



The Shadow Writer

November 2010

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

A Letter from the President

Shadow Riders,

Well the end of the riding season is upon us. Starting with the Sunday after Thanksgiving we have no more planned rides in 2010. We will meet each Sunday at 9:00 or so at the Hometown Buffet for some tire kickin' in the off season. This proved to be a popular BS session last year and we even came up with some road trips out of it. It is OK to just stop and have a cup of coffee if you don't want to eat, we usually had 10-20 folks stop on in.

It has been quite a year for the club. A bunch of great Sunday rides and some fantastic road trips and 2011 is already looking really good. The Holiday party is January 22nd so put it on your calendar as it promises to be a good time, and there will be some new things this year. We need some folks to run for office, contact Cliff Connoyer or one of the officers to put your name in the hat. This club doesn't run itself — we need your help.

Congrats to Diana Johnson on winning the Big St. Charles Chili Cook-off, for the umpteenth time I might add. Nice job Diana. And Laura Boone won the combined Salsa Chili Division, so the club had two of the 4 winners. Well done ladies!

Until after the elections we will be meeting at the Growlers on South Lindbergh, the one on Olive closed in a landlord dispute and we do not know when it will reopen. So being the flexible club we are and it being winter we will migrate south.

Well that is about it from here, ride as much as you can before the flakes fly then meet us at Hometown Buffet in Old Orchard and fatten up for the holidays.

Ride Often,

Bob Mueller
President



Meetings

Club (General Membership) Meeting

7:00 PM, 4th Tuesday each month



**NEWEST
PLACE**

Growler's Pub

3811 S. Lindbergh
(a little bit south of I-44)

NEXT MEETING: November 23, 2010

Board Meeting at 6:30 pm before club meeting.

Sunday Rides

**The scheduled ride season is almost over!
Don't miss the last few rides.**

Meet at Old Orchard Center, 14128 Manchester
(east of Hwy 141), behind Starbucks.

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

Web Site

www.shadowriders-stl.com

Membership

	Nov '09	Nov '10
Main Members	114	152
Significant Others	27	30
Total	141	182

New e-mail address? Let us know!

Membership questions? Ask them!

Call Jim Gianella at 314-644-2970 or e-mail him at
membership@shadowriders-stl.com.

In this Issue:

- President's Letter—Front Page
- Club Information—Page 2
- Officer's Thoughts—Page 3
- More Officer's Thoughts—Page 4
- Calendar / Rides—Page 5
- Ads / Sponsors—page 6
- GM Report—page 7
- Party / Handy Hints—page 8

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The Infamous Chili Cook-Off

By Diana Johnson, *Reigning Chili Queen*

On Saturday, Oct. 30, Big St. Charles Motorsports held their annual chili cook-off and salsa festival. I loaded up the back of Mel's truck that morning and arrived at 8:30 a.m. with two crock pots already hot, two more back-up crock pots, my table decorations, a cooler packed with 7 1/2 gallons of chili, and my very own custom designed, air brushed 'Triple Pepper Penetration' name sign custom painted by Marklyn Cobb. I pulled into Big St. Charles' parking lot and backed up to the door to off-load. I began the task of unloading. Once again I found myself with a cooler full of chili I could not lift. Just about then two men came walking by. They must have sensed my dilemma. Each grabbed a handle and carried it inside for me. I scoped out an open table and claimed my territory. Extension cord out, all crock pots are full and plugged in including my two back-ups. It's time to decorate. My 'Triple Pepper Penetration' sign was prominently displayed next to my table. I also had club brochures and business cards. We may have recruited a couple of new members.

It's finally 10:00 a.m. and time to serve up some chili. Believe it or not people started meandering in around 10:30. We lucked out with another sunny day for a chili cook-off and attendance was good. By 11:00 a.m. things were in full swing and we had a good number of people coming through. Where are my people? Where are the Shadow Riders? And whoosh, there they were. Safety Officer, Lou Soucy, routed a short ride and led a group to the dealership. Others came on their own on two wheels or four wheels. We really did flood the floor with Shadow Riders and I thank each of you for that. Everyone was hanging out, eating, chatting, shopping, and having fun.

It's 2:30 p.m. The event is supposed to be over at 3:00 p.m. Here comes David, the hard working employee who got stuck having to count up all the tickets. They are getting a jump start on a final count. My sample sales bucket is full. I also have quite a few votes for Best Name and People's Choice. I ask David how my totals compare to the other competitors. He gives me a grin and tells me I've got a chance for People's Choice or Best Name/Decoration. (You can only win one category.) My total count on sample sales was 330 samples. That's a lot of chili samples. I had one boy around the age of 10 who kept coming back for more. I think he spent his \$5.00 on my chili. On one of his last trips to my table he said, "Your chili is the best." Well, that put a smile on my face and warmed my heart.

It was somewhere around 3:30 p.m. when they announced the winners. The first winner was People's Choice and they did not call my name. I was slightly disappointed but anxious to hear if I won for Best Name/Decoration when she says, "Wait, I did that wrong. People's Choice goes to Diana Johnson and The Shadow Riders." We cheered and walked away from another chili cook-off victorious. I will be sending a check to the March of Dimes for \$165.00.

I enjoy doing these chili cook-offs. There is definitely a lot of work involved planning and preparing for the event but the day of the cook-off is party time. It's time to reap the rewards of a little hard work. This is what I do to raise money for our charity. What do you like to do that will help raise money for the cause? I will keep making the chili as long as you guys keep showing up. I want to thank Bob Mueller and his son, Jordan, for arriving early and staying all day. I also want to thank Sue Braun for all her help. Sometimes you just need an extra set of hands and a much deserved break. Let's not forget the fellow Shadow Riders who helped me clean up and load up. I know many of you had plans that day and still came by the event to show support and taste a few samples. Many thanks and hugs to you all.



Hey Everybody,

From Lou Soucy, Safety Officer

It's hard to believe, but the SRC official ride season has only two more rides scheduled. Typically the ride schedule only runs through the middle of November, but I missed a SRC meeting and you all decided to add a last run at Augusta BBQ. I guess you just can't get enough of a good thing! That's great, keep up the good work! After Augusta it's back to Hometown Buffet for breakfast on Sundays and a ride if weather permits.

It was nice to have several new members plan / organize new rides for the club. They did a great job. I hope they had a good time doing it and will do it again next year. If you have never organized a ride you have all winter and spring to think about it. You like to ride and eat, right? Then all you have to do is take some of your favorite roads to ANYWHERE and find a place to eat. Or if you have a good place to EAT then find some good roads to get there. Don't worry about if everyone will like it, If you do, I'm sure everyone will. We typically fill the first few months of the ride schedule well before the ride season starts in April, then fill it in a few months at a time as the year goes on. So bring your ideas to the monthly SRC meetings and be a part of a good thing!!!

OK, lets talk some safety stuff. How about tire pressure? As the temperature drops, so does your tire pressure — about one pound per square inch (PSI) for every ten degrees. Add to that the fact that your tires normally lose about a pound a month naturally. **CHECK YOUR TIRE PRESSURE**, often — while they are cool before you ride. I've seen more and more tire pressure monitor valve stem caps etc. on bikes lately. I'm sure they work fine, but (call me old fashioned) I like to see the right number pop up on a good gauge. Some people like following the motorcycle manufacturer's recommended tire pressure and others like using the Max Load recommendation the tire manufacturer puts on the tire. Ask the mechanic that installs the tires and figure out what's best for you, hopefully you wore out a set or two this year.

Time to put on your Long Johns and RIDE, Lou

Nominations Are Now Open for 2011 Club Officers

To nominate someone or to volunteer for the office of president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, or safety officer contact:

Cliff Connoyer — 314-839-8792 or cconnoyer@att.net

Kevin Polito — 314-645-0501 or kevinp@shadowriders-stl.com

John Grandt — 314-277-8689 or jmgrandt@sbcglobal.net

Nominations will be open until the end of the December club meeting.

Election of officers will take place at the January meeting.

Announcement

Membership Renewal notices will be sent out around Thanksgiving time.

Anyone more eager is welcome to pay 2011 renewal dues now.

Contact Jim Gianella, Membership Coordinator (see page 2 for contact information)

Nov-Dec 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Nov 14 Four Ferries Ride	Nov 15	Nov 16	Nov 17	Nov 18	Nov 19	Nov 20
Nov 21 Augusta BBQ Ride	Nov 22	Nov 23 Club Meeting 7 pm Board 6:30	Nov 24	Nov 25 <i>Thanksgiving Day</i>	Nov 26	Nov 27
Nov 28 Hang out — maybe ride	Nov 29	Nov 30	Dec 1	Dec 2	Dec 3	Dec 4
Dec 5 Hang out — maybe ride	Dec 6	Dec 7	Dec 8	Dec 9	Dec 10	Dec 11
Dec 12 Hang out — maybe ride	Dec 13	Dec 14	Dec 15	Dec 16	Dec 17	Dec 18
Dec 19 Hang out — maybe ride	Dec 20	Dec 21	Dec 22	Dec 23	Dec 24	Dec 25 <i>Christmas Day</i>
Dec 26 Hang out — maybe ride	Dec 27	Dec 28 Club Meeting 7 pm Board 6:30	Dec 29	Dec 30	Dec 31	

November 14 — Four Ferries (Mark Levin): This popular ride will take us on four ferries (\$7-9) across the Missouri, Mississippi, and Illinois Rivers and through scenic Calhoun County. We'll enjoy a wonderful lunch along the way.

November 21 — Augusta BBQ: We will make a last run of the season to the American Legion Hall's all-you-can-eat BBQ for pork steaks and fried chicken with all the fixings. At last check the price was still \$9.00 (cash).

November 28 through March — Starting about 9:00 a.m., get together at HomeTown Buffet for breakfast or just coffee, and plan an impromptu ride if the weather looks nice.



Send classified ads to Nita Fisher at editor@shadowriders-stl.com or (314) 808-7762.

Gateway BMW Motorcycles

Bob Honz

General Manager



Address

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St. Louis, MO 63114

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Toll Free

(877) 221-9090

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(314) 427-9195

Email

honz@gatewaybmw.com

Website

www.gatewaybmw.com

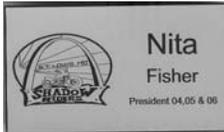
FOR SALE: 2003 Kawasaki Vulcan Nomad

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New name badges you can pin on your vest!

They are 2" x 3½" good quality silver-gray plastic with black border and your name in black letters. \$10 each. Contact Bob Mueller to order yours.



Put your "For Sale" ad here.

BIG **HOT DEALS!**

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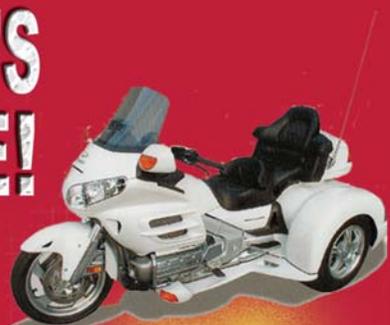
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**General Membership Meeting
October 26, 2010**

President's Report (Bob Mueller) –

- Our monthly meetings will be held at the “new temporary” location until further notice – Growler’s Pub on South Lindbergh.
- Consider running for next year’s Shadow Riders’ Board. Talk to Cliff Connoyer, John Grandt or Kevin Polito if you have any questions or would like to throw your name in the hat!
- See Bob if you ordered name badges.

Vice President's Report (Diana Johnson) –

- Come enjoy the Chili Cook-off at Big St. Charles Harley Davidson on Saturday from 10:00 to 3:00. Diana will be cooking her award winning chili with plans of winning again this year. A group will be meeting at Old Orchard and riding in together. There will be music from 1:00 to 4:00. Come cast your votes for the best chili!

Safety Officer's Report (Lou Soucy) –

- There are several rides still planned for the remainder of the year. The weather has been great and will hopefully continue through the end of the year! Trips are already in the planning stage for next year – an Arkansas trip in the spring and a Grand Canyon/Utah/Arizona trip in August. Something to look forward to!

Treasurer's Report (Russ Davis) –

- We are ahead of budget for the year due to stronger revenue flow and expense control.

Additional Notes:

- **Holiday Party** – Sue Braun reported that the holiday party will be held January 22 at the VFW hall in Ballwin. Reservations can be made at the December meeting.
- **Saturday Night Out** – Ira Steuer will be planning a dinner run – look for details soon.
- On December 11, a Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young tribute band will be playing at the Family Arena. See Renee Hess for free tickets to attend the concert.
- Gateway BMW and Make-A-Wish Foundation will be hosting a Theater Night on November 11, held at Gateway BMW.
- **50/50** – John Flanter won \$49.00.

Shadow Riders Club Welcomes New Members

Chris Kost (rides a black 2009 Yamaha Raider)

Jim Denigan (rides a black 2009 BMW G650GS or a grey 2008 Kawasaki Concourse 1400)

Marshall Smith (rides a pearl yellow 2000 Honda VFR800F1)

Merle & Catherine (Candy) Hash Jr. (ride a candy red 2009 Yamaha Royal Star Tour Deluxe or a white 2008 Yamaha 1100 Classic)

**Membership Anniversaries
(November 2010)**

10 years: Larry McGowen

November Birthdays

03 - Mike Fuhro

03 - Eric Johnston

05 - Kevin Polito

06 - Erin O'donnell

10 - Renee Hess

10 - Marshall Smith

16 - James Guyer

19 - Jeff Distl

20 - Robert Joiner

22 - Roy Kinder

23 - Rich Simpson

24 - Eric Levy

26 - Robert Cobb

26 - Lesley Levin



PUT IT ON YOUR CALENDAR

SRC Holiday Party
 January 22, 2011, 7pm-midnight
 VFW Hall in Ballwin
 Food by Sybergs' Catering
 Music by D.J.
 (more information next month)

Lessons from the School of Hard Knocks

from "Crash Course" at ama-cycle.org

Try the Weave

How many times have you approached an intersection with an oncoming car waiting to turn left, not really knowing if the driver sees you? I use a maneuver that I believe gets you noticed. I call it the weave.

As you approach the intersection, initiate a slight left-right movement with the bars, or by shifting your weight. Don't overdo it—all it takes is a slight lateral movement so your headlight visibly moves side to side.

I've been doing this maneuver for about two years now, and it seems to really get a driver's attention! I've had drivers start to pull in front of me, but as soon as I weave, they stop and look at me. Some look at me as if I'm nuts, but the important thing is they look.

I think two factors come into play here: A steady headlight gets lost in the background, and a side-to-side movement, like shaking your head, means no. I don't advocate flashing your high beam because some drivers perceive this as a "go ahead" signal.

I've shared this maneuver with all my riding buddies, and they have given me positive feedback that it works. Of course, it's not 100 percent foolproof. Always assume the worst...and be prepared to take evasive action.

— **Mark Eidner, Winter Garden, FL**

Don't Count your Yellows Before They've Turned

.... On a recent Saturday morning, I was cruising along the strip and encountered a yellow. I figured I could make the light, and I assumed the car in front of me would try to make the light, too.

I was wrong.

As we approached the intersection, he stopped abruptly. With his bumper approaching fast, I applied hard pressure on the front brake, but I could tell that would not do it. At the last second, I released the brakes, swerved enough to avoid the car and reapplied the brakes just in time to come to a hard stop next to the driver side window.

He looked shocked, as I must have, and rolled his window down. "I am so sorry," he said. "But I know that there is a camera at this intersection and I have already gotten two tickets. I did not want another one."

Looking back, my mistake was in assuming what the behavior of the motorist in front of me was going to be, and then actually gunning the bike on a yellow light. Bad move.

The good thing was the fact that I kept a prudent distance between myself and the car in front of me. I was also able to recognize that I was losing traction, and managed to take corrective action, as well as using a combination of braking and swerving. These were skills I learned in the MSF course I took when I got my license, and they came in handy.

— **Gerry Pinzon, Brooklyn, N.Y.**