



"Soaring Eagle"



www.southern cruisers.net
news@southern cruisers.net

Monthly News for Our SCRC Nation September 2011

Sep 2011
Vol. 2 Issue 9

"Hammer Time" by Bruce "Hammer" Mathis

Alright! Sure looking forward to cooler weather in September!!!

Did you make it to the 2011 SCRC National Rally? This 'rally' used to be the SCRC Birthday Bash & was held the second weekend of October. So I guess this is in order - Happy Birthday to Southern Cruisers!!!!

Anyway, it was a great time! There will be a special edition newsletter just about the 2011 SCRC National Rally hopefully released by Sep 15, 2011.

Do you have a good story or something related to the national rally that you would like to be in the special edition? Send it to me... & a few pictures. I am looking forward to doing this - let me know if you like it!

Remember I said I would have a *NEW* mantra in this month's newsletter???? Well, here it is:

"I am Southern Cruisers! We're all family here!"

Again & again, members & officers say we are all one big family... so somebody had to say it!!! Right?

Anyway, enjoy the newsletter. And I am always looking for YOUR story! Send it to me. And I am always looking for officers & members to be featured in same way, shape, or form in our newsletter. So if you are contacted, try to get some info put together & sent to me or whoever is working on that part of the newsletter! YOU & your input (story & pics) are what make this newsletter better!

Heck - there may be a monthly feature you would like in here... let me know & I'll try to work it. But, if you suggest it, you send it in monthly.

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!*"

SCRC Calendar

Listed below are the SCRC events on the 2011 SCRC calendar:
http://www.airsetpublic.com/AirSet.jsp#app.CalServe+qi.taGnyWwQUzIN_v.month

If you plan on having an SCRC event in 2011, contact Bubba Prescott to get it reviewed & approved!

2011

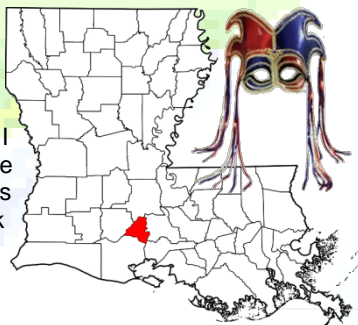
- Sep 16-18 - Texas State Reunion - Houston, Texas
- Sep 26 - Chili's Restaurant will donate the days profits to ST Jude!
- Sep 30-Oct 2 - N.C. SCRC Weekend Get-A-Way - Mount Airy, NC
- Oct 7-8 - "Run for the Border" - Del Rio, Texas
- Oct 14-16 - "Party in the Panhandle" - Mexico Beach, Florida
- Nov 4-6 - "Peanut Festival" - Dothan, Alabama

2012

- Jun 22-24 - 2012 TN Ridge Runner - Johnson City, Tennessee
- Aug 30-Sep 2 - 2012 SCRC National Rally - Lafayette, LA

2012 SCRC National Rally

For those asking about the National Rally for 2012. Dates are: August 30 - September 2, 2012. I know some have to schedule vacation time early. Make your plans to visit Lafayette, Louisiana, & look forward to a good time. More details & links will be forthcoming.



Are you ready for a party... Mardis Gras style? Next year's SCRC National Rally will be held in Cajun Country - Lafayette, LA! The host motel will be decorated in Mardis Gras colors Get ready for the "Best Dressed" & bring beads for parade!

More info will be forthcoming!

Andy McFarland, SCRC Louisiana STO

A Growing SCRC Nation - New SCRC Chapters

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

- Portland SCRC #124** Portland, Oregon 1st Officer - Jonathan Cross
- Skansa Kurvan SCRC #559**, Haessleholm, Sweden 1st Officer - Per-Erik Maansson

Welcome a NEW State Officer (STO) - in Minnesota

Join me in wishing the best of luck to SCRC's *NEW* STO for Minnesota: Steve Sawyer!!!! Congrats Steve.

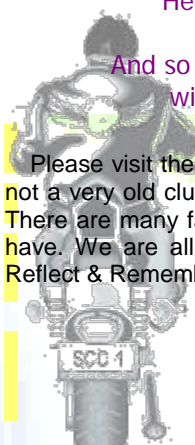
SCRC Memorial Page

Visit the SCRC memorial page... & read a few of the poems & stories. They are absolutely awesome! Check them out at:
www.scrctemorial.net

CHERISHED FRIENDS

God must have known there would be times
we'd need a word of cheer,
Someone to praise a triumph
or brush away a tear.
He must have known we'd need to share
the joy of "little things"
In order to appreciate
the happiness life brings.
I think He knew our troubled hearts
would sometimes throb with pain,
At trials and misfortunes,
or goals we can't attain.
He knew we'd need the comfort
of an understanding heart
To give us strength and courage
to make a fresh, new start.
He knew we'd need companionship,
unselfish.... lasting.... true,
And so God answered the heart's great need
with Cherished Friends.... like you!

Please visit the memorial page.. the poems are incredible! We are not a very old club, but what gets me is the members we have lost. There are many faces of members that I never met... & some that I have. We are all Southern Cruisers! The pictures prompt me to... Reflect & Remember!





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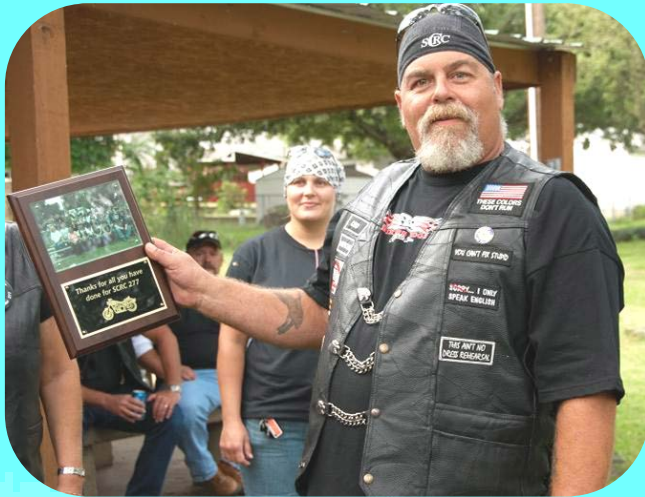
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Meet an SCRC 1st Officer (FO) – in Kansas

Meet Matt "Chu" Lary, SCRC FO for Air Capitol Chapter # 277.

My name is Matt Lary. I ride an '07 Harley Ultra-Class. I go by the name "Chu", an old name that was short for the Star Wars Chewbacca.. Teen years! LOL!!

I rode quite a bit when I was in my teens & early twenty's, then had given it up until about 5 years ago when the wife & I decided to get us a bike.



After a couple of months I began looking on the internet for people to ride with. That is when I found the SCRC & started reading about it. This sounded like a great deal for the wife & I. And I was delighted to see there was actually a chapter here in Wichita, KS!

After signing up I came to realize that the chapter was basically dead & no one was doing anything. After visiting with Brian "Boss" Potter (Kansas STO), he had asked if I wanted to try & make a go as 1st Officer.

I thought it over & informed him I have never did anything like this. Heck, I wasn't even in boy scouts! BUT - I am not bashful & will talk to anyone. So "WHY NOT" I said!

I started by handing out flyers & business cards to everyone on I bikes I saw, telling everyone about SCRC & what we are all about. The response has been outstanding & now most everyone in this area has heard of us.



Our Chapter is Air Capitol # 277 - took it over with about 12 active members. And now we are at 150 plus members with about 40-50%

active in one way or another in less than 3 years!

My idea of what SCRC is, & what being an officer is - is to make this a place for everyone. I did not want to be a "we ride 200 miles every time" type of group. To some, 10 miles is a long ride, & to others "200 miles" is a short ride. I try to make rides for everyone so that everyone has a place & a comfort level within our group.

I believe in "NO STRESS" - its all about the ride, take our time, & just have fun! That is what is all about!

The main thing I truly love about the SCRC is that I can honestly say that in the last couple of years I have made some truly great friends. Not just the friends in passing, but people I feel I could call on at the drop of a hat for help if needed.

The most memorable ride I would have to say was a trip we did to Eureka Springs - we had over 20 bikes together & had a truly remarkable time. Love them sweepers & twisties!



As far as some of the worst roads - well, remember this is Kansas, FLAT & STRAIGHT! BORING!! LOL!!

There is so much to say about the SCRC - it has been a great experience for me & that is only because I am surrounded by great people! We always seem to have a great time & our local motto is now: "277 WILL RIDE FOR FOOD!" It seems every ride includes having breakfast, lunch or dinner!

Looking forward to many more years with this great group! SCRC ROCKS!

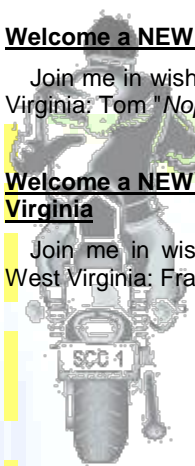
Editor's note: Air Capitol Chapter 277 hosted the 2010 Central States Regional Ride-In in Wichita, Kansas – it was once of the most organized & accomodating biker event I have ever attended! Great job Matt & chapter 277!

Welcome a NEW State Officer (STO) - in West Virginia

Join me in wishing the best of luck to SCRC's NEW STO for West Virginia: Tom "Nopockets" Wetzell!!!! Congrats Tom.

Welcome a NEW Assistant State Officer (ASTO) - in West Virginia

Join me in wishing the best of luck to SCRC's NEW ASTO for West Virginia: Frank Stull!!!! Congrats Frank.





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Safety Tip – Be Aware

Well the heat is definitely ON HIGH this summer. We went eastward to get out of it the last week of July. And found out it was just as hot in Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, & other states east of Oklahoma!!

While riding the Dragon, I guess I over extended my rear brake & lost it about 4 miles away from Deals Gap! Instead of panicking, I just radioed my FO Leonard & told him what had happened. Then I down-shifted & lightly used my front brake until I came to a stop at a pull out.

I think when we get into a situation that demands quick & decisive decisions, sometimes we have a tendency to panic - because of experience & also lack of thinking about what we are doing.

When on your bike, ALWAYS be thinking about 'what-if's' (although that was not one of the "what-if's" I was thinking about before the brake went out).

The good thing that happened was that while my brake was cooling down, a wild black bear came strolling down the hill like he owned the road (which in this case, he did). He walked down the mountain looking for food. We watched him for about 15 minutes from about 15-20 feet away. Then then the bee's swarmed him big time while he was digging up their hive. He shot down the mountain then.



Anyway, after the brake cooled down we continued down the Dragon at a slower pace & didn't have another incident the rest of the trip.

I guess all & all, a lot of the problems I face while riding - I find that as long as I maintain my cool, I can usually think my way out of them. After a while of riding experience kick's in & that usually gets me out of trouble. I hope you all had a great summer & are now ready for some cooler weather to ride in.

Be safe & always remember what you are doing when riding.

Submitted by: Mike Sumter, Will Rogers Chapter 159

Recipe - Hummingbird Cake

Cake Ingredients:

3 cups all-purpose flour	2 cups sugar
½ tsp salt	1 tsp baking soda
1 tsp ground cinnamon	3 eggs, lightly beaten
1¼ cup vegetable oil	1½ tsp vanilla extract
1 (8-oz) can crushed pineapple, with liquid	
2 cups chopped/mashed, very ripe bananas (about 5)	
¾ cup chopped pecans, lightly toasted	
¼ cup chopped black walnuts	

Cream Cheese frosting:

Cream together:

¼ cup butter, softened
8-oz cream cheese, softened
1 tsp vanilla



Slowly add:

1 lb confectioners' sugar
½ cup toasted chopped pecans
Garnish with whole or chopped toasted pecans, if desired

Preheat oven to 350°. Combine flour, sugar, salt, baking soda & cinnamon in a large bowl; add eggs, oil, & vanilla, stirring until dry ingredients are moistened. Stir in can of un-drained pineapple, pecans, black walnuts, & bananas. Pour into 3 greased & floured 9" round cake pans. Bake for 25-30 minutes, or until wooden toothpick comes out clean.

Cool in pans 10 minutes; remove from pans, cool on wire racks. Spread cream cheese frosting between layers & on top & sides of cake. Decorate with toasted pecans, optional. Refrigerate. This tastes even better the next day!!

Submitted by: Angela Jackson

"A Caged Outlook" – Are you Fully-Vested?

Something came to me while getting dressed after my morning shower. I was prepping myself for another day in the salt mines working for "The MAN"! Just in case you haven't heard, I do some of my best thinking half naked. Luckily for the readers out there in motorcycle land, **Half Naked** is not the subject of this month's article... however, it does have something to do with an article of clothing.

I've heard of wearing your feelings on your sleeves, but let's take that thought process just a wee bit farther.

Please excuse the interruption. Our local Oklahoma news is showing a soldier returning from the Middle East. He is under the shade of an American Flag which he fought diligently to protect. Quietly he is being carried back onto his soil. A special "Thank you" for ALL armed service member for what you have done, & continue to do for us.

Now then, where was I? Hmmm, now I remember. My caged opinion may not be worth a tinker's damn amongst the two-wheeled owners reading this, but, I believe you can learn a lot about a cycle owner just by looking at his/her vest.

A vest is a placard for bikers to display road names, clubs, or group affiliations. It can be a tribute to friends & family lost along the way. Vests are a public display of military service, supported charities, rallies attended, & cycle brands. You can tell quickly what the wearer supports, what they're against, & even places they've visited. The list seems almost limitless for what can be embroidered on a patch or emblazoned on a pin & displayed on someone's vest.

The long & short of it is - a vest is like the land mass outline of the U.S.A on the back of a Winnebago. I know most of you have seen them... filled in with multi-colored, outlined, state-shaped stickers for each state visited. Once you have traveled to all of the states, & the U.S. outline is full, you're life's journey is over! Then you move in with your kids! Just kidding!

A new vest is a blank canvas soon to be covered in patches & pins, spelling out the story of your life in leather, stitches, & steel memories.

From the archives of the wit of "Mr. Visible"

p.s. I'm not saying nor implying that bikers are the size of Winnebago's.



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Surprise Weather

There was only a slight chance of isolated T-Storms in the weather forecast for the day. Humidity was above 90% - so the air was hazy early in the morning as I headed to SCRC Chapter 179's meeting place for a chapter ride. On arrival several other members were already there & we shot the bull for a little while, then went on our ride. Turned out to be a very nice ride as most rides are - we stopped & ate lunch & then started back toward home.

As we got a few miles from home & we were splitting off to go our separate ways, we could see that a storm was moving in pretty fast. I've got wet more than a few times & have ridden in some really heavy rain. Not something I look forward to... but if one rides much it will happen.

As I waved good bye to the other riders I knew it was unlikely I would reach the house before getting wet. As I was heading south on a well paved state highway, it wasn't looking good at all. I grew up on a farm & am a licensed pilot, so I know weather. Plus add to that several years of riding motorcycles... I know what an evil sky looks like & was mentally prepared for it.

WRONG! I rode through a small town was picking up speed at the edge of town & I saw from the leaves coming off of the trees in town I would get hit with a strong cross wind from my right when I got just past the edge of town. I grossly misjudged just how strong of a cross wind. My speed was probably 40-45 mph & accelerating.

As I got just past the last house on my right, I got hit with wind so hard it moved me completely over to the east edge of the pavement. The left floorboard on my '06 Ultra dragged on the asphalt when this happened!! I throw the bike back up & to the right dragging the right floorboard... but am not moving to the right at all!

I'm hoping that the tires don't fall off of the left edge of the pavement, but a prepared to throw it in the ditch if a car is coming at me head on. Thank goodness no cars are coming.

There must be a God! The thoughts that flashed through my mind right then were moving faster that 'you-know-what' goes through a goose. Just as suddenly, I'm out of the gust & even though I'm off the throttle & slowing down I'm shooting back to the right about as fast as the prior thoughts that went through my mind. Now I'm straight, on my side of the road centered in the lane & now I feel I'm in control again. I look at my speedometer - I'm only going 15 mph!

I think I'm still breathing. My heart rate is off the charts & what I had been sitting on has no feeling left what so ever. Is it still there? I can see my legs but am afraid to try to look any higher. I continue on - as I know the worst is over now. If I stop, it may be hours before I can force myself back on the bike.

After being home a few hours my heart rate is back to normal, I have regained feeling in all parts of my body, & I've extracted my anus from my colon & have at least collected most of my thoughts. In retrospect, I was in a hurry & I underestimated the force of that wind. Until I got this H-D Ultra I had thought about it, but not seriously enough obviously, that those of us who ride touring models with upper & lower front fairings, saddle bags & tour packs is that all of this is a lot of area to catch wind like a sail on a boat. I am so glad that my wife was not with me on this ride as she would have added to the "sail" area & the outcome possibly would have been... I don't want to think about it.

So keep in mind that no matter what we think we know about our bikes, the weather, AND our abilities - we can be caught off guard in a second.

Submitted by: Doug Filbrun, 2nd Officer, SCRC Greenville Chapter 179 (Ohio)

“Jay Hart” - Jay's Lucky Number (Part 2)

Four dice run stops & my score is 190. Not bad. The most I can get is 250. My chances of winning the cash jackpot are still within reach. That's not mentioning that I also have a chance in the 50/50 cash drawing & a chance to win the Harley Sportster!

Hi - my name is Jessica Eugenia Hart (Jay to my friends). Today, I'm in a dice run on my Enduro. My brother Justice & his friend T, alias the “Crazy Cajun”, have joined me in this venture. T also rigged his Triumph Rocket III motorcycle to carry my happy hound friend, “Cruiser”. “Cruiser” is getting a lot of attention while he's riding. He's also making new friends when we stop to roll the dice. T has been trying to adjust some goggles onto his head, but so far “Cruiser” isn't co-operating.

“Give it up, you Crazy Cajun,” I say. “Cruiser's not buying into the goggles.”

“Just trying to protect those pretty orange eyes of his,” he says. “I'm going to have to work on a helmet with a visor in his size.”

“I don't know where you're going to put those big ears of his,” I say.

I hear Justice laugh. “What's so funny, Little Brother?” I ask.

“You two,” he says. “You'd think that dog was your first kid.”

“Ha, ha!” I say sarcastically as I slug Justice on the shoulder. “That would make him your first nephew.”

“You planning on having a big family, are you?”

“Shut it, Justice!”

I step up to the dice table to take my last roll. Three sixes, one five, & a three - not bad. That's 216 points total.

“That's a pretty good hand, Sis,” said Justice.

“Yeah. It's looking okay so far. They kept my score card.”

“You already did better than me,” said T. “They looked at my card, laughed & handed it back.”

The big announcement of winners is scheduled at 4:00 o'clock. An extra \$100 could go a long way on wrapping paper & toys for the kids at the hospital & the old folks in the nursing home.

“What ya' going to do with the money if you win?” asks T.

“I have a few ideas. I need to get some supplies for Christmas.”

“Jay, it's only September!” Justice says.

“Yes, & in two months I'll be rushed to get all the toys I need. Not to mention fighting the traffic. If I start now, I can get it finished & still keep my sanity.”

“There she goes trying to compliment herself again,” Justice says grinning at T.

“If you need help picking out toys I can go with you,” T says. “I'm pretty good when it comes to picking toys for the nieces & nephews.”

“First I have to get the money for the toys,” I say.

“Is that a yes?” T asks wriggling his eye brows.

“That's a maybe, but only because I may need help carrying the presents.”

“So you need muscle?”

I do not like where the conversation is heading.

“Where are you going Jay?” Justice asks.

“It's almost 4:00 o'clock. I'm going to get close to the stage so I can hear.”

I walk across the parking lot with Cruiser in tow. He stops to sniff an occasional motorcycle tire & the grass & people. He likes to smell things.

“C'mon Cruiser!” I say. “Let's go see if we won this thing.”



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“Jay Hart” - Jay’s Lucky Number (Part 2) (cont’d)

Cruiser howls & then jumps playfully towards me.

“Alright folks,” the announcer says. “We had a total of 122 participants in the event today. That means the winner today will take home \$600. And some change. Looks like \$620. You ready?”

The crowd yells. “Okay then. The winner...with 236 points...George ‘Chomper’ Bates.”

Bummer. But I still have 50/50 tickets.

“And out 50/50 tickets. Those are the blue tickets. Last four numbers...”

“How much?” yells Justice. “How much is the 50/50?”

“Okay, we collected \$826 for the 50/50. So the winner is going to take home a cool \$413. Last four numbers of the blue tickets...1773.”

“Wooohoo!!!! That’s mine” I yell. That should be plenty to get the toys & maybe even a few stockings.

Written by: Angie “Church Lady” Ryan, SCRC Northeastern (Okla) Chapter7

John & Lugene, members of SCRC Chapter 285, were excited at the opportunity to custom design the stained glass piece & are even more thrilled at the possibility of it making more money for such a wonderful cause.

So, if you ride a motorcycle & are looking for a great group of folks to ride with, check out www.southerncruisers.net for more information & to locate a chapter near you. It doesn’t matter what you ride.....

Submitted by: Rhoda “Green Eyes” Downs, SCRC Chapter 285

SCRC 101 #14 – Meetings (Part 2)

Now let’s talk about your membership & meetings in Southern Cruisers:

MEETINGS

- 1) Meetings may consist of formal sit down or rides that are conducted by the Chapter.
- 2) Any National Officer, Regional Officer, State Officer, or Chapter First Officer may call meetings. Members of the Southern Cruisers Riding Club® may also request meetings by contacting the First Officer of that area & with approval may head this meeting.

NOTE: Now how was that for short & sweet, weren’t it?

SCRC & St Jude Stained Glass

Recently John & Lugene Hudspeth, Sun & Moon Studios, were commissioned to do a stain glass piece for Chapter 285 CrossRoads of the Southern Cruisers Riding Club (SCRC) to be used as part of the fund raising at the 2011 Tennessee State Rally. The piece (24” X 24”) incorporates the Southern Cruisers Riding Club logo along with the St. Jude Children’s Hospital logo (the charity supported by the club).



When completed the piece was displayed at the Centerville MarketPlace, on Facebook, & e-mailed to SCRC members across the country. During the SCRC Tennessee State Rally, June 3-5, the piece was auctioned off - & the winning bid was won by Georgia member “BB” Boone. She proudly took the piece home to Georgia where she announced that she will put it back up for auction at the upcoming SCRC Georgia Rally on July 15-17. She just didn’t believe that the piece brought enough money for the St. Jude’s children!

Then at the 10th Anniversary Georgia State Rally, it was re-auctioned. This time it was won by Shirley “Cowgirl” Reese from the Athens, Georgia, chapter.



Send your SCRC news, or a good riding experience story, or an Eagle Rescue story... to: news@southerncruisers.net I will try to get it a newsletter soon.

Please note – promotions for your individual chapter’s events (other than from the SCRC calendar) will not be included in the newsletter.

Promote those events via forums, fliers, e-mail, sandwich signs, or post ‘em on your buddy’s bike or trailer!!!!

Remember...

“I am Southern Cruisers! We’re all family here!”

