



## RPMC welcomes RFTW riders home in St Joe

Prezident Greg and I were sitting on a grassy hill in the shade at the Harley dealership in St. Joe when SeaBee Stiggy, Runway Rick with RPMC's own photo journalist Proud Mary, and Dave "the Crusher" came rollin' into the parking lot. The riders had fried, hard bark sunburned faces like that of Hemmingway after a week at sea. The road was all over the motorcycles, sleeping bags and other stuff hung from the backs of the scooters like an unwanted passenger. The motorcycles had bugs on them from Gettysburg that mixed in well with the tear stains of pride brought up by the many Patriots that hosted them with food and the American flag along the way. A tingly film covered the bikes from the incredible traffic in Washington DC. They had road grime on them from the fog and rain they encountered on the Blue Ridge Parkway in the Smoky Mountains of North Carolina. The sides of their tires showed wear from riding the Dragon's Tail in Tennessee. On the way home we stopped a few times to cool down and shoot the bull. There ain't nothin' like sittin' in an old rustic bar listening to tails of the road from those that have the stories fresh in their heads. Welcome home ...again.

The Editor

## Motorcycle Dreams

By David Pambianchi

Iron horse, wind, passing scenery, and you glide alert and in control. Something about constant breeze, the open air as you speed along, gives a feeling of freedom and release, a form of meditation in motion. ~ Some images of motorcycle culture come to us from Hollywood, the rebellious youth, Marlon Brando in "The Wild One," the wandering freestyle explorers of "Easy Rider," or in literature, the development of a father and son relationship through Buddhist philosophy, "Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance."

They keep us riding down the highway of adventure and sometimes open a door to self-realization.~ But whether a haul across the United States or a trip through the local town, the

motorcycle provides riders with free-spirited quests where the journey often is the destination. Long distance treks allow the mind to contemplate and wander, while short rides simply provide joy and a chance for social interaction with like-minded riders. While some women drive their own motorbikes, wind on your face and a woman's arms wrapped around you define a comfort and happiness that most male bikers would not dispute. ~

Camaraderie takes many forms, a country trail, hills, lakes, curves, for club riders to anticipate on weekend meets, a motorcycle rally or show, or a Nathan's parking lot to swap stories and munch hot dogs. Regular "Toys for Tots" runs for children add a modern perspective of the biker heart. In Europe, bikers give a raised arm in acknowledgment as they pass one another on the road, no matter what brand they ride. ~ Built for show, power, speed and maneuverability, motorcycles come in various styles, so do their riders. You can choose a standard model, elegant and sporty to your taste, or if you want that ultimate sense of individuality, or simply like to be noticed, you customize. Dream machines, the magic of form and theme, paint and chrome, like those built at New York's, Orange County Choppers

fascinate television viewers with quality and eye-candy cycles. As with any vehicle, training, practice, experience, safety and caution are paramount, especially while enjoying this flyweight of the road. For the enthusiast, the open highway stimulates the pleasure receptors and tempts the thoughts, whether smelling pine from forest trails, gliding past warm fields and mountains under sunny skies, or following the beach on a cool moonlit night.

Call a friend, saddle up; the next adventure is just a Motorcycle Dream away.

***Leroy came home drunk one night, slid into bed beside his sleeping wife, and fell into a deep stupor.***

***He awoke before the Pearly Gates where St. Peter said, 'You died in your sleep, Leroy.'***

***Leroy was stunned. 'I'm dead? No, I can't be! I've got too much to live for. Please send me back!'***

***St. Peter said, 'I'm sorry, but there's only one way you can go back, and that is as a chicken.'***

***Leroy was devastated at that statement, but begged St. Peter to send him to a farm near his home.***

***The next thing he knew, he was covered with feathers, clucking, and pecking the ground. A rooster strolled past.***

***'So, you're the new hen, huh? How's your first day here?'***

***'Not bad,' replied Leroy the hen, 'but I have this strange feeling inside, like I'm going to explode.'***

***'You're ovulating,' explained the rooster. 'Don't tell me you've never laid an egg before?'***

***'Never,' said Leroy.***

***'Well, relax and just let it happen,' said the rooster, 'it's no big deal.'***

***Leroy did, and a few uncomfortable seconds later, out popped an egg.***

***Leroy was overcome with emotion as he experienced motherhood. He soon laid another egg, and his joy was overwhelming.***

***As he was about to lay his third egg, he felt a smack on the back of his head, and heard his wife shouting, 'Dammit, Leroy, wake up! You're pooping in the bed!'***

*DOWN AND DIRTY*

Tips on maintaining your scooter;

**Inflate/check tires**

I know, this one seems too obvious. And for riders who keep a close eye on such things, it is. But proper tire inflation--along with routine tread-wear check--is key to a fine-handling motorcycle. It's also cheap insurance that can keep you from stepping off your bike in an unplanned way. Always be sure your bike's tires are inflated to the correct pressure(s). That doesn't mean the max pressure number listed on the tire's sidewall; that number is reserved for heavy-duty riding (two-up, loaded with luggage, etc.). I have always found the mid-30s (34-38 psi) to be a good overall pressure range. Slightly lower pressures (low 30s) typically result in more grip (and more wear), while higher pressures equal less wear and firmer ride qualities. Also, check the tread for wear, especially the uneven sort. Cupping around the edges or a flat-spotted tread crown can adversely affect handling. If you find these conditions, replace the tire.

**Tips that could save your life...**

The most powerful piece of high-performance hardware is between your ears. To help you program it, here's 5 potentially lifesaving bits of street savvy. The more you know, the better it gets.

**1. Assume you're invisible**

Because to a lot of drivers, you are. Never make a move based on the assumption that another driver sees you, even if you've just made eye contact. Bikes don't always register in the four-wheel mind.

**2. Be considerate**

The consequences of strafing the jerk du jour or cutting him off start out bad and get worse. Pretend it was your grandma and think again.

**3. Dress for the crash, not the pool or the prom**

Sure, Joaquin's Fish Tacos is a 5-minute trip, but nobody plans to eat pavement. Modern mesh gear means 100-degree heat is no excuse for a T-shirt and board shorts.

**4. Hope for the best, prepare for the worst**

Assume that car across the intersection will turn across your bow when the light goes green, with or without a turn signal.

**5. Leave your ego at home**

The only people who really care if you were faster on the freeway will be the officer and the judge.

**A:** A golden retriever

**A:** The same urge that makes dogs chase cars they have no intention of driving.

**A:** They named him 'Sum Ting Wong'.

**A:** They can't stand criticism.

*Hey Leroy...*

*Leroy walks into a bar and sits down. He orders six shots of tequila. The bartender asks him, "Have a rough day?" Leroy replies, "Yeah, I found out that my younger brother is gay!" The bartender says, "Man, I'm sorry to hear that. That's awful." Leroy downs the shots and leaves. The very next day Leroy comes back into the bar and orders six more shots of tequila. Bartender asks him, "What's wrong today?" Leroy replies, "I just found out my older brother is gay." Bartender says, "Man, I'm sorry to hear that. That's terrible." Leroy downs his shots and leaves. He returns again on the third day and again orders six shots of tequila. Bartender asks him, "More bad news?" Leroy says, "Yeah." The bartender asks him, "Doesn't anyone in your family like women??" Leroy says, "Yeah, my wife."*

*Daytrippin' with Jerry*

the DANISH WINDMILL Burnout

This is a ride that I'd like to start at the K-Mart parking lot by Westfair. There's a bar and a gas station right there, so all needs could be fulfilled while we gather. From there we cross Hwy 6 at the light and head north on G8L. We follow this a few miles until the popular L34 branches off to the northeast. This takes us north on some of the best twisties and breathtaking vistas this area has to offer. Eventually, we will find ourselves crossing under the I-680 Bridge and into the metropolis Beebe town. Don't blink at the stop sign or you'll miss your only opportunity at a cold one or anything else until Logan. Once we cycle some fluids through at these two popular towns, we'll take Hwy 30 for four miles north out of Logan and turn right on Hwy 44 east. This is a fun stretch of two lane that I can hardly keep myself contained on. We'll enjoy this as far as Kimballton, which is halfway across the scenic stretch of this relished ribbon, but we want to keep this ride manageable for one day. At Kimballton, we'll turn south on Hwy. 173 and head for Elk Horn, home of the Danish Windmill. There is a biker friendly sports bar there that I'm sure would be appropriate to visit by now. This is a cool little town I think we'll want to spend some time in so we should plan for that. From there we'll continue south on Hwy 173, cross I-80 and come to a tee at Hwy 83. Turn west here and we'll find ourselves in Marne. This is another tiny town with a great biker bar and a small motorcycle museum. Starting in a homeward direction from here, we continue west on hwy 83 where we can find an abundance of friendly attractions in the towns of Walnut, Avoca, and Minden. This is where the sun is going down and home is in the back of our minds. Home is only a half an hour away. Jump on I-80 west at the Minden exit, and take the I-680 exit towards North Omaha. Stretch that V-twins' legs out here, you know you've been wanting to all day, go ahead twist it up here! All the way to Loveland, where we'll head south on I-29. More throttle time here till we get to I-680 west, then, one last shot to turn and burn till we cross the Mormon Bridge. I guess a nightcap at the Dog Pound before we all disburse would be in order here. I personally put this one in my top 3 for local day trips. This one will not disappoint. It'll leave the hairs on the back of your neck tingling from the wind whipping your hair against them all day, your eyes will burn when you close them from the bright sun and dry wind working on them, your ears will ring from the buffeting wind and pipe music from our scooters, and your cheeks will ache from all the smiling and laughter you'll be subject to while *daytrippin' with the Rollin' Plains!*

The National Transportation Safety Board unanimously recommended last year that states require all riders to wear helmets — the first time in its 40-year history that the independent panel weighed in on motorcycle safety.

*10 mistakes a new rider makes**...number 2***Losing control of your motorcycle**

This new biker blunder is usually rooted in riding too fast to safely control the motorcycle. The thrill of speed can quickly outpace learned skill. Whether done by choice or encouraged through peer pressure, this mistake can be avoided with a constant gut-check and honest assessment of your current skill level. Consistently doing both of these can help the new biker stay around long enough to become a **seasoned one**.

*Birthdays and Events*

**Birthdays:** ~ Gary Geise, June 13 Jerry Miller, June 15  
Becky Minshall, June 24 Coco Summerfield, July 10 Greg Summerfield, July 23

**June 7:** Valhalla MC "Lost Brothers Run"

Joe Banana's, 10th and Pacific, 11 AM - 1:30 PM

**June 8:** Yellow Ribbon Run starting out from Werner Cycle. RPMC participation helping in sign-up and organization of the Y2R is appreciated, tent will be set up the afternoon of June 7.

**June 13-15:** Camp-out at Castana, Iowa; exit from I-29 @ Onawa, Ia. take 175 east. Ask an RPMC officer for more details. The monthly club meeting will be held at the camp site in Castana.