

TWISTER 2009 ~ W.A.L.S.J.I.W.

BY: SKYPILOT

COME ON ALL MY LOYAL AND EVEN UN LOYAL READERS. I REALIZE IT'S BEEN A MONTH SINCE TWISTER, BUT REACH INSIDE THAT HEAD ON YOUR SHOULDERS AND SEARCH FOR THOSE PARTY CELLS. HELL I CAN REMEMBER SOME ALL WEEKERS IN MY COLLEGE DAYS, HELL I REMEMBER THE SIXTIES AND SEVENTIES. THAT WAS HARD.



MADE THE TRIP OUT, WHICH I'M GLAD I DID RAN INTO A LOT OF OLD BROTHERS AND THREW THE SHIT AROUND ABOUT THE OLD DAYS. RAN INTO "OLY THE WOODBURNER" AND HIS BRIDE AGAIN TALKED AWHILE, EVERY SO OFTEN READERS WOULD COME UP AND SAY "ARE YOU SKYPILOT, I LOVE READING YOUR WORK, YOU ARE LIKE SO DOWN TO EARTH" AND I THANK YOU FOR THAT. AT LEAST I'M NOT JUST DOING THIS SO THE DOCTORS WON'T KEEP ME ON TORAZINE.

FINALLY AFTER WRITING FOR FOUR TO FIVE YEARS I WAS HONORED TO MEET WITH MY BIG OLD HUGGY BEAR, NON CENSORING, SO DOWN TO EARTH PERSON EDITOR/PUBLISHER, WITH HIS FANTASTIC BRIDE. IT WAS ONE OF THE BIG MOMENTS OF THE DASH IN MY LIFE. THOSE WHO READ LAST MONTHS EDITION KNOWS ABOUT THE DASH. WE SET IN THE MOTOR HOME BULL-SHITTING TILL WHO KNOWS WHEN. LOVE YOU TWO, YOU ARE THE BEST!



HAVE SEEN SOME FABULOUS POW ~MIA CEREMONIES IN MY TIME WYOMING, TEXAS, FLORIDA, VIRGINIA, DELAWARE, BUT I MUST SAY THE BROTHERS OF WISCONSIN DESERVE A BIG OLD RANGER "HOOAH" FOR THIS ONE. IT BROUGHT TEARS TO MY EYES, IF I'M LYING I'M DYING. AS THEY READ OFF THE NAMES STILL MISSING FROM WISCONSIN I STARTED CHATTING "REMEMBER". TOWARD THE END OF THE LIST A LOT MORE PEOPLE WERE DOING IT AS WELL. THAT IS A HEALING FOR ME AND IS SUCH A HEALING TO MY HEART, WHEN OTHER PEOPLE

GET INVOLVED WITH THE MOVEMENT, BECAUSE AS YOU KNOW I AM MY STATE AND REGIONAL POW~MIA OFFICER. MY FIRST MISSION IS THE RETURN OF A LIVE POW, SECONDLY THE REMAINS OF MIA FROM ALL WARS. BLESS THE GREAT SPIRIT CAPT. SPEICHER U.S. NAVY FROM THE GULF WAR HAS BEEN RETURNED AFTER PROPER IDENTIFICATION WAS MADE. REMEMBER WE NEED YOUR HELP. CALL YOUR CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND KEEP CALLING TILL HE OR SHE AGREES TO COSPONSOR HOUSE RES 111 FOR A PROPER ACCOUNTING POW COMMITTEE. PLEASE HELP! WHAT IF IT WERE YOUR, SON, DAUGHTER, WIFE, GRAND CHILD OR EVEN YOURSELF WOULDN'T YOU WANT SOMEONE TO CARE, SOMEONE TO HELP BRING YOU HOME? ON THE BACK OF MY FENDERS OF THE TRAILER I PULL WITH MY ROAD KING TRIKE~THE LEFT FENDER HAS CAPT. SCOTT SPEICHER'S BRACELET AND THE RIGHT HAS SSG MATT MAUPIN'S BRACELET. I HAD ALREADY PUT A CIRCLE AROUND A CROSS ON MATT'S. THE OTHER DAY I DID CAPT. SPEICHER'S BRACELET, FINALLY CLOSER FOR TWO FAMILIES.

FROM THERE I HEADED SOUTH TO KANKAKEE ILLINOIS TO SEE MY SISTER, BROTHER-IN-LAW AND MY TWO OLDEST SONS FOR A WEEK. SHAKE DOWN CRUISE FOR THE NEW RV (3375 MILES TOTAL). MY MIDDLE SON CALLED, SAID HIS BOSS SAID IT WAS OKAY TO TAKE THE TIME, WELL HER BOSS FOUND OUT AND BEING THE WICKED BITCH OF ILLINOIS SAID NO WAY. NOW HE HAS BEEN THERE FIVE YEARS, TWO MONTHS VACATION BUILT UP AND HE CAN'T HAVE FOUR F---ING DAYS, GIVE ME A BREAK! A STINKING FOUR DAYS WOULD HAVE BROKE THE BANK. AT LEAST I GOT TO CATCH UP WITH MY OLDEST ABOUT HIS JOB (COMPUTER INPUT FOR THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF PTA AND HIS STAND UP COMEDY). HE TOLD ME WHEN HE STARTED HE'D NEVER TALK ABOUT FRIENDS, FAMILY OR HIMSELF, HIS MOTHER CALLED AND TOLD HIM YOUR MISSING OUT ON A WEARTH OF BITS. THIS ONE HE COMES OUT WITH AND SAYS "MY FATHER IS A VIETNAM VET TWICE OVER, BELONGS TO A MOTORCYCLE (HE CALLS IT A "CLUB" IT'S A GANG) AND RETIRED FROM THE POST OFFICE DO I NEED TO SAY MORE ON THIS SUBJECT", PEOPLE ROLL HE SAYS. WE DID HAVE A GREAT WEEK BUT LIKE ALL GOOD THINKS THEY HAD TO COME TO AN END AND I HAD TO LEAVE.



AS I'M WRITING THIS WE ARE PREPARING FOR OUR PARTY WHICH STARTS THIS FRIDAY THROUGH SUNDAY. (I'M WRITING THIS AT 2 A.M.) OURS ISN'T AS BIG, WE MIGHT BE OLD AND GRAY , BUT WE GIVE A KICK ASS PARTY. WHEN EASY RIDER RATED IT THEY SAID "IT WAS THE BEST PARTY IN THE UPPER EAST COAST IN AUGUST. WE DON'T HAVE AS MANY ACRES AS TWISTER, BUT WE KNOW HOW TO ROCK IN PENNSYLVANIA. BY THE WAY I JUST GOT BACK FROM OURS LAST NIGHT LATE, RECORD BREAKING CROWD FOR PAST SEVENTEEN YEARS RUFF GUESS 5000.

LISTEN I COULD TALK ALL DAY BUT I CAN'T. UNTIL NEXT TIME "KEEP ON TRIKEN" , PLEASE WATCH OUT FOR IDIOTS IN CAGES. PLEASE PRAY FOR MY SON LT. TODD M. DONALDSON U.S. ARMY SPECIAL FORCES CANDIDATE AND EVERY OTHER PERSON IN UNIFORM TO INCLUDE CIVILIANS FOR A QUICK AND SPEEDY RETURN. ALSO I'VE FELT FOR A COUPLE WEEKS NOW OUR POW~MIA FAMILIES NEED TO BE LIFTED UP WITH SOME POSITIVE ENERGY. SO LETS LOOK UPON THE GREAT SPIRIT AND ASK HIM TO TOUCH AND BE WITH THEM. I JUST HAVE THIS FEELING OF GREAT TURMOIL AND DISRUPTION IN THE MOVEMENT,

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Renting the Dream

By Kenn Hartmann

Pop Django Reinhardt into the box & crank the auditory noir, like an old 20's b&w movie with a Harley flathead single sauntering along a stately country manor lane, the flapper moll's dolled up & pantomimes all the while wearing a bonnet. The dude wears knickers, knee high stockings, necktie, overcoat & young tough Cagney truckers cap on backwards. Styling & obviously insane plots not withstanding, there's probably some bootleg moonshine there about & a love triangle with plethora of fluttering eye-slashes, if you know what I mean. Figure most baby boomers are dreaming Elvis & Easy Rider. Everyone's got a dream & it's easier to rent than build. The Harley shop where I work has Eaglerider.com motorcycle rentals. Folks from all over the planet come to rent their dreams – mostly to get their kicks on 66 one way to L.A. – the beatnik biker gypsy drifter with copies of Steinbeck & Kerouac stuffed into saddlebags & plenty of beer each night. I did meet a couple fellows from Ireland who had a copy of my Milwaukee Biker Bar book. They wanted to check out Dead End Saloon off of 94. You came from Ireland for that, I asked, I hope it wasn't anything I said? 'No, we're going to the Harley Museum with a few pleasure stops on the way.'

I've met a few riders who rent to keep their skills honed until they buy a bike, maybe got a brand new license or maybe sold their old bike & just want to put some time in the saddle. Some aspire to try a model for potential purchase – aware of the desire to buy a bike but not sure which one's the right fit. A weekend jaunt to Mississippi River palisades reveals the pros & cons of the momentous decision. For me, I'll keep my commuter for the daily 290 grind or the Roosevelt Road Gauntlet, as Ed Long, the chief guru of service calls it. I'll keep my around town hard jammer. Hell bent for pothole glory like Meat Loaf Bat Out of Hell album art, blasting urban inferno blood sucking monsters be damned, I'm lane-splittin' shit. Flipping off cell phone talking texting lane-blocking mofos. However, this September I've an invite for Tomahawk Fall Ride to visit Preacher, our fearless editor & chief of FRP. I need to rent a Road Glide with the CD player cranked. Listening to Django's 2-finger jams, blazing a trail to Stevens Point, maybe stop at the brewery for a quick one, I mean tour. Who knows what shadowy neon gin joint lurks around the next bend? Oh for a sinewy sultry night in the north woods. Dancing campfire flames licking the stars. But think of those international riders dreaming that Route 66 dream, to experience a dream that blends reality of the ride as they chase horizons & sunsets. They come to America amazed at a ribbon of highway that runs from the shores of the nation's largest inland sea to the Pacific Coast. Imagination & motorcycles create powerful emotions. All you need to rent is be at least 21, have a valid motorcycle license & a major credit card. You can call Olice Dennison at the Berwyn Eaglerider at 708-749-1500. Or just go to Eaglerider.com & join the fun.



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