



## *The Shadow Writer* *March, 2014*

Official Newsletter of the  
Shadow Riders Club of St. Louis  
[www.shadowriders-stl.com](http://www.shadowriders-stl.com)

### **A Letter from the President**

Hey Everybody,

At last month's club meeting we got a lot accomplished. We were able to pass a budget that included a substantial amount to support our ambassador program that will hopefully result in improved membership. If you have a good idea to accomplish this, and the time to see your idea through, then discuss it with VP Erik Johnston, who has offered to head up the program. We also chose Saturday April 5<sup>th</sup> as a helmet collection day for Make a Wish. It will be at the intersection of Manchester and Barrett Station from 9am to 2pm. We need all the volunteers we can get for this, so please let Laura Boone or me know if you can make it.

It seems like this winter is never going to end, but I'm sure come April 6<sup>th</sup> we'll need sunscreen and T-shirts for our first ride of the year to the Augusta BBQ. Positive thinking sure doesn't hurt anyway. Then there's the first road trip of the year. Ed Acree has put together a great trip to Cumberland Gap. You can find all the info for this and other club trips on our website and in the newsletter.

It was nice to see a few new people at last month's club meeting. It would even be nicer to see a lot more of our membership at the next meeting. Besides being a fun time with good friends and good food it gives you the opportunity to help plan the activities we all enjoy so much. Come be a part of it! At last month's meeting we distributed some club cards and flyers to hand out to promote the club. If you didn't get any, or you need more, they will be available at every meeting.

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: March 25, 2014**

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 March gatherings started at the south location on 3/02/14.

Shadow Riders General Membership Meeting Minutes  
February

There has been an increase in membership since last meeting, bringing us nearly equal to last year at this time.

The plan for the budget was passed with a motion from Karen Johnston, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mark Charpentier. Portions of the monies from other expenses will be directed toward the Ambassador program which is focused on increasing membership.

Tony Weaver will be heading up Merchandising for the club this year and High Visibility shirts are soon to come. Eric Johnston will be overseeing the Ambassador program. If you would like to be an Ambassador or have ideas please contact Eric.

The 2014 Ride Schedule has started taking shape. March 9th will be a pre-season ride to St. John's Gildehaus for their Chicken Dinner, meet for the ride at Old Orchard at 10am as usual. John Geiler will be posting the schedule weekly for you to see and will bring a binder to future meetings showing past rides you may want to lead.

Thanks to Ted Koski for keeping up with the website and making all the important dates and events available.

The Make a Wish Ride for Wishes will be on June 8<sup>th</sup> with additional events on June 7<sup>th</sup>. Helmet Day for collection of our Club chosen Charity will be on April 5.

BRC2 at St. Louis Community College at Forest Park will be held on May 17. You can register online at the SLCC website. Come out and improve your skills on your own bike.

SNO to the Trailhead Brewery had a nice turnout. The Funny Bone Comedy Club will be scheduled soon so keep an eye out.

Big St. Charles Women's Garage Party turned out to be a fun event with a good showing of Shadow Rider ladies.

Don't miss out on a trip or two this year with the club. Here are some planned rides thus far:

Cumberland Gap over Memorial weekend -long version May 21-27, short version 22<sup>nd</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>. See Ed Acree.

J&P Cycles 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Open House June 27-29- See Lou Soucy.

Canadian Rockies Aug 16-30. Talk to Lou Soucy.

Bikes Blues & BBQ Sept 25-28. See Lou Soucy.

More Events for the area this month are posted on the calendar.

Jim Gianella won \$29 in the 50/50 drawing.

Ride ~ it's what we do  
Andrea

**Board of Directors**

Lou Soucy, <i>President</i> LouSoucy60@Yahoo.com	314-731-4166
Eric Johnston, <i>Vice President</i> EKJohnston@Charter.net	636-379-7299
Andrea Geiler, <i>Secretary</i> AndreaGeiler125@Gmail.com	314-401-3628
Russ Davis, <i>Treasurer</i> Russell.Davis@ATT.net	636-230-5850
John Geiler, <i>Safety Officer</i> JohnGlr3553@Gmail.com	636-938-4299

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Eric & Karen Johnston, <i>Merchandise</i> ekjohnston@charter.net	636-379-7299
Rich Bayers, <i>March of Dimes Liaison</i> rbayerscpa@aol.com	636-527-2157
Robin Potter, <i>Hartbauer McBride Liaison</i> robinsnest119@att.net	636-677-4072

**February Membership**

<b>Main Members</b>	<b>74</b>
<b>Significant Others</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Juniors</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>97</b>

**March Birthdays**

- 05 - JOHN GEILER
- 12 - MAUREEN ROBERTSON
- 14 - CRAIG JOHNKE
- 21 - BOB BIRCHER
- 22 - ED ACREE
- 23 - MAURICE TENNIAL SR.
- 23 - BOB SMITH
- 24 - TED KOSKI
- 31 - MICHAEL ZINNA

**New Members for February**

Bob Smith rides a red 2011 Honda Interstate VT1300CT (2/25/14)

Fellow Riders

Our first meeting with the new board was successful with the new budget being passed and we can all look forward to a successful riding season. Our President Lou has asked me to speak with any member that might have ideas that can help our club. So please feel free to call or email me with your thoughtful ideas.

Jim Gianella sent out a survey asking members to list the rides they wanted to go on this year. Jim received responses from 8 members. We discussed a few of the rides last month and its become evident we are going to have trouble getting volunteers to host a ride, just as it has been the last few years.

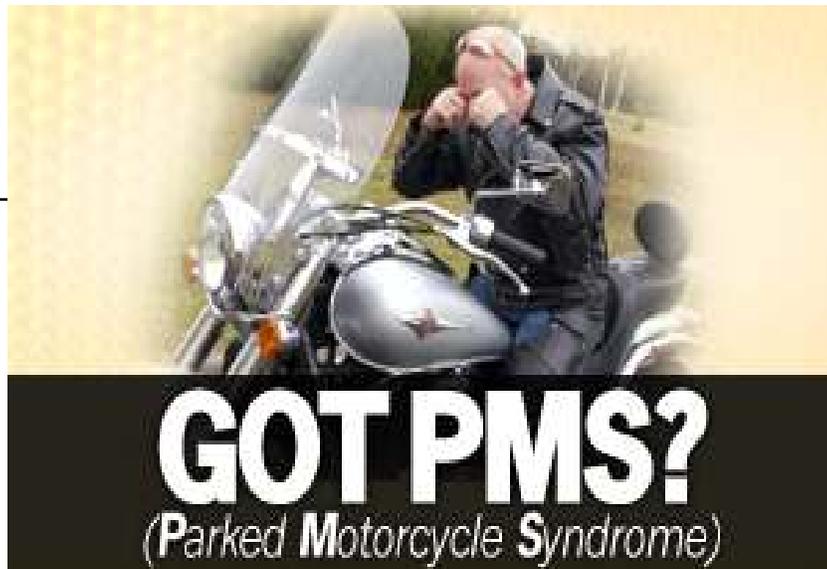
Shadow Riders, please be aware we all must take responsibility to head up a ride as well as to lead a group. We can't have the same 6 members do it week in and week out. These members will stop volunteering their efforts.

To our newer members, this is simple. Volunteer for a ride and pick a destination. The club has a database of hundreds of rides and restaurants, so we already have a route to your desired town. Call restaurant to verify room for the group. Pre-ride the route a week to two in advance and then make copies of the route for the road captains. If you are uncomfortable with leading a ride then we can have a road captain do it for you. There are always several road captains at each ride.

So next month those that show up to meetings and weekly rides, its your turn to put your name down on a date for a ride. Members that don't attend meetings have a responsibility to share the load and host a ride also. Please don't be shy, e-mail our safety officer, John Geiler, for available dates. If its your first time, we will help you with the steps. Lets show spirit: participate and fill the ride schedule. It's your club!

Take care, see you soon.

Eric J.



Shadow Riders,

Spring is this month, even though it's hard to imagine with the cold temps we are experiencing. The weather is long overdue to change so keep your fingers crossed.

We have been taking advantage of some of the nicer days to get in some miles on the bikes and get a new perspective on life. What we found was, due to the harsh winter we had this year, many of our favorite riding roads are still covered with cinders due to lower traffic on these secondary routes. Be careful if you get a chance to blow the cobwebs out of your bike. Besides the cinders to give you a cheap thrill, the harsh weather, with some warm days in between, not only caused most people to get a cold or flu, but the snow and ice would melt during the day; seep through the asphalt to the soil below; re-freeze and cause the asphalt to rise up in places; and the traffic did the rest to give us one of our favorite things . . . Potholes! Be aware when you start to really get into your ride, and your mind starts to wander to other warm weather activities, that around any corner there may be a pothole with your name on it. Take your time as you wander out into the great outdoors, at least until the road crews have had a chance to do some much-needed repairs. As with all our rides: have fun and "ride your own ride". If you're not riding with anyone else you're not going to have anyone ahead of you pointing out the road hazards like we do on club rides. Be your own Road Captain and navigate with care. Remember that many people haven't experienced the enjoyment of riding a motorcycle so they waste their money on sports cars and other crazy machines that they also like to take out and run in nice weather. There is almost always a rise in vehicle accidents when the weather starts to change for the better. So don't be a statistic: keep your attention focused on your environment and watch out for the other guy.

Illinois has had the good sense to go "hands-free" with cell phone use and I can't wait until Missouri steps up and does the same. Until that happens we have to be aware of people who can't wait to get to a stopping point to see what their friends have posted on Facebook. Even great minds like Einstein and Stephen Hawking can't think of two things at the same time. It's physically impossible and that's what gets us in trouble. If another driver is looking at their phone and trying to open an application or find a number, that person is not focusing on their driving. It's our job to avoid them and encourage people we know to avoid phone use when driving whenever possible. We had friends in the GWRRA who were advocates for hands-free phone use when operating a motor vehicle only to have their next-door neighbor hit, and kill, an Amish couple in their buggy, while texting and driving through the Illinois countryside. It only takes a second to lose your focus and do someone irreparable harm. Sure, we have insurance for those things, but you can't clear your conscience with an insurance check.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the next meeting, at breakfast, Saturday Night Out, or maybe waving to us from your bike going in the other direction some nice day.

Be safe and ride.

John Geiler



### Bike Count for December

Honda - 28	Harley - 26	Kawasaki - 12	Suzuki - 6	Yamaha - 3	BMW - 3
Vento - 1	Big Dog - 1	CanAm - 3	Triumph - 2	KTM - 1	Victory - 3

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
March 2 Gathering: South	March 3	March 4	March 5	March 6	March 7	March 8 Daylight Savings Time begins tonight!
March 9 Gathering: North or St. John's Gildehaus	March 10	March 11	March 12	March 13	March 14	March 15
March 16 Gathering: South	March 17 St. Patrick's Day	March 18	March 19	March 20	March 21	March 22
March 23 Gathering: North	March 24	March 25 Club Meeting Sports Cafe	March 26	March 27	March 28	March 29
March 30 Gathering: South	March 31	April 1	April 2	April 3	April 4	April 5 Helmet Day Make a Wish

**Rides and Events:**

**March 9: St. Johns Gildehaus Chicken Dinner.** We will meet at Old Orchard (weather permitting) and take our usual route to the church for some finger-licking good fried chicken with all the sides. Mmmm, Mmmm!

**April 5:** We will be holding our Helmet Day to benefit the Make A Wish Foundation which is our club charity for 2014. See the meeting minutes for details.

**April 6:** It's not on this calendar but mark yours! We will take our first scheduled ride of our regular season to the Augusta Bar-B-Que led by our president, Lou Soucy.

I have been sending out the updated ride schedule as it is updated with people volunteering to lead rides so you know which Sundays are open. Give me a call or drop an e-mail and we can discuss what is involved. As Eric said in his letter: we are equal club members and if we enjoy what the club brings to us we should likewise reciprocate. No pressure, but we do need to keep a steady advancement on the ride calendar to post to the website so members can mark their personal calendars with the dates of their favorite rides. I'm still putting together the binder with all of our regular route sheets in it for everyone to browse at the monthly meeting. I think once we have a visual aid to use it will be easier to fill the schedule. I have faith in the Brotherhood/Sisterhood of Shadow Riders. You all belong to the greatest club in the metro St. Louis area. Nobody else provides the riding opportunities to their members like the SR's club does. I've already invited over a dozen new people to come some Sunday and check us out. When you see a new face make it a point to approach them with a smile and an introduction. Let them know right away that they're welcome to share our passion for riding. I'm just sayin'!

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.  
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(314) 427-9195

**Email**  
honz@gatewaybmw.com

**Website**  
www.gatewaybmw.com

We have two spots open to post your free ad in the newsletter. If you have a large ad we can combine the 2 spots.

**For Sale – 2002 Honda Shadow Ace 750cc – Purple and Silver.** Many accessories including hard color-matched saddle bags, windshield, floor boards, highway bar and pegs, pin striping, chrome radiator cover, chrome side covers and throttle lock. Has 73,864 miles. Original owner. All maintenance done by Honda (have all maintenance records). Asking \$2,800 OBO. Pictures available on request.

Call Erin at 314-780-6662.

1997 Harley FLSTF Fat Boy (1340cc)  
Silver & Black (two-tone), second owner,  
lots of chrome  
23K miles  
\$6,700 OBO  
Contact Angie at 618-444-1748

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



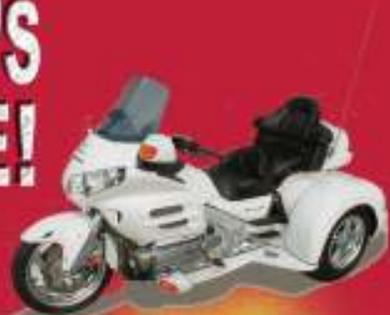
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