Brothers and the Zone. In the last seven years we have donated over \$900,000 to assist children organization, families and individuals throughout Chicagoland with brand new toys and monetary distributions.

Proudly our toy collections assist the 60th USMCR Toys for Tots Program on parade day. So remember our soldiers by patriotically waving the American and Military flags along the parade route. Toys can be dropped off either at Dan Ryan Woods at 83rd & Western or the Marine Center at 3034 West Foster the day of the Parade. Types of toys needed are as follows: board game, educational toys, radios, sports equipment, and dolls PLEASE NOTE: NO USED TOYS AND NO PLUSH TOYS. Due to hygienic restrictions, many institutions will no longer accept them. They might look adorable but many of them become very dirty by the end of the Parade. Volunteers are always needed, so become part of the fun and join, as there are many jobs that need assistance. For more Parade Information: watch the Emmy award winning Toys for Tots TV show via Chicago cable Channel- 21 every Tuesday .It is a live call in show, so tune in at 6:30 pm via CAN-TV. They will be on every week until 12/18/2007. You may also call their Parade Hot Line at: 773-866 - TOYS or visit their web site: www.ChicagolandTFT.org



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The US Congress is considering a NATIONAL HELMET LAW.

Call or write, tell them you OPPOSE a NATIONAL HELMET LAW!

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