



# *The Shadow Writer*

**Official Newsletter of the  
Shadow Riders Club of  
St. Louis**

**December 2008**

## **A Letter from the President**

Fellow Shadow Riders,

It's December, and this is my final letter to you in 2008. All in all, a good year for the Shadow Riders Club of St. Louis. We started this year off with a terrific Holiday Party, nailed down our Ride Schedule and started riding as soon as the weather let us. We went to a few new ride locations this year, and revisited some old favorite rides as well. We kicked butt raising money for the March of Dimes and brought home a number of prestigious honors at the Bikers for Babies Ride in the fall. We revamped the website and obtained the services of a new Webmaster.

We said goodbye to some old friends this year (George Trowbridge and Jim and Ruth Walker) but met lots of new friends as well.

A few of us had some mishaps on our bikes and nursed injuries, but many more of us rode safely.

And, while the economy and politics swirled around us, sometimes dividing the country, our Club remained unified in our love for all things on two wheels – friends who ride.

We have many things to be thankful for this year.

As we close out 2008 and face the dark winter months leading up to the 2009 ride season, on behalf of the Board and Coordinators, we'd like to wish each of you a joyous holiday season, and a Happy, Safe New Year!

Best regards,  
Eric Levy



**~ Run for Office ~**

**New Officers are needed  
for next year.  
See page 2.**

# Club Meetings

## Club (General Membership) Meeting

7:00 PM, 4th Tuesday each month

Manchester Elks Lodge, 2242 Mason Lane

**NEXT MEETING: December 23, 2008**

## Road Captains/Safety Meeting

Will be called by the Safety Officer as needed.

## SRC Board Meeting

7:00 PM, 2nd Thursday, even-number months

Olive Garden, Lindbergh & Tesson Ferry

**NEXT MEETING: February 2009**

## Sunday Off-Season Hang-Out & Rides

The scheduled ride season is over until next April, but you can still get together with Shadow Rider buddies to chat and—weather permitting—go on impromptu rides. Meet at Burger King in Old Orchard Center, 14128 Manchester at 9:00-9:30 am.

Membership	Dec '07	Dec '08
Main Members	121	116
Significant Others	31	25
Junior Members	1	
<b>Total</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>141</b>

## New e-mail address? Don't miss out!

Send it to [membership@shadowriders-stl.com](mailto:membership@shadowriders-stl.com) or call the membership coordinator (Jim) at 314-644-2970.

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## SRC Welcomes A New Member

Linda Warren (George's wife)  
rides a silver/black 2008 Can-Am  
Spyder

## Nominations Open for 2009 Club Officers through December Meeting

Current nominees are:

President:	Dennis Meade Bob Mueller
Vice President:	Rich Bayers
Secretary:	Diana Johnson
Safety Officer:	Cliff Connoyer
Treasurer:	??

To nominate someone or to volunteer for any of these offices contact:

Eric Levy: 636-825-2285 or  
[eric Levy@earthlink.net](mailto:eric Levy@earthlink.net)  
Cliff Connoyer: 314-839-8792 or  
[cconnoyer@msn.com](mailto:cconnoyer@msn.com)  
Nita Fisher: 314-808-7762 or  
[nita@palaver.org](mailto:nita@palaver.org)

By Dave Tharp, *Motorcycle.com*

This seems like a simple question, but the answer is a bit complicated.

Motorcycles are descended from the "safety" bicycle, bicycles with front and rear wheels of the same size, with a pedal crank mechanism to drive the rear wheel. Those bicycles, in turn were descended from high-wheel bicycles. The high-wheelers were descended from an early type of push-bike, without pedals, propelled by the rider's feet pushing against the ground. These appeared around 1800, used iron-banded wagon wheels, and were called "bone-crushers," both for their jarring ride, and their tendency to toss their riders.

Gottlieb Daimler (who later teamed up with Karl Benz to form the Daimler-Benz Corporation) is credited with building the first motorcycle in 1885, one wheel in the front and one in the back, although it had a smaller spring-loaded outrigger wheel on each side. It was constructed mostly of wood, with the wheels being of the iron-banded wooden-spoked wagon-type, definitely a "bone-crusher" chassis.

It was indeed powered by a single-cylinder Otto-cycle engine, and may have had a spray-type carburetor. (Daimler's assistant, Wilhelm Maybach was working on the invention of the spray carburetor at the time). If one counts two wheels with steam propulsion as being a motorcycle, then the first one may have been American. One such machine was demonstrated at fairs and circuses in the eastern US in 1867, built by one Sylvester Howard Roper of Roxbury, Massachusetts. There is an existing example of a Roper machine, dated 1869. It's powered by a charcoal-fired two-cylinder engine, whose connecting rods directly drive a crank on the rear wheel. This machine predates the invention of the safety bicycle by many years, so its chassis is also based on the "bone-crusher" bike.

Most of the development during this earliest of eras concentrated on three and four-wheeled designs, since it was complex enough to get the machines running without having to worry about them falling over. The next really notable two-wheeler was the Millet of 1892. It used a 5-cylinder engine built as the hub of its rear wheel. The cylinders rotated with the wheel, and its crankshaft constituted the rear axle.

The first really successful production two-wheeler though, was the Hildebrand & Wolfmuller, patented in Munich in 1894. It had a step-through frame, with its fuel tank mounted on the downtube. The engine was a parallel-twin, mounted low on the frame, with its cylinders going fore-and-aft. The connecting rods connected directly to a crank on the rear axle, and instead of using heavy flywheels for energy storage between cylinder-firing, it used a pair of stout elastic bands, one on each side outboard of the cylinders, to help out on the compression strokes. It was water-cooled, and had a water tank/radiator built into the top of the rear fender.

In 1895, the French firm of DeDion-Buton built an engine that was to make the mass production and common use of motorcycles possible. It was a small, light, high revving four-stroke single, and used battery-and-coil ignition, doing away with the troublesome hot-tube. Bore and stroke figures of 50mm by 70mm gave a displacement of 138cc. A total loss lubrication system was employed to drip oil into the crankcase through a metering valve, which then sloshed around to lubricate and cool components before dumping it on the ground via a breather. DeDion-Buton used this 1/2 horsepower powerplant in roadgoing trikes, but the engine was copied and used by everybody, including Indian and Harley-Davidson in the U.S.

Although a gentleman named Pennington built some machines around 1895 (it's uncertain whether any of them actually ran), the first US production motorcycle was the Orient-Aster, built by the Metz Company in Waltham, Massachusetts in 1898. It used an Aster engine that was a French-built copy of the DeDion-Buton, and predated Indian (1901) by three years, and Harley-Davidson (1902) by four.

*[Editor's note: pictures associated with this article could not be reproduced here. Sorry!]*

# Holiday Party



ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY IS SATURDAY JANUARY 10, 2009 AT THE VFW HALL IN BALLWIN. THE COST IS \$20 PER PERSON AND INCLUDES DINNER, BEER AND SODA. SEND YOUR MONEY TO BOB MUELLER 3444 FOXBOROUGH CIRCLE ST. CHARLES MO 63301

## PARTY TIME

- GREAT FOOD
- GREAT ENTERTAINMENT
- DANCING
- LIVE BAND
- DJ

## SHADOW RIDERS ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY

AT THE BALLWIN VFW HALL  
115 MIMOSA, BALLWIN

Contact person: BOB MUELLER 314-315-1350

Time: 7PM 'TIL MIDNIGHT

Date: JANUARY 10, 2009



# Dec 2008—Jan 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Dec 14	Dec 15	Dec 16	Dec 17	Dec 18	Dec 19	Dec 20
Dec 21	Dec 22	Dec 23 Club Meeting Elks Lodge 7 pm	Dec 24	Dec 25 Christmas Day	Dec 26	Dec 27 Peggy's Open House 4-10 pm
Dec 28	Dec 29	Dec 30	Dec 31	Jan 1 New Year's Day	Jan 2	Jan 3
Jan 4	Jan 5	Jan 6	Jan 7	Jan 8	Jan 9	Jan 10 Holiday Party 7pm-midnight
Jan 11	Jan 12	Jan 13	Jan 14	Jan 15	Jan 16	Jan 17
Jan 18	Jan 19	Jan 20	Jan 21	Jan 22	Jan 23	Jan 24
Jan 25	Jan 26	Jan 27 Club Meeting Elks Lodge 7 pm	Jan 28	Jan 29	Jan 30	Jan 31

### *An Invitation from Peggy Phillips*

*Please join me on Saturday Dec 27th, at my home in Sainte Genevieve, for an Open House party. Arrive between 4 and 10 pm, and stay as long as you like --even after 10, if we have some hardy partiers! I will provide a sumptuous bounty of food for your culinary delight, and you bring whatever you want to drink, soft beverages or hard beverages. I have room to keep beer & wine cold, and to store ice you bring for mixed drinks that you want to make.*

*I do ask that you RSVP, so that I have plenty of food on hand. Call me and leave a message at 314-428-6233, or e-mail me at [pPhillips@ccaglobal.com](mailto:pPhillips@ccaglobal.com). For those who RSVP, I will be e-mailing out directions about mid-December.*

**Notice:** Classified ads will run for a maximum of three (3) months. Contact Nita Fisher at editor@shadowriders-stl.com or (636) 257-2238 when your item is sold, or if you want to re-submit your ad or place a new one.

**For Sale: Cold weather riding gear**

Harley Davidson waterproof textile insulated gauntlet gloves, men's x-large. Like new. **Asking \$25, OBO.**  
First Gear insulated textile Kenya jacket (L) and matching insulated overpant (women's 12). Both are waterproof and in excellent condition. **PRICE REDUCED TO \$60 each or \$100 for the pair.**

Contact Nita at (314) 808-7762 or [nita@palaver.org](mailto:nita@palaver.org)

10/08

**For Sale: 2006 Suzuki Boulevard C-50 (805cc)**

Like new condition and has had all maintenance meticulously performed. Only 9000 carefully ridden miles. Many extras: windshield, highway bars, saddlebags, lightbar, sissybar, luggage rack. **Asking \$6,000.**

Contact Dave Schmidt at [ibelieve@ix.netcom.com](mailto:ibelieve@ix.netcom.com) or 314-651-7336

8/08

**For Sale: Gold Wing Clymer Service Manual 2001-2004**

Excellent condition, \$25

**For Sale: GL 1800 Saddlebags (left and right), Titanium (Y181P)**

Excellent condition, \$125 each

Call Tom at 314-849-1386

12/07

**For Sale: 2004 Suzuki Intruder 800**

Bike is silver with 2300 mi., garage kept, with the Boulevard fairing. It has good power and it is a lot of fun to ride on the highways and twisties — a great medium size ride.

Contact Tito at (636) 332-6514 or e-mail [madrider03@aol.com](mailto:madrider03@aol.com)

9/07

Your ad could appear here.



# TED'S MOTORCYCLE WORLD, INC.

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Alton, Ill. 62002  
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**\*Special Discounts for Shadow  
Riders Club Members \***



**"IF YOU BOUGHT SOMEWHERE ELSE,  
YOU PROBABLY PAID TOO MUCH"**



### GM Meeting Report

At the November meeting, Rich Bayers announced upcoming March of Dimes activities, including a toy run to Cardinal Glennon on 12/13 and a Wide Open Bike Show on 2/14.

Dennis Meade announced that ride planning for next year will start at the December club meeting and continue at the January and February meetings. He encouraged people to work on new rides.

Laura Boone said that long sleeved t-shirts are here but the short sleeved ones did not arrive. Large patches have been ordered.

Bob Mueller said people needed to buy their tickets to the holiday party no later than January 1st. There will be a live band for one set, then a DJ. Food will be catered by Rigazzi's. Tickets are \$20.

In other business, Eric Levy announced that Diana Johnson's chili took first place at Ted's Chili Cook-off. Nominations for club officers were made (see page 2). Jim Gianella told us renewal forms were going in the mail this week. Larry McGowen suggested having a demonstration of how to fix a flat on the road as a meeting feature. Eric announced Ted's Christmas open house on 12/7 and wild game cook-off on 2/7. Mike Neuhaus told us Hartbauer McBride plans to create a St Louis calendar that includes 2-3 rides from each club in the area. Eric suggested that we designate one of our rides as a "Guest Ride" and promote visitors. Marklyn Cobb announced Gateway BMW's party on 12/20 and Peggy Phillips invited us to her open house on 12/27.



## **WEB SITE**

**www.shadowriders-stl.com**

**DECEMBER 2008**

### **Board of Directors**

<b>Eric Levy</b>	President	<b>636-825-2285</b>
<b>Rich Bayers</b>	Vice President	<b>636-527-2157</b>
<b>Sandra Meade</b>	Secretary	<b>314-845-9646</b>
<b>Dan Newton</b>	Treasurer	<b>314-293-9072</b>
<b>Dennis Meade</b>	Safety Officer	<b>314-845-9646</b>

### **Coordination Team**

<b>Jim Gianella</b>	Membership	<b>314-210-2367</b>
<b>Nita Fisher</b>	Newsletter	<b>314-808-7762</b>
<b>Ted Koski</b>	Web Master	<b>314-427-4147</b>
<b>Ira Steuer</b>	Saturday Night Out	<b>314-520-3504</b>
<b>Laura Boone</b>	Merchandise	<b>314-363-3415</b>



**Please send address changes to above address**



**Shadow Riders Club of St. Louis, Inc.  
3231 Regal Place  
St. Louis, Missouri 63139**