



The Shadow Writer

**Official Newsletter of the
Shadow Riders of St. Louis
All-Brand Motorcycle Club**

August 2004

A Letter from the President

Fellow Shadow Riders,

Good news – as I announced at the July meeting, the budget crisis has been averted. By changing to electronic newsletter distribution where possible we made a major dent in the deficit. The generous contributions of Larry McGowen, Widman Motorcycles, Laura Boone and the progressive food ride participants made up most of the rest. Add to that some carry over from last year that I had overlooked and PRESTO! – there's enough money on hand to fund the rest of the approved expenditures for this year.

At the July meeting, the club also voted to cancel the picnic for this year and concentrate both our energy and our money on another really great holiday party. Laura Boone, Ann Stone, and Marilyn Webb volunteered to organize the holiday party. They'll have to work hard to match Marklyn and Diana's bash last year, but I know they're going to try. Put January 8, 2005, on your calendar and look for details as they develop.

Believe it or not, it's time to begin our search for next year's officers. In September the Board will appoint a three-member nominating committee. If you would like to serve on this committee, please let me know by Monday, September 6.

On Sunday, August 1, we set a record for the year with five groups riding to Pocahontas! It was awesome to see all the bikes gathered for the ride and fun to talk to folks who hadn't been around for a while. Let's do it again!

We've all seen the bike fatalities in the news recently - three rider deaths in three days at the middle of the riding season (fortunately, none of them ours). Shadow Riders have already contributed our "fair share" to the statistics this year, so – ride often, ride proud, have fun and, most of all, stay safe!

Nita Fisher, President
prez@shadowriders-stl.com



The Shadow Riders of St. Louis
Is a Chartered Club of the
American Motorcycle Association

~Cruisin' 2004~
~Don't Forget~

Saturday Night Out is the 2nd Saturday of each month... Check the HOTLINE & WEBSITE for more details.

Club Meetings

General Membership Meeting

7PM, 4th Tuesday each month

NEXT MEETING: August 24

Manchester Elks Lodge

2242 Mason Lane

Road Captains Meeting

7PM, 2nd Tuesday each month

NEXT MEETING: September 14

The French Quarter (Downstairs)

14766 Manchester Road

Board Meeting

7PM, 2nd Wednesday each month

NEXT MEETING: September 8

Olive Garden

12990 Manchester Road

Sunday Group Rides

Meet at Old Orchard Center

Manchester & Braeshire Ave.

(West of Weidman Road)

Rides leave promptly @ 10:00AM

Arrive early and line up.

Membership Stats

Main members	130
Significant Others	37
Junior members	3
Total	170

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Remember.... If anyone has a short story, or announcement for an upcoming event please submit it to me so I can publish it.

My Contact Information:

**E-mail—editor@shadowriders-stl.com
jvoelker@sbcglobal.net**

You can now re-print or re-read your Shadow Riders Newsletters.

1. From your Internet Browser type the following:
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2. Click on the Menu Bar on the right side of the Web page titled ShadowWriter. Please enter the following:
User Name: sunday
Password: oldorchard
3. Here are links to Archived Editions of the Monthly Shadow Riders Newsletter.
4. (Adobe's FREE PDF reader or equivalent is required to use these files).
5. Just click on the issue you want and let it load.
6. When Adobe Acrobat comes up just save the file to your local hard drive.

A Great Father's Day:
By Stewart Marolf

1. Get up early and go to church at 8:15a.m. (Picture 1581-2)To do this I had to ride my cycle to church and my lovely wife drove her car with my suit jacket in-tow. Immediately after church I rode home (leaving her at church) and changed into riding clothes.
2. Ride to Old Orchard and meet for the ride to Hardin, IL at 10:00am. (picture 1582-1)On the way I realized that I was about of gasoline. Filling up made me late enough that one group was leaving as I arrived. Erin told me to relax because they had waited for me. I had a great ride to Hardin, with excellent weather. The trip even included a real close look at a train as we rode around the crossing arms. The only problem was that it was taking longer than I had planned, which caused me to wave Diana on. Our group then missed a turn just south of Hardin, but we did get into The Bare-Foot Restaurant faster than everyone else.
3. Ride to the Hartbauer-McBride Sport Bike Exhibition for registration from 2:00 - 3:00pm. (pictures 1583-1, 1585, 1592, 1593-1,1595-1) To do this I had to skip lunch and leave the Bare- Foot at 1:00p.m. I arrived at the registration point at 2:58p.m., and was able to get my motorcycle in the show. While I was waiting for the dancers from PT's Sports Cabaret to come out and judge the cycles, I watched two stunt drivers doing some interesting stunts.
4. Take my wife out for dinner. (picture 1598-1) I got home at 5:00p.m.. took my wife out for dinner (You've just got to give the little woman some attention on the weekend!) We arrived back home at 8:00p.m. and I fell asleep in my easy chair.

PERFECTION!

(The pictures are on the Shadow Riders Web Site under 2004 Ride Season.)

Twin City Honda



Introducing the all-new Shadow Aero. Inspired by both the Shadow A.C.E. 750 Deluxe and Shadow Spirit 750, this classic machine features incomparable retro styling, shaft drive, a low, 26" seat height, and best of all, full-sized looks and performance—without the full-sized price.

Twin City Honda
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Rocky Mountain High

By Linn Acree;

Colorado is a great place to ride if you like riding mountain roads in 70 degree weather, breaking out the leathers in July, having the scenery begin as soon as you start the bike, riding 7 degree inclines, and knowing an authentic Mexican dish will be on every menu. We crossed the Continental Divide 12 times on the bike, went through mountain passes of 9400, 9500, 9600, 10,700, and 12100 feet, and had a great time visiting with friends we met on our very first outing with Shadow Riders in 1999.

For the last four years we have met Barbara and John Everitt in the West for spectacular vacations, and 2004 was no exception. (Before moving to Southern California two years ago, John and Barbara were super active in Shadow Riders.) We chose Steamboat Springs, Colorado, for its midway location—1025 miles for us, and 990 miles for them. It is in the western foothills of the Rocky Mountains, incredibly scenic, and especially noted for skiing in the winter. The town has a lot of entertainment in the summer -- the July 4th parade (complete with tractors and politics), rodeos every weekend, hot air balloon festival, music under a tent and in the botanical park, floating on the Yampa River, trout fishing, and soaking in mineral springs.

Ed and I left on Thursday for a leisurely trip west. A stop at Cabela's just outside Kansas City always offers at least a one-hour relief from riding in the car. The first night was spent in Colby, Kansas, and then Friday night in Dillon, Colorado. It was July Fourth weekend; and, after a brief stop at Mile High Harley in Denver (you can always count on a Harley dealer to have very clean restrooms), we raced to get ahead of the traffic leaving town for the holiday. Ed suppressed his desire to take the bike out of the trailer for a ride to Breckenridge and accompanied me for a much-needed walk around the outlet malls in Dillon.

Saturday morning we took the highway north to Steamboat Springs. It was not marked "scenic," but everything is relative to a flat-lander. The road had sweeping curves, creeks, and lakes, which we even enjoyed viewing from the car. We got to Steamboat before check in time, but that didn't stop us from exploring the area. The bike came out, we changed clothes, and we were off on a 100-mile loop ride through three mountain passes. This ride was just a preview of the forests, brush land, and wildflowers we would enjoy for the next week.

Steamboat provided a great base for rides radiating in all directions. We went west, then north to get to Wyoming (just to say we'd been there) and got caught in a rain shower. Not to worry, though; you dry out fast at 60 miles an hour! A trip northeast then south took us through a National Forest with strange vertical rock formations. We put on our rain gear across the street from the Rand Yacht Club—Rand only has two buildings and one of them is the Yacht Club! It seems every little town in this area has a yacht club whether there is water or not!

A trip south took us to the old mining town of Minturn. Even though the Interstate out of Denver is almost wall-to-wall condos, Minturn has changed little in 50 years—just a couple restaurants and a few stores. Ed and John continued up to Tennessee Pass and visited the memorial to the 87th Mountain Infantry Division that trained in the area during WW II. This division was so skilled that German generals complimented them on their expertise. Some of these men came back to the area and started the ski industry in central Colorado.

Our longest excursion was to the Rocky Mountains National Park—250 miles in ten hours. Ed thought the entry gate would be an appropriate place to obtain his Golden Age Passport (age 62) for lifetime free or discounted admissions to National Parks and other Federally owned agencies that charge a fee. He could have obtained it at the St. Louis Arch, but somehow Rocky Mountain National Park was more dramatic. It was everything you picture the Rockies to be—sweeping valleys topped with snow-capped mountains, glacial lakes, twisty-curvy roads, 60-mph winds, and an alpine meadow complete with an elk herd. We progressed from aspen forests through pine forests to no forests at the 12,183-foot Trail Ridge Cut. Grateful for our leathers and layers, other bikers weren't so well prepared—you don't linger long at that altitude in the wind. The wind is more treacherous in the late morning, so you can avoid it by being at the peak in the afternoon. However, Colorado is notorious for afternoon showers—take your pick. In addition to the elk, we saw deer, a moose that didn't want to be petted, and a herd of big-horned sheep. One of our best trips was the shortest. State Route 126 north out of Steamboat Springs follows the Elk River. It turns to gravel just 37 miles short of Wyoming in the old mining town of Columbine. We turned around and rode past Steamboat Lake and stopped for lunch at the Hahn's Peak Café. Hahn's Peak is another mining town with five buildings—two are part of the town museum. The gift shop is owned by Rilla, who used to live there full-time with her husband. Because of the 250 inches of annual snowfall, she's only there in the summer now in a one-room cabin whose floor tilts to the north. She thrives on visitors and begs you to visit the old school house/museum. In the 1800's Hahn's Peak was once the territorial capitol. The Café offered some of the best food of the trip—Mexican in the truest sense and artfully presented.

Colorado has a very short construction season. We ran into road construction on four occasions. They gave us a chance to get off the bikes, stretch a bit, and enjoy the scenery. They also offered opportunities for gaining the much-needed skill of riding in gravel. Luckily, these interludes were not long, and the gravel distance was short. Colorado also has very dumb Kamikaze prairie dogs; score: John 2, Prairie dogs 0. South Dakota prairie dogs are much smarter!

When you go to Steamboat, be sure to eat breakfast at Winona's; appetizers at La Montana; and the ice cream at Long's Drug Store is legendary. We had a great sandwich at the Colorado Bar in Oak Creek, and we heard that Big Tuna there was good, also. We will definitely return to Colorado—just not soon enough.

(The pictures are on the Shadow Riders Web Site under 2004 Ride Season.)



The area's "largest" selection of motorcycle leather, t-shirts, apparel, custom parts & novelty items. As well as a full service shop.

Directions:: From Highway 40 exit Boones Crossing to west on Chesterfield Airport Rd 1 Block



HOW I RUINED THE SRC SAFETY RECORD

By Don "Slider" Owen

Sunday, May 30, was a beautiful day. I had not been on my bike in two weeks and I was anxious to ride. The sun was shining and the temperature was perfect when nine of us departed Old Orchard on our journey to Bixby.

Forty minutes after leaving Old Orchard we were a few miles south of Eureka riding a lovely two-lane, twisty highway. As I negotiated the curvy road, I thought to myself "This is the life. A perfect day, beautiful scenery, good friends, an excellent route. . ." Four seconds later my bike and I were in a ditch by the side of the road. The good news: I was alive and conscious. The bad news: my bike was damaged, I had ruined the ride for the rest of the group (and the club safety record), I had inconvenienced my family for the next two months, and I had five fractured bones and a contusion on my left lung.

As I lay in my hospital bed that night, replaying the event in my mind and realizing how many stupid mistakes I had made, I tried to think of something good that might result from the accident. At the risk of preaching to the choir, here it is--my "Mama Said There'd be Days Like This" tutorial:

What did I do wrong?

1. I lost my focus and allowed my mind to wander
2. I didn't look through the curve
3. I failed to practice the Slow, Look, Lean, and Roll (SLLR) technique
4. Once I realized I had overcooked the curve, instead of leaning harder to the left and using my throttle to save myself, I took my left foot off the peg
5. I touched my front brake

What did I learn?

1. Two seconds of inattention can result in serious bodily injury, significant financial loss, and severe emotional trauma for family and friends
2. Theories learned in the MSF Basic Riding Class are useful only when put into practice (i.e. the difference between "knowing" and "doing" can be fatal)
3. Wearing appropriate motorcycle gear saves lives [because I was wearing long pants, motorcycle boots & padded jacket, and a full-face helmet, I lost ZERO skin and lived to tell you this story]
4. The mantra in the MSF course manual is accurate: "Act as if your life depends upon everything you do (before and during your rides), because it does."

Had the curve I was negotiating at the time of the accident been banked properly, I might have been able to save it despite my loss of concentration—but it wasn't and I didn't. Can we blame the accident on my lack of experience [I had ridden only 1,600 miles prior to this day]? Certainly, but how many of us have never lost our focus while riding—no matter how many miles we have ridden? We are human, and our minds do wander; this is something we cannot always consciously control, which is why it is imperative we proactively control the things we can.

What CAN we control?

- ? Our pre-ride inspection (i.e. the condition of our bike)
- ? Our riding speed
- ? Our riding partners
- ? The (protective) riding gear we wear
- ? Where we ride
- ? How we ride
- ? When we ride

There will always be circumstances when we get lucky (e.g. the drunk driver in the car ran the red light five minutes AFTER I went through the intersection), but there may be instances when we are not. If we thoroughly prepare ourselves and we are lucky, we have lost nothing. If we thoroughly prepare ourselves and we are not lucky, we may live to tell the story and spend more time with our loved ones. I apologize to the SRC members for the blemish on our club safety record. To Nita Fisher, who was immediately behind me at the time of the accident, I'm sorry. I can't imagine how frightened and helpless you must have felt watching me go down. To my wife, Ann, I'm sorry for the anguish you have endured. I look forward to riding with all of you as soon as I'm physically able.

Why We Ride:
By Eric Levy

Who knew that people with dirt on their boots, bugs in their teeth and the most unusual sunburns had the lion hearts of poets?
It's the most fun you can have (with your clothes on!) as an adult.
I used to think sports cars were fun, until I started riding. Sports cars aren't really that fun anymore. Conclusion: adrenaline rush, speed, agility, skill, and complete wind-in-your-face satisfaction.
For those that ride, no explanation is necessary. For those that don't, no explanation is possible.
For some there's therapy, for the rest of us there's motorcycles.
Howling at the full moon during a ride under the starlit sky.
Crossing a bridge at sunset, vermilion clouds, shimmering water.
Bike Week.
Steve McQueen.
Opening of "Then Came Bronson: (for the kids, that's a guy in a cager wistfully telling Hero Biker, "Man I wish I was you.".)
Getting a decent lean and powering through a back road turn.
Becoming excited at the thought of running errands.
Going to a place where you know no one, and having something to talk about with everybody.
Posting on the best forum on the web.
Going down a road you've driven hundreds of times, but suddenly everything is vital, alive.
The sound of a V-twin, underneath you.

Riding is:
A little kid's reaction when he/she sees you walk into the gas station convenience store carrying your helmet
Being able to find a parking spot anywhere
Bumming out when you discover a shortcut between two points
Not minding – no – enjoying getting lost
Leaning back, turning your head, and hearing your wife say from the pillion, "let's ride a little longer"

Smelling the new mown lawns.
The sun warming you on a cool morning.
Flying without leaving terra firma.
Feeling ALIVE.
Feeling the tension leak like melting icicles from your shoulders and back.
Having the smell of flowers wash over you like a lace cover.
Feeling that strange bump in the roadway all throughout your body, like a ship hitching on a wave.
Seeing the pale longing faces of men as they follow you with their eyes from behind their windshields.
Hearing birds.
Seeing dogs, and deer and rabbits.
Feeling every joint of the bridge, with the percussion of a slow rock song.

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Hearing the tick-tick-tick of your engine cooling, as your front fork tucks under its wing and takes a restless nap until the joyful twist of your ignition key again. And therein lies the beauty of the two-wheeled machine: an engine, two tires and a chair. Always a front row seat to a game that'll never be played twice. No connections other than abbreviated hookups to the local gas pump, and even those last only a few bucks. You slap the gas cap back on, hit the starter and simplicity flows back over everything like wind.

The difference between riding a bike and driving a car is the difference between hikin g along beautiful trail and watching a special about that trail on TV.

When you ride it seems like all the worries of the world drop away.

You have to be so In The Moment! Not thinking about what chores have to be done, bills to pay, appt. to be kept.

Remember how when you were a child time went on forever? That is because children live in the moment. They aren't processing a zillion tasks they need to get done. Just living for that very minute. As we get older our gray cells get congested with our busy lives. When you ride you have to return to living in the moment. And, boy, do you, on a bike as a driver or passenger.

Its about:

doing what you always dreamed about as a kid;

being part of something bigger;

doing something cool;

being in control and if not, it's your own bloody fault;

enjoying the moment, the "here and now";

the power; the speed; the fun.

The Motorcycle Safety Foundation has motorcycle safety classes at two locations within our local area. For your reference and convenience, here are their telephone numbers:

Forest Park College: 314-644-9175

Jefferson College: 636-797-3000

Ride Safe.

Ira Steuer

Planned Helmet Days for raising funds for Bikers for Babies are:

September 4, and 25



**Prestige
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Kawasaki



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BMW Motorrad/Kawasaki/Aprilia of St. Louis.

Owners, Fred and Diane Pueschel would like to welcome you to Prestige Motor Sports.

(formerly BMW Motorrad/Kawasaki/Aprilia of St. Louis).

August 2004

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10:00am - 3:00pm: Pocahontas, Il.	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 10:00am - 3:00pm: North County Bottoms & Bluffs	9	10	11	12	13	14 10:00am - 2:00pm: Ted's Open House
15 10:00am - 3:00pm: Ste. Genevieve Jour de Fete	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 10:00am - 5:00pm: Shawnee Na- tional Forest	23	24 7:00pm-8:15pm: General Mem- bership Meeting	25	26	27	28
29 10:00am - 3:00pm: Hartbauer- McBride Poker Run	30	31				

September 2004

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 10:00pm- 2:00pm: March of Dimes Col- lection
5 10:00am - 3:00pm: Gasconade	6	7	8 7:00pm-8:30pm: SRC Board Meeting	9	10	11
12 10:00am - 3:00pm: Farmington, Mo.	13	14 7:00pm-8:00pm: Safety/Road Captains Meet- ing	15	16	17	18
19 8:00am - 3:00pm: Ride for Kids	20	21	22	23	24	25 10:00pm- 2:00pm: March of Dimes Col- lection
26 10:00am - 3:00pm: No SRC Picnic Ride TBA	27	28 7:00pm-8:00pm: General Mem- bership Meeting	29	30		

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- 1. large BMW patch \$10.00
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model \$75.00.
- 1. Vulcan 1500 seat \$125.00 new.

Call Frank Muriel at: 314-838-7886

For Sale:

I have a 2003 Honda Shadow 750 Spirit. I paid \$6000
for it brand new. I currently have about 4000 miles on
the bike. I put new pipes, jet kit, permanent air cleaner
and use synthetic fluids--for a cost af about \$2000.
With all that being said, it now rides more like a 1000
cc's with all I have done to it. I recently purchased a
Harley Heritage Softail and am not interested in keep-
ing the Honda. I would like approx. \$6000-6500 for it. .

Call Steven Rouse at: 314-378-3021
E-mail: srouse@alservices.com



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WE ARE CLOSER THAN YOU THINK





Another Successful Helmet Day
 - Erin O'Donnell

We have completed our third Helmet Day and it was another success! It was held on July 17th and raised \$1,940.01. We had 15 volunteers who worked a total of 48 hours. Each volunteer that day will receive a credit of \$40 for each hour worked, to go towards their Bikers for Babies collection total.

Collection credits carry two benefits. First, they cover the \$25 entry fee for the Bikers for Babies ride. Second, they build eligibility for incentive prizes, starting at the \$50 level. As an example of how fast this can add up, volunteers that worked 4 hours at each of the three Helmet Days have already received a credit of \$532 towards their Bikers for Babies collection total. There are 2 Helmet Days left so it's not too late to start!

Between the three Helmet Days, we've raised just under \$7,000! That is awesome!!! But we couldn't have done it without all of the volunteers who generously donated their time!

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!

Rich Bayers, Nita Fisher, Ryugen Fisher, Teresa Gregory, Greg Harris, Sally Hight, Joe Kalal, Stewart Marolf, Dennis Meade, Sandy Meade, Erin O'Donnell, Peggy Phillips, Robert Soucy, Ira Steuer, and Randy Tallant.



AUGUST 2004

HOTLINE

636-336-1772

www.shadowriders-stl.com

Board of Directors

Nita Fisher	President	636-257-2238
Randy Tallant	Vice President	636-677-1005
Cathy Eidson	Secretary	314-426-7460
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Dennis Meade	Safety Officer	314-845-9646

Coordination Team

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Jerry Voelker	Newsletter	636-349-6681
Ryugen Fisher	Web Master/E-Mail	636-257-2238
Ira Steuer	Saturday Night Out	314-838-7400
Ryugen Fisher	Club Ambassador	636-257-2238
Marklyn Cobb	Merchandise	636-926-2261

Shadow Riders Club of St. Louis, Inc.
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**Please send address changes
to the above address**