



CLUB # 4870

June

2011



CRUISIN' TIMES

The Monthly Newsletter of the Jerseypine Cruisers Motorcycle Touring Club

Prez Czyz Says

May is already gone, and June is here. Finally the weather has cooperated. May started off windy, but at least there was no snow. By the time this newsletter arrives, the spring campout should be over, and I'm sure there will be some interesting stories to hear from those that attended it. Can't wait to hear some of them, I'm sure. Of what I gather, nobody else has tried an 8 foot carved fire log, or tried to put those funny pallets inside the log that are supposed to turn the fire a color. Maybe next year, I'll be able to give it another try.

Mother's Day turned out to be a nice breakfast ride too. Joe selected some very nice roads to get us to the Golden Corral. Later, Bill and some others decided to head toward Wisconsin, and that too turned into a very nice afternoon ride. I was really surprised at the turnout on the bikes.

While the usual cast of characters were at the Spring Campout, I had returned from my vacation in Florida, and decided to ride on that Sunday. I was pleasantly surprised to see about 15 bikes, and 18 riders. I wound up leading the group to Genoa for breakfast. The weather cooperated until about noon. That evening however, I hope everybody was already tucked in before the thunderstorms came.

A couple of events to remember from the POSSE: the Blue Knights, Chapter 12 are having a "Ride for Liberty 2011" on June 12th and Rolling Thunder, Chapter 2 is having a "Battle Rattle Run" on June 19. Let's not forget

that June 20 is "National Ride to Work Day", so if possible, take your ride in to work that day.

If you have been keeping up with our calendar, we have the "Hodag and Porcupine Tour", June 24th - 26th; the Summer Campout at Duck Creek Campground on July 8th - 10th; and the new "House on the Rock" tour August 5th - 7th. In addition, there are our regular Sunday Breakfast rides, so there's no excuse for not riding.

Finally, one request from our former and current Tour Directors, is to remind all our Sunday Breakfast riders, to please come to the start of the ride with a full tank of gas. It really does annoy them (beware their wrath), as well as those on the ride to have to stop prematurely, somewhere in no man's land, because one rider forgot to top off his tank. So please guys, be considerate of everyone else, and gas up before you come to the ride. Thanks.

And as usual, ride often, ride safe, look out for potholes, politicians, and those crazy cagers!

Stephen Czyz
Silver One

Ride to Work Day

June 20, 2011

From The High Chair

Well, this year's spring camp out at Brodhead was a great success. Because of a bum leg I didn't bring my bike, just my trailer. And it never rained once in my car. In fact, listening to blue grass music and watching my fellow club members get rained on resulted in only mild guilt. And actually it only rained a little. Both Friday and Saturday evening were very pleasant. BIG BIG thanks to Archie and Penney for the use of their digs both nights for the camp fires. We burned up just about everything except their deck.

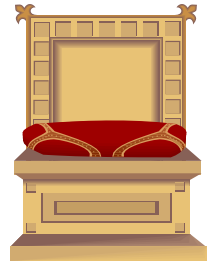
I don't know if it was the pleasant surroundings or the presence of all of our regulars but the conversation really loosened up as the night wore on. I heard stories that were not anatomically possible and learned lessons that will never be taught in bible camp.

Joe Fiedler and Steve Penczak camped near each other and more importantly near the miniature golf course where children and their parents passed many happy hours unaware of restraining orders that were almost certainly being violated on the other side of the tree line.

In the spirit of hardy campers, Joe and Steve determined that they were qualified to cook their own dinner over an open wood fire. Steve could never quite get the oatmeal right and Joe ended up eating sliced potatoes that went from the can, to the pan to the ground, to the plate to the gullet. He obviously thought the blades of grass were parsley. But as Steve put it, "You can eat anything if you boil it long enough." Actually that phrase came up in a context that had nothing to do with dining.

At Saturday night's camp fire we were all treated to an in depth explanation of the built in vacuum system that Penney has in her trailer. Now normally this would be a relatively safe topic were it with anyone other than a group of Cruisers. Alcohol was involved and I can honestly say that "when suction is important you can't beat a Dirt Devil." Male members of the group were seen going and cumming (sic) from the trailer all evening long.

One of our members, who shall remain nameless, over imbibed just a tad and forgot the lessons he learned in the Army. We were all parked some distance from the nearest facilities and the night was very dark. But the truth is still the truth... "Never piss up hill with your socks on."



We discovered a new restaurant for breakfast that was only seven miles from the campsite unless you followed the directions we got from both Penney and Archie simultaneously in which case it was an 80 mile round trip. But worth every mile...great cinnamon buns...thanks for sharing Frank.

I am still puzzled by the fact that the campground management decided to put Bill Lindwall down in the lowlands while all of the rest of us were up top. Andy was the only one brave enough to go down and visit him. It was rather like a scene out of Star Wars where Luke Skywalker went into the swamps to find Yoda. Now that I think about it, Bill looks a little like Yoda first thing in the morning.

But all in all it was a great weekend: the showers had only scalding hot water, Dennis ran out of shampoo, I ran out of pain killers and Archie's dog didn't eat anyone else's dog while we were there.

As always, ride safe and often.
Harley One

Awards & Recognition

Spring Campout

Ken McCall

Dennis Hyde

JOB WELL DONE

It is through the sacrifices and efforts of members like the above that keeps the JPCs the best darn club around.

Upcoming Events

June 12 – 9th Annual Green Ribbon Rally

This year Green Ribbon has partnered with the Kane County Cougars. The scenic ride will leave at 9 a.m. from five Harley dealerships and will go to the Kane County Cougars ballpark to enjoy a game. For details visit: www.greenribbonrally.org

June 26 – 3rd Annual Hawgs and Hot Dogs – Cruisin’ 4 the Kids

Event starts in Woodstock, IL at the Woodstock Harley-Davidson dealer. For details visit: <http://www.mchenrycountyroadpirates.org/>

June 26 – Walneck’s Bike Show & Swap Meet

Meet is from 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. in Woodstock. For details visit: <http://www.walneckswap.com/>

July 9 – Save a Vet Poker Run

Ride leaves from four locations and ends in Fox Lake, IL. For details visit: <http://www.save-a-vet.org/fundraiser.htm>

July 17 – Chicagoland Ride For Kids

Charity ride to benefit Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation. Ride begins at Elgin Community College in Elgin, IL. For details visit: <http://www.pbtfus.org/rideforkids/events/2011/chicagoland.html>

For flyers of club events, click on the event name below:

July 8-10 - [Summer Campout](#)

August 5-7-[House on the Rock](#)

Every Sunday- [Breakfast Rides](#)

4th Tuesday of the Month - [Old Farts Coffee](#)

Year long event - [The Traveler](#)

June						
SU	M	T	W	TH	F	SA
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

June 20 – Ride to Work Day
 June 24-26 – Hodag & Porcupine Tour
 June 28 – Board & Membership Meeting
 June 28 – Old Farts Coffee

July						
SU	M	T	W	TH	F	SA
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

July 4 – Des Plaines Fourth of July Parade
 July 8-10 Summer Campout
 July 23 – Charitable Fundraiser
 July 26 – Board & Membership Meeting
 July 26 – Old Farts Coffee



Spring Campout

The first campout of the riding season at Brodhead is now a memory. It's a good thing people did not listen to the weather forecast and stay home. The forecast was gloomy and wet. In actuality, there was very little rain during the weekend. We encountered rain during lunch and rode for a short time after lunch in the rain, but the rest of Saturday's ride was dry as we meandered through the Wisconsin countryside. At night we enjoyed the campfire at Archie and Penney's while various topics of conversation kept us entertained.



Meet Board Member

Dennis Hyde

Dennis Hyde is the Vice President of Community Relations. He currently rides a 1982 Honda Goldwing which has been very reliable. He is afraid that his next bike will not be as reliable. He has been riding with the club for seven years.

Dennis took a trip to South Carolina in April. He went to see some of his first cousins. Since the weather is so unpredictable in April, he trailered the bike 2150 miles to ride 450 miles. It was a family trip as much as it was a motorcycle trip, according to Dennis. He used to live in South Carolina and still has family there. While in South Carolina, he visited an old church that was built in 1745 and was burned by the British in the War of 1812 and again by General Sherman during the Civil War. He also had the opportunity to ride to the coast.

Throughout his life, Dennis has had numerous motorcycles. He started out with a couple of Cushman scooters. He owned a 600cc Royal Enfield which he says was a piece of junk and only lasted one season. He also owned a Harley Hummer that was a two cycle 125cc motorcycle that smoked a lot when ridden.

Dennis bought a Triumph Bonneville that he rode to Mexico and back. The bike did not have a windshield or saddle bags. It was just Dennis and an awol bag. That's not the way he likes to ride anymore. He says he likes to have his rain gear and other appropriate riding gear with him. By the way, the engine on that bike blew up on his way home and he still has parts from that engine in his garage. He was repairing the engine when a buddy called and said someone had just canceled the order on a Harley and he should come see it. Dennis drove to the Harley dealership in Joliet. "The sportster smiled at me and that was it. I never looked back", said Dennis.

"I have learned one thing," he said, "when you meet a girl and tell her you are committed to riding a motorcycle every Sunday, that doesn't

go over well. I plan to change tactics, but haven't figured it out yet. Maybe I'll try the word golfing instead of motorcycling, I wonder if it would make a difference?"



June Birthdays

Lynn Vicker – June 8th
Ed Van Dyck – June 8th
Dan Kunysz – June 10
Debbie Bieszczad – June 16
Joe Hill – June 20
Arnie Lorenz – June 22
Andy Grabowski – June 29



**George Gauss, Don Malina and Ken Vicker
at the Willowcreek Church bike blessing.**

Photo courtesy of Lynn Vicker

From the Bleachers

It's early Wednesday morning and I'm sitting in front of my keyboard typing this out, but this time I will admit that I do not mind being inside. I can see from the window that the sky is so dark that it is almost black, it is raining heavily and the thunder is a constant reminder of the storm outside.

As many of you know I went to Brodhead, Wisconsin for the spring campout at Crazy Horse Campground, and even though the weatherman's predictions were none too promising it turned out to be a decent weekend over all. Sure we ran into a little rain for a couple of hours around lunch time on the Saturday ride but even that did not seem to seriously dampen anyone's spirits or enthusiasm. Friday and Saturday Archie & Penney Wilson hosted the campfires at their trailer (thanks again to both of you) and I assure you that many, many laughs and even some words of wisdom were spoken there. I will leave it to Mr. O'Malley in his article to elaborate further on these deeply thought-out items.

This is a good example of how we need to make the best use of the riding time provided to us. Illinois and the Midwest have a short riding season compared to some parts of the country and we need to deal with the weather handed to us. Remember when the weather man says there is a 40% chance of rain what he really means is that there is a 60% chance it won't. The riding season is now upon us and we need to make good use of our riding opportunities, so get out there and ride, whether on a trip or just for the sheer enjoyment of it.

Dinner in Nashville TN

I received an invitation from my old boss to dinner in Nashville for Thursday, May 12th. She informed me that the invitation not only included a free dinner but a bed for two nights. I, being the dinner whore that I am, decided that it was worth my time and gas money to ride to Nashville to collect the freebies. I left my house Wednesday morning at 9 a.m. and I

arrived in Nashville a little after 4 p.m. As this was planned as a quick trip down and back I rode expressway there and back. The round trip was quick and uneventful, but still it felt good to be on the bike for long stretches. Dinner on Thursday was not until 6 p.m. so I had the opportunity to meander on the secondary roads outside of Nashville. I envy the riders in this area, so many nice roads and so much nice weather. The dinner was nice, there was a live country & western band, we consumed numerous bottles of wine and generally talked too much and I caught up with some old friends. The property we stayed at was the Gaylord Opryland Resort. It is a hotel you have to see to believe: waterfalls, rivers, and boat rides and it is all indoors. It is pricey (remember I got a freebie) but I would give it a look see if you find yourself in the area. On Friday's ride I ran into my only rain. One hundred miles from home it started raining and it poured all the way. Also at this time the drivers in Indiana, and later in Illinois forgot how to drive. This rain added two additional hours to my travel time. Still 1100 of my miles were dry miles so I'm not complaining.

Don't forget to join us for the Hodag and Porcupine Tour on June 24 – 26. Our destination is the Quality Inn in Rhineland, Wisconsin. Contact Sandy at (847) 468-9540 for more information.

Ride safe and I'll see you all there.

Steve Penczak

Photo courtesy of Steve Mendel



Tour Talk

OK unless you live under a rock or have the brain of one of Steve's plastic flamingos, the month of May was Motorcycle Awareness Month. This is when the state and federal government puts a lot of money in ad campaigns to try and make the non-riding portion of society aware that there are motorcycles(ists) that share the roads they travel and to heed our presence,

I have always believed in the other side of the coin, May should be "Motorcyclist Be Aware Month" when motorcycle riders are watchful for the non-riding public that are not watching for us.

The best way for any motorcyclist to be safe is to be aware. Watch your surroundings for traffic conditions and patterns, watch for the turn signals or lack thereof, have face contact with cagers, be diligent of the cagers' blind spots, and most importantly, be visible. Consider this ideal in all of your motorcycle gear, if not the motorcycle itself, and make choices that will give you the best chance to avoid unpleasantness. Some of the things a motorcyclist can do to be aware include: continually practice what if scenarios...be prepared in case something happens...have a plan...update and keep current your I.C.E. information...and carry a cell phone.

Consider a GPS "**only if you can integrate it with the bike's sound system do NOT use it as a display device**". It is a useful tool, not only, to locate one when lost but, with the right tool in the unit, be able to locate your exact location to transmit it to emergency personnel.

I learned the importance of being aware first hand last year around this time, I lost my focus when approaching an intersection, a two way stop with me having the stop sign. I then proceeded into the intersection in the path of a mini-van. The result of that incident is well known so I will not bore you with the details anymore. The incident has made me more aware of how I ride and I try to improve every time I straddle the bike.

Lastly, life's time restraints and untrustworthy weather forecasts will result in last minute rides or "pickup rides" maybe popping up in the riding season. SO keep your email information current with the membership director, George Barrington, and keep an eye on our web site for last minute notifications.



Riding With a Passenger

The Motorcycle Safety Foundation offers "QUICK TIPS" and guidelines on a variety of subjects important in our sport. Do you know the legal considerations for riding with a passenger in your state? Do you know how the additional weight of the passenger will affect your bike's handling and braking characteristics? Is your bike's suspension set up and properly adjusted for a passenger? Does your passenger have the basic knowledge necessary to ride safely?

[Download the MSF "Quick Tips: Guidelines For Riding With A Passenger" here.](#)

**My day is ruined when I don't
beat the "Estimated Arrival
Time" my GPS gives me.**

-Anonymous

The Spring By the Side of the Road

After spending the day at the celebration in my home town we returned to Hillsdale and on the way there we saw the Wagon Train that was passing through several of the small towns, in celebration of the Centennial. There were several wagons pulled by horses and one pulled by oxen. Unfortunately I have no photos. They kept mainly to the back country roads and camped wherever they could.

We traveled on our way to find this spring that is not too well known. It was there when the Indians lived in Hillsdale County. The water is pure and many folks around there get their drinking water from it in gallon jugs. We stopped long enough for a photo and drink. If I told you exactly how to find it, I might have to kill you, so better not go there...

We spent the night with family and left the next morning for the KOA campground near Ann Arbor where we made camp, swam and relaxed. We had a nice lot where we saw everyone that came and went yet it was a quiet setting. We left early the next morning for the Ford Museum at Greenfield Village. So far we've had beautiful weather. While riding in morning traffic on three lanes of the expressway, the moving van in front of us emptied his crankcase oil all over the pavement...made for a few interesting moments!. There was nothing to do but ride it out. We cleaned our boots and bikes after we got to the museum. We had a nice parking place near the guardhouse and felt confident they would be there when we returned. We spent all day here. Next to guns and motorcycles I have a great love of trains.

The next morning we woke up to rain, it was bound to happen sooner or later. We waited until noon as the tent dried then started north to Frankenmuth, ate lunch at the Bavarian Inn and looked around the town. Our next

destination was north to Tawas, Michigan where we used to live. One of the benefits of having a large family is that you have more places to stay for free. We then headed to Fred's sister's house in Lincoln, where we dropped the trailer and went up to Mt. Maria, a scenic overlook. We also visited the Lumberman's Memorial where there is a huge statue of Paul Bunyan with his Blue Ox, Babe. While we were there we met another family traveling by bicycle.

It was now time to head west to Harrison, Michigan. where we only stopped for a photo shoot of the cabin I used to own. Vacation time was running out so we get on the new I-27 southbound to Jackson to visit Fred's uncle. While riding, my microphone falls off and gets dragged along for some distance. It didn't seem to do any harm though.

We are back in Hillsdale, now and will return to Chicago tomorrow and back to work until the next time.

Bonnie Cousins



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TOURING TIP: Preventing or Raising A Fallen Motorcycle

Preventing the Fall: There are many ways that gravity can overpower your best intentions of keeping the rubber side down. The most likely scenario for an experienced rider is the slow speed tip-over. A slow moving motorcycle does not have the gyroscopic benefit of rapidly rotating wheels to compensate for a center of gravity that is not directly above those tires. Once a heavily laden, slow-moving touring motorcycle leaves its perpendicular position to the pavement, the rider must put a foot down to bring the bike back to the perpendicular. Once the lean angle of the bike exceeds a certain distance from the perpendicular, most riders can no longer support, with one leg, the hundreds of pounds of rapidly increasing weight.

At slow speeds, or even at a stop, there are a number of ways in which a rider can lose control over the motorcycle's balance:

1. Putting a foot down on a slick surface, like a wet crosswalk border
2. Bringing a bike to a stop while it is still leaned over
3. Turning and pulling away from a stop, but suddenly applying the brakes with the front wheel turned
4. Putting a foot down on pavement that is sloping sharply down and away from the bike, causing the motorcycle to immediately lean and then fall in that direction

You can probably think of other seemingly innocuous scenarios where a rider might be thinking, I can't believe I just dropped my bike. The best way to avoid these mishaps is to always maintain a high awareness of your riding environment and to identify and avoid, beforehand, those situations that can cause a motorcycle to fall. It also doesn't hurt to practice slow speed maneuvers in a parking lot periodically, especially when you haven't been riding regularly.

Raising the Bike: Even the most experienced riders, at some time or another, will have to deal with a fallen motorcycle. Motivated by embarrassment, there's a strong tendency to immediately grab a fallen motorcycle and try wrestling it upright. If the correct lifting technique isn't used, there's a



high likelihood that the rider will suffer an injured, or at least a strained back.

The first things a rider should do after a bike has fallen is to take a couple of deep breaths, clear his or her head, make sure no injuries have been sustained and quickly think through the best way to raise the bike. Here are some factors to consider:

1. Activate the kill switch to make sure the engine is off and the rear wheel isn't turning.
2. Has any gas leaked out of the bike's tank? If so, this increases the risk of fire and slipping when trying to lift the motorcycle. If fuel is continuing to leak out and you're alone in a remote location, you may need to work quickly or run the risk of raising a fallen bike only to find that it has no fuel left to get you back to civilization.
3. If the top side of the bike has fallen down an incline, even a slight one, the bike will be much heavier and harder to lift from that direction. If possible, pivot the bike so the tires are toward the down slope.
4. Determine if any foot or hand controls have been damaged to the point of being inoperable and making the motorcycle unsafe to operate.
5. Put the transmission in first gear to prevent the bike from rolling when it is lifted.

You've probably seen demonstrations at motorcycle shows of a petite woman lifting a heavy motorcycle. The key to her technique is leverage and lifting only with her legs. So, with your lower back against the seat and legs fully bent, grab the low side handlebar in one hand and the frame of the bike in the other. Keeping your back straight, begin walking backward and lifting upward with your legs until the bike is upright. (A video demonstrating the proper technique can be found at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=pPjYweKeiLk.)

Oh yeah, don't forget to extend the kickstand before or once the bike is upright, depending on which side the bike is lying. There's nothing worse than getting a motorcycle upright, only to watch it fall over again, because you forgot to engage the kickstand.

The main thing to remember is not to let the embarrassment of a fallen motorcycle rush you into doing something that results in an injury that could otherwise be avoided.

Reprinted Courtesy of *RoadRUNNER Motorcycle Touring & Travel* magazine (www.roadrunner.travel).

Web Surfing Monkey

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The more U praise and celebrate UR life, the more there is to celebrate. So celebrate by riding, laughing, caring for others, reinforcing your beliefs, and...oh yeah...chocolate.... :-)

Fiedler

Club Directories are Available

E-mail me at

George@JerseypineCruisers.org

Call me at (630) 927-4810

Or see me at a meeting

Request it in Excel or Rich Text Format

I will E-mail it to you.

Please do not ask at a Breakfast Run

I am old and will forget by the time I get home

