

I was recently introduced to a different type of rider. One I had previously "written off", for lack of a better term. The "weekend warrior", as they are referred to.

As I have said before, I am new to much of the biker lifestyle, and some of my teachings were pretty hardcore. Then, in the blink of an eye, the group I had been riding with for a few years all but fell off the face of the earth. Let's just say it wasn't what it use to be and we went our separate ways. All good in the end, but hard to accept in the beginning.

I had been 'taught' weekend warriors were just that. They didn't live the lifestyle, didn't 'get it' and riding was low on their list of priorities. Wow was that ever wrong, wrong, wrong!! Looking back I regret I was so foolish to ever believe anything remotely close. My recent introduction hit close to home. And by that I mean, a so-called weekend warrior had become a part of my life. When we started out, we talked about riding etc, but it was still winter and he no longer had a bike. It was obvious to me though, he was a biker at heart - he got it. When the weather started warming up, he got that itch, same as the riders I had previously rode with. We were soon scouring craigs list, inquiring with friends and checking out ebay in search of a bike. After a few weeks he found one that caught his interest and we drove to look 'er over. He took it for a spin and came back with that tell-tale grin on his face. Yep, he let the owner know he wanted the bike and arrangements were made for payment, pick-up etc. An '81 Super Glide, 80 inch shovel head stroked to 85 with an S&S super E shortie carb. Baby blue in color and has a sweet vibrate to 'er since there are no rubber motor mounts.



The day of pick-up finally arrived and I drove him out there. There was still a nip in the air so he dressed for the ride. I managed to snap a few shots of the "maiden voyage" as he got ready to leave. Stopped to put gas in and he was already making adjustments and mental notes of things to change, upgrades etc.

Summer arrived and he was scootin' around town, into work and coming by for a visit. At last the day arrived he came and took me for a ride. I must admit, I was a bit concerned about his riding skills. No offense to him, but riding with someone new is always a bit stressful at first - your life is literally in their hands. First ride was a big loop out of town, through the countryside and then back home. He did a fine job and I was soon very much at ease behind him.

As we neared my home he turned his head a bit and aksed "Ready to go home, or do you want to ride some more?"

"Now THERE is a stupid question!" I responded. He laughed a bit, gave 'er some gas and away we went.

The rides soon became more frequent. I had forgotten the peacefulness that comes with riding, just the two of us. I had gotten so use to riding in a group - which was fun, but I am now reminded of what I was missing out on again.

He was at the house for dinner one night and my oldest child was quizzing him about his bike etc. Finally, the sarcasm running rampant as it does at our house, my son asks, point blank "So you are a biker, eh?"

The response given surprised me a bit at its wording, but fit to a T. "No, I ride a bike, I'm not a biker." For the first time I understood an aspect of riding motorcycle that I hadn't had a handle on before. Now some one would say if you ride, you ARE a biker. This conversation was geared toward what society refers to as a biker - hope that makes sense.

He has been tweeking things here and there, gettng the bike to run smoother, respond quicker and making plans for new paint this winter. He knows his way around the engine of his blue baby and what he doesn't know, he finds out.

I guess my point is this. Don't count out the weekend warrior. Just because there is a blue oxford dress shirt and tie on under that leather jacket instead of Harley t-shirt with the sleeves cut off, doesn't mean his heart isn't in the same place as yours when it comes to riding. Lesson learned - I'm big enough to admit that.



SEND US YOUR STORIES,  
PICTURES, IDEAS, JOKES, ETC.  
WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR  
FROM YOU

EDITOR@FREERIDERSPRESS.US  
4500 STATE HWY 66  
STEVENS POINT, WI 54481

WISCONSIN'S BEST INDEPENDANT  
MOTORCYCLE SHOPS

## THE INDEPENDENT SHOP ASSOCIATION

check out shops near you

HOBAN'S CYCLE SHOP #101 NEWTON, WI 53063-9783 (920) 726-4990  
 WEMMER'S MOTORCYCLE #104 REDGRANITE, WI 54970 (920) 566-0560  
 SUTER'S SPEED SHOP INC. #107 MADISON, WI 53718 (715) 677-4738  
 ROBHOLT MOTORCYCLE CO., INC. #110 ROHOLT, WI 54473 (715) 677-4738  
 GOPHER'S CYCLE PARTS & REPAIR #115 LIVINGSTON, WI 53554 (808) 943-6533  
 APPLETON AVENUE CYCLE #117 MILWAUKEE, WI 53218 (414) 527-54808  
 RUSS'S CYCLE SHOP #119 OCONTO, WI 54153-1725 (920) 834-6085  
 CYCLE EMPIRE, INC. #120 GREENFIELD, WI 53221-2049 (414) 281-4770  
 MIKE'S ENGINE WORKS #122 DARLINGTON, WI 53530-1471 (808) 775-2304  
 BOB STADLER MOTORS #125 WATERTOWN, WI 53094-7504 (920) 261-3717  
 ZANDI'S V-TWIN SERVICE INC. #127 SUSSEX, WI 53089-1202 (262) 248-4266  
 MOTORCYCLE REPAIR DEPOT #130 SCHOFIELD, WI 54475-1025 (262) 359-0889  
 TJ PERFORMANCE #132 BROWNSTOWN, WI 53522 (808) 966-1340  
 CYCLES PLUS, INC. #133 ELKHORN, WI 53121 (262) 723-1415  
 DJ'S CYCLES #135 CRIVIZ, WI 54114 (715) 834-3326  
 FLYING EAGLE MOTORCYCLE LC #137 CAMPBELLSPORT, WI 53010 (920) 53-595  
 BARGAIN BARN CYCLE #138 EDGERTON, WI 53534-0047 (808) 884-4184  
 HD ONLY, #139 AL'S CYCLE LAKE MILLS, WI 53551-9624 (920) 648-5475  
 TIN PAN ALLEY # 141 PRINCETON, WI 54968-8954 (920) 295-6987  
 TOMMY'S CUSTOM CYCLE, INC. #142 APPLETON, WI 54913 (920) 739-8242  
 MILWAUKEE BIKE WORKS, INC. #143 HALES CORNER, WI 53130 (414) 427-1155  
 CORN'S REPAIR #147 POYNETTE, WI 53955-9456 (808) 635-2672  
 AJR CUSTOM CYCLE #149 JANESVILLE, WI 53545 (808) 735-0114  
 S/DZ #152 CUSTOM BIKE BUILDING & REPAIR CRIVIZ, WI 54114 (715) 757-8977  
 DWD MOTORCYCLE SERVICE #159 MILWAUKEE, WI 53222-3860 (414) 445-7402  
 ADVANCED LAND SPEED #160 PLYMOUTH, WI 53073 (920) 893-3114  
 KJUNK'S V-TWIN #161 WAUKESHA, WI 53189-7984 (262) 549-4009  
 HILL TOP REPAIR & CUSTOM CYCLE #162 NEW LONDON, WI 54961 (920) 892-2290  
 J-TECH MOTOR WORKS #164 WALES, WI 53183 (262) 988-6764  
 THE SCOOTER SHOP #165 COLOMA, WI 54930 (715) 228-3005  
 MOPDOC #167 MILWAUKEE, WI 53212 (414) 963-1020  
 DOOR COUNTY CYCLE #169 STURGEON BAY, WI 54235-8883 (920) 743-7686  
 DODGE COUNTY CYCLE & SPORTS #170 RUSKON, WI 53078 (920) 625-2999  
 HERITAGE MOTORSPORTS #172 PARDESVILLE, WI 53954 (808) 220-5393  
 HAWG PASTURE MOTOR CYCLES #171 WEST SALEM, WI 54969 (808) 796-3050  
 CAMERON'S SERVICE & REPAIR #174 WAUPACA, WI 54981 (715) 268-8721  
 THIS OLD BIKE #175 PEPPIN, WI 54759-0111 (715) 442-2228

**Over 50 years of "Bikers Helping Bikers"** \*Available 24 Hours\*

\*FREE Consultation & Investigation\* \*Technical Staff Includes: Medical Doctor, Engineer & Investigators\*

# Injured?

(800)486-0106

Don't drop the ball.  
Make the call!

## Weigel, Carlson, Blau & Clemens

INJURY ATTORNEYS

**3732 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee WI. 53208**

Stop by  
your local  
ISA Shop