



www.southerncruisers.net
news@southerncruisers.net

“Soaring Eagle”

Monthly News for Our SCRC Nation October 2010



October 2010
Vol. 1 Issue 3



SCRC National Officers

(l to r) Bill Presley, Richard Krause, Rick “Rickster” Perry, & James “Bubba” Prescott

“Hammer Time”

Fall has arrived! Finally! I have waited all summer for this. Cooler mornings, shortening days, longer shadows, leaves falling, football, hunting season.... I could go on & on. But for me, this is a great time of the year to be riding the backroads... anywhere!

So get on your bike and ride! Whip up the loose leaves before they clog up the ditches and creeks. Startle those squirrels gathering nuts with the roar of your pipes and scare 'em with their reflection in your chrome!








I must admit – I am not much of a football fan. But I do like to watch the Patriots play... 'specially in the Super Bowl! And one of my grandsons is getting a taste of flag football. It is incredible to watch him play – even if they don't have pads & helmets. And even if I miss a ride or two!

September riding was a bust for me - we are trying to get our shop/garage built – pretty stressful times when things just don't seem to go the way you want 'em to... makes me wanna to “Git the rope!” But, it will all be over soon... and ready for winter. Then, I can 'cool off' again!

Remember... “I am Southern Cruisers! And so are You!” You will recognize me when you see me... I am the one wearing the SCRC patch on the back of my vest! “Grab some wind... hammer down!”

A Growing SCRC Nation - New SCRC Chapters

Sending out a “rev 'em up” welcome to these new SCRC chapters:

-  **Aiken #106** Aiken, South Carolina – 1st Officer Michael Rowland
-  **Northwest Kansas #123** Rexford, Kansas – 1st Officer Chris Johnson
-  **Kinsman #500** Johnston, Ohio – 1st Officer Scott Wilton
-  **Paris #538** Paris, Arkansas – 1st Officer Don Valentine
-  **Hot Springs #540** Hot Springs, Arkansas - 1st Officer Scott Couch
-  **Temiscaming #405** New Liskeard, Ontario, Canada – 1st Officer Frank Boehringer
-  **Hyco Lake #172** Roxboro, North Carolina - 1st Officer Orley Setterington

Meet an SCRC Regional Officer (RO)

This month's regional officer: Meet Greg “GV” Galeles, Regional Officer for SCRC North Central Region. North Central Region consists of 37 chapters in 7 states: Illinois (4), Indiana (6), Iowa (1), Michigan (12), Minnesota (2), Ohio (11), & Wisconsin (1).

Based in Chicago allows me a good central location between the states I assist with.

“I am a member of Northern Chapter 72 in the Chicago, Illinois, area. My nickname “GV” is from the bike I own. I have several mid-80's GV1200 Suzuki Maduras. My first one I bought 10+ years ago with 6,000 miles for \$500. She now has 136,000 miles. Among the several Madura in the garage is also a '76 Ironhead Sportster. So if I'm not out riding, you can find me in the garage.”

“Mike Vittorio took me under his wing 16 years ago. He helped me find an '84 Magna, showed me the basics, and even took me to my first Sturgis. By example Mike taught me a way of life and how to see the good in everyone. It was tragic to loose Mike to cancer only a few year later. It was about that time I that I joined the SCRC to find more people to ride with.”

“A fellow Madura-owner gets credit for inspiring me to step up and become a First Officer and then a Regional Officer. Don Bebee, from Kingston, Canada, once strapped his oxygen tank to his bike and rode several hundred miles to meet up with me and a few friends. He was suffering from stage 3 emphysema & didn't get to ride much that weekend, but we did spend a few late nights talking. Don's life experiences were enlightening and his philosophies were inspirational. Even more inspirational were Don's dreams.”

“The following summer Don wanted to meet up with us again as we gathered in the mountains of Colorado. After refinancing his home, he left intensive care to pack his car, bike, and his wife and made their way to the gathering of Madura owners. Against the odds he made it, then took the long way home... and passed away a week later. His wife insists he died a very happy man.”



It was a year after I joined that the chapter was struggling and I was asked to step up as FO. There was some lonely meet points at first but the fellow members did not let me down. Before I knew it 3 yrs flew by. Then I moved on to RO.

Each position brings it's challenges and rewards. As a FO, all I wanted was to give anyone who wanted to ride a safe group to ride with and hopefully learn a little about themselves. I want nothing less as a RO.

To see a fellow member find that open road and all that it brings and to experience that with them is what I live for.

“I very often get asked where is the best riding. That is almost impossible to answer. Pike's Peak was an adventure. The Blue Ridge Parkway was postcard perfect. The interstate through Atlanta was hair-raising. For me what makes the best ride is not the always the roads... but the people. Meeting Arlen Ness at the opening of the National Motorcycle Museum was just as cool as meeting the owner of the Toy Museum in Straton, MO, on old Rt 66.”

“I have learned that what you put into the Southern Cruisers you will received back ten-fold. It's all about the ride, but the collection of friends along the way make it all that even more spectacular.”



www.southerncruisers.net
news@southerncruisers.net

“Soaring Eagle”

Monthly News for Our SCRC Nation October 2010



October 2010
Vol. 1 Issue 3

Meet an SCRC State Officer (STO)

This month's officer: Meet David Niles, Washington STO - Washington consists of 4 chapters: Central #272, East Side #368, Kitsap Peninsula #280, & Mt Ranier #360.

“My wife, Monika, and I am a member of Central Chapter 272, in Yakima, WA, and I ride a '03 Suzuki Volusia. My nickname is “Opie”. I have been riding since March 2001 - I joined the SCRC because I was looking for like-minded riders that enjoyed the open road. I joined the SCRC in July 2007 to take the place of the National Guard, from which I was getting ready to retire. I figured that I would have one free weekend a month for riding.”



“I have an SCRC officer since July 2007. I opened chapter 272 in Central Washington. I had a bunch of friends from work that rode and figured I would give them a chapter to ride with. I then had a few from Yakima's old chapter join up. Best bunch of guys I have ever had the pleasure of riding with.”



“I am fairly new to Washington's SCRC. Like I stated, I opened the chapter in central Washington in 2007, met and rode with a few of the other chapters in the state and met and made some good friends.”

“I like that there is no pressure in the SCRC - you schedule the ride, people show up and ride. We keep it safe, casual and fun. Usually there is

some good food somewhere along the ride, sometimes the food is the destination, sometimes the food is the causality. LOL!”

“My least-favorite roads are: Interstates - gets you there quick, but not too much fun getting there. Don't care for straight, flat roads either. 'Specifically Washington's I-90 from Ellensburg to Spokane. Boring!”

“My philosophy is that the group is about the ride - not about meetings, or about how many show up. It is about being around like-minded individuals and enjoying the ride.”

Meet an SCRC Member

This month's member: Meet Howard Byerley: “I am a member of Chisholm Trail Chapter 82 in Kempner, TX. I ride a '03 Ultra Classic, 100-yr Edition & an '09 FLHTC Special Edition. My nickname is "Jay" - my ride name is “Indian”.”



“I have been riding for 36 yrs. - and joined SCRC in Jan, 2010 because I wanted to be part of a group of dedicated riders - people who believe as I do. Ride as a group, no one left behind, safety minded & drinking does NOT mix with riding or operating any vehicle.

With that said friends enjoy each other's company, talk through difficulties and are faithful as well as fun.”



“What I like the most about SCRC: We just finished the Kerrville run - a few couples and a lot of good riders and people. We all had fun, tested our riding skills and enjoyed the party afterwards. No one got out of line and we all went home safe. Each rider looked out for the other. When a bike needed something, tools came out and they got fixed. That is a true riding club.”

“I would have to say my favorite roads are most back roads that are off the beaten trail. But if I had to pick just one it would be one of the “Twisted Sisters”: Hwy 335, Hwy 336, & Hwy 337 as they all have the turns, hills, thrills & views.”

“And my least favorite road is Hwy 195 just outside Fort Hood to Coppers Cove. Drivers on this road seem to forget speed limits, courtesy, turn signals and have only one thing on their mind - Get there first. The amount of cell phone use is terrible.”

“I am US Army Retired (1983 - 2006). I have 1 daughter & 3 grandchildren (one on the way).”

“And my favorite position to ride is tail gunner. I like keeping others safe, helping with breakdowns and riding out the danger.”

Who Was St. Jude Anyway?

As we all know, St Jude's Children's Hospital is Southern Cruisers charity of choice... but, who is St Jude? Thought I would share this with you...

St. Jude, known as Thaddaeus, was a brother of St. James the Less, and a relative of Our Saviour. St. Jude was one of the 12 Apostles of Jesus.



Ancient writers tell us that he preached the Gospel in Judea, Samaria, Idumaea, Syria, Mesopotamia, and Lybia. According to Eusebius, he returned to Jerusalem in the year 62, and assisted at the election of his brother, St. Simeon, as Bishop of Jerusalem.

He is an author of an epistle (letter) to the Churches of the East, particularly the Jewish converts, directed against the heresies of the Simonians, Nicolaites, and Gnostics. This Apostle is said to have suffered martyrdom in Armenia, which was then subject to Persia. The final conversion of the Armenian nation to Christianity did not take place until the third century of our era.

Jude was the one who asked Jesus at the Last Supper why He would not manifest Himself to the whole world after His resurrection. Little else is known of his life. Legend claims that he visited Beirut and Edessa; possibly martyred with St. Simon in Persia.

Jude is invoked in desperate situations because his New Testament letter stresses that the faithful should persevere in the environment of harsh, difficult circumstances, just as their forefathers



www.southerncruisers.net
news@southerncruisers.net

“Soaring Eagle”

Monthly News for Our SCRC Nation October 2010



October 2010
Vol. 1 Issue 3

Who Was St. Jude Anyway? (cont'd)

had done before them. Therefore, he is the patron saint of desperate cases and his feast day is October 28. Saint Jude is not the same person as Judas Iscariot who betrayed Our Lord and despaired because of his great sin and lack of trust in God's mercy.

From: http://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint_id=127

Labor Day “SCRC Style!”

As the sun shined brightly overhead in a vivid blue summer sky, more than one hundred SCRC members from chapters located throughout Indiana, Ohio and Kentucky, converged on a small pizza parlor located in the historic river town of Madison, Indiana.

The amazing thing about this event was not so much that the group's polished paint and gleaming chrome filled two parking lots to capacity, or that, to the amazement of the local residents, all of the chapters rumbled in within minutes of one another. No, the truly remarkable aspect of this ride-in was that its planning had begun only 6 days prior!

Typically, gathering that many SCRC members for an event requires weeks, if not months of intensive planning. Thanks to the hard work and coordination of several SCRC officers in the tri-state area, SEVEN chapters were represented at the Labor Day meet and greet! Those chapters with members present included:

- | | |
|---|----------------------------|
| Clairmont Co. # 309 (Ohio) | Greenville # 179 (Ohio) |
| Indianapolis # 092 (Indiana) | Lexington # 063 (Kentucky) |
| Richmond # 303 (Kentucky) | Scott Co. # 372 (Indiana) |
| River Cities # 88 (N Kentucky / Greater Cincinnati) | |

If there was ever a doubt about the strength and viability of the SCRC membership in this "neck of the woods," it was laid to rest on the scenic banks of the Ohio River as the 100+ members posed for individual and group chapter photos after lunch.

From this show of solidarity, new friends were made, prospective SCRC members were introduced, numbers and email addresses were exchanged and serious discussions about future state rallies took place. And, even before the first bikes fired up for the members' return trips to their distant destinations, promises were made to ensure that this event would be repeated.



This sizable gathering, although organized and promoted to the various chapters over the course of only six days, illustrated how much can be accomplished by dedicated and committed officers and members of SCRC. It underscored the strong fellowship and bonds of the membership and proved that, with Southern Cruisers Riding Club - ANYTHING is possible!

Mark "Starbucks" Morris - 1st Officer Chapter #92 Indianapolis, IN

How Many Days Has It Been?

If you have grandchildren (like me), they often refer to us older persons as being 'older than dirt'. But I didn't really know Moses or Noah. It makes me think back to a song by Leon Russell when he asks... "How many days has it been since I was born?"

I ran out of fingers pretty quick counting this one! Now you can find out how many days old you are easy enough at: <http://www.timeanddate.com/date/duration.html>

If you were born on Jan 1, 1950, you are just over 22,000 days old (60 yrs, 8 months+). If you were born on Jan 1, 1970, you are just under 15,000 days old (40 yrs, 8 months+). As for me, well let's just say I have not hit 20,000 days old yet!

And the rest of the song goes... "How many days till I die?" If we only knew... we could plan accordingly! I hope it is for another few decades! *Grab some wind, hammer down!*

SCRC 101 – No. 3

Time for a little more Southern Cruisers 101. We all need a refresher/reminder from time to time...

Q: What did I agree to when I signed up with SCRC (Southern Cruisers Riding Club)?

Here are some excerpts from the sign up page at: http://www.scrconational.com/member_add.asp

New Member Sign Up

"The Southern Cruisers Riding Club is a Free, Family Oriented Motorcycle Riding Club that uses the Web to communicate and focuses on the Enjoyment and Fellowship of Riding Motorcycles while doing so Safely. The Southern Cruisers is not an Internet club for Motorcycle Enthusiasts."

"ONLY ONE PERSON PER APPLICATION - DO NOT USE TO REQUEST A TRANSFER CONTACT YOUR FIRST OFFICER"

"Officer Contact Information can be found on the Chapter Pages: <http://www.southerncruisers.net/worldchapters.html>"

"For Membership Information Contact Bill Presley National Membership Director Email - RetireeGoneWild@aol.com"

General Liability Disclaimer

"Please Read Carefully Before Submitting - Southern Cruisers Riding Club., herein after referred to as SCRC, is a NON-PROFIT organization, operating with the sole purpose of promoting good, clean, and safe riding activities. Each member participates in activities solely by choice and participation itself relinquishes any responsibility of the SCRC as an organization for any and all liabilities resulting in participation in any club related event or activity. All activities and events must comply with any and all state or local laws and ordinances. Any personal injury or property damage resulting during a club activity or at any time, becomes the responsibility of the individual parties involved, and at no time shall the SCRC be held liable. Any individual involved in any illegal activities will be immediately scrutinized by their state officer and subject to immediate removal from all club rosters and membership roles and forbidden to claim any and all association with the SCRC."

"Please read the Constitution and acknowledge you have done so by typing "I Agree" in the field below."

THIS is you/we agreed to when you signed up with SCRC! If you want to review it online for yourself, go to the Southern Cruisers website & check it out: www.southerncruisers.net





www.southerncruisers.net
news@southerncruisers.net

“Soaring Eagle”

Monthly News for Our SCRC Nation
 October 2010



October 2010
 Vol. 1 Issue 3

SCRC Memorial Page

I was re-visiting the SCRC memorial page... and reading a few of the poems & stories along the right-hand side. These poems & stories are absolutely awesome! I have included one below written by Ox. Sure takes me back - remembering times & rides shared with lost members that I knew. I miss 'em all. Anyway, check them out at: www.scrctrmemorial.net

RIDE BROTHER RIDE!! Ox

*I say goodbye my BROTHER, as I ride from your funeral and think of all you have done for others.
 I say farewell, as I struggle to understand why someone as good as you was taken from us.
 At the same time I know you are healthy now and riding for the kids in heaven.
 I say farewell, as I feel a empty spot in our formations, yet I know you now ride the best roads - with twisties like we could never possibly dream of.*

*I say goodbye my BROTHER, as I pray to God to help me be half the man you were while I look back at the example you set for us.
 I say farewell my BROTHER, as I try not to weep for the loss of such a good friend, but too rejoice in the fact that I was blessed and allowed to know you at all.*

I say goodbye my BROTHER, as I await the day when we can ride together again, and promise to continue to do what I can here to try to make it a better place even if only for one sick child.

*I say farewell my BROTHER, proud to have been your brother now and forever.
 Until we ride together again, I say goodbye.
 RIDE BROTHER RIDE!!*

Safety Tip – Cutting Corners

Ever catch yourself pulling up to an intersection and a car heading the other direction turns and cuts right in front of where you 'plan on stopping'? Scares the heck out of me! 'Specially when I am in the left side of my lane...I feel like I am a prime target!

More and more I see people turning a corner and they 'cut way across the corner'. Sometimes they are trying to beat a car coming from the other direction... and other times I believe it is just a habit to do that.

So I slow down and watch pretty closely coming up to an intersection... sure would hate to get clipped by someone cutting thru my lane on a turn! 'Cause the "cage is mightier than the bike". *Grab some wind, hammer down!*

“A Caged Outlook” - Introduction...

You're absolutely right! How rude of me not to introduce our guest writer: "Mr. Visible". Allow me to expand on this introduction... "Mr. Visible" is not a motorcyclist (aka 'biker') and does not own a motorcycle. I am not sure that he ever has or ever wants to own one either! But, maybe someday... he does like "Sophia", and he has started taking occasional snapshots of various bike-parts. I never know when I am gonna open my e-mail and voila (his word, not mine) – there is a new picture!

Ok – why is he called "Mr. Visible"? 'Cause bikers are seemingly 'invisible' to cage drivers... agree? Well, he drives a cage (car, vehicle), so he is 'visible', where we on motorcycles are 'invisible'... thus the name "Mr. Visible". Personally, I think he likes to be called anything with the "Mr." in front of it!

Anyway, thru the years of our acquaintance, he has asked me various biker-related (and non-biker) related questions – even tho I do not consider myself a 'biker'. So I have asked him to add his 2¢ worth of questions and/or reasoning about us in the cycling world.

His writing attitude and manner reveals his courageous wit and sharp cynicism. He is quick to 'cut you to the chase' and does so on a regular basis (to me, anyway). So enjoy his twisted views, questions and philosophy on meaningless banter.

He is signed... "Mr. Visible"!

SCRC Eagle Rescue

Two others and myself, Bill Brock, Kevin Dooley SO, and Michael "Wizard" Gray FO, from our Fort Smith Crossing Chapter 532 recently signed on for Eagle Rescue at the SCRC National Rally in Memphis not knowing just how soon we would see it in action.

On September 11 the chapter rode to Hot Springs, AR, for the Hot Springs Open Rally... some fine food and FUN! One of our newest members, Amy Walden, riding her custom bike, broke down on a curve. The bike shut down and wouldn't re-fire. So "Night Owl", my SO, stayed with her until I could make arrangements.



I called "Persuader II" (June) who helped me run down Scott "Bad Habitt", who really went to work to locate someone to assist a fellow member. "Bad Habitt" talked with and made arrangements with Bob "StovePipe" and Barbara "Cooky" Elrod. "Stovepipe" got his truck and trailer and drove out to the location, loaded the bike and towed it to a local repair shop...

Man - it's great to know and have Eagle Rescue available to us. I wish to express on behalf of all the members of Fort Smith Crossing Chapter 532 our sincere thanks for a job well done... special thanks to: "StovePipe" & "Cooky", "Bad Habitt", "Persuader" & "Gabby", & to my SO "Night Owl" for standing by our member on the highway...

Be Safe and Ride Safer,

Michael "Wizard" Gray, 1st Officer Fort Smith Crossing Chapter 532

Bucket List

Have you seen the movie "The Bucket List"? If not, you need to watch it – it is a good movie. Which leads into my question... do you have a "bucket list"? I actually had to think about it the first time I was



www.southerncruisers.net
news@southerncruisers.net

“Soaring Eagle”

Monthly News for Our SCRC Nation October 2010



October 2010
Vol. 1 Issue 3

Bucket List (cont'd)

asked. Sure, there are things I want to do... and have done some of them already. But I never thought of them as a “*bucket list*”.

Confused yet? Well the way I understand it is a “*bucket list*” is what you want to do before you die - like it's a race or something. It has been suggested that I make a “*bucket list*” and that scares me. Is my time getting that close? I don't think so. And I sure don't want to plan for “*THE END*” just yet. Maybe when the doc tells me my end of the tunnel is getting close, I'll make a “*bucket list*”. And just like “cramming for the exam”, I'll have to hurry and get the things on my list checked off.

Now you may have a “*bucket list*”. And to that I say “Go for it!” Don't just write it down and stick it in your pocket to go thru the washing machine to become illegible. Get out and do it! 'Cause I am sure they are bigger things than what you normally do. And hopefully they are not impossible to achieve.

And now back to the movie... what I thought was the best item on the “*bucket list*” in the movie was to “*kiss the most beautiful girl on the face of the earth*”. Who was it? Watch the movie to find out. *Grab some wind, hammer down!*

Biker's Creed

- I ride because it is fun.
- I ride because I enjoy the freedom I feel from being exposed to the elements, and the vulnerability to the danger that is intrinsic to riding.
- I do not ride because it is fashionable to do so.
- I ride my machine, not wear it. My machine is not a symbol of status. It exists simply for me, and me alone.
- My machine is not a toy. It is an extension of my being, and I will treat it accordingly, with the same respect as I have for myself.
- I strive to understand the inner-workings of my machine, from the most basic to the most complex.
- I will learn everything I can about my machine, so that I am reliant upon no one but myself for its health and well being.
- I strive to constantly better my skill of control over my machine. I will learn its limits, and use my skill to become one with my machine so that we may keep each other alive. I am the master, it is the servant. Working together in harmony, we will become an invincible team.
- I do not fear death. I will, however, do all possible to avoid death prematurely. Fear is the enemy, not death. Fear on the highway leads to death, therefore I will not let fear be my master. I will master it.
- My machines will outlive me. Therefore, they are my legacy. I will care for them for future bikers to cherish as I have cherished them, whoever they may be.
- I do not ride to gain attention, respect, or fear from those that do NOT ride, nor do I wish to intimidate or annoy them. For those that do not know me, all I wish from them is to ignore me. For those that desire to know me, I will share with them the truth of myself, so that they might understand me and not fear others like me.
- I will never be the aggressor on the highway. However, should others mess with me, their aggression will be dealt with in as severe manner as I can cast upon them.
- I will show respect to other bikers more experienced or knowledgeable than I am. I will learn from them all I can. However, if my respect is not acknowledged or appreciated, it will end.

- I will not show disrespect to other bikers less experienced or knowledgeable than I am. I will teach them what I can. However, if they show me disrespect, they will be slapped.
- It will be my task to mentor new riders, that so desire, into the lifestyle of the biker, so that the breed shall continue. I shall instruct them, as I have been instructed by those before me. I shall preserve and honor traditions of bikers before me, and I will pass them on unaltered.
- I will not judge other bikers on their choice of machine, their appearance, or their profession. I will judge them only on their conduct as bikers. I am proud of my accomplishments as a biker, though I will not flaunt them to others. If they ask, I will share them.
- I will stand ready to help any other biker that truly needs my help.
- I will never ask another biker to do for me what I can do for myself.
- I am not a part-time biker. I am a biker when, and where ever I go. I am proud to be a biker, and hide my chosen lifestyle from no one. I ride because I love freedom, independence, and the movement of the ground beneath me. But most of all, I ride to better understand myself, my machine, the lands in which I ride, and to seek out and know other bikers like myself.

“Billy Bob” Teeth

Ever seen someone wearing “*Billy Bob*” teeth? They are plastic gnarly-looking teeth that just slip in over your top, front teeth. I was ‘introduced’ to them at Tulsa's October-fest one year. Some drunken young man was doing the chicken dance on a table & was smiling really big. It cracked me up!

So I had to get me some – after all, I am a huge fan of ‘novelty’ items (I am sure everyone that knows me very well will agree). So I pick up not one, not two, but three sets of “*Billy Bob*” teeth. Hey – they came three in a pack! It's not my fault.

I kept ‘em in my vest pocket & would slip ‘em in on poker runs, toy runs, & now & again on our chapter rides. Once we had a new couple ride with us. So I introduced myself (while wearing the “*Billy Bob*” teeth, of course) & it was hilarious. The look on their faces was PRICELESS! Their looks were mixed with pity, sympathy & trying really hard not to burst into uncontrollable laughter. It was great!



Since then, I have lost ‘em somewhere on the road... so if you see a dog out there with a toothy, gnarly-looking smile, that's where they ended up. Gotta get me some more of ‘em now. *Grab some wind, hammer down!*

Encourage couples & younger riders to join this great riding club... your SCRC Nation.

Got any news that may be of interest to the SCRC Nation? My e-mail address is news@southerncruisers.net Maybe an Eagle Rescue... or your chapter in the news... an update on Spencer's jacket & vest... Send it to me and I will see if it will fit in next month's newsletter.

Thanks to those that contributed stories & pics for this issue!

NOW aren't ya proud to be a Southern Cruiser? I am Southern Cruisers! And so are YOU! “*Grab some wind... hammer down!*”