

Motorcycle Rodeo Ponies Up To Bean City Bar

By John Gunnell

I grew up in "New Yawk" City and those cowboys you see in that ad on TV used to come to town once a year for the big rodeo at Madison Square Garden. My father took us every year. He must have been preparing me for the day I'd open a business in Manawa-home of the 4th of July Midwestern Rodeo. Well cowboys and bucking broncos had nothing to do with the rodeo held at Bean City Bar in New London a few weeks ago. It was for motorcycles and riders trying to do "stupid human tricks" like slow races and biting a hanging hot dog from a bike.

Entering the Bean City parking lot, I rode my cosmetically-challenged everyday driver Kawa Drifter (cleverly disguised with a light-up Indian fender ornament and authentic Reverend Kaiser saddlebags) into a virtual sea of Harleys from places as far away as Milwaukee. Since no one tossed us out, we assume they saw that the Reverend stamped these bags for a Harley-even though he did make others stamped with the old "Laughing Indian" symbol.

But, I digress and oughta get back on track. As advertised, the rodeo organized by ABATE Region 2F (Waupaca County) was underway by 11 a.m. and the "Stupid Human Games" kicked off at 1 p.m. sharp. Although the games were planned as a fun thing, they really showed off the riding talents of two or three teams who consistently finished at the top of the pack. Although the made maneuvering and defying gravity look easy, there was really no simple way to keep a cruiser upright and complete some of the games

New games were added for 2011 to up the hilarity level and entertain the rather large crowd that came to Bean City. The fun-filled afternoon activities also included the raffling off of a mini chopper.

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Stupid Human Tricks take some smart riding.



Bean City Bar in rural New London hosted the rodeo..



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