



Special points of interest:

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- Safety Workshops
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- Magazine article on two Heartland Riders
- International Female Ride Day
- Iowa Rider Injured
- Rally: Art, articles, prizes, winners and pictures
- The Making of a Rally
- Chapter Chatter
- Upcoming Events

Celebrate!

30
1982 to 2012 • WOW!
YEARS
Women On Wheels

Bessie Stringfield-A True Legend

It's hard to even comprehend the trials, tribulations and hard times she must have endured...and she kept on rolling along!

She had to be fearless to serve her country as an Army motorcycle dispatch rider. It took even more than bravery to solo across the country on a motorcycle. To really up the risk factor do it as a black woman still in her teens, in the 1930s, when racial prejudice was still rampant in our nation! Put all this together and you've described Bessie Stringfield perfectly.

"The Motorcycle Queen of Miami", as she was known later in her life, was "BB" to her friends, and a pioneer for her gender and her generation.

She was 16 year old, Jamaican-born, African-American when she began riding her bike in 1927 Southern states. That's when blacks didn't travel on the roads

alone, and "nice" young women certainly did not ride motorcycles. For her, it wasn't about flouting societal conventions; Bessie was just an adventurer who wanted to see the world.

Bessie experienced the racial discrimination that was pervasive in 1927. She was run off the road by a white man in a pickup truck.

Bessie was orphaned at the age five and was adopted by an Irish woman in Boston. Her new mother gave Bessie what she needed with a strong sense of religion, love and belonging, but she also tended to spoil her by fulfilling most of "wants." It was said that Bessie wanted a motorcycle when she was in high school. And although "nice" girls didn't ride motorcycles, her adopted mother gave her the bike she wanted, a 1928 Indian Scout.

Bessie quickly graduated to Harley's and spent the '30s and '40s riding Harley's back and forth across America, for what she called her "penny tours."

It was Bessie's custom to toss a penny onto a map of the U.S., and then ride to the location where the penny had landed.

Over six decades, Bessie owned more than two dozen Harley-Davidsons. When asked why she rode only Harley-Davidson cycles, she said, "To me, a Harley is the only motorcycle ever made."

Bessie rode solo, but said that she never rode alone because Jesus was always watching over her. She traveled roads where men did not ride alone and usually in group of two or three.

Bessie was only five-foot-three-inches, but she seemed to be fearless. When she traveled she usually stayed with Negro families when she could, and when that wasn't possible she slept on her bike.

Without really meaning to, Bessie broke barriers and stretched expectation. She carried army documents between bases as a civilian motorcycle

Cycle Chirps by Deana Foster



The State Rally is behind us (THANKS again Heartland for a fabulous time) and the Ride-In is coming up fast. I've heard a lot of people talk about the Ride-In as a destination and not something they particularly enjoy participating in and it makes me wonder...WHY?

Is it because they feel there is nothing worthwhile offered? Is it because they don't feel welcome? Is it too much business and not enough fun? Should the Board consider a change?

I've heard one reason is because we don't have enough Vendor participation. Sure, the Women On Wheels® Ride-In doesn't draw as big a crowd as the AMA Women's Conference, but that is mainly because we just don't have the numbers. With our Ride-In considered a "small" venue in the eyes of Vendors and Manufacturers, we can't pull in the Big Show, per say, and have then a catch 22 situation. Not enough membership show up; few big Vendors participate...Not enough Vendors, no draw for members to attend. Get the picture?

I've heard another reason is because there is too much "business" held and not enough time on the road

riding and yet at the AMA Women's Conference, you spend a great deal of time sitting and listening to speakers, so that just doesn't seem to cut it as an excuse. Perhaps we DO need to look at the speakers we have and try to pull in better speakers or at least people that our membership think are better speakers. Got any ideas?

I have to admit the first couple of years I went, I didn't get it either. Why were we riding 1/2 way across the country to sit around and "chat?" That all changed when I started making friends from other states. Now, I can't wait to run into those gals and catch up on what has happened over the last year. This year I am especially excited to mix it up with the other WING DINGERS. June from Georgia, here I come!

Your Membership in Women On Wheels® can be whatever you want it to

be. If you don't like what all it entails, including the Ride-In, get involved and help to change it. This is not set in stone, people, it can change, but someone has to participate and instigate that change. So maybe you aren't a leader. That's fine, we can't all be leaders, but you probably are really good at coming up with new ideas. Send those ideas to your Chapter Director or State Ambassador and let them know what you would like to have at the Ride-In. You have to have some idea what would make it more than just a destination, right?

It is just a few weeks away and I personally am looking forward to the Ride TO; the fellowship THERE; and the ride HOME. Dave is coming with me this year and that makes it even more special. I hope to see you there too and I hope to also hear your feedback as to what would make our Ride-Ins better so that next year in Billings, you will want to Ride THERE and PARTICIPATE.



Bessie Stringfield, continued

dispatch rider during World War II, the only woman in her unit.

Bessie's personal life was adventurous and ever changing. She married six times and had three miscarriages with her first husband and did not have children with the following five husbands. She

kept her third husband's name, Stringfield. She performed with her dogs, founded the Iron Horse Motorcycle Club, and became a licensed practical nurse.

The "Motorcycle Queen of Miami" eventually developed an

enlarged heart, which limited her mobility. When her doctor advised her to stop riding because of her condition, she told him "If I don't ride, I won't live long." So she never did quit.

Stringfield died in 1993, at age 82.

The American Motorcycle Association created the Bessie Stringfield Award in 2000, given to "women who have shown other women they can be active participants in the world of motorcycling." In 2002, she was inducted into the Motorcycle Hall of Fame.



Heartland Group Riding Safety Workshop



Back Row: Brenda, Jim, Arlene, Glow, Judy, Kim, Carol M. and Lisha.
Front Row: Lisa, Cris, Joan, Dee, and Alice (kneeling).

The first day of the two part workshop was held on March 31st, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. We started with the classroom portion which covered general group riding guidelines, including hand signals. After the classroom we moved to the parking lot divided into three groups and walked through group riding maneuvers using hand signals. We covered left and right turn signals, slow down and pull over signals, and the single file and staggered formation signals.

Once we saddle up, we lined up in our designated groups and rode from Creve Coeur to the Washington University campus. As we rode we practiced our city riding skills through left and right turns; slowing down in unison; stopping and starting on a hill; changing lanes in traffic and navigating speed bumps safely.

We started off together from Creve Coeur, but by the third light the 3rd group was left behind, those lights just aren't long enough for three groups to make it through on a left turn.

The third group finally made it to the Wash U campus and fell into line for the slow ride U-turn maneuver. The

other groups had already gone through the course a couple of times when the third group arrived.

In a parking lot on campus, we practiced our slow speed maneuvers (U-turn on two lane roads) using orange cones, provided by Jim Jackson. We followed our slow ride with a question and answer session.

We mounted up again and headed back to Creve Coeur for lunch. This time the 3rd group didn't even get off campus before they were separated from the others. The light at Big Bend stayed red for almost five minutes before turning green again; I guess five bikes did not have enough steel to tell the light to change, but we made almost every other light between the campus and Creve Coeur. This time the 3rd group caught up with the others just as they were turning onto Central Parkway, at our destination. After we parked our bikes, we walked over to the Lion's Choice for a quick lunch.

As we waited in line, we noticed a sign near the counter that advertised a WOW Special of a regular Roast Beef, regular fries and drink; at \$5.58 + tax it

should be very special.

After we finished lunch, several of us took a ride on the back roads of Chesterfield and St. Charles County.

The second day of the workshop we covered Interstate & 2-lane highway riding and twisties.



Mileage Kick-off 4-7-12

Heartland was the first to arrive at the Annual Missouri Mileage Kick-off, in Jefferson City, but it wasn't too long before the Golden Valley Gals and support members and the Lady Cruisers pulled in.

Although everyone rode in the rain, some more than others, to get to the meet-up, the rain stopped long enough for us to get our pictures taken. The sky was still grey, but had lightened up enough to get some good pictures of us on the steps at the back of the capital building and in front of the bronze Louisiana Purchase signing.



Picture taken on the back steps of the capital building.
Deana, Marie and Sandy were taking pictures.

After the pictures were taken Deana lead us to the Prison Brews Brewery and Restaurant. There were twenty-three at the main table, four in a booth and two at a separate table, in all, twenty-nine attended the kick-off event.

As we were giving our WOW hugs and wishes for a safe ride home, it began to rain again, but we were all warm from our great visit.



Two Heartland Riders Featured in Article

WOMEN ON WHEELS

Women focus on lifestyle of cycling

By DANETTE M. WATT
For River Bend Rider

Women ride for different reasons.

Diane Rackovan says it reminds them of who they are or used to be before the demands of life and responsibilities took over. Rackovan is the current director of the Heartland Chapter of Women On Wheels.

Gloria "Glow" Stabley of Maryville says she rides because she likes the sense of freedom it gives her and the feel of the wind in her face.

"It's thrilling."

Glow (who is now retired) has been a passenger on bikes since high school and has owned bikes for the past 20 years.

"This sounds crazy but I used to take the SIUE motorcycle safety course over and over even though I didn't have a bike. I

boyfriends. That was the case with Glow. A boyfriend who rode bought her a used bike so they could ride together. When they broke up, she bought the bike from him.

She was concerned that she wouldn't be able to keep up with repairs but says, "I figured I take my car to a mechanic when I have to, why not my bike? So I bit the bullet and bought it."

Today, Glow rides a 1998 Yamaha V Star. When she sat on the bike for the first time, "It felt like I was putting on a slipper. It just felt right."

Finding a bike that fits is a must and dealers are welcoming more women riders, says Rackovan. Women should look for bikes that are lower slung so they can stop flat-footed and with seats that are lower and moved forward so the controls are closer.

Glow joined Women on

"we watch out for each other. There's a protocol and someone is always there to stay with you."

Gloria "Glow" Stabley, of Maryville



Diane Rackovan, current director of Women On Wheels, kneels next to her bike, an Orange/Black/Chrome 2009 HD Dyna Lo Rider. She's quick to say, "Yes! Chrome CAN be a color."



Gloria "Glow" Stabley sits astride her 1998 V Star Yamaha.

loved riding the bikes and they provided the bike and helmet. I just wouldn't take the test at the end so I'd have to take it again," she says.

Many women get into riding because of husbands or

Wheels about the same time she bought her bike. She says she likes riding with other women because if there's a problem, "we watch out for each other. There's a protocol and someone is always there to stay with you."

She says she realizes bikes are not easy to see and if possible, she'll get in another lane if she sees a driver of a vehicle on a cell phone or otherwise distracted.

"Riding can be very tiring because you have to be hyper-vigilant. It takes being on your game and even then, you can't control other people's behavior."

One of Glow's more memorable - and longest trips on her bike was one she and her ex-boyfriend took out West. They trailered their bikes out and, leaving their car and trailer at a bed-and-breakfast, they rode their bikes to Arizona, visited the Grand Canyon, then rode to several national parks in Utah, rode on to Moab and back to Colorado.

"That was the most outstanding trip I've had," she says. "Now I take mostly day trips and an occasional overnighter."

WOW was founded in 1982 as a way to unite women riders. WOW has a yearly International rally for all the chapters in the

U.S. and overseas. Last year, the WOW rally was held in California; this year it will be in South Carolina.

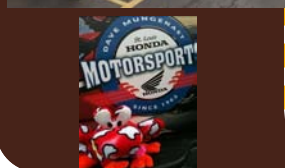
Members of the five Missouri WOW chapters get together for monthly "ride to lunch" events. The Missouri chapters also hold their own small rally yearly. This year, Heartland WOW will be the host for WOW chapters around the country. The rally, Rackovan said, is a chance to get together and socialize. They can be found online at www.heartlandwow.org.

Glow garages her bike over the winter but because of the warm winter last year, she was able to ride her bike several times during the winter. She enjoys riding with fellow WOW members in Missouri and has favorite Illinois destinations as well. She loves to ride the Great River Road, past Pere Marquette, into Hardin, and beyond.

Glow plans to continue to ride her bike indefinitely.

"I totally love to ride my motorcycle."

International Female Ride Day by Cris Baldwin



For the third year, Heartland rode in observance of International Female Ride Day. This year's ride took us past Stonehenge and on a 'mini Tail of the Dragon.' Prior to departure, we witnessed an infestation of frogs in every shape, color and size. The frogs joined us hoping (or hopping) to get us points for the annual Missouri State Touring Contest and votes for the 2nd Annual Women On Wheels® One-Day-Only Chapter Photo Contest. If you haven't already voted for our "toad-ally" awesome photo, go to <http://www.womenonwheels.org/htmlitemsrideridecontest.html> by July

9. (The winning photograph will be announced at the 26th International Women On Wheels® Ride-In in Greenville, South Carolina.) Our very generous host, Dave Mungenast Motorsports, made sure we did not go home hungry nor empty handed. Clara walked away with one gift card; Sandy B. the other. There were little trinkets for each of us and all the food you could eat. (I did not see a single fly so I guess the frogs returned to their pads full, too.) As in past years, attendance

was smaller than what I had hoped for, due to the threat of rain. But, also as in past years, the weather cleared just in time to enjoy a scenic ride with good friends—human and amphibian. The 2013 observance will be held on May 3.



Heart of Iowa Rider Injured Going Home



Janet Lincoln

Keep Janet in your thoughts and prayers.

Iowa rider, Janet Lincoln, was injured Sunday when a SUV driver ran a stop light and t-boned Janet. Janet and Teresa Gale were two blocks from Janet's home when the accident occurred.

Janet suffered severe injuries to one leg, a broken right hand and a crushed pelvis. There was also damage to her lungs and bladder.

Janet was taken into surgery for the leg, but the leg could not be saved, it was too

badly damaged, they amputated just above the knee.

After several days in ICU to stabilize, surgery was performed on Janet's pelvic region. The surgery corrected most of the pelvic damage and after one or two months of bed-rest they will start rehab so that it will be possible for Janet to sit erect.

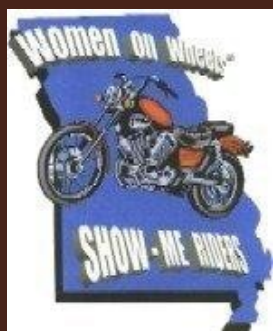
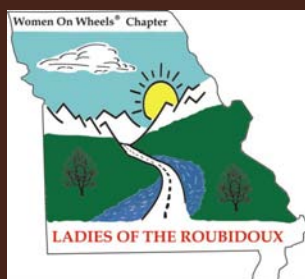
Latest Updates:
The lungs appears to be back to full function. They

stopped the oxygen as of Monday, but breathing treatments will continue to ensure pneumonia doesn't set in.

The bladder appears to be healing on its own. They performed surgery on the right hand and the results were good.

If you wish to follow Janet's progress go to: www.caringbridge.org/visit/jlincoln.

Chapter Chatter



Golden Valley Gals

No submissions.

Heartland

Carol Murphy was CPR, First Aid and Oxygen certified through the Kirkwood-Webster YMCA on Saturday, April 14. (She substitutes for Water Aerobics at the Kirkwood YMCA, so it is required for the instructors.)

It took her about 4-5 hours of on-line training which had to be completed before the classroom training. It's good information to have and it can be used at any time, in any circumstance

Glow Stabley and Diane Rackovan were featured in a article titled "Women focus on lifestyle of cycling" in the Spring 2012 "River Bend Rider" magazine.

Cris Baldwin, whose non-WOW alias is as assistant dean & registrar in the Sam Fox School of Design at Washington University in St. Louis, delivered the commencement address for the Vocational Skills Program in the St. Louis Special School District on May 8. The speech, titled "iImagine" tied in memories from her own high school graduation in 1981 (the year John Lennon's "Imagine" was at the top of the charts) and the possibilities today's graduates have with the invention of the iPad, iPod, and iPhone.

Ladies of Roubidoux

No submissions.

Lady Cruisers

Congratulations to Deana and Dave Foster on their 15th wedding anniversary!!

After LCO left the fun in Chesterfield at the State Rally we road on over to Waterloo, IL and went to the "42nd Annual Rendezvous at Fort De Charters". For those that are not familiar with this rendezvous it is a re-creation of the traditional French fur trappers holiday of the 18th century. It is the oldest and largest event of this kind in the US.

**While we were there Deana purchased a pet frog!!



3 Frog-heads in Fairview

On the way back to MO we crossed the Mississippi River on the ferry and then we rode the long way home. Our whole trip was over 800 miles of fun in the sun!

PS: We always keep our eye open for "frog" photo shoots!

Show Me Riders

No submissions.



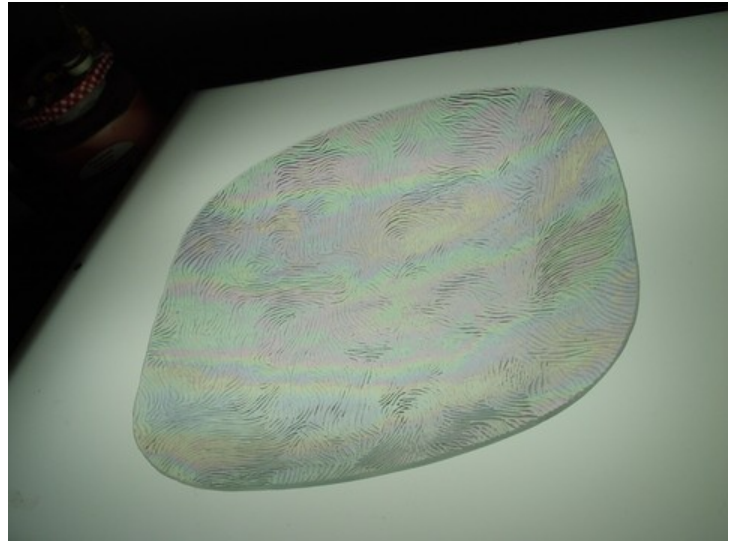
One-of-a-Kind Art Pieces included in Rally Raffles



This handmade bandana quilt was made by Kim Georgen. Kim figured since everyone who rides usually wears one, they would make a pretty quilt in all different colors. She put the frogs on it because frogs are the unofficial mascot for WOW. The Quilt took about 6 weeks to make.



Beth Streif has taken glass blowing classes at Third Degree Glass Factory, a great place to visit and watch the artists create various styles of glass art. She made this small blown vase with translucent white frit.



This piece was made by Diane Rackovan, she explained the process used to make this dish.

1. She chose a favorite bowl or accessory piece to make a copy from.
2. Mold material is shaped around the piece and is allowed to dry for about a week, then the material is fired in the kiln.
3. The mold is then covered with glass release and dried for 24 hours.
4. She selected the stain glass material, cut it and placed it over the mold in the kiln.
5. The accessory is fired and allowed to cool.



This handmade hook & looped rug was designed by Lesley Heyer's Grandmother, Jean Pierce, to reflect the "Meet Me in St. Louis" theme of the 2012 Missouri Rally.

Missouri State Rally– “Meet Me in St. Louis”



The WOW sisters and support members began to arrive on Wednesday evening, just a few at first and on Thursday even more showed up. By Friday afternoon, those arriving came in various sized groups one after another and got off their bikes stretching out and twisting slightly to relieve the muscles.

The first official event was Friday evening; it was a fifty miles ride to Gateway H-D where we were provided with dinner, drinks, games and time to renew old friendships and form new ones. The ride took us through some beautiful scenery, twisties and hills.

Many of the riders who had arrived on Friday had ridden long distances, so when we left Gateway H-D we took the direct route back to the hotel and a good nights rest to prepare for a full day on Saturday.

Saturday morning the day started with the opportunity to

see what a semi driver can see of motorcycles who share the road with them. The semi was provided by Ruth Koester, a Heartland member, who earns her living as an over the road driver. The semi was set up in an adjoining parking lot to the hotel and bikes were placed in various locations around it to show the blind spots and the dangers that come from not knowing what the driver can and cannot see.

I tried for two days to get a turn in the cab, but the line never seemed to end. Each time someone would step down from the cab they said they never knew that a bike couldn't be seen in this



Missouri State Rally– “Meet Me in St. Louis” continued.

location or that. I think this demo was a definite hit.

The Saturday started at 9 a.m. and had fifty-five bikes participate. The ride took us over roads in the suburbs (Long Road & White Horse Creek) country roads (MO 94 & MO D), two lane highway (MO T & MO W) and interstates (I-70 & MO 61). The first stop was at the Chariots of Fire Custom, in Moscow Mills.



At this stop there were tents set up with food, motorcycle related vendors and representatives from the Missouri Motorcycle Safety Program and the Christian Motorcycle Association.

After some of our riders bought jewelry, patches, food and picked up informative brochures and pamphlets, we were on the road again. Riding MO-C and MO 79 through rural towns and farm area we got back on I-70 heading toward our next stop at Donelson Cycle, in St. Ann.

Donelson's provided us with a lunch of hot dogs, drinks, and a St. Louis favorite, gooey butter cake. Many of the WOW riders took advantage of the motorcycle museum tour, while others relaxed on the 2nd story patio.



We left Donelson Cycle and headed for Gateway Thunder Big Dog Motorcycles, in Maryland Heights. Big

Dog builds custom chopper bikes with names like “The Mastiff”, “The Bull-Dog”, and “The Coyote”.



Carol Murphy tries out one of the Big Dog choppers.

After a tour of the assembly shop and the machinist area, we were treated to ice cream cones (another food introduced at the 1904 World's Fair) on the large, shaded patio area. By this time the temperatures were climbing and the patio offered us cool breezes out of the sun. We finished our cones and saddled up to head for Mungenast Motorsports, in Mehlville. Most of this ride was on our I-270, the county loop highway.



Upon arriving at Mungenast, we were treated to another St. Louis exclusive, Toasted Ravioli, and soft drinks.



While there one of the Heartland members, Holly, currently bike-less, tried out a new bright yellow, Honda Trike,



with a little help from Rebecca Cross, President of Women On Wheels®.

We left Mungenast and headed for Babler State Park, in Wildwood, just off of MO 109, for our rally picture. MO 109 is a nice little road with some twisties, blind curves and hills, shaded by trees on both sides of the road. We turned off onto BA which took us to the park entrance. This park is a memorial to Dr. Edward J. Babler, a surgeon who primarily served the unfortunate by providing pro bono work to charity cases in and around the St. Louis area. We gathered by the statue/monument erected in his honor.

Once the pictures were taken, we mounted up and headed for the hotel for a little rest, showers, dinner and an evening of festivities.



For additional rally pictures go to pages 16-20.

Rally Dinner & Awards



Arlene Crawford wins
2011 Touring Contest

The dinner consisted of BBQ chicken, pork steaks and pulled pork. There were also two sheet cakes, one celebrating WOW's 30th Anniversary and the other celebrating Heartland's 15th Anniversary.

After the dinner the Heartland Chapters sisters put on a skit of "Meet Me in St. Louis" dressed in curtains still on the rods, ala Carol Burnett's skit of "Gone With the Wind" on her television show.

Once the show was over, Deana took over and announced the winners of the Missouri awards.

Full Member Mileage:

1st—Cris Baldwin with 18,535



2nd— Diane Rooks with 18266



Support Member Mileage:

1st— Thomas Baldwin with 16844



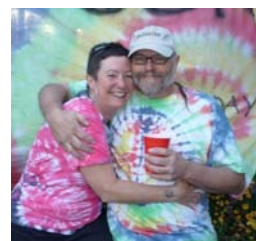
2nd— Ray Knappenberger with 9303

Passenger/Child Award
1st— Andrew Piccinni with
12687 (No Picture Available)

2nd— Chandra Posten with
3206 (Tekera was reported
with 3205)



Support Member of the
Year — Dave Foster—he's the
one on the right!



Carolyn Clark, of the Show
Me Riders, won the T-
Shirt design contest.



Rally Attendee Comments & Prizes

I got an email from our chapter president, Gayla Campbell, that you would be interested in our thoughts and experiences while we were at the State Rally this weekend. Well, I had a blast! I was a bit unsure at first because the Rally seemed to be focused on Heartland's association with motorcycle dealers in the area. It seemed more of a commercial endeavor than accenting what the Heartland chapter has to offer. That was before I came down with a bug while on the ride. I started feeling it while we were at Donelson Cycles on St Charles Rock Road. It started out as palpitations, getting sweaty, itchy and drooling. It progressed into a full blown attack. My husband knew something was up right off the bat by the funny look on my face. It got progressively worse throughout the weekend, even after getting home. I had to check everything out on the internet, reading up on the cause. My family is sure it will be terminal and they are more than a little ticked. My husband blames it all on WOW. I told him it wasn't anyone's fault but mine. I couldn't help it, it's a disease I get usually every spring....I got bit by the "Gotta Have It" bug when I saw a Stratoliner Trike at Donelson Cycles. There was no incubation period, it was an immediate overload on my immune system and all my self-preservation tactics just disappeared. I'm feeling a little better now. I don't hyperventilate nearly as much when I look at the pictures I took of the trike. I get a dose of reality when I look at my checkbook balance. But it doesn't stop



me from having hallucinations of cruising down a leafy back road with the sun filtering thru the trees. I have to take some Benadryl to make this rash go away!

Be safe riding!
Vicky Elwood
Ladies of Roubidoux

We had a great time at the State Rally. As usual the best part of the Rally is getting to see a lot of friends that you hadn't seen in a while. I wanted to give a big thank you to Ruth for the semi demonstration. It was great! And to let you everyone know these rallies have meaning to the children as well. They love coming to them and seeing everyone as well. As you can see from photos the girls had a good time also. :)

Irene Hargett-Ladies of Roubidoux
Prize and Games Winner



Holly Boettcher and Linda Stone won the 50/50 of \$106 each.



Karen Duffy won the Bandana Quilt made and donated by Kim Georgen

Marble Run

At the hotel and at each of the participating dealers, each rider could draw

a marble. There were six different colors and each color had a different point number assigned to it. Only the committee members who would total the points from each rider's card knew the points assigned to each color.



The Marble Run winners were:
For the Marble Run:

- 1st - Dee Rooks-\$50 debit card
- 2nd - Kim Georgen-\$25 debit card
- 3rd - Arlene Jackson-\$10 debit card



Dee Rooks won the raffle for the Handmade Hook & Loop Rug donated by Lesley Heyer (the rug was made by her grandmother).



The Frog Toss Game winner was Tekera Stadt

At each of the participating dealers there were hidden frogs and or other contests. The prizes were doo rags, phone chargers, zippered pouches and purchase certificates. Unfortunately, there were too many winners to list.

Rally Attendee Comments

Going to my very first state rally, I was so excited I could hardly sleep. Jill Ivey, Stacey Robinett, Diane (Harley MoMo) Johnson and I met at a gas station in Springfield. The Plan was to ride to Lebanon following old Route 66. We got to Stratford and forgot to turn on Route 66, but my excitement was still there. We rode about 20 minutes and came to a rock road, so now we had to back track; by now it's almost 11am and we're not very far from home yet.

We made our way to Lebanon and got on I-44 and travelled about 12 miles. As soon as we took the exit off I-44 the real journey began. Our first stop was in Richland at a two pump gas station; the old fashion kind where you pay inside. We got a heads up on a lunch stop in Dixon, but it was not to be located, so we drove on. We found a perfect cafe' in Vienna, MO. named Margie's; the daily special was fried catfish. A local farmer told us they come in from the farm on Fridays for the catfish; she was right it was awesome, but Stacy wouldn't know because she got her usual grilled chicken sandwich.

The ride was absolutely beautiful with temps in the mid 70's. The route we chose to stay off I-44 was a great start to the weekend. We even took back roads into Chesterfield; we all felt like we accomplished something great.

Over breakfast on Saturday we discussed doing the planned ride for the day and seeing a little of St. Louis. None of us really wanted to do city riding after our awesome ride in, so we made our own plans. We mapped out going to Route 66 State Park and then to Castlewood state park with the help of Ginger.

Before leaving the hotel I packed a small cooler with snacks from the hospitality room; we all enjoyed our snacks at each stop. Our group was small in size, but happy with the ride. We picked up Jennifer who stayed behind at the hotel because she has only been riding three months and didn't think she should do the scheduled ride. We found her smiling in her eyes and her heart for being part of a riding group. Unfortunately, we had to leave two riders at Route 66 State Park, due to a battery problem; they wanted us to go on. They went and got a battery charger and did their own ride.

After the ride we rested before the banquet. I'm still excited to be at the rally. The food was good, company was good and skit was cute. Finally, Deana takes over for the awards and afterwards this newbie is too tired for games. The excitement has finally turned to exhaustion.

By Sunday our group had dwindled to four. Jill, Diane, Deana and I had planned to stay on an extra day. After breakfast, Deana went to Target to buy new glasses because "dang I can't find my glasses" and had to borrow Harley Momo's to read the awards last night, then we headed to Waterloo, Illinois, to Cheryl's mother's house. We dropped off our packs and headed to Prairie du Rocher, IL to Fort de Charters for a French rendezvous. On the ride there we naturally rode through the quarry and the cold blast of cave air was refreshing. I think the fort was a pleasant historical surprise for the LCO women. Deana found the bestesss..... treasure! You will have to ask her. LOL

Unfortunately, Deana had to leave us and drive to Tennessee for work in the morning. Jill, MoMo and I spent the night at my mothers and had a good home cooked meal, including her famous chocolate cake with peanut butter icing.

Monday morning, after a home cooked breakfast, we rode to Modoc, IL and took the ferry to St Genevieve, MO. The ride home was warmer and no Interstate riding made for a long, but beautiful trip home. We got frogged at a gas stop which I named the three frog heads.

All in all it was a wonderful first trip for a newbie.

Cheryl Huebner-Lady Cruisers of the Ozarks



"Worth the trip."-Rebecca Cross, President, Women On Wheels (R)

The rally was the first one I had been to. The camaraderie of WOW sisters is awesome. Everyone was super nice and the ride on Saturday was fun even in a cage. The games were fun, and the skit was neat. I hope to have a bike soon, but will join you with my cage when I can.

Holly Bottcher-Heartland

The Making of a Rally by Brenda Lerch



What does it take to hold a successful rally? We've all been to rallies that we have remembered for years, and then we've been to other rallies that we can barely remember why we went in the first place. So what makes one rally great and another only mediocre? Well, here are my reflections about the events leading up to the 2012 Missouri State Rally and why I think it was a huge success.

We started planning months ahead of time, way back last summer when we first volunteered to host the rally. At the time, there were only about 15 of us that attended meetings and rides on a regular basis, but we were game to give it a whirl. We began brainstorming ideas for locations first, and there were many hours worth of phone calls and personal visits to locations all over the metro area until we finally had it narrowed down to 2 choices for the chapter to vote on. We held a vote and picked our spot. Yeah, one hurdle cleared in fairly short order!

Next, we began thinking of things like ride routes and games and food and prizes. In the meantime, we had begun picking up more new members along the way and these gals just jumped right in with both feet and didn't miss a beat. We all just seemed to mesh our ideas together like cogs in a wheel, feeding off each others' ideas until a real plan began to form. It's just fantastic to sit and listen to gals who have the creativity and courage to think outside the box. I so appreciate those qualities in others because they are qualities I am sadly lacking in, and I was just blown away by some of the suggestions that came up during our meetings. Even our guys chipped in with some great suggestions! Everyone's opinion was important and we all encouraged one another as we divided up into subcommittees to spread out the tasks. One of our members came up with a spreadsheet of all the things we thought we might need and gals began signing up for what they wanted to be involved with. Gotta love them spreadsheets! LOL

Once again, we began ticking items off our list as they were completed. By this time, our group of 15 had grown to around 25 or 30. The enthusiasm was infectious! Folks were hearing about all the fun we were having and all the exciting ideas that were coming forth, and it was like everyone wanted to be a part of the endeavor. So, no matter how much or how little one could contribute or participate, we all worked together to keep the momentum going and soon our to-do list was growing shorter day by day.

Of course, there were a lot of last minute things to do, but our illustrious leader had the wisdom and foresight to call a moratorium on all rally activities over the Memorial Day weekend, so that we could all spend much-needed time with our families and not totally exhaust ourselves to the point where WE wouldn't enjoy the rally. Smart woman, that Diane! We got a chance to re-charge our batteries before we made the final push to the finish line.

That last week was chaos personified! We worked hard, we laughed harder, we got aggravated when things didn't work out right and elated when a plan all came together; but no matter what the emotions were, we were a FAMILY, helping each other, supporting and encouraging, and just trying to have a good time as we worked. It was pure pandemonium sometimes, but it was still great fun.

Then, finally, the big day was here. We began seeing motorcycles pulling into the lot and now the greatest part of the rally (for me) began: meeting and greeting old friends and new. No matter what else goes on at a rally, my best memories are always of the people I meet. I was busier than a one-armed paper hanger but it was so much fun! And we even had volunteers from our guests to help us out if we needed it. So the enthusiasm wasn't just contained to Heartland; it was spreading all over! There's just something about seeing a group of women working together towards a common goal that bonds us like glue. We had great rides planned, some fantastic food courtesy of our participating dealers (who treated us like royalty), a great meal, some funny games, and our totally ridiculous spoof of that old Carol Burnett "Gone with the Wind" classic skit as we strutted our stuff in our curtain-rod dresses while lip-syncing "The Trolley Song" and "Meet Me in St. Louis". It was hilarious!!

All too soon, it was time to be packing up and heading for home. And when the mess is all cleaned up and the guests are all gone, I sit back and reflect on the wonderful memories made over that short weekend and I know without a doubt that the secret to a great rally is.....__

Great Women!!

New InMOtion Editor Needed!!



WOWsers,

I have been privileged to write two quarterly newsletters; the InMOtion, for 2 1/2 years, and the Heartland newsletters for almost 3 years. It has been fun and challenging. I'd like to thank everyone who has contributed articles over the years, those who have suggested layout ideas, those who have agreed to let me use their photos or have taken photos to go with their articles, those who have volunteered to proof-read the hundreds of pages for these newsletters over the years and those who have made suggestions that have made my work easier. You are a great group of women and I truly appreciate all that you have done and the support you have give me in my newsletter endeavors. I know, a lot of you are saying, get on with it and quit the mushy stuff.

Okay. Here it is. I have to stop doing the InMOtion newsletters. I don't want to go into the reasons because it's a long story and you would be bored before you could get half way through it. The bottom line is that if the InMOtion newsletter is to continue, someone needs to take over.

Why? There are as many reasons as there are members. Some say they enjoy the newsletter because it tells them about events they were not able to attend, others say it's because it allows them to refresh their memory about a ride or event or learn things they didn't know happened on a particular ride or event; some say it allows them to keep up with what's happening in other chapters; whatever the reasons, many look forward to reading the newsletter every quarter.

New InMOtion Editor Needed!!

I can tell you that if you like that feeling of accomplishment and of highlighting wonderful WOW sisters, rides and events this is the way to do it!! This newsletter is published on the Missouri Women On Wheels® website, is accessible from the Missouri Women On Wheels® Facebook page and is distributed to the Missouri Participating Dealers to keep them informed of what rides and events we are participating in or sponsoring. If you are interested in taking on this rewarding endeavor contact: Deana Foster: dbf8@windstream.net

Thank you,
Sandy Richey

Missouri State Rally- “Meet Me in St. Louis” Prep Work



Missouri State Rally- “Meet Me in St. Louis” Friday Activities



Semi No Zone Demonstration



Gateway H-D served a fabulous pot-pie, iced tea and lemonade for Friday's dinner.



Riders participated in a contest to find others who have completed maintenance tasks and mileage milestones.



Missouri State Rally- “Meet Me in St. Louis”- Saturday Activities



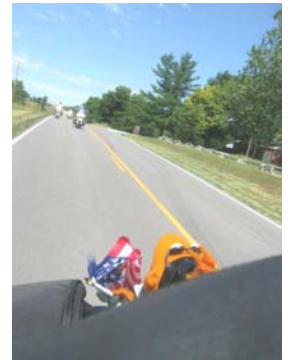
Lining up for the Saturday Ride.



Ride meeting before Saturday ride.



On the road.



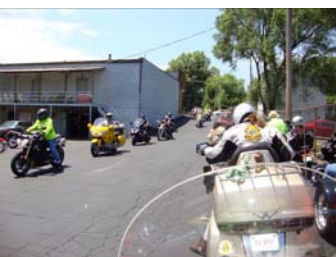
First stop, Chariots of Fire Customs, in Moscow Mills



Riding & Jewelry shopping, why not?



Pulling into Donelson Cycles for Hot Dogs, Soda, Chips and Goopy Butter Cake. Fifty-five bikes took the ride.



Gateway Thunder-Big Dog Cycles. They gave us a tour of their store and shop and served us ice cream cones.



Missouri State Rally- "Meet Me in St. Louis"- Saturday Activities

Big Dog: Ice Cream, cool breezes, conversations and camaraderie. What more could we want?



Mungenast Motorsports served Toasted Ravioli, berries, grapes and drinks.



Heartland Chapter getting set up for brochure/publicity picture.



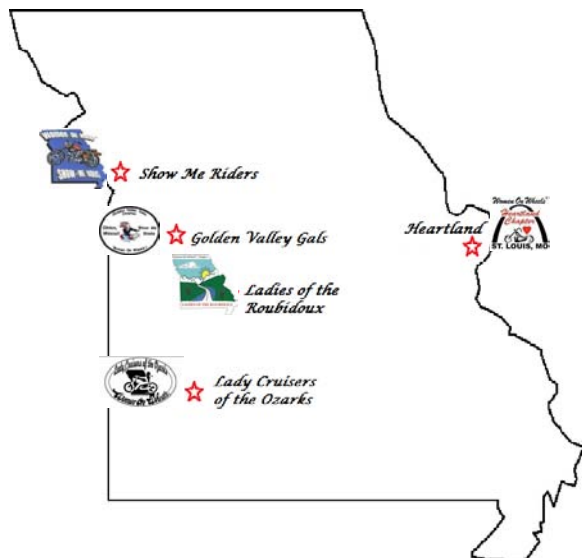
Missouri State Rally- "Meet Me in St. Louis"- Dinner & Awards





Women On Wheels®

Missouri WOW Chapters



Missouri

Women On Wheels®

Our Mission:

**To unite all women motorcycle enthusiasts
for recreation, education, mutual support
and to promote a positive
image of motorcycling.**

**Women On Wheels®
Ride-In
Greenville, S.C.
July 10-12**

Upcoming Events (*WOW Events)

**July 10th-12th: WOW Ride-In,
Greenville, SC.**

**July 12th-15th: Grand River Rally,
Urich, MO.**

**July 16th-20th: Little Sturgis Rally &
Races for Charity, Sturgis, KY**

**July 19th-22nd: Midwest Motorcycle
Rally, La Crosse, WI.**

**July 20th-22nd: Beartooth Rally and
Iron Horse Rodeo, Red Lodge, WY**

**July 28th: MO Lunch, Seven Springs
Winery, 846 Winery Hills Estates,
Linn Creek, MO**

**August 6th-12th: Sturgis Motorcycle
Rally, Sturgis, South Dakota**

**August 25th: MO Lunch-
destination TBD**

**Sept. 20th-23: Missouri State
HOG Rally, Sedalia, MO.**

**Sept. 22nd: MO Lunch desti-
nation TBD**

**Sept. 26th-28th: Bikes, Blues
& BBQ merges with Bikes,
Babes and Bling in Fayette-
ville, AR.**

**Sept. 27th-30th: Las Vegas
BikeFest, Las Vegas, NV.**

**Oct. 3rd-7th: Myrtle Beach
Fall Rally, Myrtle Beach,**

South Carolina

**October 6th: MO State Fall
Ride**

**October 19th-21st: Biketo-
berfest, Daytona, FL.**

**October 27th: SA/CD Fall
Meeting**

**October 31st: Mileage Con-
test Ends**

**November 1st-4th: Lone Star
Rally, Galveston, Texas.**

