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“Soaring Eagle”

Monthly News for Our SCRC Nation November 2010



November 2010
Vol. 1 Issue 4

“Hammer Time”

November already!?! You're kidding me! Time to get the chains out again. No silly, not for your bike... for your vest! You know - your vest chain-extendors... so you can wear your vest over your leather coat. Not that you put on any weight since last year. And get out your chaps while you're at it.

By the way, I have a tip for you pertaining to your chaps. You know those plastic bags you get your groceries & stuff from “the Wal-Mart” in? Well slip one over each boot & you can just slide right into your chaps. Maybe even when they are fully zipped... without hanging up! Who woulda thunk! “Chap lube”!

For us in the Mid-South, November is a typically a “split” on riding. The first 2 weeks are awesome – cooler AM's, warm afternoons, leaves turning & falling. The last 2 weeks are a little colder & typically wetter. So riding can be a bonus if the weather & the weekends cooperate.


Plus another bonus... TOY RUNS! Woo Hoo! I love 'em! Well, most of 'em. I love to see the bikes, meet & chat with people, & experience the generosity within the biker world. I don't know about your neck 'o the woods, but toy runs around here have turned into quite the event. The ride, the food, the band, the door prizes... just the experience as a whole is... well... *JUST GRAND!*

If you don't have one in your area, consider starting one. Or do something for the kids in need this year. Kids love to get toys! And kids love to see your bikes! And I love to see the kids happy!


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:

 **Orange County TX #058** Orange, Texas – 1st Officer Jimmy McWilliams

 **Naples #387** Naples, Florida – 1st Officer Ron McElhose

 **The Beach #374** changed to **East Central Florida #374** Daytona Beach, FL – 1st Officer Bob Wallace

“Around the Next Curve”

From SCRC Events Calendar – November 2010

Nov 4-7 Peanut Festival Dothan, AL

SCRC – 10+Yr Members

Last month I forgot to acknowledge my 10--yr anniversary with Southern Cruisers! How time flies. I had joined online at the end of September 2000. At that time, I did not know any other SCRC members. Nobody “promoted” Southern Cruisers to me to influence me to join. I just happened onto it online one evening. I was not looking for a group to ride with, but I thought I would give Southern Cruisers a try. And now here I am... 10 yrs later. It's been a great ride! And with some great people.

But I have to ask myself, “Self – how many other SCRC members are there that have 10+ years?”

So if you are a 10+Yr SCRC member, send me an e-mail at: news@southerncruisers.net & tell me when you joined if you want to be listed in the SCRC Newsletter in coming months. You are part of a great, long-lasting bunch of Southern Cruisers!

New Provincial Officer of Quebec, Canada

Congrats to Yves Ricard, Chapter #514, on his acceptance of the Provincial Officer of Quebec! Good luck in your new position.

SCRC Memorial Page

Visit the SCRC memorial page... & read a few of the poems & stories along the right-hand side. These poems & stories are absolutely awesome! I have included one below for this month:

www.scrctemorial.net

BIKER ANGEL

by Paula M. Wiles, 2000

*Biker Angel, be my guide
as I climb upon my scooter to ride.
Let your halo guide the way
and keep me safe from harm today.
Let your wings provide me wind and air
and send it coursing through my hair.
Find for me a sunny place
and let it shine upon my face.
Keep the clouds and rain at bay
and keep me dry throughout the day.
Watch over my brothers who ride with me
keep them safe and close to thee.
Keep my wheels upon the ground
so I'll return here safe and sound.
But should disaster be my fate,
guide me through to Heaven's gate.
If I must join my fallen brethren
please show me the way to Biker Heaven.*

“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’) & 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”, & he has started taking occasional snapshots of various bike-parts. I never know when I am gonna open my e-mail & 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 (& 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 & manner reveals his courageous wit & sharp cynicism. He is quick to ‘*cut you to the chase*’ & does so on a regular basis (to me, anyway). So enjoy his twisted views, questions & philosophy on meaningless banter.

He is signed... “*Mr. Visible*”!



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Meet an SCRC Regional Officer (RO)

This month's regional officer: Meet Ronald “Harddrive” Glime, RO for SCRC Northeastern Region which includes 63 chapters in: Connecticut (4), Maine (1), Maryland (5), Massachusetts (7), New Hampshire (3), New Jersey (8), New York (15), Pennsylvania (18), Rhode Island (1), & Vermont (1).

“Hello Southern Cruisers! I am a member of Choptank Chapter #61 on the Eastern Shore of Maryland & live in Federalsburg, Maryland. I currently ride a 2007 Goldwing with 109,000 miles (since acquiring it new in 2007). We finally made the trip to Route 1 on the West Coast in 2009 & Sturgis in 2010.”

“I started riding in '57 in Texas while attending Letourneau Tech in Longview, TX. Like most people, I laid off for a while & raised a family... & got back to the good life. A few years ago, a friend of mine told me about the Southern Cruisers & took me to one of the meetings of a chapter on the western shore of Maryland. Seeking like-minded people to ride with, I joined Choptank Chapter #61. Several months went by... I was asked to help out the First Officer (FO) & became the Second Officer (SO) of the chapter.”



“Approximately a year went by & the FO decided to leave the club to start a chapter in the area for another riding club. Hmmm... decision time again. It was requested that I step up to the FO position & take over the leadership of the chapter. I must say that the position of FO of the chapter was the most fulfilling position I have had in SCRC. I was fortunate to have great assistants in the chapter & it did not matter if I was at a meeting or not, the chapter ran itself. It was fun working with people that were like-minded & enjoyed riding whether local or long distance. When a project was planned in the chapter, members jumped in & helped out & it made being the FO easy. I found that by letting the members help run the chapter, management became easy. I am of a firm belief, that the FO & SO of the chapter are the back bone of the organization & without their leadership, there would be no members.”

“Time moves on & I accepted the position of Assistant State Officer (ASTO) & along with the aid of the STO & the local chapter, held our first Maryland State Rally. The STO moved on to other things of interest & I was asked to take the position of Maryland STO. The evolution described seems to be the story of most of the leaders. Having served in these positions has been an honor & a privilege.”

“During my membership in SCRC, I have tried to engage in as many out of state functions as possible, achieving a high of 16 motorcycle events in one year! It goes without saying that I have met a lot of people & made an enormous amount of friends... which I will always cherish. Because of SCRC, I have met people that have become closer than family & have become my extended family. Without SCRC, this would not have been possible. There are a few that know what I am talking about & the rest will, if lucky, acquire this great knowledge. Good luck to all of you & be safe out there...”

SCRC 101 – No. 4

Let's start into the SCRC Constitution this month. You read the “General Information” section, right? Well, here are the first 2 parts:

GENERAL INFORMATION

1) **SOUTHERN CRUISERS RIDING CLUB®**, from here on known as the SCRC, in Memphis, TN is the National and International Headquarters for the Southern Cruisers Riding Club® and all local Chapters and Membership will take direction from said Headquarters and will comply with the constitution of this organization. Any information about the Southern Cruisers Riding Club® and the operation of its Constitution should be directed to the Founder and National President at this address: rp@SouthernCruisers.Net.

2) For those that wish to form a Chapter you must apply to the Southern Cruisers by utilizing the Online Chapter Form located at: <http://www.southerncruisers.net/chapt.htm>.

1st Officers must be 21 years of age or older and have a valid motorcycle endorsement on their license. After review of the instructions on the Chapter Form, and if the applicant agrees with the information listed here, the Vice President will contact the local State Officer for the state in which the proposed would be located. The State Officer would make contact with the applicant and the First Officers of any other Chapters that would be deemed to be in close proximity for information on whether this Chapter is in the best interest of the SCRC. After approval has been obtained, the applicant will then be required to purchase the Club Patch. Upon submitting proof of purchase, the Vice President will then open the Chapter and assign the Chapter a Chapter Number. The applicant that applies for an SCRC Chapter will at that point be known as the 1st Officer of that Chapter and will take direction from the State Officer in which they applied. Any information needed about Chapters and Officers of the Southern Cruisers Riding Club® will need to be directed to the Vice President of the SCRC at this address: rk@SouthernCruisers.Net.

Hammer's Commentary: Note the contact e-mail address changes.

1) When you start or join a chapter, even though you are proud of that chapter and those you ride with on a regular basis, remember you joined Southern Cruisers, an International Riding Club! And your chapter is one of over 500 chapters of this great club.

2) This addresses opening a new chapter. And many a question has been asked when someone wants to open a new chapter. Be sure you meet the qualifications to open a new chapter before applying. Once the application is submitted, let the national officer and state officer take it from there. Often times there are questions about the chapter name, proximity to another chapter, etc. Good luck!



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Meet an SCRC State Officer (STO)

This month's officer: Bobby Jordan, Alabama STO.

“At the moment, we have 29 chapters in Alabama with 2,271 members... and steadily growing.”

“I am a member of Clarke County Chapter #245 in Grove Hill, Alabama. My forum name is “Hotrod”. I ride a 2004 Electra Glide Classic. I have been riding for over 20 yrs. from dirt bikes to cruisers.”



“My wife, Tammy, and I joined the Southern Cruisers Riding Club in 1999 with the Southwest Chapter #17. About a year later, I opened Clarke County Chapter #245 where I was the FO for 8 yrs. In 2008, I took over as STO, and my wife, Tammy, took over as FO which we both hold now.”

“I enjoy being a member and officer of Southern Cruisers Riding Club because we are family-oriented. Out of all the Southern Cruisers rallies that I have attended, I have never seen an altercation of any type. I cannot say that for some of the other rallies I have attended. It's like being a part of a very large family.”

“I spent more than an hour searching my room, my bike's daypack, saddlebags, & every place I had been that afternoon. But I couldn't find it!”

“The next morning I left the Marriott at 7:00 AM & re-traced where we had gone the day before... went to Greyhound Park - searched the parking lot, talked to the staff, & lost & found. Then went to “the Wal-Mart” - searched the parking lot, talked to clerks, lost & found... NO RING!”

“Later that day we were scheduled to take the food to St. Jude Ronald MacDonald House. I mentioned being upset about losing my ring the day before. So the word went out for everyone to watch for it while unloading the food. Guess what? They found it! Likely lost when I was placing the last few items in the trailer the day before.”

“BUT... Bubba said I could not have it back! Because “Charley” (from Louisiana) took a fancy to it. I was told I would have to bid for it at the auction that evening. MY WON RING!”

“Honest - I was NOT thinkin' of murder when I looked at Bubba... I was simply thinkin' what a nice model for a pumpkin head he'd make. And I carve pretty good.”

“Well come auction time, a happy man I was not. “Charley” won the bid at \$700... & then returned the ring to me, its rightful owner. Bless “Charley” - she has a heart of gold... or at least silver, since that's what my ring is made of too.”

Lost Ring – A Little Background

My family asked me to plan a family reunion for 1998... so I made arrangements in Durango, CO.

Though some family members had been to Durango & rode the old train to Silverton, there was still a lot they hadn't seen or done. So it was a perfect venue for a large family reunion.

My 14-yr old son flew in from California & we toured our way westward to Pikes Peak, then down to Durango. He was the first to bring up “family heirlooms”. I've been taking my family out west for vacations for almost 10-yr's & have managed to acquire a few special silver jewelry pieces... my son wanted to do something like that.



So when I took the family by train from Durango to Silverton, we went looking. Initially we didn't find what we wanted... but I took everyone back to Silverton the next day. I bought a set of Hopi rings based on my family's totem. My son, Jonathan, managed to lose his within a year (probably gave it to some girl) - so I told him that was his tough luck. My ring was for HIS son.

Then my son went off to war, came back & got married briefly. He became the sole parent to a son & daughter. So my OTHER custom ring, designed & made by a Hopi-Navajo grandmother, is for my granddaughter. Jonathan is still without his... but agrees mine will go to his children.

Bottom line is that some very special Hopi jewelry that my son & I acquired over 10-yr's ago was meant to be handed down thru the generations. Jonathan lost his that he was supposed to pass to HIS GRANDKIDS.

I just hope I don't lose any of mine AGAIN ! Don't know if I could take the trauma of bidding against “Charley” again.



“Alabama is a wonderful state to live in, especially if you ride a motorcycle. There are some wonderful roads as well as the gulf coast and great seafood. Some of the best riding in our area is Hwy 41 between Monroeville and Camden. Also, Hwy 59 from Uriah to Gulf Shores is a good country road to ride on. My least favorite roads to ride (and this is wherever I go) are the interstates... or as some call them “the superslabs”.

“Blue's” Lost Ring

“Oh where, Oh where can my little ring be? Oh where, Oh where can it be?”

By Bruce “BlueBoy” Richardson Chapter 135, Arkansas: “We were packing food (purchased at “the Wal-Mart” for St. Jude Ronald MacDonald House) into a trailer during the heat of the day. My hands were dripping sweat like I had just washed them so I didn't notice until that evening after we had all returned to the Marriott Hotel that my RING WAS GONE!”





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Meet an SCRC International Officer

This month's officer: Daniel "Fitz" Savard, Asst. Provincial Officer – Québec, Canada

"I'm a proud member of Varennes Chapter #281 in Quebec, Canada. Varennes is a small town 10-1/2 miles south of Montreal. I bought my first ever bike at the ripe old age of 50!!! Yeap! Now, don't think that I'm a late bloomer... not at all. Let me try to explain why I had to wait all this time, even though I had it run thru my blood & in my genes all those years."



"My granddad (my mom's father) was what you may call, a true biker. Thru his short life he owned close to 18 bikes: Indians, BSA's, Harleys... & rode his bike every time he could - any reason was a good reason to ride. Unfortunately, one Friday night after working a long & hard week out in the woods (he was a lumberjack) on his way home to be with his family, he crashed into a tree & was pronounced dead at the scene. My

mom was only 10-yrs old at the time. So I never had the chance to know him, but always felt a certain connection to him... I was always fascinated by bikes as far back as I can remember. But, as you can imagine, mom NEVER wanted me to be on or even close to a motorcycle."



"Then, at 20, I got married. My wife had the same fear of motorcycles as my mom. My dream was once again put on the back burner. To make a long story short, let's just say that after a 23-yr marriage & the cost of the divorce & all, I wasn't in a money-wise position to fulfill my dream."

"In '05, as I was turning 50, my then girlfriend said "Why don't you go for your dream & buy a bike?"... to which my answer was "I'm 50 - I'm too old now".

"But, she convinced me that I wasn't too old & that I should go for it. Which I did - in May '05, I bought my first ever bike. Oh! Yeah! Also got my first tat. Today I still ride the same bike, a Boulevard C50! Now, my next dream to fulfill...A HARLEY!!!"

"People know me as "Fitz" & many have asked where that nickname comes from... Well that's easy, my granddad's last name was Fitzback, so I took the first part of the name as a tribute to him &

my mom (who passed away in 1995). In case you're wondering, Fitzback is German."

"I've joined SCRC Montreal Chapter #354 in September '06. Then in November a new chapter was opened in Varennes & was much closer to home. So I asked to be transferred to the new chapter whom was made up of a few members of my old chapter."

"I very quickly got implicated with the chapter. After a few months, my first officer asked me if I could get a forum & website running for the chapter. Also if I would take the 4th Officer's position. I said YES right away. I then "worked" my way up to 3rd, then 2nd Officer."



"Mike "Scully" Langevin, Eastern Canada RO, approached

me last year & asked if I would be interested in taking up the position of Assistant Provincial Officer for Quebec. I accepted & have been in that position since then. AND enjoy every second of it."

"Being part of the SCRC up here in the Province of Quebec is a bit "different" - many of our members do not speak or understand English. So my main goal is to try to be the bridge between any communication from National & any other English speaking chapter or member & our Francophone members; to keep them well informed of anything going on with the SCRC Nation. For instance, I do the French translation of the SCRC Newsletter, as soon as I get the new issue & distribute it thru all members of Quebec."

"The roads I like to ride? Hum? Any roads that will allow my girlfriend "Bettyboop" & I to enjoy nice panoramas. I'm not too keen about riding highways - I rather "cruise" along a river bank & enjoy what Mother Nature has to offer then looking at posts whip by me at 100 mph."

"What do I enjoy as an Officer? What a question! For sure the...PAY! LOL! Seriously, it is when a member comes to you & simply says, "thanks"! That is THE BEST part of being an officer."

"What I like the most about the Southern Cruisers...There is a lot - the camaraderie, the feeling that no one looks down at you. With the SCRC, everyone is at the same level - the joy of giving to the kids in need & the feeling of accomplishing something that my mom & granddad would be very proud!!"

"Grandpa - thanks for all those "biker genes" you left in me! And mom, thanks for taking care of me on the road. Long live the Southern Cruisers."

(NOTE: Special thanks to "Fritz" for translating the SCRC Newsletter into French for Canada! Thanks brother! "Hammer")

Under the Leather & Behind the Shades (author unknown)

Under the leather & behind the shades stands... a biker.

We ride for the sense of freedom it gives us. The encouragement to take the road less traveled in the chance that we may encounter something new.

We ride for the friendships we make along the way, as well as the solitude of the open road. We don't really care what you ride, just that you do.



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November 2010
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Under the Leather & Behind the Shades (cont'd)

Under the leather & behind the shades is... a beating heart. A heart filled with compassion that on any given day will be riding for those in need. Ask one of us for help, but don't be surprised when all of us show up.

Under the leather & behind the shades stands... a proud American. We are as diverse a group of people that you could assemble. We are men, women, tradesmen, doctors, lawyers, retirees, military, civilian & on, & on, & on.

We stand silently with reverence & one voice that, in the silence, can be overwhelming.

Under the leather & behind the shades stands... an invited guest to a funeral of a soldier that we most likely have never met. We hold the flag of our nation as a tribute to the greatest sacrifice anyone can make. Out of respect for the fallen, we travel to stand firm for a family, a community & a nation to lean on.

Under the leather & behind the shades stands... a biker with sons, daughters, brothers & sisters of our own. Beneath the rough exterior we tremble & weep at your loss. You may not see that, for we are there to support you.

That's why we stand so silently under the leather & behind the shades.

4 Countries in 10 Days!

Thanks to Martin “*Mar*” Roy, Chapter #281 Varennes, Quebec, Canada, for this story:

“It all started in September '09 as the founding President of

“Moto Club Quebec” Tiraboschi “*Max*” Massimiliano, announced via his forum, that he was planning a motorcycle journey in the French, Switzerland, Austrian & Italian Alps! At first I thought it was a joke but I quickly realized the seriousness of his project... somewhat crazy to me.

I registered without really knowing what kind of adventure I had embarked on. Sometime later, I am among a group of 21 people ready to go to discover Europe “*Goldwing*” style.

Day 1: After a flight over the Atlantic, we land in Marseilles. We are greeted at the airport by our motorcycle leasing company's representative (*Road to Luxury*). We then take possession of our individual bikes & are escorted to our hotel - *Castle Ricard* - & a tasting of a drink of the same name.

Day 2: Depart from our hotel (My Suite Lorraine) in Aix in Provence & head toward the Alps. After riding the highway & secondary roads we stop in a small French village where the villagers think we're extra-terrestrial (16 Goldwings that follow each other are not common in Europe). After coffee, we continue on to “*Chalet du Lac*” located at the beginning of the French Alps where a hearty meal is waiting for us. It's not yet the majestic center of the Alps, but you got to start somewhere. The snow appeared to be hats on the mountain peaks & this striking landscape is surrounding a beautiful lake. After eating, we take the road towards Turin, Italy, while ensuring not to miss anything of the scenery surrounding us.

Day 3: Depart from Turin & sail to Arcore, Italy... if you think Montreal is big... Ha! Let me laugh! Arrived in Arcore, then we go to



“*Goldwing Point*” where we pay for services of a pursuit vehicle & a mechanic to follow us to Venice (may I add, at a very low price).

We arrive in a small village on the outskirts of Milan where Max's friends are waiting for us. We eat a small snack & exchange some greetings with the locals - this was a great experience that would remain with us all throughout our journey. We're heading towards Ardesio (to spend the night) passing through breathtaking scenery & where we all learned an Italian word, “*tourmante*”, which means curve. These curves have nothing to do with those in North America, but are quite fun to ride on our big beasts of Goldwing which I must say, defend themselves quite well.

We go through “*Orrido Della Valle Taleggio*”, a road along a river in a valley & pass beneath the mountains that was awesome to us. Only one person, “*Max*”, knew that we had not seen anything yet...

Riding on a road built directly on the mountainside, while climbing in an absolutely spectacular scenery, we arrive at our hotel “*Albergo Aruesio*” located in a small town built in the valley right in the middle of the mountain.

Day 4: Due to snowfall during the night, our guide & “*Max*’s” friend, Santo, had to replace the originally planned route of Stelvio by Passo Gavia, which is 2652m (8750 Ft) in elevation; it is clearly indicated at the summit of the mountain. While climbing this mountain on a very narrow road which is full of curves & wet pavement due to the steady drizzle & clouds which prevents us of seeing below.

We are not too rash at this point, but made it the top of the mountain where a surprise awaits us... 20-25 Ft of snow on these banks (yes, I did say FEET not INCHES), which was our “reward” to have climbed this mountain. On the other side, during the descent, the track was a little wider than it was on the climb. But there was no room for error because we clearly see the bottom now - a beautiful valley in the cross mountains.

Riding from village to village, we come to Switzerland a do a few miles still in an enchanting setting up a dam. And we drive through a tunnel built into the mountain for 3 miles which is very impressive. We arrive at Burgeis Burgusio a small village where there is a castle of medieval times where the hotel Marais awaits us.

Day 5 - We start the morning by a chilly 3° Celsius (37° F), which makes me say that it will surely snow... & wham! 45 minutes later it hits us. Yep, we had to ride in the snow, which, fortunately for us, was the melting type. At this time, I greatly appreciate the heating system of the Goldwing.

After passing through villages & towns of Austria, we're heading back to Vipireno, Italy, a village which is practically on the edge of the border where we disembark at our hotel, typically Austrian type. Several took the opportunity to visit the village & I can say that after 2 visits to different bakeries, it is very good! LOL!

Day 6 - Another beautiful day begins. We go from village to village & arrive at the Frari shelter (also call Dolomiti). We are still climbing the mountain & we gasp at the scenery surrounding us, the beauty of nature, but we have to deal with sometimes violent winds. The...





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4 Countries in 10 Days! (cont'd)

rise was a joke compared to other places & the way down a real treat with its hairpin turns at 90°, which I believe would be the envy of some readers. We end the day at Hotel Da Benito, which offers a breathtaking view of the back of the Italian Alps.

Day 7 - Not many kilometers today, just enough time to get to our other hotel in the early afternoon, we visit Venice by taking public transit, which surprises me by its simplicity to use.

Personally, I am disappointed with Venice, so it's nice to visit but is much too commercial, you can even see that in a few places the facades of buildings have been hidden, concealing the seal of history & this is surely not the place where good manners were invented. Scuffles, pushing, shoving, & people do not even apologize, as I say from time to time of a place I don't like: "I came, I saw, I will not return"



Day 8 - We gradually leave the Alps & approach the Côte d'Azur via secondary roads to Lake Garda, which is the largest lake in Italy; we make full circle around the lake, always in a very different landscape then the one we are use to at home. We arrive at the Hotel Splendid Mayer, located in a village near the lake & leave our separate ways for some sightseeing until dinner.

Day 9 - Direction Côte d'Azur, a mixed highway & secondary roads day plus a bonus mishap. On the highway I'm trying my mount capabilities & at 220 km/hr (140 MPH), its handling amazes me!

On the secondary roads all was going well - we form 3 groups due to the fact that traffic is too dense, then it's a mess! Our leader's GPS stop working, which has the effect that the first group (with who I was with) arrived at the San Remo & had to wait more than 2 hrs for the arrival of the last group.

San Remo is located on the Côte d'Azur, where it really takes nerves of steel to live there (which is not my case). The scooters are kings. In heavy traffic, they all drive on the median line a few inches of the mirrors of all vehicles within, without leaving us any possibilities to do any maneuvers. Except that on this day, my patience level peaked, so I showed them that a Goldwing driven by a Quebec'er can take up much room. Hey! Hey!



Day 10, Last Call - our last day of riding. We're to go down from the Côte d'Azur to France but after that 2km in 2:30 hr congestion, we choose the option to go by the highway. We must bring the bikes at the leasing shop in Marseilles before 17:00 hr, & once again, our GPS failed! But this time it's to our advantage, we go through the old Marseille which was perfect for a non-scheduled visit.

In summary, it was for me an unforgettable experience & if you have the opportunity to make a ride like I did... DO IT! After all, we only have one life to live!

To see more pics of this incredible trip, please visit: <http://picasaweb.google.ca/yornitram/Megaride2010?feat=directlink>

& Video: <http://www.youtube.com/user/timaxdev#g/c/08B5C3AC77AC292D>

With a Rebel Yell...

Howdy Y'all! I hope all you 'Cruisers are doing just fine. The weather is changing and many of our members have already put up their rides for the year. Many others will continue to ride year round. That is one of the many great things about this club is our diversity. We ride all brands of bikes, come from all walks of life, live all over the world, and yet our common bond remains strong. The SCRC really is a great organization to be a part of.

Over the years, I have seen many amazing things accomplished by the members of this diverse club. Many of the things I witnessed are heart-warming incidences, yet other ones were heart-wrenching. It amazes me how close you can get to people in such a short amount of time. I have made more lifelong relationships in the last 10 yrs than I have in the rest of my lifetime. Along the way I have accumulated some Brothers and Sisters, and a heap of friends. Many of these people I met on the forums we use to communicate with. The main one being our SCRC National forum: <http://forums.delphiforums.com/Rickster/start>

It seems that many people have a misconception as to the use of this forum. This forum is a place to socialize with other members of the SCRC. We also have many guests that read our forum that are not members of our club. When you use this forum please keep in mind that although it is a private forum, our doors are open for anyone to view. Please keep this in mind when you post on this and other SCRC forums. What happens more often than not is for someone to ask a question about protocols or procedures in the club and post it on the forums. Most questions members have about this club can be answered by simply following the chain of command. This is explained in the SCRC Code of Conduct: <http://www.southerncruisers.net/coc.htm>

I reckon one of the best links I have given riders & bikers is the "RC vs MC" site. I have found it to be a very valuable tool in educating people about exactly what a "Riding Club" is. I think it should be should be required reading for all members. It is a very educational and to the point site. It answers many questions that people have regarding MC's: <http://www.rcvsmc.net/>

As always, the link I feel more compelled than any other to go to is our Memorial page for past SCRC members. When I go there I see way too many people that have left us that were the type of person that made a difference when they were here with us. To mention just one name would be an insult to the many I could name that I considered to be a true Brother or Sister. We have indeed lost too many good people since we first started.

Take the time to look through the SCRC Memorial page: <http://www.scrctemorial.net/>



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“Soaring Eagle”

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November 2010
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With a Rebel Yell... (cont'd)

Proper communication is crucial in any organization. Since its inception the SCRC has made strides in getting the word out to our members. I think this newsletter was an excellent idea and would like to thank Hammer for taking it on. I look forward to reading more stories about our members and the activities we participate in. Y'all stay safe out yonder wherever ya are. SCRC Rocks! Respects, Reb

Jay Hart

3 Hondas, 4 H-D's, 1 Triumph, 1 Suzuki, & 2 matching Kawasaki's are parked in the driveway & front yard. I walk outside & snap a picture. I walk inside & start snapping pics of the bikers. The chapter meeting is at my house tonight - I'm the chapter secretary. My name is Jessica Eugenia Hart... Jay to my friends.

“Hey Jay!” Skeeter yells. “Take a picture of me & Justice!”

I point the camera at them. Skeeter has his arm draped over Justice's shoulder. T, alias the Crazy Cajun, pops in behind the two & sticks his tongue out for his best impression of Gene Simmons. I snap the shot. Perfect!

“Hey ya'!!!” Jeannie yells from the kitchen. “Soups on!”

No need to tell this group twice. Everyone is on their feet & heading to the kitchen for pulled pork sandwiches & chips.

“What's for dessert?” T asks. “I could eat a whole strawberry pie.”

“Did you say strawberry pie?” Skeeter pops in. “I've heard stories about Jay's strawberry pie.”

“Sorry guys. It's Hawaiian cake tonight,” I explain.

“Can I skip to dessert now?” Justice teases. “That cake is the bomb.”

“No dessert until you make me a happy plate Little Brother.”

“Not a problem,” Justice says while chomping away at his sandwich.

“Okay Guys & Gals!” Bear yells. “I'm going to call this meeting to order. I've got a few things tonight. The copies of the agenda are on the table if you need one.”

“First thing is Thanksgiving. We always sponsor a family. If you have any suggestions, send their names to me in an e-mail or see me after the meeting. Which brings me to the second item - the Saturday after Thanksgiving is the big toy run. Southern Cruisers has always supported this toy run. We'll leave here at noon & line up for the parade at the V.F.W. Bring a new unwrapped toy.”

Toy runs & Christmas parades are always a treat with this group of mismatched bikers. Last year, Skeeter & Justice put deer antlers on their helmets. They also had red garland & a couple of ornaments hanging from the antlers. Jeannie strapped a 4-foot sock monkey on her back seat. She dressed it in chaps, a leather vest & a bandana.

“Crackers has a new trailer,” Bear continued. “It looks like a little red wagon with the wooden rails. I'm going to send out a challenge to all of you. Let's fill that trailer up with toys for this first toy run.”

“You might be able to talk Jay into using that contraption in her garage for toys,” Justice said.

“Shut it, Justice!” Ten heads turn & look at me.

“You know it would be perfect,” he said giving me the look.

“I said ‘SHUT IT’ Justice!” Ten confused heads are staring at me.

“I heard you had a secret project in the garage,” T said.

“Geesh, Justice! I said not to tell anyone!”

“Well, just show them! You know they're going to like it,” he argued.

“That's not what this is for & you know it,” I argue. “And secret means don't tell everyone.”

“Just show them!” he yells.

I stomp to the door & grab the garage key from the key holder. There are ten bikers following me outside. I unlock the padlock & push the door up, glad that I have my project covered with a tarp.

“I have a mess right now & it's not finished. I built it to take to the hospital in December. I really didn't want to show it to anyone. It's kind of personal.”

“C'mon, Jay,” the Crazy Cajun stammered. “Let's see it.”

“She plays Mrs. Santa at the hospital every year,” Justice cut in, bragging to T.

“Justice! Shut it!”

“Damn Jay! Don't let anyone know you have a heart!”

“Thin ice little brother!”

“C'mon Jay! The suspense if killin' us,” Jeannie added.

I sighed. Bad as I don't want to show it to anyone I will. I pulled the tarp back to reveal a shiny red sidecar shaped like a sleigh, complete with eight tiny reindeer.

Safety Tip – Passing Semi-Trucks

I was thinking back on “riding the interstate”. It is not always the “road of choice”, but one of the necessary evils of riding when you want to get from point A to B... and time is of the essence.

Anyway, while chugging down the interstate and I intend to pass a semi... sometimes I encounter a large “wind dam” when I am near the front. Funny how some semi trucks have an invisible “air dam” and others don't. And some are pretty “hard” to break thru!

So when I encounter these, the next bike in line behind me (typically to my right rear) gets “sucked” right up to the rear of my bike. Scares me & scares them! Not sure what is happening to cause this, but the harder it is to break thru the “air dam”, the more and the faster it seems to “suck” that bike up!

So beware of this odd phenomenon if you have not traveled the interstate much while traveling with others. Maintain some distance to compensate for this! *Grab some wind, hammer down!*

Only in Texas!

A hooded robber burst into a Texas bank & forced the tellers to load a sack full of cash. On his way out the door, a brave Texas customer grabbed the hood & pulled it off revealing the robber's face. The robber shot the customer without a moment's hesitation.

He then looked around the bank & noticed one of the tellers looking straight at him. The robber instantly shot him also. Everyone else, by now very scared, looked intently down at the floor in silence.

The robber yelled, “Well, did anyone else see my face?” There are a few moments of utter silence in which everyone was plainly afraid to speak.

Then, one old cowboy tentatively raised his hand, & while keeping his head down said, “My wife got a pretty good look at you.”

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

Remember... anyone can ride fast on a straight-a-way!



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Southern Cruisers - Arkansas

SCRC - Arkansas had a cookout on the weekend of Bikers, Blues & BBQ (BBBQ) in Fayetteville on Oct 2, 2010. Great burgers, great friends! Thanks for the invite!



Southern Cruisers – Dog Creek Hills Chapter #276

SCRC – DCH Chapter #276 (my home chapter) in Claremore, OK, had a ‘Kodak moment’ at the famous Blue Whale on Rt. 66 near Catoosa, OK. It is on the ‘must see’ list when you ride Rt. 66 in Oklahoma!