



The Shadow Writer November, 2013

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

A Letter from the President

Shadow Riders;

For those of you who were unable to attend the last club meeting, none of the current board members are planning to run again for next year. Several club members have volunteered, or were nominated, for three of the five positions (see meeting notes for more details). So consider running for the club's board. The club runs on volunteers like you. It's a great way to give back and help mold the club's future.

Now I'd like to address another issue: club financials. It has been expressed (see letter on Page 3) that over the past several years the club has accumulated too large of a balance, approximately two years of operating income. Personally I believe it is being responsible to keep two years of expenses in the bank, to handle any unexpected expenses and, to keep the club running with rising costs and decreasing membership, without increasing dues.

SHADOW RIDER MEMBERSHIP						
2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
153	141	141	182	137	127	115

The current balance was generated by the reduction of expenses, primarily meeting space and storage rental, and a short lived spike in 2010 membership. Throughout the past two years of my presidency, there has never been a focus to accumulate additional funds but to operate within the approved budget. And, as reported at the October meeting, we are projected to come in right at budget.

Gas card rewards; increasing the club's support of the holiday party; and increasing the picnic budget are good ideas. These suggestions, and others, could be considered by those running for next year's board, and presented with their proposed budget, should they feel the same. Again, this is an excellent opportunity to mold the club by running for office.

"People are more violently opposed to fur than leather because it's safer to harass rich women than motorcycle clubs."

President
Dave Simorka

<p>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: November 26, 2013 Board meeting 30 minutes before regular meeting.</p>	<p>Sunday Rides April through November: Meet at Old Orchard Center, 14128 Manchester, behind Arby's. Plan to arrive around 9:30, line up your bike, then visit with friends. Rides leave at 10 a.m.</p>
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Shadow Riders General Membership Meeting
October 2013

All Board positions are open for nominations. Please step up for the club and think about which position you would be most interested in.

Rich Bayers says that Bikers for Babies had a lower turnout than usual but the food options were better than previously.

Sue Braun has started preliminary planning for the Holiday Party which will be held in January. She is looking more toward the "Hall" setting with dancing and music. All ideas are surely welcome!

Congratulations to Bob Mueller who's 10-year anniversary with the club was this month.

Ira Steuer, who plans the Saturday Night Out events, is requesting your ideas for the winter season. These events allow family and friends of ours to be involved with the group at a non-biking event.

Russ reports that the club funds will be in surplus by the end of the year.

A few nominations were taken Tony Weaver was nominated for VP; John Geiler for Safety; and Lou Soucy for President. Nominations can still be taken for all of these offices, including Secretary and Treasurer.

The Sunday off-season breakfast session/possible ride will be beginning in December. Options are still being considered for the South location. Bring your appetite and ideas for next year's rides and adventures. An e-mail will follow with the correct information.

Ed Acree won \$28 on the 50/50 drawing.

Board of Directors

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October Membership

Main Members	89
Significant Others	23
Juniors	3
Total	115

November Birthdays

- 03 - ERIC JOHNSTON
- 03 - ROSS MCGOVERN
- 06 - ERIN O'DONNELL
- 06 - CHARLIE SEIBEL
- 10 - RENEE HESS
- 16 - JAMES GUYER
- 22 - ROY KINDER
- 23 - RICH SIMPSON
- 23 - SUE SEIBEL
- 27 - LESLEY LEVIN

November Anniversaries

15 years – Marklyn Cobb

Hello fellow club members-

It's turkey month and the weather is starting to turn. The sun is low in the sky, and you must be extremely cautious when you see cars entering your roadway when the sun is behind you. It can darn near make you invisible, especially late afternoon.

We are also entering the rut season for deer this time of year. The bucks are out looking for a little love and will be chasing does all over. Keep a vigilant eye on the sides of the roads . . . if they come, they will be moving quickly.

If you're like me you don't "put the bike up" for the winter. We enjoy many sunny days throughout the winter that are nice enough to get out for a few hours. Make sure you dress in layers, and lots of them. I am a huge fan of Gerbing Microwire heated clothing. If you at least get the jacket liner it does an amazing job at keeping your core warm . . . that alone makes a huge difference. Yes, it is expensive, most quality gear is, but you get a good quality product that will last for years (I believe Gerbing has a lifetime guarantee on the liners).

Also keep in mind: riding in the winter does come with risks . . . risks that can hurt. If we are below freezing black ice can take you down pretty quickly. It is practically invisible, and I found that out less than a tenth of a mile from my front door. Six broken ribs total on both sides, one heck of a concussion, and my pride . . . down in seconds. You would think it would deter me, but I love getting the "What the hell is that guy doing out on his bike?" look. Them not knowing I am toasty warm, fingertip to toe!

Ride long, ride safe-

Safety Dave



To the Membership,

At the October meeting, I inquired about the Board's plans for the ever-increasing cash balance, and the answer was "none". So I asked why we were continuing to increase the cash balance, and a member answered "because we can".

I commend the prior leadership for cutting unneeded expenses, and for them and the current leaders ensuring that "we have cash". I understand and agree that we should have sufficient monies in the bank to cover outstanding expenses. It's written in the by-laws that if we disband, the final bank account balance gets donated to charity.

So what I don't understand is the focus to accumulate a balance to cover an entire year's worth of expenses, or beyond (we currently have about 2 years' worth of estimated expenses in our cash balance). The only reason we would need even one year's worth of money to cover outstanding expenses would be if there were no members contributing dues income, and, no members = no expenses, because we pay our bills as we operate. Since any final excess gets donated to charity (a good action), why is it our focus to continue to increase the cash balance? Rather than continuing to accumulate a higher and higher cash balance without a specific goal, I would suggest that we set more specific guidelines regarding this.

In the meantime, here are some suggestions, all centered around rewarding those who participate. Reward the members who participate frequently in the Sunday rides. For instance, award gas cards for riding on x number of Sunday rides in a particular season. Beyond paying for a meal, honor the road captains with gas cards for their extra miles, and reward those who pre-ride a ride. Honor the Officers and Committee heads who volunteer their time with an annual meal (or gas cards) for their service. Be more generous with the annual picnic budget so that no one is donating food. Subsidize the member's (not spouse) cost for the holiday party. I'm sure everyone can come up with other rewards that are meaningful.

Just some suggestions for your consideration . . .

Peggy Phillips

Chili Cook-Off Results

By Diana Johnson, STILL Reigning Chili Queen

On Saturday, Oct. 26, St. Charles Harley held their 5th Annual Chili Cook-Off. Once again I cooked up some Triple Pepper Penetration Chili in hopes of bringing home another crown (figuratively speaking). I arrived at 9:10 am to find 3 other competitors setting up before me. CRAP. My favorite spot is already taken. I walked into the Chili tent and was greeted by "You're going down today, Girl!" I responded with, "Bring it on Bitches!" We all had a good laugh and It Was On. The Harley Club was represented by a long time family friend of mine who said he was willing to take me on. He told me he threatened his members to get their butts out to the cook-off and vote. CRAP. There were a total of 11 competitors this year. Each year it seems to be getting bigger. That's a good thing.

I set up next to Laura Boone-Bergsieker, fellow Shadow Rider member, who was raising money for Ride-for-Wishes. Bless her heart; she brought Bloody Mary's, yum. She always shares. The wind was strong and the morning air was quite nippy. I used my crock pots this time (instead of my big electric roaster) and it was taking them forever to heat up in the cold morning wind. I found a couple hand towels I had packed and wrapped up my crock pots. 10:45 am and finally my pots are hot. Bring on the tasters.

Former Safety Officer, and Road Captain Extraordinaire, Lou Soucy, led a group of riders from Old Orchard plaza and they arrived somewhere around noon. Boy was I glad to see them. The Harley Club was out in full force and I was getting a little concerned. We had a good turnout of club members, although I would have liked to have seen more. The chili tent was packed from 11:30-1:30 and there was a lot of chatter amongst the competitors. I was hawking people to come try my chili and so was my friend from the Hog Chapter. We had a little smack talk going, all good natured, in hopes of luring votes for People's Choice and Best Name. At 2:00 pm it looked like he had me beat. That only made me want it more. By 3:00 pm when the cook-off ended we were neck in neck. It was going to be close. (Cont. on Page 5)

A Reminder From Jim Gianella: Membership

Membership renewal will be approaching soon. I will be sending an email around Thanksgiving. New members that have paid dues for the last quarter of this year are paid up for 2014. I will let you know who you are when I send out the email. Renewing members can send their renewal application and check as soon as you like. I need your application, it's a big help in keeping track of who renewed. Make any necessary changes from the previous year. Be sure to mark 2014 at top of application. Above all, make sure you sign your check. Yes, I have had checks in the past that were not signed. To complete an application, go to the club website and click on Membership, and on the Membership page, click on Renewal Application. You can fill in the application online, or print it first and then complete it. Mail it to me with your check or bring it to November's meeting. For those without internet, I will mail you an application.

Bike Count for October

Honda - 36	Harley - 26	Kawasaki - 11	Suzuki - 5	Yamaha - 12	BMW - 4
Vento - 1	Big Dog - 1	CanAm - 2	Triumph - 2	KTM - 1	Victory - 2

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Nov. 17 Open Ride	Nov. 18	Nov. 19	Nov. 20	Nov. 21	Nov. 22	Nov. 23
Nov. 24 Open Ride	Nov. 25	Nov. 26 Club Meeting at Sports Cafe	Nov. 27	Nov. 28 Thanksgiving	Nov. 29 Leftovers	Nov. 30 Diet Starts
Dec. 1 Get together North @ Hometown Buffet	Dec. 2	Dec. 3	Dec. 4	Dec. 5	Dec. 6	Dec. 7
Dec. 8 To Be Decided On Dec. 1	Dec. 9	Dec. 10	Dec. 11	Dec. 12	Dec. 13	Dec. 14
Dec. 15 Get together North @ Hometown Buffet	Dec. 16	Dec. 17	Dec. 18	Dec. 19	Dec. 20	Dec. 21

Rides and Events:

The last 2 rides of the Shadow Riders' season are both open rides. Weather permitting, we will meet at the regular time and ride "somewhere" . . . A Shadow Rider's gotta eat!

(Cont. from Page 4)

Final tally: 1st place People's Choice, 'Triple Pepper Penetration', Diana Johnson, Shadow Riders, 2nd place, 'Big Jelly Belly', Hog Chapter, 3rd Place 'Ass Whoopin' Chili', Laura Boone- Bergsieker. Yes, two Shadow Rider Women took 2 places in People's Choice. Hooray! I won 1st place by 4 votes.....4 votes!!!! If you did not make it to the chili cook-off please, please plan on attending next year. 1st Place Best Name, 'Triple Pepper Penetration'. The competitors weren't pleased when I won this. No one clapped but me, Laura and the 3 others members that hung around for the awards. 3rd Place Judge's Favorite, 'Triple P'. Can I count this as a Triple Crown even though I didn't take first in Judge's Favorite? Most sample sales went to Laura. That means she raised the most cash for her charity.

Laura and I know many of you had other plans that day and still made it to the event to taste a few samples and show support. Trust me, your presence was definitely noticed by the dealership and the other competitors. We both thank you very much. If it weren't for all of you we would not be successful. Mark your calendars for the last Saturday in October, 2014, because we will be back.

Members' classified ads are free! Send to John Geiler at editor@shadowriders-stl.com or (636) 938-4299

Gateway BMW Motorcycles

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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.

For sale... used motorcycle dolly. Harbor Freight brand. Regularly priced at \$99, on sale, in store, now for \$79. I am asking \$30 OBO. Send me an email if interested. davwltrs7@aol.com

Here is a link to check it out.

<http://www.harborfreight.com/low-profile-motorcycle-dolly-95896.html>

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



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