

# SOUL SMOKE

Iron Souls Motorcycle Club—Oakland Chapter

## Heavy K—President aka Ku'e

The first time I saw Heavy was with my other two prospects, “V” and T-Bone. It seems like a long time ago now, but still clear in my mind. We did not see him initially, but heard his name first. Soft whispers, “Heavy’s here.” That turned into loud voices of, “Heavy, what the F— it’s good to see you.” T-Bone and I looked at each other, as if to question... “what the hell is a Heavy K?” Just then a big dread lock, dark sunglasses, pirate scarf wearing biker of a man came into view. T-Bone and I looked back at each other to say in unison, “That’s a Heavy K.”

The adventure began for me that day. There I was, not a conscious awareness of it at the time, but I knew if I was to learn what a real biker was, this was the man to learn it from. Not an easy or quick process. This quiet man is not a guy you want to play cards with. His poker face rarely reveals, if ever, what he is thinking. This is also a paradox, as you always know where he stands on an issue. His educator background, along with his years as a martial arts instructor, has fine tuned his ability to communicate by listening.

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## Heavy K—President (continued)

Born on October 25, 1958, he did not wait long to meet the love of his life, Eleanor “Elle” Angeles. He only needed to wait until the ninth grade to meet her. From then to the marriage, and his son Cody’s “Kanekoas” birth, would be a great story on its own.

For our story, we will pick things up in 1975. As many riders, including myself, started out on two wheels, Heavy started



rolling down the road on a mini bike. I picture him riding in shorts, tennis shoes, dark glasses, his scarf and dread locks...as the Talking Heads sang *Same As It Ever Was*. I don’t believe that changed as he moved up in class from a Honda 50 to Yamaha 125, 175 Huskivarna, then a big jump to a 750 Honda Shadow and 600 Ninja...finally to an adult size Harley FXR FLSTC. His bikes had such names as Phat Joe, Silver Dragon, McHeavy and Black Dragon.

Moving to the year 2002, Heavy K was finishing his prospect period with ISMC, sponsored by Nas D and OG Mack, to become patch number 58. Heavy K had to good fortune to prospect in that year along with Bassman and Daddy Rich. In any hand of poker, that would be a solid three of a kind to draw.

For any member the ball gets started, or the blame is pointed to one conversation. The ISMC adventure started for Heavy K at a Bob Dron Annual Summer BBQ, with a conversation had with Brothers Nas D and Hammer.

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## Heavy K—President (continued)

This conversation set in motion his being either a part of, or heading, committees such as Mother Wright, Fallen Brothers, Holiday Jam, Anniversary Party and the Brotherhood Run. His first lady puts it straight, Heavy K is not a man who talks out of the side of his mouth. This is clear to anyone who has come across him riding from Daytona, Florida; Sturgis, South Dakota; and Milwaukee, Wisconsin to Atlanta, Georgia. Like Brother Maleman, Heavy says all rides are good, and some, “gooder than others,” with the worst weather being in Deadwood, South Dakota.



Talking to Heavy K, I was struck by his nonchalant attitude of how much or how hard he has worked for the club, in not promoting himself. He does not even brag how many miles he has travelled with his colors. What really got him going, is when he talk about how ISMC has allowed him the opportunity to expand the circle of Brotherhood in his life, making life-long connections to Northern California folk, or as a tourist in San Diego called it “Oak Land.” Heavy K also initiated the first annual “Big Hand” Run (now know as “Charity Run”); introduced the “Iron Souls Racing and Bike

Show”; and was a key member in bringing the annual Brotherhood Run to the Southern California areas of Santa Barbara and San Diego. Heavy K’s favorite charity is the Pilipino American Society for Education.

**Article and Photos by MacGyver**



## Heavy K—President (continued)



Seabreeze on the starting line, where he is most comfortable.



Ku'e takes the hit for forgetting the trophy.



Ku'e explains to the prospects what is expected of them. Smart ones take notes, and others learn the hard way.



Showing the brotherhood to all clubs.



Acting as tour guide is Southern California, and helping TKO off the mat, Heavy is always in the thick of it.



## Heavy K—President (continued)



Not only a rare photo of Heavy in pants, but a long coat too. 99.9% of the time you will find him in shorts or handing out awards to others.



Showing the Aloha spirit to the Island Palms chef, to whom he found the site for the Brotherhood Run.

## Heavy K—By Truck

You know every person has a unique fingerprint unto them self, that makes them easy to identify from one another. Then there are people who, when they walk into a room they have the innate ability to be recognized just by mere presence.

I have had the privilege of knowing Heavy "K" for almost five years since coming to the ISMC's in 2008. I find him to be a man of honesty and integrity. We have been across country to Atlanta in 2009 and have shared a lot of California Highway. I also had the privilege of being a member of his E-Board during his Presidency.

I look forward to highway runs and Friday, Saturday, and other days and nights of BRU with my Bother Heavy "K".

One horn honk left two honks to the right.



## Ku'e Joe—By Roadrunner

Joe "Heavy" aka "Ku'e" Angeles started his Prospect period sponsored by Nas-D and Mack in March 2004. He eventually became a member in June 2004, and subsequently served as President of the ISMC 2009-2012.

I recall that he had spent an inordinate amount of time as a "Hang-around" trying to decide whether he was interested in joining the ISMC. He watched & interacted with us long and hard, as we did him.

As a Prospect, he hooked up with us on a rented Harley Sportster in San Diego. He was quite a spectacle watching him ride from the rear. He looked like a fat kid on a kid's tri-cycle. At his expense and our amusement, we hid his keys after he left his keys in the ignition. Our razzing and laughter caused him much confusion, consternation and frustration since we were all mounted up ready to ride.

When he became a regular member, and due to being of Filipino-Hawaiian descent, we formed alliances thru him with Hawaiian or Asian-Pacific Islander motorcycle clubs in the bay area going on rides together and attending their luaus and/or other special events.

Personally, I took an immediate liking to him as we shared a common love of the Filipino & Hawaiian culture. As a Brother & Friend, I found him to be committed to the values and principles of the ISMC, which was indicative of his ongoing participation and support of club events and activities.

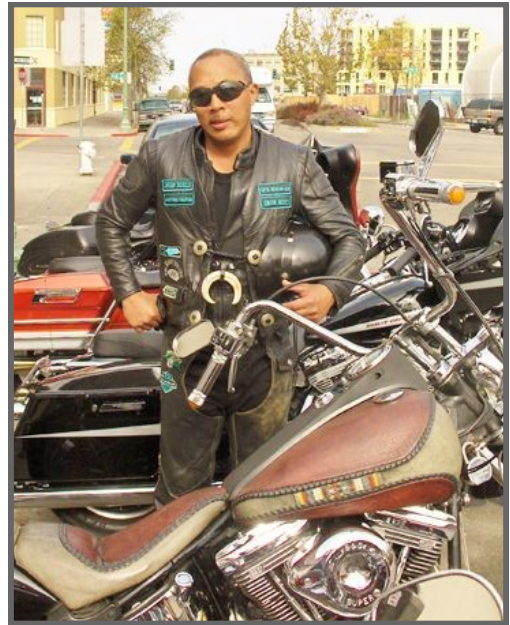


## Heavy K—By Iron Butt

Heavy K was President during one of the most pivotal moments in ISMC history: the move to reach the elusive goals of establishing a clubhouse and of creating a new chapter following our Constitution.

The ramp-up to these events were not without controversy. Change is most painful when we see organizational views beginning to diverge from our own view of how things should be.

As Heavy used to say, “The Club decides!” And so it does.



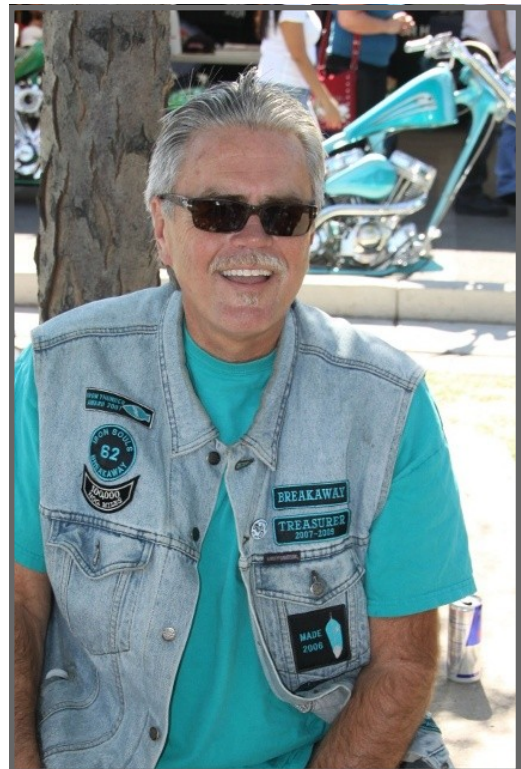
## Heavy K—By Breakaway

I always think of Heavy as one of the people that represented the reason I joined the Iron Souls. The clear, true diversity of the racial mix of our club. The fact that all races could come together in true brotherhood as One Tribe, continues to, for me represent the singular difference that makes the ISMC different from most other clubs. Heavy represented thru his actions a tremendous patience and inclusiveness in all his efforts as President. He repeatedly supported what the CLUB wanted to do and the direction it took. True unbiased leadership.

Except when it came to leading runs! I remember coming back from a brotherhood run down south and Heavy was leading the run, riding his Softail with the little cats eye mirrors. The pack all pulls over for a Highway Patrolman and Heavy just keeps puttin' up the road. About five miles later, he FINALLY looks in his mirrors and nobody is behind him!!

Never dress like Heavy when you ride! It doesn't matter if its 40 degrees out you will see him roll up with a cap, heavy coat, his colors, gloves and SHORTS! I think his maintained level of alcohol makes him impervious to the cold!

True warrior! True dat!



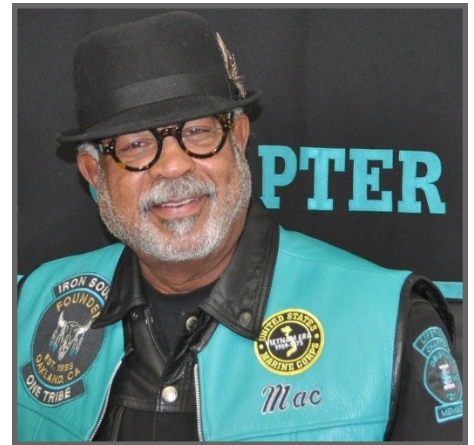
## Heavy K—By Mac

While serving in the capacity of President, Heavy put the Iron Souls on the course that was originally envisioned by the Original 21. That the Iron Souls were brothers first, showing brotherhood, unity and respect for one another. As a Founding Member of the Iron Souls, I say “thank you.”

I write this with Joy, because to the unknowing eye, Heavy appears to be the epitome of the ‘BAD BOY’ biker. I believe he enjoys this persona, having seen how people react when they first see him. However, do not be fooled. He is much more. Having been awarded a Bachelor’s and Master’s degree from San Diego State University; having a Doctorate in Educational Leadership; having served in the United States Marine Corps as an Officer, Captain; having ascertained the equivalent of 8th Degree Black and Professor in the Martial Arts; and being a devoted husband and father.

As the above indicates, Heavy is a well respected, articulate Educator who is highly valued within the Academic, Martial Arts and Motorcycle communities.

In closing, under Heavy’s leadership, the Iron Souls Motorcycle Club, Oakland, CA., found their direction. May they continue to follow that direction. It is a joy that I can say, he is and always will be my best friend, and an Iron Soul.



## Consumer Report

I am happy to report in finding a new location for Dyno Tuning. Owner, Don Shalla, of Don Speed Racing in Rancho Cordova is quite at ease in increasing horse power on Harleys, custom exhaust systems and fabrications. You will find him most impressed to discover that you are an Iron Soul, more impressed if you are Caucasian, but MOST impressed if you mention the name of Sea-

breeze. They do street, track, dirt, cruiser, and sport bikes.

[www.donspeedracing.com](http://www.donspeedracing.com)

916-853-9738

**Article and Photos by  
MacGyver**



## Santana Visits the Neimans

The Neimans, Mike and Jodie, have been friends of the ISMC always, before the Bikini Bike Washes (see past issues). The ISMC has always had a sanctuary at 1132 Main Street, Saint Helena, if you had a down bike or need a cup of coffee. It's always been worth the stop by to see what these two are up to. Jodie's Designs have her graphics creations all over the valley, and between renting HD's, Mikey is welding up unique pieces of artwork. His applications are best seen, rather than described. So when he first found an old aircraft engine that was once used for frost control in the vineyards, reconditioned it and mounted it to the front of his building, no one was really surprised. Everything after that was an alignment of planets, raw talent, engineering genius and determination.

This is not just my own opinion, it's plain to see. Skip spotted it back at a prior Niemans Bike Wash. Mikey walked Skip around what Jodie calls "the lineup" (see pic below). The massive engines are setup behind their home. Skip had to find me after the conversation, with a big Cheshire Cat grin, and recap the dialogue. Skip was so impressed with someone that had the vision, passion and ability to see things to the finish.

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## Santana Visits the Neimans (cont.)

So when Mikey sent me photos of Carlos Santana and his wife, I was not surprised. They were drawn through the doors of Mike and Jodie's business to ask about the incredible engine mounted to the building. I am sure they had no idea of what they were about to learn. Mikey told me Santana was surprised that so many engines were up and running. Once he took a look over the railroad tracks at the lineup, he would have spent more time asking questions that such a site would produce, but Carlos' fame had caught up with him. He found it distracting that his fans had found him. All he wanted to do was take photos of the engines.



## Santana Visits the Neimans (cont.)



Skip and I are planning a trip to see Mikey's latest creation of art and engineering. It is a Baja bug that is mounted with one of his engines. This is not just a piece of a strange mind. It could be, although it is not a question that Mikey is equipped with a unique brain. True that.

This is soon to be a running bug, destined for Bonneville Raceway. I will keep you informed. This show should hit the track soon, since a Facebook video of one of his test firing up of the engine. As you would think, it was loud, smoky and powerful. You don't see Mikey until the end of the video, when he stands up through the smoke with the biggest grin ever.

For an article about Neimans creation on Engine Labs with the history and specs of this Continental radial engine, go to the site below.

<http://www.enginelabs.com/news/radial-engine-prop-driven-vw-headed-to-bonneville/>

**Article and Photos by MacGyver**



## Brotherhood, Respect &amp; Unity



WWW.IRONSOULS.COM

## A Word From The Editor -Consumer Alert-

Being a small business owner myself, I hesitate to give another a bad review. However, having such a good start at Kyron Painting, as mentioned in a previous article, I could not let such failings pass unmentioned. The bloom is off the rose. I have experienced very poor quality paint work. It was only matched by the total lack of professionalism in getting even the poorest work out in time. After promising and



rescheduling my project so many times, I felt embarrassed for him and stupid myself. I had to pull my projects from him. They were returned with a broken piece, not done and/or poorly done. Other members have had similar problems. Use this vendor at your own peril. *Article and Photos by MacGyver*

## A Word From The Editor—Heavy K

Heavy K, aka Ku'e, Green Eyed Joe, Heavy Kick (original moniker that got shortened to Heavy K), Professor or President...whatever you call him, I suggest you say it with respect if you're in my presence. He is not someone who just expects respect, he has earned it!

