



The Shadow Writer

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

July 2008

A Letter from the President

Fellow Shadow Riders,

At our General Membership meeting in June, we once again hosted officers from the Highway Patrol. As many of you know, I was traveling and missed this meeting, but I hear from everyone concerned that it was terrific. Thanks again to Jim Gianella, who has organized this two years in a row now.

We had our first of two Helmet Days at the end of June. While I haven't heard the exact amounts collected, I have heard that it was good in both locations. October and Bikers for Babies is coming up fast. Please contact Dennis or Sandy Meade for South County or Rich Bayers or Laura Boone for West County to sign up for the next Helmet Day collection. This is such an easy way to make some money for our club charity, the March of Dimes.

The riding weather has been pretty good considering all of the wet weather. I'm sure one of our smarter club members can explain why the rain seems to wait for Sunday to come down, but there it is! Please remember your hot weather riding tips: Plenty of water, wear sunscreen and lip balm, and despite the heat, gloves, boots, a helmet and eye protection is the **MINIMUM** amount of protection that everyone should use. We've had several folks feel ill during hot rides, so please make sure to take care of yourself.

Best regards,
Eric Levy



~March of Dimes~

**The next helmet day is
Saturday, September 13.**

Club Meetings

Club (General Membership) Meeting

7:00 PM, 4th Tuesday each month

Manchester Elks Lodge, 2242 Mason Lane

NEXT MEETING: July 22, 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: August 14, 2008

Sunday Group Rides

Official ride season started April 6. Meet at Old Orchard Center, 14128 Manchester Rd., as usual.

Rides leave promptly at 10 AM. Come early, line up your bike, and visit with friends.

You can also pick up your 2008 year bar.

Membership	July '07	July '08
Main Members	112	102
Significant Others	29	24
Junior Members	1	
Total	142	126

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2008 Motorcycle Rallies

InZane 8, (Valkyries), Johnson City, TN,
July 30-August 4, 2008
(www.valkyrieriders.com)

Sturgis Motorcycle Rally,
August 4-10, 2008
(www.sturgismotorcyclerrally.com)

Bikes, Blues & BBQ, Fayetteville, AR,
September 24-27, 2008
(www.bikesbluesandbbq.org)

Motorcycle Safety Foundation
Basic and Experienced Rider classes are
offered at these three locations.

St. Louis Community College at Forest
Park: 314-644-9175

Jefferson College, Hillsboro: 636-797-
3000 x144

St. Charles Parks & Recreation: 636-949-
3377

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

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

By Linn Acree, edited by Ed Acree, Barbara Everritt, and John Everritt

It's easy to get there— just get on I-70 and head west. When I-70 ends, you're in the middle of the state. Utah is 70% public land—forest, park, monument, or wildlife refuge. While there are some barren, desert areas, I was surprised by the pine forests, mountains, and multicolored rock strata. Several people advised us that we were going too early, but our May date was picked according to the school year, and we wanted to avoid the summer rush.

We were headed to St. George in the very southwestern part of the state to meet the Everritts for our annual western exploration. Of course, we took the Harley in a trailer; and after what could have been a vacation-interrupting crisis, Byerlys in Eureka got us road-worthy in one day (electrical hookup improvement, wheel bearing packs, and upgraded LED taillights). If you have a trailer, this is the place to get it serviced.

We had overnight stays in Colby, Kansas (very nice Comfort Inn), and Fruita, Colorado. Just south of Fruita is the Colorado National Monument. After a winding, steep climb--2000-foot elevation gain--you are on a mesa with views overlooking the towns of Fruita and Grand Junction. The road is 23 miles of twists and turns and sensational overlooks into steep-sided box canyons--reminiscent of old cowboy movies and cattle rustlers.

Finally, Utah. Upon entering the state one of the first signs is "Beware of eagles on the highway." They aren't kidding! Just after that sign there was an eagle in the median. Another sign we saw was "No service for 100 miles." It was just after the last exit for the last gas station in Green River! Geology and rock formations are what Utah is about--it is (in) a state of erosion. There is not much scenery-obstructing vegetation to block your views of mesas, towering cliffs, and upheavals unless you are in the Dixie National Forest. Being from Tennessee I found the term 'Dixie' hard to understand, and it is used freely in Southern Utah. It had something to do with cotton growing or a lot of people from the 'true' south moving there.

We bypassed Moab and the Arches National Park; and, instead of staying on I-70 to I-15, we took Highway 24 on an impulse to Capitol Reef National Park and the Grand Staircase—Escalante National Monument. Highway 12 from Torrey to Bryce Canyon is a 122-mile long Scenic Highway. Ed declares the area on either side of the pass at Boulder as "eye popping" and you should expect to see signs warning of 14-degree grades. One section of this is called Hell's Backbone with 100-foot drops on either side of the highway with no guardrails. On a clear day, you can see forever.

This was a great introduction to the varied geological formations that make Utah unique. The Staircase is a series of descending shelves off the forested Aquarius Plateau leading into the rock formations of the Kaiparowits Plateau and eventually the Colorado River. Ancients and moderns had farmed the Capitol Reef area at different times. The most geologically significant area is not available from the road, but the scenery is still impressive. This 10-hour excursion into the middle of Utah proved to be worthwhile in the long run, because I would not have been comfortable doing the distance to Capitol Reef or Escalante on the bike. We're really glad to have seen them both--even from a car.

We skirted Bryce Canyon and went through Red Canyon. North-South Highway 89 is farmland and ranches with three connectors over to the north-south Interstate 15. To avoid a couple mountain passes we elected not to take Highways 14 and 143 and chose what appeared to be shortest route—Highway 9. Beware: it goes through Zion National Park and there is a \$25 entrance fee to use this road. Being the old man that he is, however, Ed has a Golden Age Passport (cost \$10 and good forever), so we got in free. A slow ride through the wondrous rocky scenery, and we were finally nearing our destination. It was becoming apparent that southern Utah is a tourist mecca. There were lots of rental campers, and the occupants all spoke foreign languages. The 'Grand Circle of the Southwest' is evidently being promoted in Europe.

Our first day on the bikes took us west and north into rolling ranch land. We toured Snow Canyon--a state park, named after Mr. Snow, not the white mountain that appears to be the centerpiece of this 5-mile drive. Orange and white Navaho Sandstone are the remaining geologic formations of an ancient desert and sea, which are interspersed with black Basalt lava cones. Scenes from the Electric Horseman and Butch Cassidy were filmed there. We had lunch in Cedar City and

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then took Highway 14 over the summit to Duck Creek, which is the new tourist destination for the elite from Las Vegas. We only saw rustic cabins, a pond, and ATV's, but five realty companies mean that somebody is buying. An ancient lava mountain and a great view of the valley where Zion is located can be seen from this highway.

Because of unusually hot weather on Sunday we took I-15 to Parowan then 143 over the mountain. We passed through Brian Head ski resort and noted the cold remaining snow. Just around the bend was Cedar Breaks National Monument. We were three days early for its annual Memorial Day opening, but an overlook provided a view into a circle of painted cliffs with touches of snow. We arrived in Panquitch ready for lunch to find that there are not many restaurants open on Sunday in a predominately Mormon state. The Flying M proved to be more than fortifying, and we took off for Bryce Canyon. Passing through Red Canyon along the way greets you with more red rocks than Sedona. Bryce is strangely eerie—like a moonscape—erosion has really done a number on the sedimentary layers here. The road and overlooks are elevated over monoliths and geological carvings. One amphitheater of tall statues makes you think you are seeing thousands of orange-clad warriors at attention. A great vista looking towards the East gives a view of the Escalante Staircase. A big disappointment for us was Kodachrome Basin State Park. It added 45 miles to our trip (not all bad) but brought us to a two-toned striped mountain range not dis-similar to anything we had already seen. The return trip, however, gave us a great view of the backside of Bryce Canyon. Back to Cedar City to search for an open restaurant and a great Mexican dinner.

The next day got hotter—104 degrees was the forecast. After driving through snow in Colorado to get there, this was an unexpected change, but Utah is diverse enough to provide climate options. We went north into the hills of Kolob Canyon, which is the northern extreme of Zion National Park. After a nice ride of sweeping curves we were experiencing spring again at 8000 feet. To the south we entered the towns of LaVerkin and Virgin and a ride northward to the Kolob Reservoir with a gain of over 4000 feet. We were in and out of Zion parklands and high ranchlands without any tourist traffic but experiencing similar rock formations.

The hot weather continued, but we got an early start on Tuesday and headed for Zion National Park. Unlike Bryce, which looks down into rugged terrain, everything in Zion is weathered, smoother appearing, and up. Large carved formations, shaped by wind and river into colored layers, are the focus of this park. Highway 9 is eleven miles of amazing scenery and can only really be appreciated from a bike or convertible. This narrow road was built in the 20's and 30's by the CCC for autos of that time. There is a one-mile long tunnel that cannot accommodate today's wider campers and buses, so it is monitored as one-way alternating east and west traffic. From the parking lot we took the mandatory shuttle into the park, past the lodge, and made a couple short hikes to see the weeping rocks and the slot canyon formed by the Virgin River. A nice stroll along the river near the Museum is pleasant and not utilized by many tourists.

On Wednesday the forecast was for rain; we took the car to the North Rim of the Grand Canyon. The terrain is mostly desert and scrub with an occasional view of the Vermillion Cliffs to the east. There is one good 15-mile curvy, forested road approaching Jacob's Lake. A car was the right decision because riding a bike would have been more tiring and the scenery on the way there was not significant. We toured all the main roads and the clouds broke long enough to get some decent pictures at the lodge and overlooks. It snowed for about 30 minutes as we were leaving the Grand Canyon.

Thursday was a short loop through far western Utah and the Joshua Tree Scenic Byway, which borders the Mojave Desert in Arizona. 'Tree' is used loosely in this instance—it looks like a cross between a tall cactus and a bush, but is part of the yucca family. We concluded with a ride through the Virgin River Gorge, which took 12 years to complete the 23-mile long stretch of I-15. We were 10 miles from Nevada and failed to go—just so we could say we'd been there.

We had a great time in Utah riding through wonderfully amazing scenery and managed to avoid three days of over 100 temperatures by going up. In seven days we saw 3 National Forests, 3 National Parks, 3 National Monuments, 3 State Parks, and too many Scenic Highways to count. Be sure to have plenty of camera batteries and memory cards at the ready—I took almost 600 pictures. If we ever get that way again, we'll be sure to see Arches National Park, Dead Horse Point State Park, Canyonlands, and Escalante (again).

July-August 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
July 20 Louisiana MO Ride	July 21	July 22 Club Meeting Elks Lodge	July 23	July 24	July 25	July 26
July 27 Weingarten Picnic Ride	July 28	July 29	July 30	July 31	August 1	August 2
August 3 Kimmswick Ride	August 4	August 5	August 6	August 7	August 8	August 9
August 10 DeSoto AmVet Breakfast Ride	August 11	August 12	August 13	August 14 SRC Board Meeting	August 15	August 16
August 17 Two County Ride #2	August 18	August 19	August 20	August 21	August 22	August 23 Ted's Open House
August 24 Grafton, Illinois Ride	August 25	August 26 Club Meeting Elks Lodge	August 27	August 28	August 29	August 30

Ride Descriptions (All rides leave Old Orchard Center at 10:00 A.M. Be there early to line up.)

July 20 — Louisiana (Russ Davis): A new route this year takes us through the Busch Wildlife Area, New Melle, Wright City, Troy and Eolia on mostly alphabet roads. Riders will have a choice of two (2) lunch stops, The Eagle's Nest or Lighthouse Inn. Both restaurants offer brunch and menu ordering. The ride is 94 miles and about 2 1/2 hours.

July 27 — Weingarten Picnic (Nita Fisher): Our destination is a small-town Parish Picnic in Weingarten, between Farmington and St. Genevieve. If you like German cooking, this is some of the best -- including crispy fried chicken and kettle beef plus all the trimmings. We'll take some back roads and arrive about noon.

August 3 — Kimmswick (Dennis Meade): We will be making our annual visit to the Blue Owl Restaurant in historic Kimmswick, MO. This is always a very popular event, combining scenic rolling roads, fellowship and great food.

August 10 — DeSoto AmVet Breakfast Ride (Hal Rieser): This is a new ride and new destination. Hal says the AmVet breakfast is terrific and promises a nice ride to get us there in time and take us into the countryside afterwards.

August 17 — Two County Ride #2 (Dennis Meade): Ride the twisting back roads of St. Louis and Jefferson counties on a route that is totally different from Dennis's first Two County ride. Dennis is keeping the lunch spot a surprise.

August 24 — Grafton (Russ Davis): The route we'll take to this familiar destination will depend on river levels and the progress of post-flooding cleanup. Check the description next month for an update.

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: 2003 Limited Edition Anniversary Harley Road King

Fuel injected with stage one performance kit; \$3000-\$4000 in extra custom equipment including Samson pipes, custom grips, highway pegs, easypull clutch lever, custom touring seat (plus original seat). This gunmetal blue pearl bike is in excellent condition and comes with a 5 year full extended warranty purchased in April. **Asking \$15,000**

Contact George Warren at 314-921-1779

6/08

For Sale: 2005 HONDA VTX 1300S (purchased new in 4/2006)

Silver, with new Avon tires, Mustang wide vintage two-piece touring seat, National Cycle Switchblade "2-up" windsheild, chrome lowers, Paladin Highway bar, Aeromach 4" pullback risers, Kuryakyn large silver bullet aux. lights, K & N filter, Kuryakyn ISO grips, chrome helmet lock and wide style levers, Signal Dynamics LED license plate frame, Hondaline chrome backrest w/ pad, Hondaline chrome rear carrier (not installed). All maintenance documentation and stock parts come with sale. Saddle bags are NOT included, but brackets stay with the bike.

Less than 15.5K miles and 40+ mpg.

NEW LOWER PRICE... Just \$6295.

Contact Tom at 314-882-4450 or tkreuz01@yahoo.com

5/08

For Sale: Cold weather riding gear

First Gear insulated textile Kenya jacket (L) and matching insulated overpant (women's 12). Both are waterproof and in excellent condition. Asking \$75 each or \$125 for the pair.

Contact Nita at (314) 808-7762 or nita@palaver.org

4/08

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

9/07



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



GM Meeting Report

At the June club meeting, Dan Newton reported an operating fund balance of \$4971, plus \$167 in the Bikers for Babies fund and \$1501 in the merchandise fund. The club voted to reimburse Laura Boone for the Progressive Food Ride dinner.

Rich Bayers reported that we need a March of Dimes ambassador. Sandra Meade suggested one-year-old Jack and Claire Horstmann (Dennis and Sandy's grandchildren) who were born prematurely in May 2007 and received care through March of Dimes.

Dennis Meade announced that the Four Ferries ride scheduled for August 31 has been cancelled due to flooding. That will now be a rain date.

Laura Boone said she has hats with Shadow Riders logos for \$15 and they are going fast.

Highway Patrol officers Julie Scerine and Jim Cox made a special presentation to the club that included a brochure on "What to do in case of an accident?" Officer Cox shared information on the newly activated Highway Patrol motorcycle unit, which is trying to improve motorcycle safety by making people more aware of motorcycles.

SRC Welcomes A New Member

Richard Weiman (rides a black 2006 Harley Street Bob & a 2006 Buell Ulysses XB12X)



WEB SITE

www.shadowriders-stl.com

JULY 2008

Board of Directors

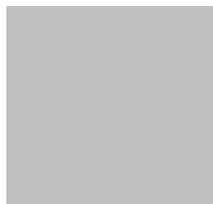
Eric Levy	President	636-825-2285
Rich Bayers	Vice President	636-527-2157
Sandra Meade	Secretary	314-845-9646
Dan Newton	Treasurer	314-293-9072
Dennis Meade	Safety Officer	314-845-9646

Coordination Team

Jim Gianella	Membership	314-644-2970
Nita Fisher	Newsletter	636-257-2238
Ted Koski	Web Master	314-427-4147
Ira Steuer	Saturday Night Out	314-520-3504
Laura Boone	Merchandise	314-363-3415



Please send address changes to above address



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