



The Shadow Writer

Official Newsletter of the
Shadow Riders Club of
St. Louis

June 2006

A Letter from the President

I'm feeling *a lot* better this month! The ratio of sunny to rainy days has been much more to my liking. (yeah, I know we need more rain, but that doesn't mean I have to like it!) In spite of the weathergeeks' dire predictions, we had fabulous weather for the gals' trip to Hardy, AR, and I really enjoyed both the ride and the company. While the ride home the next day was a bit cold and we were pushing to avoid the threatening skies, we stayed dry, we were riding and that's what counts. Three out of the last four Sundays have given us decent riding conditions, so my "motorcycle deprivation syndrome" is back under control, at least for now.

We had a beautiful day for the Progressive Food Ride (right up 'til the end) and the food was outstanding. A big thanks to Ira Steuer for putting together another successful day. And thanks to Ira and Tracy (and Al Plucinski), Twin City Honda, and Laura Boone for the delicious eats. Turnout was good and it was nice to see folks who hadn't been around for a while (as well as a bunch of the "regulars"). I hope all of you who participated had as good a time as I did.

I am seeing lots of newer members at the rides, and that's awesome. But we're occasionally short of experienced road captains. One of the strengths of our club is our ride schedule, and the backbone of that is our road captains, both lead and drag. I'm sure Kevin will be happy to talk to additional volunteers for this all-important job. I know that many of the more experienced road captains are dealing with family or work or scheduling issues. Real Life happens. But if you are a road captain and haven't made many rides yet this year, it would be GOOD to see you on Sundays, even if the Burger King is closed and I can't sit down to coffee with you. (Starbucks? Pleeese

Ride Safe, Ride Often, and Ride Sunday with the Shadow Riders.

Nita Fisher, President
prez@shadowriders-stl.com

P.S. Be sure to check out the Special Events on page 7.



~Auction Items Wanted~

**Donations are needed for a
live auction at our Bottleneck
Blues Bar night on August 16.**

See page 10.

Club Meetings

Club (General Membership) Meeting

7:00 PM, 4th Tuesday each month

Manchester Elks Lodge, 2242 Mason Lane

NEXT MEETING: June 27

Road Captains/Safety Meeting

Will be called by the Safety Officer as needed.

SRC Board Meeting

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

Zapata's Restaurant, 14007 Manchester Rd, Ballwin

NEXT MEETING: August 9

Sunday Group Rides

Meet at Old Orchard Center, Manchester & Braeshire Ave. (West of Weidman Road)

Official ride season started April 2. Rides leave promptly at 10 AM. Come early, line up your bike, and visit with friends.

Membership	June '05	June '06
Main Members	110	104
Significant Others	36	29
Junior Members	0	3
Total	146	136

New e-mail address? Don't miss out!
Send it to membership@shadowriders-stl.com or call the membership coordinator (Erin) at 314-293-0404.

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Send newsletter contributions to:

editor@shadowriders-stl.com (or mail to 4945 Fox Bridge Rd, Pacific, MO 63069)

Deadline is the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

How to re-print or re-read your Shadow Riders Newsletters.

1. Go to: www.shadowriders-stl.com
2. Click on the ShadowWriter button (right side of home page)
3. When asked, your User Name is *sunday* and your password is *oldorchard*
4. Click on the issue you want and let it load
5. You can then save the file to your local hard drive if you wish.

(Note: Adobe's FREE PDF reader or equivalent is required.)

Larry Wahlers reported a balance of \$4969.76 in the general fund, \$71 in the Bikers for Babies fund, and \$85 in the merchandise fund.

Ryugen Fisher reported that our appearance at Pierremont School was well received. He also reported that the first March of Dimes collection day on May 20 raised \$1887 (\$49 per man hour).

Erin O'Donnell, in addition to membership numbers, reported on the club's bike distribution. Hondas led with 64, followed by 19 Harleys, 18 Kawasakis, 13 Suzukis, 8 Yamahas, 4 BMWs, and 1 or 2 each Triumph, Victory, Cushman, and American Ironhorse..

Ira Steuer reported that eight people participated in the May Saturday Night Out and that everything was ready for the progressive food ride on June 10.

Dennis Meade reported from the March of Dimes Ride committee that there would be a bike show on July 15 starting at 11 am at Hooters in Westport, with proceeds to benefit March of Dimes. He also reported that we are signed up to host the August 16 Bottleneck Blues Bar night at Ameristar. We will not be allowed to have our own DJ this year. The group agreed to hold a live auction to help raise money for MOD.

Nita Fisher reported that Marklyn Cobb has volunteered to be in charge of this year's holiday party.

SRC Welcomes New Members

Dave & Rhonda Simorka (ride a 2005 red Honda VTX 1300)

Tom Clemons (rides a 2006 titanium Honda Goldwing)

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“Tucumcari tonight—2000 beds”

By Linn and Ed Acree

Approaching from the east, you will start seeing that sign in Oklahoma.

This year’s trip to Arizona means Interstate 44 to Oklahoma City, then onto Interstate 40—the path of old Route 66. It wasn’t our first time to take part in the nostalgic trip—we’ve seen the museums in Elk and Clinton, Oklahoma (Clinton is the better). We’ve eaten at the Route 66 Diner, strolled through Old Town, and driven down Central Avenue in Albuquerque. There are Indian pawnshops in Gallup (don’t miss Richardson’s), the Petrified Forest, and Cadillac Ranch.

But, this year bravery set in. Even before Ed bought his motorcycle, he had read an article in Rider magazine about the Blue Swallow Motel in Tucumcari. It is on the National Register of Historic Places. We had driven past it twice on previous trips—bright pink stucco with turquoise blue trim, L-shaped with garages (great for bike security and weather protection), a gravel driveway—time warp. It sits on the old main street of town. Interstate 40 veers to the south just before you get to town, bypassing the historic section of Route 66 and the ever-present train tracks of the BNSF. Modern motels with all the notable names can be found at any of the three Tucumcari exits, but we were going to be brave.

www.blueswallowmotel.com gives you the reservation page and a little history. I requested a date. I received a response—Bill said that we would be in Room 4. Oops, I had forgotten to ask about non-smoking rooms. Another email—‘All our rooms except #11 are non-smoking.’ Oops—Ed asked if it was air conditioned (we were traveling through New Mexico in late May—this is important). Another reply: “We have 100% refrigerated air, that’s what the sign says”. “Will there be room for our trailer?” “The motel sits on two acres; plenty of room in back.” Were we getting antsy, looking for excuses, possibly wavering. Were Bill and Terri getting tired of my questions? “Are you sure this is what you want to do,” Ed asked. “Yes, it’s only one night; and the price is right--\$39 for a double bed.”

After lunch in McLean, Texas, at the Red River Café (cobbler free with every meal), we arrived mid-afternoon on the ascribed date, went in to register, and introduced ourselves. “Would you like to see the room?” “No, that’s not necessary,” (we were brave). “But, you must see the room before you register—that’s the way my Father did it, and that’s the way it used to be.” Off we went with Bill. Room 4 is not spacious—none of the rooms are. A nightstand on one side of the bed, a small desk on the other. There’s a little alcove with a chair and hanging rod and a tiny bathroom with a shower. Bill had picked Room 4 for us because of the showerhead—two-way adjustable—vintage—all the bathroom fixtures were vintage, which added to the charm. We were beginning to like this place.

Of course, we registered. There is a TV, but we didn’t want to stay in the room. A short walk across the street to Tepee Curios, another icon of this town -- it used to be a gas station in the ‘30s. You actually enter through a ‘tepee’ shaped foyer. Trinkets, jewelry, rocks, souvenirs abound. Back to the motel to relax in the ‘40’s metal chairs outside the room and take in the sights. Motels with indoor corridors are confining; we always travel with folding chairs to sit on the balcony or outside the room after a long day in the car.

Bill had told us there were other bikers staying the night and shortly they appeared. Three Harleys and a bright yellow trike with a Screaming Eagle 103 engine. They were from Australia and had rented the bikes

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

in Las Vegas for three weeks to tour Route 66 with a side trip to the Harley plant in Kansas City. They kept eyeing our trailer, and Ed eventually satisfied their curiosity by opening up the top and laying down the tailgate—instant Harley respect. Bill loves to grill and mentioned that he was going to cook out that night. The guys took advantage and went to the market for meat. Who can resist having ‘steak on the barbie’ and beer with Australians? Ed felt his vacation had truly begun. After helping Terri wash up the dinner dishes we joined the guys outside at the picnic table and watched Bill check in the late arrivals.

Bill and Terri just bought the motel in March and have made it their home after moving from Florida. They are the fourth owners since the famed Lillian Redmon who owned it from 1958 into the ‘90s. This is more of a bed and breakfast affair (coffee is free, granola bar is \$.50). They are caring—“email us when you get home so we know you arrived safely.” Bill’s grandfather owned the Harley dealership in Seattle ‘a long time ago,’ and he is a recent ex-biker. For those of you who want to get to good riding country quickly, I’m sure Bill would let you leave car and trailer while you enjoy the scenic part of your journey. Terri is very friendly and the ultimate hostess. They run one of the very few original Route 66 motels that doesn’t rent rooms by the week or month. At night after he turns on the ‘neons,’ Bill will take your picture with the ‘Blue Swallow’ sign in the background—his gift to you at checkout.

We had such a good time that we stayed again on our way back home. In the interim a Viet Nam buddy from Yuma had moved his luxury fifth-wheel onto the premises to stay for a couple months, and the long-awaited arrival of a turquoise and white 1958 Chevy coupe (rolled and pleated) was delivered just hours before we got there. It was occupying the garage next to #4. If you go on the website, you’ll get a good look. Bill intends to use it to take customers to the local bars and pick them up so they won’t be out driving while drinking!

Bill confided that we were his only reservation until three days before we got there. Magically, the motel was filled up before we went to bed. That happened again the next time we stayed. On that occasion there were tourists from Denmark and other bikers. Don’t count on there being rooms available—word is out that this is THE place to stay. The Route 66 phone lines are buzzing and the Pixar movie, “Cars,” will prompt people to motor west and get their kicks on Route 66.



Owners Bill and Terri
(Ed’s trailer is in the background, below)



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Sunday, June 25—Club Picnic at Hawn Park

Don't forget that the scenic ride to Hawn Park (off Hwy 32 between Farmington and Ste. Genevieve) will take us to this year's club picnic. There will be lots of delicious food and refreshing beverages to enjoy under the trees with your fellow club members, courtesy of the club treasury.

Saturday, July 1, 10-2—March of Dimes Helmet Day

Help solicit donations for Bikers for Babies at either of two locations—Lindbergh & Union or Manchester & Barrett Station Rd. Volunteers are needed 10-12, 12-2, or any single hour you can work. Please contact Ryugen Fisher with the location and hours you'll help. Call [314-960-9555](tel:314-960-9555) or e-mail ryugen@palaver.org.

Saturday, July 15—Saturday Night Out

Dinner will be at the Red Lobster on Watson. Start time and dinner time will be sent out later. Please note that this is the third Saturday of the month.

March of Dimes Events— Ameristar Bottleneck Blues Bar

On the third Wednesday of each month in June through September, from 6-9 pm, Ameristar will be donating a portion of their Bottleneck Blues Bar food and drink sales to March of Dimes as they did last year.

Our night to host is August 16. We plan to hold a live auction to raise money for March of Dimes. Item donations can be brought to a club meeting in June or July, or sent to Nita (call 636-257-2238 or e-mail prez@shadowriders-stl.com).

Overnight Rides**Branson Trip—July 7-9**

Ira Steuer is coordinating a week-end motorcycle trip to Branson. The plan is to leave on Friday morning July 7th, stay overnight on Friday and Saturday, and return home on Sunday July 9th. This should be a wonderful week-end -- riding during the day and taking in some fantastic shows in the evening. Please e-mail Ira if your plans allow you to participate. (isteuer36@yahoo.com)

Indiana Covered Bridges—September 2-4 (Labor Day weekend)

Larry McGowen is coordinating this trip to Indiana. The plan is to leave Saturday morning September 2nd, stay overnight Saturday, tour the bridges on Sunday, and return home Monday. Rooms are available at the Econo Lodge in Terre Haute (812-234-3391); rates are about \$60-70 per night. **Motels are filling fast, so if you think you might go, make a reservation now and cancel later if you have to. Tell them you're with the SRC motorcycle club.** Please let Larry know if you plan to go. His e-mail is mcgowen@hrh-advantage.com and his cell phone is 314-495-1847. (And if you don't get his e-mail updates, you can call him for more information.)

July 2 — Bixby (Kevin Polito)

One of the longest and most enjoyable rides on our schedule this year is the ride south to the little town of Bixby. It's about a 2-1/2- to 3-hour ride to lunch, but you will have a smile on your face after having ridden some of the nicest, curviest roads in southeast Missouri, including miles of sweeping curves through the Mark Twain National Forest. Lunch will be deli-style sandwiches and salads at the Bixby Country Store, an attraction in and of itself. A lucky few will get to dine in the caboose.

July 9 — Washington, MO (Kevin Polito)

We'll head west toward Missouri wine country, traveling hither and yon on a variety of crooked roads over hill and dale. Some roads will be familiar favorites, others will be pleasant surprises. Lunch will be at Ponderosa Steakhouse. For \$7.99, the Sunday Brunch includes the usual salad and food bar (including fried chicken) plus breakfast items. Beverages are \$1.30.

July 16 — Jefferson County (Dan Newton)

If you like the twisties, this ride is for you. Dan has developed a new route for this year, but it's still a lot like Deal's Gap. You'll ride hundreds of curves, although it will be a lot more than 11 miles!

July 23 — Weingarten Picnic (Nita Fisher)

Our destination is a small-town Parish Picnic in Weingarten, MO, located 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 for \$7.50. We will take the back roads and arrive about noon. There will be games of chance and music from 11 to 12:30 pm with a fiddler contest following at 1:00 pm. The event also features Bingo, a country store, and antique farm machinery exhibits.

July 30 — ** NEW RIDE ** Two Counties (Dennis Meade)

We will be riding in southern St. Louis county and northern Jefferson county. The ride involves some up and down hills and several twisty turns with hills. The route includes alternatives so we can avoid summer construction zones. We will end up for lunch some where at a popular restaurant just off of I-55. And no, we will not be riding on the interstate unless you head home that way.

Motorcycle Safety Foundation

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

SLCC at Forest Park: 314-644-9175

Jefferson College: 636-797-3000 x144

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

June-July 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
June 25 10 am Club Picnic Ride	June 26	June 27 7:00 pm Club Meeting Elks Lodge	June 28	June 29	June 30	July 1 March of Dimes Helmet Day
July 2 10 am Ride to Bixby	July 3	July 4	July 5	July 6	July 7	July 8
July 9 10 am Ride to Washing- ton	July 10	July 11	July 12	July 13	July 14	July 15 Saturday Night Out (yes it's the right date)
July 16 10 am Jefferson County Ride	July 17	July 18	July 19	July 20	July 21	July 22
July 23 10 am Weingarten Picnic Ride	July 24	July 25 7:00 pm Club Meeting Elks Lodge	July 26	July 27	July 28	July 29
July 30 10 am NEW Two Counties Ride	July 31					

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: 2000 Honda Shadow ACE Tourer

45,xxx miles, one female adult owner, bike mostly used for longer tours. Chrome engine guard with highway pegs, chrome backrest with short luggage rack, tank chap and front-fork pouch.

\$5,500 OBO....selling to get more cc's and bigger gas tank.

Contact Peggy Phillips at 314-494-2486, leave message, or pPhillips@ccaglobal.com

05/06

For Sale:

New K & M air filter for VTX1800C Honda motorcycle. Make offer
5-new Suzuki chrome plated oil filters for an 800 intruder. Make offer.
1 like-new Bridgestone Patenza tire, size P225-50R17. 5000 miles on it. Make offer.

Call Chuck Etling at 314-966-2072 or Maetling@msn.com.

03/06

For Sale: Ladies Leather Chaps

Size 10. Like new; worn only twice. Were \$89 new at Blackjack's; asking \$45

Call Linn Acree at 314-569-1056

06/06

Auction Items Wanted

The club is planning to hold a live auction at the Bottleneck Blues Bar (Ameristar, St. Charles) on August 16 to raise additional money for March of Dimes Bikers for Babies. The more items we can get to auction, the more money we can raise.

All sorts of items are welcome. We already have a gift certificate for a Bed & Breakfast stay. If you have an item to donate, you can bring it to the June or July club meeting, or arrange with Nita Fisher to get it to her before August 16. If you're bringing an item too large to carry on a motorcycle, please let Nita know before the meeting. (636-257-2238 or nita@palaver.org)

You need to include an approximate value of your donated item as well. Laura Boone will have donation forms that can be filled out to give you credit for your contribution.



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Motorcycle Rallies

Honda Hoot, Knoxville, TN, June 21-24, 2006 (www.hondahoot.com or 800-347-1289)

Wing Ding (Gold Wings), Nashville, TN, July 3-6, 2006 (www.gwrra.org)

InZane 6, (Valkyries) Frisco, CO, July 12-16, 2006 (www.valkyrieriders.com/inzane)

Sturgis Motorcycle Rally, August 7-13, 2006 (www.sturgismotorcyclerrally.com)

Bikes, Blues & BBQ, Fayetteville, AR, September 27-30, 2006
(www.bikesbluesandbbq.org)



JUNE 2006

HOTLINE

636-336-1772

www.shadowriders-stl.com

Board of Directors

Nita Fisher	President	636-257-2238
Ryugen Fisher	Vice President	636-257-2238
Sally Hight	Secretary	314-351-9883
Larry Wahlers	Treasurer	314-221-2504
Kevin Polito	Safety Officer	314-645-0501

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Erin O'Donnell	Membership	314-293-0404
Nita Fisher	Newsletter	636-257-2238
Ryugen Fisher	Web Master/E-Mail	636-257-2238
Ira Steuer	Saturday Night Out	314-520-3504
Jeanne Garlock	Merchandise	314-313-7570 -or- 636-861-1380

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