

2004 Motorcycle Hall of Fame Induction and Concours d'Elegance to showcase legends and stars

Aug. 2, 2004 - The Motorcycle Hall of Fame Museum, the place where American motorcycle heritage and legends come to life, will again host the industry's brightest stars and rarest classics on October 8-9, 2004 during the annual Hall of Fame Weekend. Best of all, you can be a part of this history-making weekend.

The signature event combines the prestigious 2004 Motorcycle Hall of Fame Induction, which honors motorcycling's favorite personalities and pioneers, with the 3rd Annual Concours d'Elegance, an exclusive showcase of over 100 of the country's finest, privately-owned classic motorcycles. All events are open to the public, including "An Evening of Stars and Legends," a gala Museum fundraiser reception, scheduled for Friday, October 8. Actor and motorcycle enthusiast Perry King (left) will return to serve as Master of Ceremonies for the weekend.

"Whether you are passionate about motorcycling history, design, technology, racing or culture, or simply enjoy the camaraderie of fellow enthusiasts in a great setting, this is the one weekend no one should miss," said Mark Mederski, Executive Director of the Motorcycle Hall of Fame Museum. "We invite motorcycle enthusiasts everywhere to come honor the men and women who played such a significant role in shaping our industry and whose stories serve as inspiration for the next generation of riders."

As announced in May, the 2004 Motorcycle Hall of Fame inductees include several of America's most successful and best-known motorcycle racing stars, including AMA Superbike champion and Suzuki factory star Wes Cooley, AMA Motocross and Supercross champ Jeff Emig, road racing legend and European World Superbike Championship originator Steve McLaughlin and dirt track ace Steve Morehead. Individuals who helped paved the way for today's diverse motorcycling culture, such as Linda Dugeau, pioneer and founder of the oldest motorcycling organization for women in North America and Dal Smilie, passionate national advocate for motorcyclist rights, will also be inducted.

All weekend events take place at the Motorcycle Hall of Fame Museum, located on the 23-acre campus of the American Motorcyclist Association (AMA), just outside of Columbus, Ohio. For tickets or more information, call 614-856-2222.

Indian no longer American Iron

A London-based company has acquired the trademark and rights to the Indian Motorcycle brand. Stellican Limited representatives said the company promises to bring back the bike and jobs, but it's unclear if the production facility will remain in Gilroy. Some former employees are skeptical.

"The name's been bought, but what's going to happen next? A lot of us ... 380 people ... we sat there and waited and waited and waited, hoped and dreamed, and nothing happened ... so you really don't get you're hopes up anymore," former Indian employee Lisa Kerstjens said. The city of Gilroy may offer Stellican economic incentives to keep Indian in the city. A final decision on where the company plans to build motorcycles could be several months away. Stellican Limited is also the owner of Chris-Craft boats.

The Bigger the Hog, The Louder the Squeal
I-90 to Exit 12 West Salem, WI
www.hawgpasturecycles.com email: hawgpast@cs.com

**MOTOR
HAWG PASTURE
CYCLES** Specializing in
Early & Late Model
Harley Davidsons

Phone: (608) 786-3050
Fax: (608) 786-3070
597 E. Jefferson St.
West Salem, WI 54669 Restoration, Repair, and Service

JJ's Bar & Grille
OPEN DAILY 11 A.M.

HOME OF THE 16 OZ. RIBEYE \$11.00

Monday - Ladies Night - 8-10 p.m. Ladies Drink FREE!
Tuesday - Taco Tuesday
Wednesday - 25c Wings
Thursday - \$5.00 Pitchers
Friday - Pizza & Pitcher \$10.00
Saturday - Chef's Choice
Sunday - Nascar Special \$2.00 Bloody Mary's
\$1.00 16 oz. Tappers

**ALWAYS FREE
CAMPING***

**N3055 21st Lane, Mt. Morris
920-787-2365**

Indian may be moving to Florida

The new owners of Indian Motorcycle Co. are considering Southwest Florida for their base of operations. Stellican Ltd. reiterated Tuesday that the London-based investment firm, which acquired the trademark and logo rights to the venerable motorcycle brand late last week, is evaluating numerous sites. The Sarasota-Bradenton area is among several contenders being considered, Stellican founder Stephen Julius said. Others include Gilroy, Calif., where Indian made bikes from 1998 to September 2003, and Springfield, Mass., where the company was founded in 1901. "Southwest Florida is one of a number of possibilities," Julius said. "All the areas that we're considering will be carefully evaluated." As Stellican begins its analysis, economic development officials are preparing to do battle to lure the legendary cycle company and the hundreds of potential high-paying jobs Indian would bring.

When Indian closed its doors last year in Gilroy, 30 miles south of San Jose, Calif., it laid off more than 350 workers. "Of course we're going to do everything we can to get them here," said Bill Lindsteadt, executive director of the Gilroy Economic Development Corp. "The idea is to put your best foot forward and hope you have good-looking feet." Lindsteadt said he'll push Gilroy's experienced, skilled labor force and building availability in his efforts to woo Indian.

Meanwhile, local economic development officials also intend to go aggressively after Indian, a manufacturer that could stem the job losses brought about by defections by SecurityLink, Bausch & Lomb Inc., Tropicana Products and others. "We're in the process now of looking at the different business costs in Florida, Massachusetts and California," said Nancy Engel, executive director of the Manatee County economic development council.

"Potentially, they'd be eligible for grant money for training employees and other state tax refund programs," said Kathy Baylis, who heads Sarasota County's economic development efforts. Engel said California's corporate income tax rate, at 8.84 percent, is significantly higher than Florida's corporate tax rate of 5.5 percent.


"We're trying now to decide how to build our case for this area," Engel said. Perhaps the best case may be found at 8161 15th St. E. in Manatee County, just east of the Sarasota-Bradenton International Airport. That's where Stellican operates Chris-Craft Corp. Ltd., the luxury boat maker Stellican bought in March 2001. As an incentive to hire back laid-off workers, the state provided the company with roughly \$600,000 in tax credits tied to employment. Chris-Craft now employs 250 and expects to generate sales of \$40 million this fiscal year.

"We've worked hard to make this a good place for Chris-Craft," Engel said. "And we think they're happy with the assistance we've provided." Julius said a number of criteria will factor into the decision on where to locate Indian's production plant.

The factors will include availability of skilled labor and management, wage rates and state and local incentives, he said. "With Indian, we're starting off with a blank sheet of paper, which is a huge advantage," Julius said. "Our most likely strategy will be the one we followed with Chris-Craft: Start slowly and do things right." Regardless of where Indian lands, the cycle maker likely won't initially require the same amount of space -- more than three acres under roof -- that it had in Gilroy. Julius said Indian will probably concentrate on building between 2,000 and 3,000 motorcycles a year initially.

**SAMSON
EXHAUST**

BE AS BAD AS YOU WANT TO BE!



**TRUE DUAL CROSSOVER SYSTEM
FULL COVERAGE HEATSHIELDS
ONE YEAR WARRANTY**

**DRAG
Specialties**

www.SamsonUSA.com • 1-800-373-4217
SAMSON MOTORCYCLE PRODUCTS, INC. MADE IN THE U.S.A.

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.FREERIDERSPRESS.US