



The Shadow Writer

October 2009

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

A Letter from the President

Shadow Riders;

My hope is that you are out riding and enjoying the fall weather, I also hope that you are enjoying the Sunday rides. I know I have. As the weather cools some dangers lurk for the motorcycle rider. Our favorite fur covered friends are more active as they prepare for winter so watch out as you ride the back roads. And watch out for falling leaves, especially when they are wet, like riding on ice.

In club news the riding season is winding down, but Larry McGowan has offered a breakfast for the club in November, so keep coming out for the rides. We continue to put on the most extensive riding schedule of any club in the St. Louis area. And again we got to ride up front at the Bikers for Babies ride, an honor we have received several times as the #1 fundraising club. Congrats to all those who helped raise money for the March of Dimes, your efforts make things happen for those less fortunate.

Eric Levy has taken the assignment as the chairman of the nomination committee. I think this is so he is not nominated, but he is looking for some folks that want to help make the club better and serve as board members for 2010. It involves using your skills to make it happen, I would like to see no unopposed candidates this year so step up and get on the ballot. Also on the ballot will be the enclosed by-law changes, see them on page 7 of the newsletter.

Well the year has gone by fast. I just got back from the Smokies trip and again it was fantastic. Nothing like riding in the mountains. The views and switchbacks provide a simply awesome week-end of riding, and the Smokie Mountains never disappoint. My thanks to Ed Acree for leading us some of the way and to Paul for the modifications. Do not forget that Sue Braun is putting together another great holiday party so get it on your calendar.

Keep the rubber side down,

Bob Mueller

Meetings

Club (General Membership) Meeting

7:00 PM, 4th Tuesday each month
Manchester Elks Lodge, 2242 Mason Lane
NEXT MEETING: October 27, 2009

Board of Directors Meeting

6:30 PM before each GM Meeting
Manchester Elks Lodge, 2242 Mason Lane
NEXT MEETING: October 27, 2009

Sunday Rides

The scheduled ride season started on April 5th.
Meet at Old Orchard Center, 14128 Manchester (east of Hwy 141), behind Starbucks.

Rides leave promptly at 10 AM. Come early, line up your bike, have breakfast at Burger King and/or visit with friends.

Web Site

www.shadowriders-stl.com

Membership

| | Oct '08 | Oct '09 |
|---------------------------|---------|---------|
| Main Members | 115 | 110 |
| Significant Others | 25 | 26 |
| Total | 140 | 136 |

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**
- **Thoughts From Your Officers—Page 3**
- **Bikes, Blues & BBQ—Pages 4 & 5**
- **Colorado — Page 6**
- **Special Events / By-Laws—Page 7**
- **Rides—Page 8**
- **Calendar—Page 9**
- **Classified Ads / B4B Results —page 10**
- **GM Report—page 11**

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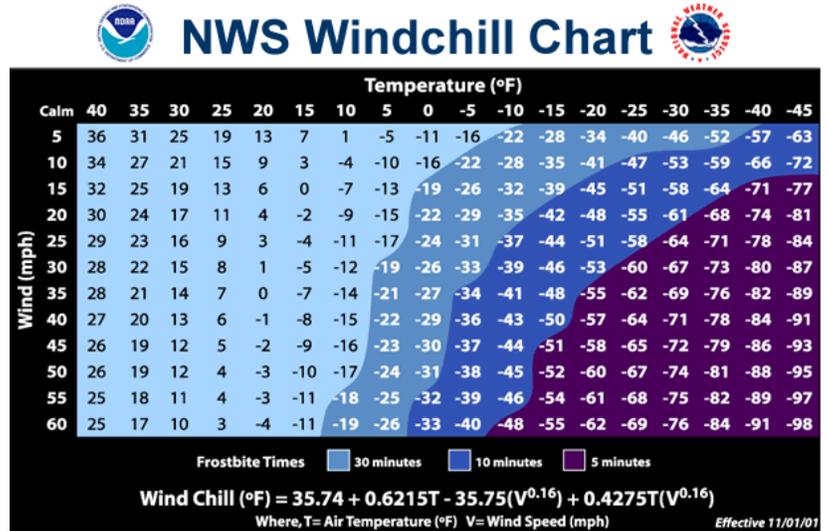
Hi everyone...

From Cliff Connoyer, Safety Officer

With the cooler weather coming up I thought this chart might give you an idea on how to dress for the day's riding. Be sure and dress in plenty of layers. When in doubt, add another layer.

The other big concern — this is a very active time for deer to be out and about. Just one more thing to watch for.

Dress warm and ride safe.
Cliff



Did you know...

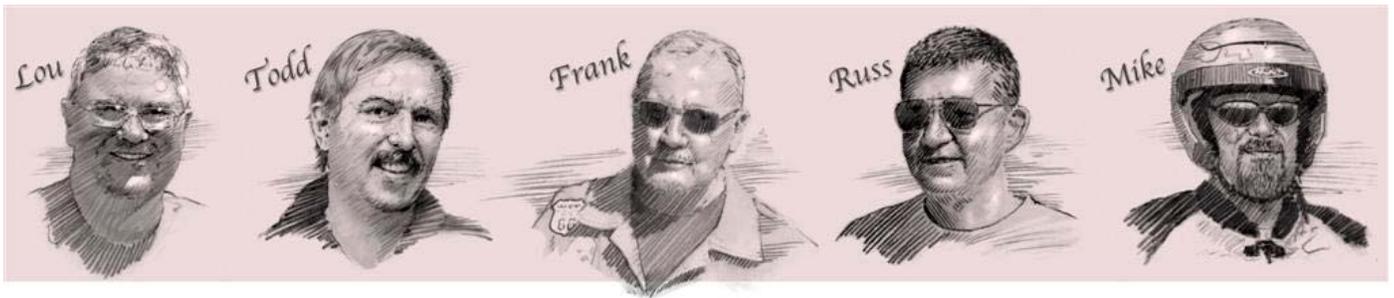
By Diana Johnson, Secretary, Road Captain, 2008 Ted's Chili Cook-Off Queen

It's Chili Cook-Off Time

We're fixin' up some chili and taking it to the people. **Wild Bill's 6th Annual Chili Cook-Off is Saturday, Nov. 7, from 10am-3pm. at Ted's Motorcycle World (our club sponsor) in Alton.** Visit www.tedsmotorcycleworld.com or call 1-888-695-4740.

I will be representing the Shadow Riders Club in this charity event by serving up my award winning chili. I am changing the name from 'Meanstreak Chili' to 'Triple Pepper Penetration'. I will have a new custom painted sign by Marklyn Cobb, artist extraordinaire. Make sure to check out her artwork. Samples are only 50 cents each and we get to keep the proceeds from the samples we serve. You must buy \$3.00 worth of sample tickets to get a voting ticket so plan on spending at least \$3.00. Cash prizes are awarded in 3 categories; People's Choice, Judge's Best, and Best Name. We took 2nd place for Best Name in 2007 and won 1st place in People's Choice in 2008. If every member attended and voted our chili as the best, we would surely bring home some cash again. All of our profits and any cash awards won will be donated to the March of Dimes to give us a jump start for 2010's Bikers-for-Babies fund raising.

Please join us Saturday, Nov. 7, 2009, at Ted's Motorcycle World. Support your fellow members, support our club sponsor, support me, and get a belly full of some mighty tasty chili. Here's a helpful hint: Plan on Chili for lunch that day. By the end of the day many participants run low or out of samples so you don't want to be late. This is a rain or shine event. The last two years Mel has led a group up to Ted's for the event. I will put out an e-mail closer to Nov. 7, with details but tentatively plan on meeting at the Phillips station on North Hwy 94 in St. Charles around 10:30 a.m. and riding Hwy 94 to Hwy 367 and into Alton.



Bikes, Blues & BBQ

Article and Art by Mike Halbert

The day after the Shadow Riders September general meeting, five of us Shadow Riders headed south to attend the Bikes, Blues & BBQ (BB&B) event in Fayetteville, Arkansas. The BB&B is a huge motorcycle rally that raises money for those in need, and, as its name implies, the event boasts more than 100,000 bikes, many live bands, and award-winning barbecue. Our general plan was to spend one day at the rally and to use the rest of our time riding the back roads of Northwestern Arkansas.

The ride was organized and led by Lou Soucy and the other riders included Frank Mehrtens, Russell Davis, Todd Soucy, and me, Mike Halbert. We left at 8:00 A.M. sharp on Wednesday, September 23, from the QuikTrip at highway 109 and I-44 in Eureka, Missouri, with our final destination for the first day being Eureka Springs, Arkansas. We rode to Cuba, Missouri, on I-44, but the rest of the over 400 miles to Eureka Springs we rode on secondary roads. We arrived at about 5:00 P.M., checked into our rooms, and met for dinner at the Pied Piper Pub and Inn, where the food was good, the beer was cold, and the bikes with loud pipes were plentiful.

On the Shadow Riders web site this ride is titled “Bikes, Blues & BBQ,” but a better title for our ride might have been “Ride Every Back Road within 100 Miles of Eureka Springs,” because that’s what we did. We all agreed before leaving on the trip that a single day at the BB&B event would be enough and that we all preferred spending most of our time riding the twisty and scenic roads of the Ozark Mountains. For us fifty-plus dudes that was a good decision.

For the next two days (Thursday and Friday) we rode the back roads around Eureka Springs. We rode the U.S. 71 State Scenic Byway and Arkansas 23 Scenic Byway, and we saw the Arkansas Grand Canyon and the historic Crescent Hotel. I have to admit, though, that I had nothing to do with the navigation or the planning of the routes, and most of the time I had no idea where we were or where we were going. Lou, Russ, and Frank handled the mapping task, while Todd and I stood back and marveled at how enthusiastic they became once the map was pulled out.

A typical map session would start with Lou laying his over-size Arkansas Atlas on the tank of his bike and Russ or Frank strolling up to join in. The sessions always started out slowly but built to a peculiar level of excitement as different roads and destinations were examined. A sampling of a typical session would sound something like this:

“What do you think of route 23? Man, she’s got some nice curves.

“Yeah, I remember doing her last year, and I was spent when it was over.”

“Tell you what, 23 is curvy, but you can’t beat 12 for a hard, fast ride! And, man, what a treat for the eyes.”

“Here’s an idea, let’s do ’em both.”

“Mmmm...yeah, yeah, let’s do ’em both.”

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

With the session completed, Russ would have a cigarette, Lou would get this sheepish look of satisfaction on his face, and Todd and I would look at each other and wonder if we had just listened to a map session or to a honeymoon couple in an adjoining motel room. Todd began jokingly referring to these intense sessions as “map porn.”

Whatever the reason for their enthusiasm, they did a great job of finding excellent motorcycle roads. We rode roads that had curves and climbs that rivaled the Dragon’s Tail of the Smoky Mountains. We rode some roads that were covered by canopies of leaf-covered trees, and another road that was flanked by towering rock bluffs on one side and a meandering mountain stream on the other. On one route, we crossed a one-lane suspension bridge that had an irregular plank road surface, and it seemed that almost every road offered a spectacular view such as the picturesque view looking across the Big Creek valley known as the “Arkansas Grand Canyon” located on Highway 7 near Jasper, Arkansas. The Ozark Mountains are comparable to the Smoky Mountains when it comes to great motorcycle roads, but the Ozarks have the advantage for us Shadow Riders by being much closer to our homes here in the St. Louis area.

On Saturday we went to Fayetteville for the main event. Lou had been to the BB&B before, so he knew his way around the area and he knew what to expect. The primary spectacle at the BB&B is the “Parade.” This so-called “Parade” takes place primarily on Dickson Street, and Lou wanted to get there early enough to park on Dickson where we would have a front-row seat.

We did get there early, and we did find our parking spots. It wasn’t until then that I found out what the “Parade” was. It’s not a real parade—I may have been the only person in Arkansas not to know that—it’s simply a bunch of individual motorcycle riders who continually ride around the block. The streets on this so-called “BBB Parade of Power Route” are closed to all transportation except motorcycles and the occasional custom car, and the traffic moves in only one direction. When we first got there Dickson Street was heavily peppered with riders, but Lou warned that the crowd would get progressively larger and more rowdy as the day went on.

We left Dickson Street before noon and went over to the so-called Tyson Track Center. Transportation to the Center was via a restored 1927 train. The train ride itself was pretty cool, but for anyone interested in the latest motorcycle models, the Tyson Track Center was the place to be. Most of the major dealers had their bikes on display, and some dealers even offered test rides. This was also the area where the barbeque contest was held and where a good scavenger can locate enough barbeque samples to make for a respectable dinner.

By about 2:00 in the afternoon, we had checked out all the offerings at the Tyson Center and decided to take the train back to Dickson Street. When we got back to Dickson we found the street filled with bikes four abreast and fender to fender and the sidewalks filled with people walking shoulder to shoulder. After having a beverage and a bite to eat at one of the restaurants, we decided to make our way back to our bikes and prepared to leave. Leaving Dickson Street was the highlight of the day. Pulling out into that mass of bikes and riding down Dickson in what seemed to be a sea of bikes and people can only be described as “bitchin.”

That was our last day of riding in Eureka Springs. The next day we packed our bikes, had breakfast at the 1876, gassed up, and headed back to St. Louis. We were not rained on for the entire trip.

Note: There were other Shadow Riders who attended the BB&B, but they made the trip with other friends or relatives. Two of the other riders were Susan Braun and Terry Brookman.

Colorado in September

by Mike Halbert

The last of September of this year (2009), I was fortunate enough to take a nine-day motorcycle vacation to Colorado, and this vacation turned out to be one of the most enjoyable and most memorable vacations of my fifty-something lifetime. What made this vacation rise above other vacations were two things: the company of good friends, and the joy of riding a motorcycle.

Altogether, there were seven of us who went on the trip, six Shadow Riders and one friend. The Shadow Riders were: Lou Soucy, Rich Bayers, Erin O'Donnell, Randy Hendershot, Dale Koehler and me, Mike Halbert. The one non-Shadow Rider was Lou's neighbor, Mark Maxwell. Lou was the originator and organizer of the Colorado trip, and he did an exceptional job on both accounts.

According to Erin's meticulous records, the trip was 3,571 trouble-free miles long. These miles were tallied in nearly perfect weather, through fantastic scenery, and on roads that seemed to be designed specifically for the motorcycle. Surpassing all these things, however, were the great friends to ride with.

Anyone interested in more details about this trip can see two ten-minute videos detailing each day's ride. The videos are posted on YouTube and can be found by doing a search on YouTube for "Shadow Riders Club Of St. Louis, Colorado Trip." You should find two movies with this search, Part 1 and Part 2.

By the way, riding across Kansas is not nearly as bad as people make it out to be. Driving it in a car is bad—riding it on a motorcycle is not bad.



Special Events / By-Laws

Special Events

Sunday, November 1 — Rain or Shine: Larry & Sherry McGowen have generously offered breakfast at their home, 18538 Wild Horse Creek Rd. We'll plan to leave Old Orchard at 10am and arrive at McGowen's about 10:30. See *Ride Descriptions* on page 8 for more details.

Saturday, November 7, 10 am-3 pm: Ted's Motorcycle World Annual Chili Cook-Off. Shadow Riders took 1st place in People's Choice last year. Come Taste and VOTE for Diana's award winning chili. See Diana's article on page 3.

Sunday, December 6, 11 am-3 pm: Christmas Open House at Ted's Motorcycle World

Saturday, January 16: Annual SRC Holiday Party: Sue Braun is the lead organizer. Put the date on your calendar and contact Sue to help out if you can.

Proposed By-Laws Amendments (second publishing)

- *presented by the By-Laws Review Committee (Larry McGowen, Peggy Phillips, Nita Fisher)*
- *to be voted on at the January club meeting*

Article Five, Section 3, B – Current by-laws:

The outgoing President may, at his/her discretion, attend any/all SRC-STL Board meetings, as a non-voting member, for the duration of the new Board.

Article Five, Section 3, B – Proposed by-laws:

The outgoing President shall serve as official advisor to the new Board for the first six months of its term and may attend SRC-STL Board meetings, as a non-voting member, during that period.

Article Five, Section 1, D. – Current by-laws:

The SRC-STL elections will be conducted at the January General Membership meeting. Ballots will be accepted only from members who are eligible to vote, whose current year's dues have been paid, and who are present at that meeting.

Article Five, Section 1, D. – Proposed by-laws:

The SRC-STL elections will be conducted at the January General Membership meeting. Ballots will be accepted only from members who are eligible to vote, whose current year's dues have been paid, and who are present at that meeting, except for the absentee ballot provision, as follows.

For any slate that contains more than one person running for any office, the Board shall provide for an absentee ballot process that allows members who are unable to attend the January meeting to vote between the finalization of nominations at the December meeting and the January voting meeting. The process may include pre-voting at the December meeting, or voting by mail, electronic or other processes, so long as the absentee votes are verified as cast by members who are eligible to vote, and whose dues associated with the election year have been paid.

Ride Descriptions

October 18 — Frankenstein (Eric Levy): As Halloween nears, we head for tiny but infamous Frankenstein, Missouri. We'll ride some fun alphabet roads and follow the twists and turns of the Missouri River to the top of a lonely hill, where storm clouds gather over a twisted castle. Or, we might just stop for photos under the 'Welcome to Frankenstein' sign. A fun ride, with beautiful scenery and good roads.

October 25 — St. John's Gildehaus Dinner (Bob Mueller): We'll ride a new route to this new lunch spot in Villa Ridge, featuring all you can eat fresh-made whole-hog sausage, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, sauerkraut, home made bread and apple butter, baked apples and ice cream, coffee, and milk for \$12.

November 1 — Breakfast at McGowens: We will leave Old Orchard at the usual departure time of 10 am for a short ride to breakfast at Larry & Sherry McGowen's home, 18538 Wild Horse Creek Rd. (one half mile west on Wild Horse from its intersection with state Hwy 109). Park in Larry's hard-packed gravel drive or in the paved circle-drive across the street. Casual ride will follow, weather permitting. This is a rain-or-shine event. If it rains, folks are welcome to come by car.

November 8 — Highway 185 (Erin O'Donnell): If you like back roads with lots of twists and turns, you'll love this ride. A bit of Hwy 109 and some alphabet roads take us to the most enjoyable part of Highway 185. After lunch in Sullivan we'll continue on Highway 185 to Highway 100 then meander back to Manchester. (Or you can hurry back on I-44.)

November 15 — Augusta BBQ: We will make a last run of the season to this perennial favorite — the American Legion Hall 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 22 — Open ride / rain date: Send your idea for a ride to Cliff ahead of time or bring it to Old Orchard on Sunday.

November 29 — Open ride / rain date: Send your idea for a ride to Cliff ahead of time or bring it to Old Orchard on Sunday.

Oct-Nov 2009

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--------|---|--------|----------------------------|--------|---------------------------------------|
| Oct 18 Frankenstein Ride | Oct 19 | Oct 20 | Oct 21 | Oct 22 | Oct 23 | Oct 24 |
| Oct 25 St. John's Gildehaus Dinner Ride | Oct 26 | Oct 27 Club Meeting 7 pm Bd Mtg 6:30 | Oct 28 | Oct 29 | Oct 30 | Oct 31 |
| Nov 1 Breakfast at McGowen's (CST) | Nov 2 | Nov 3 | Nov 4 | Nov 5 | Nov 6 | Nov 7 Ted's Chili Cook-off 10-3 |
| Nov 8 Highway 185 Ride | Nov 9 | Nov 10 | Nov 11 | Nov 12 | Nov 13 | Nov 14 |
| Nov 15 Augusta BBQ Ride | Nov 16 | Nov 17 | Nov 18 | Nov 19 | Nov 20 | Nov 21 |
| Nov 22 Open Ride / Rain Date | Nov 23 | Nov 24 Club Meeting 7 pm Bd Mtg 6:30 | Nov 25 | Nov 26 Thanksgiving Day | Nov 27 | Nov 28 |
| Nov 29 Open Ride / Rain Date | Nov 30 | | | | | |



November 1

Contact Nita Fisher at editor@shadowriders-stl.com or (314) 808-7762 to place your Classified Ad. Ads run for three (3) months, renewable. Please contact Nita when your item is sold.

For Sale: 2005 Honda Shadow Aero 750cc

Like new condition. **Only 4500 miles!**

Includes windshield, highway bars, saddlebags, extra set of mirrors, small luggage rack, and vinyl cover.

Asking \$4300.

Contact Steve Stoner at 314-604-7352 or stonest@yahoo.com

08/09

For Sale: 1997 Honda Shadow VT1100

New tires, new candy apple red paint, windshield, and too much to list here goes with it. It is fast and has been well cared for over the years. Has only 23,000 miles; most of that was on club rides. **\$3800.00**

Call Randy Tallant at 314-814-5154

07/09

For Sale: 2002 Harley Davidson Road King — 911 Firefighter Special Edition Collector Model

Firefighter decals and 911 plaque. Has 45,000 miles; professional engine rebuild at 35,000 miles upgraded to 95 inch bore with S&S high performance cams, adjustable S&S push rods, roller rockers, and ported branch heads. Emergency strobe flashers, driver and passenger back rests and luggage rack, Bassani 2-into-1 pipes with quiet and loud baffles, pimp lights around engine; security system with fob. **Asking \$10,300.**

Contact Larry McGowen at 314-495-1847 or mcgowen@hrh-advantage.com

06/09

For Sale: 2004 Honda VTX 1800S (S = spoke wheels)

Black, studded seats, switchblade crash/hwy bars, saddle bags, back-rest, luggage rack, windshield, helmet with both sun and clear shade. Excellent condition with only 17,000 miles. **\$8,000.00**

Contact Matt at matthew.bonini@us.army.mil

05/09

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. **\$60 each or \$100 for the pair.**

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

10/09

March of Dimes Bikers for Babies Results

Top Clubs

| | | |
|--------------|-----------------|----------|
| First Place | Kirkwood HOG | \$23,200 |
| Second Place | Shadow Riders | \$18,611 |
| Third Place | St. Charles HOG | \$ 6,235 |

Top Individuals

| | | |
|--------------|----------------|-----------|
| First Place | Neil Bailey | \$ 15,200 |
| Second Place | Mark Levin | \$ 4,201 |
| Third Place | Erin O'Donnell | \$ 3,801 |
| Fourth Place | Rich Bayers | \$ 3,756 |

Congratulations to Mark, Erin, and Rich, and thanks to all the Shadow Riders who helped make this year another success!

September 22, 2009, GM Meeting Report

Treasurer, Russ Davis says we are \$432 ahead of budget year to date. Reviewed merchandise inventory and funds and reviewed September financial statement. Vice President, Rich Bayers reported Sept. 19 Helmet Day collection raised \$2159.89. Total collected between the two collection dates is \$4553.68. A March of Dimes rep was supposed to be present to pre-register members for the Bikers for Babies event but she was a 'no show'. We asked members to volunteer to man the Shadow Riders booth at the Bikers4Babies event in two weeks. Members should e-mail Rich or Bob. Bikers4Babies needs road captains and the road captain meeting date will be scheduled soon. Safety Officer, Cliff Connoyer stated the Bixby ride got rained out. Members voted to move the Bixby ride to Oct. 4 in place of Erin's Hwy 185 ride. We may schedule a breakfast stop at Larry McGowen's home sometime in Nov. if schedules allow. Membership coordinator, Jim Gianella reported Main members 107, SO 26, Jr. Members 0, for a total of 133. Merchandise's Laura Boone says we have lots of long sleeve white T-shirts and hats that members ordered and did not pick up or pay for. Bob has patch production information and will get it to Laura so we can work on getting more patches made. Inventory value \$600.00 and we would like to get this down. Saturday Night Out coordinator, Ira Steuer is looking for suggestions for a fun SNO event. We received great feedback regarding the September newsletter article on our website and Webmaster, Ted Koski. Sue Braun stepped up after the August GM meeting and volunteered to be our holiday party coordinator. Holiday party set for Jan 16, 2010, at the VFW in Ballwin. Lou Soucy talked about the 9 day, 3600 mile Colorado trip that a group of members recently took. He also discussed the trip to Fayetteville, AR for Bikes, Blues and BBQ. The group leaves on September 23. Trip to the Smokies set for Oct. 1-4. Oct. 2-4 is 'Taste of St. Louis' to benefit Make a Wish at Soldier's Memorial. Laura is looking for volunteers to work the ticket booth. It's time to put together a nominating committee for our next election of officers. Past President, Eric Levy and last year's holiday party entertainment, Paul Hann, volunteered to be part of the committee. We still need one more volunteer.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

See what you miss when you miss a meeting.

October Birthdays

| | |
|------------------|--------|
| Steve Abernathy | Oct 4 |
| Karen Johnston | Oct 6 |
| Chris Schweitzer | Oct 14 |
| Dave Walters | Oct 15 |
| Terry Brookman | Oct 15 |
| Brian Davis | Oct 26 |
| Dave Simorka | Oct 28 |

SRC Welcomes New Members

Mike Gambino (rides a candy & cream 2008 Honda Shadow Aero)

Brian Davis (rides a red 2008 Star 1300T)

Jeff Distl (rides a BMW K1200LT)



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