



The Shadow Writer *February, 2015*

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

A Letter from the President

Hey Everybody,

On behalf of the new board I would like to thank you for your confidence in us to keep the club going strong. It's always nice to change things up a bit and with Sue Braun and Ira Steuer coming on board I'm sure everything will continue to run smoothly. We all owe a huge thank you to Andrea for serving as Secretary for three years and to Eric as Vice President. I'd also like to thank election committee headed up by Nita. She along with Bob and Rich did a great job of finding members to fill the board positions. With a little luck maybe we can talk them into doing it again for next year.

The Shadow Riders is without doubt the best motorcycle club in the St. Louis area and we will do our best to keep things moving forward in a fun direction. One of the most important things that drew me to this club is that it is large enough to have many organized fun activities but small enough that every member has the opportunity to contribute and make a difference. We all owe thanks to the many members that keep the club rolling. The best way to do that is for you to step up and make a difference yourself. You will have a good opportunity to do that at the February 24th meeting. We have a lot of things to take care of to get ready for another great year of riding. Pass a budget; It's your money, what do you want to do with it? Plan a Helmet Day for our chosen charity, the Make A Wish Foundation. Oh, let's not forget our ride schedule, where are we going on Sundays starting in April? We need about 34 members to volunteer to organize a Sunday ride this year. So give some thought as to how you can make a difference and come to the meeting. It's a lot more fun when everyone does their part.

At the January meeting we voted on our club's chosen charity and once again it was decided that we would support Make a Wish as our main charity. We also voted to support Hartbauer McBride Memorial Foundation this year with any 50/50 ticket proceeds that we collect along with a generous donation from our clubs reserved funds. Hartbauer McBride is a small local charity that is run by a group of very dedicated bikers for the benefit of other local bikers that need our help. Check out their website at: www.hartbauermcbride.com.

An important area that we would like to concentrate on this year is boosting membership. To do this we need to get our Ambassador program working full swing and give them the resources to act on what ideas they may have. If you have some ideas and the time to develop them it would be greatly appreciated. It's that time of year that a nice riding day is few and far between, but one thing that will warm you up and make it a little more bearable is the Shadow Riders breakfast Sunday mornings. It's a good time so come join in. You can find the info on the club website and newsletter. Many of the world's problems are solved over our Sunday breakfasts, but far more important, we plan where we want to ride to when the weather warms up.

Let's go for a ride together, Lou Soucy

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 24, 2015

Board meeting 30 minutes before regular meeting.

Sunday Gatherings

Sundays at 9:00 AM. We will alternate between the north location at the Hometown Buffet 12228 St. Charles Rock Road and south at the Golden Corral at 6110 S. Lindbergh. To keep our calendars updated: the February gatherings started at the north location on 1/01/15.

Shadow Riders General Membership Meeting Minutes

Lou recognized Laura Boone and Suzanne Muschany for a great job putting together the Holiday Party. Laura also thanked those that helped with the clean up.

Candidates for the New Board of Directors were voted in by show of hands since there was no opposition to those running. Congratulations to Lou Soucy, President. Sue Braun, Vice-President; Ira Steuer, Secretary; and John Geiler, Safety Officer. Please feel free to come to them with any questions or concerns regarding the clubs business.

The majority of members agreed to offer Club merchandise at cost rounded to the next dollar. Majority of club members present agreed to split the 50/50 collections, half will go to Hartbauer McBride as opposed to depositing in the clubs account. Respective liaisons spoke in favor of their Charity's. Laura for Make a Wish said that over \$26,000 was raised last year and 7 wishes were granted with a heavy presence from the Shadow Riders. Rich Bayers spoke regarding Bikers for Babies, the event has down sized but is expected to be better this year, July 26 the event will begin at Mungenast and finish at Pierre Marquette Park. Robin spoke of Hartbauer McBride Bikers Helping Bikers, some of the club members have been helped by this charity, anything from an accident to job loss. Show of hands determined our Club Charity for the year which will be Make A Wish. Event will be June 13 & 14 this year. Motion was made by Bob Mueller- \$625 from club funds be distributed to Hartbauer McBride. Second the motion by Joe Kalal. Majority of members in agreement.

If you paid and were unable to attend the Holiday Party you can collect your free Window Cling from Lisa Soucy. Lisa will be presenting a mock-up of the new club logo at the next meeting . It promises to be a cleaner version of the present logo.

Ira is planning a Saturday night out in the near future to the Dorsett Inn. Keep your eye on the calendar.

Trips for the year are coming together with some already in place. This year promises many options so keep checking your email and the calendar for more information. \$42 from the 50/50 collection was won by Cliffy.

See you gals at the Ladies Garage Party at St. Charles Harley Davidson on February 19 6-9pm.

Thanks for having me as your Secretary for the past 3 years, it's been fun. Best wishes to the new board and all those that keep this club running.

Ride Safe, Andrea

Board of Directors

Lou Soucy, <i>President</i>	314-731-4166 LouSoucy60@Yahoo.com
Sue Braun, <i>Vice President</i>	636-575-3281 tootieturner73@yahoo.com
Ira Steuer, <i>Secretary</i>	314-520-3504 ISteuer36@Yahoo.com
Russ Davis, <i>Treasurer</i>	636-230-5850 Russell.Davis@ATT.net
John Geiler, <i>Safety Officer</i>	636-938-4299 JohnGlr3553@Gmail.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
Lisa Soucy, <i>Merchandise</i>	314-221-3323 lisaannhermeling@yahoo.com
Rich Bayers, <i>March of Dimes Liaison</i>	636-527-2157 rbayerscpa@aol.com
Robin Potter, <i>Hartbauer McBride Liaison</i>	636-677-4072 robinsnest119@att.net

January Membership

Main Members	73
Significant Others	19
Juniors	1
Total	93

March Birthdays

- 05 - JOHN GEILER
- 12 - MAUREEN ROBERTSON
- 14 - CRAIG JOHNKE
- 16 - MARK TAETZ
- 21 - BOB BIRCHER
- 22 - ED ACREE
- 23 - MAURICE TENNIAL SR.
- 23 - BOB SMITH
- 24 - TED KOSKI
- 29 - KEVIN BECK
- 31 - MICHAEL ZINNA
- 31 - JAMES ORTH

Fellow Shadow Rider,

Another year for the Shadow Riders. As most of you know I have been appointed to the Vice-President position. I am a seasoned club member so many of you already know me. I've seen how our club is run and hope to help continue to help it to run smoothly. I look forward to working with the new board. Please feel to share any ideas or concerns you may have for our club.

A reminder to support our sponsors and their activities. St. Charles Harley Davidson have three events in February that may be of interest to you. The first is the Ladies' Garage Party on the 19th. Ladies if you have never attended one of these I encourage you to go. It's an evening full of fun with a dash of knowledge thrown in. Did I mention the dealership also serves us food and adult beverages? Be sure to register for this event and bring a friend. The more the merrier. Feb. 21: "Gear Up To Go" at 10am and on Feb. 26 "Pints and Pistons" is at 6pm.

We have a great club and I'm glad to be a part of it.

Susan Braun

Just a reminder about Hartbauer McBride Trivia Night.
See the full details in the January Shadow Writer

**6th Annual
TRIVIA NIGHT
Hartbauer / McBride
Memorial Foundation, Inc.
"Bikers Helping Bikers"
Saturday, March 14, 2015
7 pm to 10 pm**

It's that time of year (+)!

Just a reminder that it is not too late to renew your membership. Mail your application with your check or bring it to the meeting. Be sure to sign your check. For those without email, I will mail you an application before the next meeting.

Jim Gianella
Membership

Bike Count for November

Honda - 23	Harley - 30	Kawasaki - 6	Suzuki - 7	Yamaha - 6	BMW - 1	KTM - 1
Vento - 1	Big Dog - 1	CanAm - 2	Triumph - 2	Ducati - 1	Victory - 6	Ural - 1

Aging and Motorcycling

I know this is a subject that we like to avoid. When we were younger we thought that when we got to be almost too old to ride that we would “go out in a blaze of glory” on the back of our favorite bike. As we got older we realized that this idea is neither romantic nor heroic: just stupid. We’ve worked so hard to make it this far why throw it away now?

I’ve been reading some studies on the effects of aging on our sport and the average age of riders in the present day as opposed to years past. Between the years of 1996 and 2005, researchers found the average age of motorcyclists involved in crashes increased from approximately 34 to 39 years, and the proportion of injured riders above the age of 40 increased from around 28 percent to close to 50 percent. Of all injured riders included in the study, 50 to 59-year-olds represented the fastest growing group, while the 20 to 29-year-olds were the most rapidly declining.

These findings tended to lead researchers to believe that the number of younger people getting into the sport has been rapidly declining. Based on the source of information that they’re using I don’t think that is the case. It has been my observation that more and more young people are getting into motorcycling but the improvement in Kevlars and meshes has prevented many a hospital visit. While most older riders don’t embrace the idea of wearing the full-body suits and other available protective clothing, it seems that most of our younger sport riders find it fashionable and therefore acceptable.

The study that I read prompted a second study concerning the average age of riders. You’ll be happy to know that the average Shadow Rider fits right in. In 1980 the average age was 24. 10 years later in 1990 that age went to 27. Another 10 years and the average age in 2000 was 40. As of only 5 years ago, in 2010, the average age increased to 49. I’m sure the price of gasoline in the last 15 – 20 years had a lot to do with some people getting into, or back into, riding something that gets more than 20 miles to the gallon. I know, for myself, it was the gasoline prices going up that prompted me to get an old ‘beater’ to fix up and ride to work after being out of the sport for several years. It was the old beater that got Andrea hooked on the joys of riding (and the rest is history!).

(continued on page 5)

New Member for January
James Orth rides a red 2009 HD Sportster 1200

I know for myself, as I approach 62 in less than a month, I now ride the heaviest bike I've ever owned. At close to ½ ton the Goldwing is a joy on the highway and back roads alike. But in a parking lot where there are imperfections or different planes to allow proper drainage, and an occasional pothole or concrete pavement edge, I find myself fighting to stay upright more times than I would like to admit. Getting back into my exercise regiment will help some but, as Andrea and I discussed this morning, there will come a time when the exercise will only slow down the deterioration that our muscles experience as we age.

So what's my point? I thought you'd never ask, I for one have embraced my motorcycling as "my life". Having a rider wife is just a huge bonus to the formula. I realize that there may be many more bikes in my life but I plan on smaller, easier to manage, bikes so that I can continue my lifestyle almost until the end. Many of us don't want to think about aging but "crossing that bridge when I get to it" isn't an option. How we take care of ourselves now determines how fast that bridge comes rushing up on us. If anyone is interested the only book I could find by someone who rides, about healthy lifestyle for riders, is a man named Flash Gordon. No, that's not a joke. He just likes to spell his name that way. His book is *Blood, Sweat, and Second Gear: More Medicine for Motorcyclists*. I haven't read the book myself, it's just one that I found doing my research for this article that had good reviews.

If you feel that down-sizing isn't an option as you age because going on long trips is a big part of your enjoyment, take Chris Schweitzer for example (sorry Chris). Chris rides a very nimble and quite capable 700cc twin that weighs only around 500 lbs. Some might say that this bike would be too small for their needs. Chris rode with us on our 6,000 mile trip to Alberta, Canada last August and had no problem keeping up with the group and showed no signs of fatigue from riding the smaller bike. Tom Schaefer, and formerly Erin O'Donnell, have gone on the long trips with us on their 750 Hondas. Not having 100+ horsepower isn't an issue anymore. I've never used that power even when pulling the trailer of passing tractor trailers.

My point is that we have to be willing to adjust as necessary to prolong our safety as well as the safety of the group that we ride with. When my next bike drops to 1300cc's I'm going to relish having a new machine, one that's easier to manage, and one that I will customize to meet my needs.

I'm just sayin'

Johnny G.
Safety Officer

I have attached a form that I would appreciate having filled out by the membership. Any information that you don't feel comfortable in sharing just omit. I will keep this information with me as we ride so that should something happen I will be able to contact the proper person and give the correct information to the emergency personnel, if required. This is a standard form so basically what I need is a primary, and if unable to contact that person, a secondary. Please inform the person named on this form that you have given me the information and then you will want to give them more details such as religious preferences; whether or not you have a living will; where you want your bike taken to; and anything else you can think of that might be of importance. Thank you.

Emergency Contact Information Form

This information will be extremely important in the event of an accident or medical emergency.

Please be sure to sign and date this form

Name: _____
Last First MI

Phone:
Home: _____ **Cell:** _____

Home Email Address: _____

Address: _____
Street City State Zip Code

Primary Emergency Contact Name: _____
Last First

Relationship: _____

Phone:
Home: _____ **Cell:** _____ **Work:** _____

Secondary Emergency Contact Name: _____
Last First

Relationship: _____

Phone:
Home: _____ **Cell:** _____ **Work:** _____

Preferred Local Hospital: _____

Insurance Information:

Company: _____ **Policy #:** _____

Comments (include any special medical or personal information you would want an emergency care provider to know – or special contact information:

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Feb. 8 Sunday Meeting South	Feb. 9	Feb. 10	Feb. 11	Feb. 12	Feb. 13	Feb. 14 Happy Valentine's Day
Feb. 15 Sunday Meeting North	Feb. 16 Presidents Day	Feb. 17	Feb. 18	Feb. 19 Ladies Garage Party	Feb. 20	Feb. 21 Gear Up To Go
Feb. 22 Sunday Meeting South	Feb. 23	Feb. 24 Monthly Meeting	Feb. 25	Feb. 26 Pints and Pistons	Feb. 27	Feb. 28
March 1 Sunday Meeting North	March 2	March 3	March 4	March 5	March 6	March 7
March 8 Sunday Meeting South	March 9	March 10	March 11	March 12	March 13	March 14 Trivia Night



Old Age?

"You don't stop riding when you get old... you get old when you stop riding."

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

(314) 427-9090

Toll Free

(877) 221-9090

Fax

(314) 427-9195

Email

honz@gatewaybmw.com

Website

www.gatewaybmw.com

FOR SALE: Cold weather riding jacket

First Gear Kenya shell with zip-out fleece inner jacket. Unisex size L.

Excellent condition!

\$50 or make an offer.

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

M2R Waterproof Leather Boots

\$80 Mint condition

Size: 10 US (44 Euro)

Contact:

Don [314.477.3562] if interested.

We have a friend of the club who would like to sell a bike. It is a 2007 Vulcan 900 with 12,000 miles. Clean bike, garaged. \$4500 OBO.

Contact Raymond @ 314-398-1241

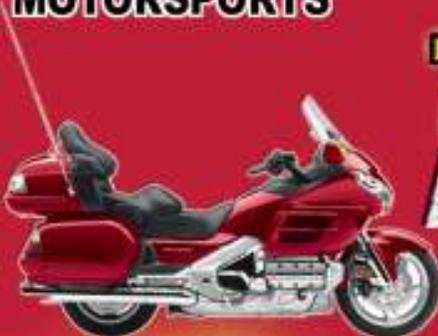
Your ad could be here. If you haven't used it in 2 years . . . Sell it!



**ST. CHARLES
MOTORSPORTS**

HOT DEALS!

OVER
**700 HONDA'S
AVAILABLE!**



**Over
30 Goldwings
Available**



**TRIKES
IN-STOCK**

(636) 946-6487

www.bigstcharlesmotorsports.com



