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Shortly afterward guys began to make their own handlebars and replace the factory fat-bob gas tanks with Mustang motorbike and H-D Sportster tanks for a leaner appearance. Many Chopper builders swapped their stock front forks with hydraulic Sportster units that had the dampening tubes lengthened.

The Custom Chopper frames were often cut at the steering head and altered to sit higher or lower. Sometimes the frame neck area would be lengthened or stretched-out to achieve a longer look.

Old School Chopper- A true Chopper style motorcycle that reflects the minimalist design elements of the Chopper's built in the 40's through the 70's. These old school bikes can only be built by the owner/rider. It is an oxymoron to say a motorcycle mass produced by a professional shop is a Chopper.

180 Degree Disclaimer- Among my many earned degrees I also possess a degree in Etymology which is the study of the origin of words. As an Etymologist I am aware of the fact that the English language that most of us speak is a living language. A living or modern language is one that is in use and is constantly evolving. Thus, a word that meant a certain thing at one time can evolve or change to mean something similar and in some cases a word can take on a completely new meaning. As an example, try reading something by William Shakespeare in its original form as written in the 1600's. The guy is speaking English but you'll have no idea what he is saying. So, as Shaky said, "A rose by any other name would still smell as sweet;" I say, "A Chopper by any other name would still look as cool."

The aforementioned hypothesis has been presented exclusively by the author and in no way reflects the viewpoint of this fine magazine. I could say that your opinion on this subject really doesn't matter to me but what fun would that be. You may direct your comments, praise, or unwarranted ridicule to drgdoodad@yahoo.com

Continued from Page 2 (Mickey Larson)

Because of the musician he was, the guys from Eau Claire gave their band his name, the Mickey Larson Band. Again "Skin Tite" said "We played every where". (during the 70's) - Mick attributed a lot of their success to bass player David B. Stanton and his promotional efforts.

It seems like Mickey as always rode, he worked for Del at St. Croix H-D in the 80's. He transferred to LA to work at Glendale H-D, where he put his music on hole, he and Linda experienced CA on two wheels, he worked on Harley - some of which were owned by well known celebrities. He did tell the story of why David Crosby's bike kept bottoming out - it's because he's too fat!" (Glendale H-D is also where the "Love Ride" originate from). All of his customers there appreciated the biker he was and the work he did on their scooter.

The declining health of Mick and Linda's parents brought them back to WI, this time to Wausau where Brian Koenig say he got Mick back into playing. In 2000 we became best acquainted with Mick at our shop when he said it was time to build a bike. Jon came up with the idea that he work for the parts since the shop cold us an experienced hand. When cancer was discovered, all of the guys made sure that the bike was built soon. Mick worked long and hard until every detail was just as he wanted it, the project was a good diversion for what else was going on in his life, the thought of riding that springer kept him focused. A lot of folks made donations of parts along the way - for which he was grateful. The project filled him with joy he would spend hours making it just right, enjoying the entire process. Mickey had his last custom built bike for 2 seasons and was able to ride at Daytona Beach for 2004 bike week where he was able to meet bike builders Billy Lane and Indian Larry - his favorite "TV" bike builders.

During his convalescence he did enjoy watching "TV" bike building because of his own building experiences.

Mickey had throat cancer and it was difficult for him to speak, but that did not stop him for communicating - his expression said so much as many others can testify too.

We like to think he's playing piano and riding Harleys in heaven now.

Mickey always said that when playing the Blues "less is more" so I'll quit now, hope I didn't go on for too long.

Debra B. - MC Riders Depot



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The Mirror

By Bingo

So you're sitting back snug-like a bug in a rug-
And you've saved 'a pile' for that 'rainy day'-
Well the sun shines for you-but what do you do-
For the needy along the way?

Do you sit back and laugh-and call them 'riff raff' ?

Well- a mirror will show you your class!

Just try for a while to get him to smile--

(That man looking back from the glass.)

I guess as a rule- yourself you can fool-

But I'll bet only for a while!

For as sure as there's sin- the truth will sink in!

But that man in the glass won't smile!

So tonight before sleep, in your pocket reach deep-

Or- pull a few bucks from the 'pile'.

You'll feel better I'm sure- for helping the poor-

Then that man in the glass will smile.

Chow Time

Food For Thought (A Restaurant Review)

By: Chew Man Chew, A.K.A. Breeze

I had the opportunity the last couple of years to eat at C.C. Cody's in Cambellsport, WI, about 50 miles north of Milwaukee, on numerous occasions. The biggest problem I encounter there is what to order. They always have 3-4 specials that seem to be a variation from the main menu.

The BBQ ribs are excellent. Hell, if this place was in St. Louis it would compare to one of their best Rib joints. Their prime rib & broasted chicken are also out of this world, and if you like liver and onions it's great and very filling as all their food is.

So if your in the area on a ride or just looking for a new place to eat, check them out. Oh yeah, Jim & Janus also serve many fine concoctions in the bar. When you're there, tell them Breeze sent ya, they might buy ya a drink or maybe not. Just enjoy the place!!!

Laws are only words written on paper, words that change on society's whim and are interpreted differently daily by politicians, lawyers, judges, and policemen. Anyone who believes that all laws should always be obeyed would have made a fine slave catcher. Anyone who believes that all laws are applied equally, despite race, religion, or economic status, is a fool." ~John J. Miller

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