



The Shadow Writer

February 2012

Official Newsletter of the
Shadow Riders Club of St. Louis
www.shadowriders-stl.com

A Letter from the President

Shadow Riders:

As your new president, I'd first like to tip my helmet to last year's board: Bob, Diana, Russ, Rhonda and Lou. Your commitment to the club has made it fun and enjoyable, and I look forward to your involvement in the future. I also want to thank all the Coordinating Team members who help run this club; your enthusiasm makes things happen. Last, but certainly not least, to all the party planners, road captains, ride coordinators, and trip organizers who volunteer your time to make this club great: you are the best. You all make a \$24 investment worth so much more.

Now it's time to get down to business. Although this is a transition month for the Shadow Riders Club as the new board members take on their new responsibilities, there are two items of importance that need to be addressed: the 2012 budget and ride schedule.

At the February general membership meeting the board will present a proposed budget. At that time you'll have the opportunity to discuss the activities we want to include or eliminate this year. Remember, this is your club and your money, so if you've got ideas on how we should spend it you'll want to attend this meeting. We'll also start scheduling our rides. April is just around the corner so check your calendar for events of interest and bring your favorite ride to the meeting. I know I'm ready; I hope you are too.

Since the cold weather is struggling to get here, keep an eye on the temperature for a warm, dry day to hop on the bike. I'm sure others will do the same. Invite your buddies, the more the merrier.

To ride or not to ride...what a stupid question!

Dave Simorka
President

Club Meeting (General Membership)

7:00 pm, 4th Tuesday of the Month
The Sports Café', 3579 Pennridge (West of St.
Charles Rock Road, North of I-270)

Next Meeting: February 28, 2012

No Board meeting before regular meeting.

Sunday Rides (Winter Schedule)

Sundays at 9:00 AM at the Hometown Buffet.
We will alternate between the north location at
12228 St. Charles Rock Road and their south lo-
cation at 7597 S. Lindbergh Blvd. To keep our
calendars updated, the February 5th gathering
started at the south location.

**General Membership Meeting
January 24, 2012**

Old Business:

Holiday Party – January holiday party was a huge success and lots of fun. Party came in under budget due to great planning by Sue Braun. Thanks for participating in the “Mad Hatter” theme. All hats used as a part of the decorations will be donated to Children’s Hospital. We will check to see if a date can be planned for a group in April to ride down together and donate the hats.

Ted Koski reported that the website is up and running with new pictures loaded. Shadowriders page on Facebook is also up and working.

Rich Bayer reported that Bikers for Babies is looking at new sites for the ride in 2012.

New Business:

Officers were elected for the board: Dave Simorka, President; Ron Eckert, Vice-President; Russ Davis, Treasurer; Andrea Geiler, Secretary; Dave Walters, Safety Officer. Congratulations to all and thanks for serving!

A poll of the membership was taken on the following issues as a guideline for the incoming board :

Keep 10:00 start time or change to 9:00 – 22 to 15 to keep 10:00 start time

Keep March of Dimes as club charity – 26 No votes to 7 Yes votes

Meeting location – Sports Café was 22 vs. Growlers 12

Club Name Change – No was 22 vs. 12 Yes

Upcoming Trips: Club is discussing trying to plan a trip a month during the 2012 riding season. Some may be quick weekend trips and several other long trips are planned.

May - Virginia Trip – Leave May 15 or 16. Ed Acree, coordinator.

June – Tentative Kentucky trip

July – Milwaukee trip to Summerfest

August – Colorado / New Mexico

September - Bikes Blues & BBQ

Russ Davis reported on the financial status of the club. Overall revenues for the year are down (lower membership renewals, 50/50 revenue, holiday party attendance down). Expenses have also remained lower this year which still provides for a healthy budget. The board will focus on reason for the decrease and will work during 2012 to pin down areas that the club needs to address.

Announcements

Ride for Wishes will be held June 3 and will begin at St. Charles Harley Davidson. Laura thanked all of the Shadowriders for their support over the last few years.

See Dennis Meade if you are interested in the Motorcycle Police Training Course for Civilians.

50 / 50 Drawing – Ted Koski

2012 Club Officers (by unanimous vote) :

President	Dave Simorka
Vice President	Ron Eckert
Secretary	Andrea Geiler
Treasurer	Russ Davis
Safety Officer	Dave Walters

No New members for February.

Board of Directors

Dave Simorka, <i>President</i>	314-575-4841
simorka@sbcglobal.net	
Ron Eckert, <i>Vice President</i>	314-592-9246
eckertron@att.net	
Andrea Geiler, <i>Secretary</i>	314-401-3628
AndreaGeiler125@Gmail.com	
Russ Davis, <i>Treasurer</i>	636-230-5850
russell.davis@att.net	
Dave Walters, <i>Safety Officer</i>	314-341-4525
dawltrs7@aol.com	

Coordination Team

Jim Gianella, <i>Membership</i>	314-644-2970
membership@shadowriders-stl.com	
John Geiler, <i>Newsletter</i>	636-938-4299
editor@shadowriders-stl.com	
Ted Koski, <i>Web Master</i>	314-427-4147
webmaster@shadowriders-stl.com	
Ira Steuer, <i>Saturday Night Out</i>	314-520-3504
isteuer36@yahoo.com	
Eric & Karen Johnston, <i>Merchandise</i>	636-379-7299
ejohnston@centurytel.net	
Rich Bayers, <i>March of Dimes Liaison</i>	636-527-2157
rbayerscpa@aol.com	
Ron Eckert, <i>Hartbauer McBride Liaison</i>	314-223-0474
eckertron@att.net	

Membership

	<u>Feb. '12</u>	<u>Feb. '11</u>
Main Members	68	77
Significant Others	20	27
Juniors	3	1
Total	91	105

February Birthdays

- 06 - LAURA BOONE-BERGSIEKER
- 12 - JOHN OLMS
- 17 - NITA FISHER
- 17 - GEORGE WARREN
- 25 - JEAN DAVIS
- 26 - CLIFF CONNOYER



February Anniversaries

We don't as yet have any February anniversaries. Maybe a friend of yours could be our first. Inviting someone to join a club you enjoy is a good way to share the fun.

Ron Eckert has assumed the responsibilities of Vice President and is in the process of getting a feel for the duties he has to perform. In a short interview with Ron he had this to say:

"I am looking forward to the riding season. We all kind of got a taste of it over the last few weeks with the nice weather we had. I want all of us to enjoy the upcoming riding season, but be safe out there."

Ron promises more in the way of articles in later issues but for now we have many announcements and reminders for upcoming events.

Diana Johnson wanted to give these reminders:

Feb 23, Thursday, 6:30 pm, Ladies Garage Party at Big St. Charles Motorsports. Register by calling [636-946-6487](tel:636-946-6487) or on their website under 'Events' at www.bigstcharlesmotorsports.com

Feb. 25, Saturday, 11am-1pm, Gateway BMW Jambalaya Cook-off. Only have space to host 15 contestants so call to reserve your spot. See rules on their website. Diana is competing with a new recipe. Come taste and vote. No cost to taste. No money exchanged. Awards at 1:00pm. Also, they will have a big batch of Marklyn's famous jambalaya for everyone to eat along with drinks, so come hungry!

March 4, Sunday, 11am-6pm, Immaculate Heart of Mary Spring Dinner featuring their own homemade whole hog sausage with all the trimmings including fresh baked breads and desserts. Cost \$10.00. Bring a cooler in case you decide to buy some bones or sausage. Located at the intersection of Hwy Z&D in New Melle (Defiance area) www.ihm-newmelle.org

See you soon,
Diana

Also, a note from our friends at Gateway BMW:

Time to retire an old helmet? – 10% off all helmets, one day only sale. The GS/ Offroad Cup school dates are in the planning works along with the shop ride schedule so watch for details and dates on the website. Now stocking, Leatt and Klim stuff for the off-road enthusiasts.

Avoid the spring rush of insuring the health of your bike, oil change, tires, check-up, etc., get them in now!

Check out our Ebay site for close-outs! Specials remaining for 2011 BMW's.

As always . . . Ride Safe!

Welcome to 2012!

Hello everyone,

First off, I would like to thank those that have given me the opportunity to serve as the clubs safety officer. I look forward to the upcoming year.

For those that missed the January meeting, several issues were voted on. I actually thought we would have had a better turnout than we did, which was a little disappointing. I know people have lives to live, but we only meet once a month, so please try to get there and participate.

Secondly, you may or may not know, your new safety officer wrecked his bike a few weeks ago. PAVEMENT HURTS! Thankfully I was fully geared up. That said, I still broke 6 ribs, and got one heck of a double hit to the head. If I had not been wearing a helmet, I might not be writing this at all. This all happened under 30 mph. I cannot stress how important riding gear is. One thing I have noticed riding late fall/winter/early spring is how low the sun is on the horizon. I purchased a \$5 item called "Sundowner", a reusable, self-clinging dark strip, that you put above your sight level on your face shield. What a difference! How did I ride for the past 20+ years without this? Remember, this really helps you out, but doesn't help the people in cars from getting sunblind and pulling out in front of you. Always take extra caution at this time of year and late summer days.

Finally, lets talk ROAD TRIPS! I know times are tight, but if you can manage to join any one of the upcoming years planned trips, I highly encourage you. It appears that this year will have a road trip every month! Some will take 2 days, some 4, one is 9 days. There is great diversity in the trips, keep your options open, and see what would interest you most. Our first trip is going to be in May, over to beautiful Summersville, West Virginia. Ed Acree has planned 3 days of touring WV. We will have two options for you to consider.

Option 1: Leave out on May 15th, take 2 days to ride the 630 or so miles. Tour 3 days, leave the 20th, take 2 days to return May 21st.

Option 2: Leave out on May 16th, hit the "superslab", and hammer all 630 miles in one day. Tour 3 days, leaving the 20th, hammer straight home in one day.

I called and reserved my room plus got 9 more on hold. Rooms seem to be booking fast, so if you are considering, I would call and put your card down (you can always change your mind and cancel). I was able to get the nightly rate reduced by \$20, to \$65/night/dbl queen. The hotel has a heated pool (they said it would be open by then), plus a killer free breakfast. (Eggs, biscuits and gravy, waffles, French toast, cereal, coffee, juice, etc.)

Here is the info on the hotel: Baymont Inn and Suites
903 Industrial Dr. North
Summersville, WV 26651 304-872-6500 direct.

MENTION THAT YOU ARE PART OF THE SHADOWRIDERS TO GET THE DISCOUNTED RATE.
YOU ALSO NEED TO REQUEST A SMOKING ROOM IF NEEDED.

Safety Dave



Special Events at Big St Charles Motorsports (BSC)

Big St. Charles is holding "Suzuki Days" with \$1,000 discounts and 0% financing for 5 years on selected models. Also, if you favor sport bikes, purchase a new sport bike in the month of February and get a free day at the track during the MCRA racing schedule at Gateway International.

On March 2 don't forget the "Heroes of Supercross" party with Team Kawasaki and Team Suzuki.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Feb. 12 Hometown Buffet North Meeting	Feb. 13	Feb. 14 Valentines Day!	Feb. 15	Feb. 16	Feb. 17	Feb. 18
Feb. 19 Hometown Buffet South Meeting	Feb. 20 Presidents Day	Feb. 21	Feb. 22	Feb. 23 Ladies Garage Party at BSC 6:30PM	Feb. 24	Feb. 25 Jambalaya Cook- off at Gateway BMW 11-2PM
Feb. 26 Hometown Buffet	Feb. 27	Feb. 28	Feb. 29	March 1	March 2 Supercross	March 3
March 4 Hometown Buffet South Meeting, Dinner (see page 3)	March 5	March 6	March 7	March 8	March 9	March 10

Hey Everybody,

Bikes, Blues and BBQ in Fayetteville Ar. is coming up September 27th thru 30th. If you never heard of it, check out their website at www.bikesbluesandbbq.org. The best part of it for me is the ride there, around there and back. We are leaving from the QT at hwy 44 and 109 at 8am, Thursday the 27th, taking about 320 miles of back roads to get to Eureka Springs. We are staying at the Comfort Inn at 196 E. Van Buren in Eureka Springs 3 nights, the 27th thru 29th. If you're thinking about going you may want to reserve a room now, motels fill up fast for this event and you can always cancel. Friday we are going to take off from the Comfort Inn parking lot at 8am for about a 200 mile round trip ride around the area. 8am Saturday we are headed to Fayetteville for the Day, returning to Eureka Springs that evening. 8am Sunday we are headed home a different back roads way. If you have never done it before I think you will enjoy it. If you have done it before, it's always a new experience with different people.

Hope you can make it, Lou Soucy

Here are the routes we are planning to take, weather permitting. It's a good idea to know where we're going so you can jump in and out at any point. It may also be useful in case we get split up, especially in Fayetteville at the event.

To Eureka Springs

<http://classic.mapquest.com/mq/9-KCAsGDIN>

Day Trip

<http://classic.mapquest.com/mq/6-KCAsGDINvrEsExUG>

To Fayetteville

http://classic.mapquest.com/mq/6-cGR4Xly9XKaxNb_AJGrQ

From Fayetteville

<http://classic.mapquest.com/mq/8-YXRStzj>

Back Home

<http://classic.mapquest.com/mq/4-Ax4JJdVNXkEML3i7MH3f>

Bike Count as of 02/10/2012					
		Yamaha	3	CanAm	1
		BMW	2	Triumph	2
		Victory	2	Big Dog	1
		Vento	1		
		KTM	1		
	Honda		33		
	Harley		20		
	Kawasaki		10		
	Suzuki		5		

West Virginia Trip: FYI and Disclaimer - - - by Ed Acree

FYI: I have planned a trip to West Virginia.

Disclaimer: I am not the leader, only the planner.

FYI: Group I leaves Tuesday, May 15, and returns Monday, May 21.

Group II leaves Wednesday, May 16, and returns Sunday, May 20.

Disclaimer: I picked the dates motivated to fit into my schedule and to go to a different state for a spring ride.

FYI: The ride hub is Summersville, WV, approximately 625 miles/

Disclaimer: The "Interstate Light" group will stay in Georgetown, KY, Tuesday night going and Sunday night returning (320 miles). We will be riding a lazy -eight path through Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, and West Virginia on a two-day destination approach.

The "Interstate Heavy" group will chase "Iron Butt" Bob Mueller on a General Patton assault approach. We all arrive in Summersville on Wednesday, and we all leave on Sunday.

FYI: There will be three day rides of 200-250 miles each.

Disclaimer: I am doing this from memory of rides taken eight years ago. I will not know how far to the next gas station or where is a good place to eat.

FYI: The two-lane roads were in good shape with great vistas. Expect to see 8 and 9% grades and multiple curves.

Disclaimer: Don't expect to see shoulders or pull outs to take photos. A course correction might have to wait until the next town. Do expect to see some corner gravel scatter from logging trucks. Don't expect to see convenience stores or gas available in every small town. The locals drive junker cars with questionable safety stickers and tend to tailgate on their familiar roads.

FYI: I will provide three day trips and suggest you find your group by comfort level. The rides need not be ridden in any sequence.

Disclaimer: I am not a GPS/smart phone technophile, so expect some flaws associated with age-related memory loss. A hub ride gives the fatigued rider a chance to break off from the group and return to the motel.

FYI; Georgetown Best Western, Georgetown, KY 502-868-0055
May 15 and May 20 \$67.49 mention "Shadow Rider Group"

Baymont Inn, Summersville, WV 304-872-6500
May 16, 17, 18, 19 \$65 mention Shadow Rider Group

Members' classified ads are free! Send to John Geiler at editor@shadowriders-stl.com or (636) 938-4299

Gateway BMW Motorcycles

Bob Honz

General Manager



Address

2690 Masterson Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63114

Telephone

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Toll Free

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FOR SALE: Scorpion EXO-700 Helmet (\$90)

Worn 3 times. Excellent helmet; poor fit for me. Color: Matte Anthracite Size: Men's Medium

Call Don @ 314-477-3562

Your add could be listed here. Contact the Shadow Writer staff for information and to submit your add. Sorry, members and sponsors only.

FOR SALE: Cold weather riding clothes

First Gear Kenya jacket with separate fleece inner jacket, size L. \$50

First Gear insulated pants, size W12. \$35

Both in excellent condition, just way too big for me!

Call Nita at 314-808-7762 or nita@palaver.org

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