

SOUL SMOKE NEWS LETTER

AUGUST 2007 VOL: 6 PG1



FROM THE EDITOR: Ever... been thrown out of a Harley dealer for laughing at the price tags? Ever... tried to ride off with a padlock on your front wheel? Ever... been hit on the forehead by a 70 mph bumble bee? Ever... been amazed at how much green and yellow goop there is in a bumble bee? Ever...bought a sidecar outfit and smacked the chair into a gas pump the first time you got gas? Ever... waived to a fellow biker at 100+ and dislocated your shoulder? Ever... seen a patch holder smile? Ever...gone to the bathroom after dinner at your dates parents, and discovered your face/beard is covered in dead flies? Ever...refilled your bike with fresh oil, and then realized you haven't replaced the drain plug? Ever...decided to do your own servicing to save money, then paid the shop four

hours labor to put right your mistakes? **Ever...**wonder why bikers in the movies never suffer from helmet hair? **Ever...** thought that road rage should become an Olympic sport? **Ever...**had your bike condemned by the Govt. as 'environmentally unsafe' **Ever...**pulled up at a red light and heard the scream of tires skidding behind you? **Ever...** heard, and felt, a fly doing 12,000 revs inside your ear while wearing a helmet? **Ever...**forgotten to pick your kick stand up or put it down? **Ever...**done a wheel stand past a doorway on a sidewalk and discovered the police were just coming out the door? **Ever...**had a friend who had a plastic bag stick to his helmet visor while exiting the freeway? **Ever...**Had a friend buy spare parts for his Gold Wing at a Tupperware party? (**Article by Bo-dean**).

ISMC TREE "IT AINT NOTHIN BUT A RIDE"

The Roundup Wrap up 2007, I want to first thank the Brothers who so fittingly flew the Iron Souls MC Colors in Kansas City, Missouri and across these United States of America! Brother Beaver **Doctor** in the 757 Seat he earned after many years with United... Brothers Gil and Detour in their campers...Brother Voodoo, out of his retirement home in Tampa, Florida... VP KC in the ISMC fully decorated Chase Vehicle...and of course, special recognition must be made for Brothers DJ, Maleman and Zephyr (Lyons, Colorado), who can Proudly exclaim in this ISMC Year of the Ride, I RODE MINE, who were on the ground! We must also recognize the



ISMC Ladies that made the KC trip...Sandra, Camilla, Gloria, Migna and Raye added to our fun and enjoyment: what a grand and glorious time we had! Most of us arrived in KC, MO. on Monday, July 30. We had a very comfortable and almost completely dry trip from Oakland and Sacramento along I-80E, to... (Continued page two see Kansa City).













KANSAS CITY: Highway 50, to I-70E into KC right on schedule. We were accompanied by JJ and Shayk (The Black Biker Mag) of the Nubian Brothers... Bob, The Legend, Legland from Montana...and Splatt, a new friend from Richmond, CA. Camaraderie, friendship, laughs and fun were the highlights of this as well as all trips of this sort. Stopping to see the sights, breaking bread together... and then meeting the challenges of weather and road kept us together and safe as we made the 1,760 mile journey to



the 30h Annual National Bikers' Roundup! On Thursday, August 2, we were also joined by Van, The Star Man, Rountree (my natural brother), my eldest daughter Schautan, Schaunny Girl, and her husband Eward, Fuzzy, Reid (MadeMen MC) from Dayton, Ohio, and my first cousin Jeffrey, *The Controller*, Graves from St Louis, MO. In a lot of respects, the Roundup is a family affair!! Once there, it was more of the same. Visiting the Negro Baseball Hall of Fame, the Jazz Museum and the HD Plant (they make Sportsters, V-Rods and a customed special edition Softail there) were special attractions that made it to our schedule. Also, breaking bread at several of the legendary KC bar-b-que houses; at a friend of The Controller's mini mansion; and at the special camping digs of Detour and Gil (to say nothing about the many meals eaten at the Roundup itself), kept us happy with our stomachs full the whole six days we were in the Roundup



vicinity. Of course the Roundup itself was a non-stop attraction! People, machines, food, drag racing, music, dancing and daily entertainment of all sorts kept us excited and enticed by the constant Roundup happenings! We couldn't do it all but we certainly tried! Frankly, we had to go home to get some rest! The 30th Annual National Bikers' Roundup was a great time! We had unlimited fun and activity as only the ISMC and their friends can do! We made it back to the California Capital City and The Oakland Bay Areas safe and sound

just as we left them! We were enriched by the Roundup experience but most importantly by the personal, daily interactions we experienced with each other during what now seems to be a brief 12 days! There are no words that can capture the depth of this kind of trip and its benefits. As others have said, there is no better way to get to know your Brothers than to spend a few days away with them! I have been and am continually enriched by the annual travels arranged with my ISMC Brothers! I am excited, every year, to begin the next plan for this kind of get together! Stay tuned, My Brothers...get your vacation time and money together...there are several rides in the making right now...TOP's Austin, Texas run for the first (or second) weekend in June; the 31st Edition of the National Bikers' Roundup, in Pennsylvania (maybe York, Philly or Hershey); and, the HD 105th Anniversary during the Labor Day Weekend, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. 2008 will be just another year full of rides! There are many chances for us to enrich ourselves with ourselves...let's all take advantage of them when and while we can!! As has been said, *It ain't nothing' but a ride! Let's do it! Life is Good...! Be Tree!* (Article by our president Tree).



The Costa del Sol in Spain is on the Mediterranean Sea and is a beautiful place. We spent two weeks enjoying the sunshine and beautiful weather there with family, my daughter Kati, a friend of Kati's and Kati's mom. The trip was fantastic except for the driving adventures. Roads were narrow (which was a challenge

driving a Chrysler 300), students were out of school and the area is popular for the British, who had to get used to driving on the right side of the road. Driving to the top of the Rock of Gibraltar on narrow winding roads kept everyone in the car and on their toes! Needless to say, a bit too much to consider riding motorcycles safely. But, one surprise was to see several Harley's on the road and discover it was the annual European HOG Rally day.



The largest cathedral in the world in Seville, Spain was spectacular and houses the tomb of Christopher Columbus. It has an altar (one of many) that is made from 1500 kilos of gold! Yes, I did the math and in today's dollars its worth \$21 million just in the gold - then add on for the intricate detail sculpting! Another highlight was the Alhambra palace, an old 13th century Moorish palace converted by the Christians. It was another sight to see with the intricate carvings and incredible gardens. Recently included as a candidate as the new 7 wonders of the world, the Alhambra Palace was deserving, but did not win. A first and last experience included attending a real bull fight. A gruesome event









where several matadors essentially gang up on the bull to kill it. Starting on horseback, they displayed some incredible horseman, but the brutality of the bleeding bull and the final killing was still an experience a person only needs to see once. Four were killed at the event and the cut off ear was tossed to people sitting near by. My daughter Kati was glad it wasn't tossed to her. Also I made sure the ISMC was



represented at the bullfight with my colors! Ronda, Spain is an old city built on a huge gorge with buildings lining both sides, another spectacular sight to see. One of the



beautiful parts of Ronda is from the top of the gorge one can see the incredible never-ending agriculture that is representative of the area. It is rich country with rolling hills of sunflower fields, olive groves and numerous produce...

(Continued page four see Spain).





SPAIN: I call it "Napa on steroids!" One other feature is that Ronda has the oldest bullfighting ring in Spain where you can tour all the "behind the scenes" areas. At dinner we were entertained by a Flamenco show and one of the male dancers had been eveing my daughter Kati all

eyeing my daughter Kati all evening and finally he pulled her on stage to dance with him. She was a good sport and got up there, despite her reservations. The food was fantastic everywhere, whether it was Spanish Paella or Italian pasta. Or the best pizza ever in Ronda! One of the





highlights of the trip was visiting the Plaza of Spain in Seville. It is a large half circle building that is made with intricate ceramic pieces throughout. Stair railings, walls and crowns made of beautiful painted ceramics. Along the entire front of the building are sections of ceramic painted tile displays representing each of the provinces of Spain. A truly amazing place! The condo was right on the beach overlooking the Mediterranean Sea and the tide pools. Many days were spent in the sun or searching for treasures in the tide pools. A relaxing trip with many highlights of historical places and first (and last for the bullfight) experiences made it a trip to remember! (Article by Breakaway).



CRISSCROSSING AMERICA/IRON SOULS MOTORCYCLE CLUB REUNION

AUGUST 10-11, 2007

Tuesday, May 21, 2005 entry to **Crisscrossing America** Log - **408.0 Miles**, **1521.3 Total Miles** since start on May 15th. "......In an effort to make it to Laramie before sundown, I stretched the tank of gas. Harley's gauges are accurate (thank God), as I made it with the needle flickering on low reserve. From the road, Laramie is undistinguished. Hence, I rode almost past the city to a hotel on the eastern end without noticing any visible signs of an urban center. The Comfort Inn was a welcomed sight. I met a group of riders from the Sacramento Iron Souls Motorcycle Club in the lobby. They were riding to DC (for the Rolling Thunder gathering at the

Vietnam Wall) **and back** in two weeks. They average 600 to 700 miles per day (and I was complaining about 400). At their most considerate and kind invitation, we dined at Winger's up the road and shared family histories. Bennie Kirtman is a retired mail carrier; Ward "Tree" Rountree works for the teachers union as a grievance counselor and Richard "Gil" Gilbert was an ex Marine and retired entrepreneur. DJ, whom I said hello to briefly, stayed at the Comfort Inn to catch much needed rest. Many Harley experiences were traded that evening. I was asked to join the group on their ride to Denver the next morning but my schedule called for a more civilized departure than their 7 a.m. up and go/breakfast later routine. We bid farewell with an abrazo and I thanked all for letting me join the group.

(Continued page five see Crisscrossing)

CRISSCROSSING: If it were not for the Harley common denominator, this impromptu gathering, sadly, may not have occurred and I would be less rich and enlightened for it. We talked about that at dinner and we were grateful that the bikes brought us together."

It is now almost 27 months later and due to a spirited and gracious invitation, this rider is now in Sacramento, CA on a Sunday morning reflecting on a reunion that is one of few that has left a permanent mark on my soul. I arrived on Friday, August 10th and joined Tree Rountree, his beautiful fiancée, Rae, and Gil and Sandra Gilbert for



dinner at Lucca's. For me it was as if I had left a family for two years, only to come back to a warm, embracing reception with all desperately catching up on time lost. Tree was quick to remind me during and after dinner of a dawn departure the next morning to attend the ISMC monthly meeting in Oakland, CA at Carrows Restaurant, which he would preside over as President. Much to Tree's surprise, I showed up at his doorstep at 6:30 a.m., loaded the panniers with warm clothing and hopped on his "loaner" bike to rendezvous with DJ, 3 Hawks and others at a gas station before heading west on I-80 to Oakland. I learned much on that cool/cold morning ride – discipline, choreography, communication, trust, all at 80 to 90 miles per hour. Tree was not going to be late to his own meeting or miss breakfast! I was introduced to the assembled group along with a prospective member, and at Tree's urging, shared the story and the sample book of Crisscrossing America, an experience which was made so much more poignant because of our chance meeting in Laramie. I told the group that the impetus for making this book project a charitable undertaking, was due in large part to Tree, Gil and Maleman. I excused myself from the meeting and once it adjourned I was able to meet and speak with this unique and admirable group of people, KC being the exception? Couldn't be, not KC! (Article by John Gussenhoven).



IRON SOULS ENJOY A DAY AT THE SAN JOSE JAZZ FESTIVAL

Brothers Baseman – Naz-D - Richie Rich and Tree. Not photoset are Bo-dean KC Brother D and guest John Gussenhoven, take a moment from our busy schedule to enjoy good food beverages and music after our **ISMC** club meeting. A ride to the Jazz festival is just what we needed to get away for a few hours and ride. The weather was nice and once again the **ISMC** flying its colors and attracting good conversation and people that just want to talk and

ask of our meaning and what we do. Our polite response is we ride - give of ourselves to the Community of Oakland Ca. and our Brother Hood is strong. (Article by Bo-dean).



A'S GAME; IRON SOULS BO-DEAN AND WIFE MAKE ONE HAND CATCH on the bike at

the Oakland Hog Chapter ride around the warning track before the baseball game. What a beautiful day it was to participate with the HOG group and two hundred motorcyclist for a putt around the green in front of thousands of people.` "what a feeling it was as if I were about to play the game" it was a great performance of the Iron Souls to hold them hogs steady around the field displaying good looking Bikes and nothing but a skilled performance by the Iron Souls MC and for that moment a motorcycle team rumbling on a field of dreams, as D-tour

put it this could only come around once in a lifetime. (Continued page six see A's).



A's: The most special time we brothers have is when we give ourselves to family and Taking our significant ones and friends to share an IRON SOUL moment such as our anniversary dinner The Mother Wright poker run, and our Xmas party and all runs they wish to participate in, with the exception of the Brother hood run; strictly business. And for the ride on the Oakland A's Baseball field it

was truly a highlight and a performance." It was a pleasure to ride my wife in this magnificent setting and to have my club brother D-tour ride my daughter and let her experience and remember the moment with her parents a ride she will never forget (Thank you D-Tour). After the ride around the green it was time to eat at the top plaza - sort of straight away center field were we ate polish dogs and hot dogs – burgers – salads and cookies A good cigar then up to our seats to watch the Oakland A's play the Kansas City Royals.



Significant ones, Family members, Ladies of the IRON SOULS have a day of fun at the ballpark. (Article by Bo-dean).



IRON SOUL, CYDECAR: To all of my Brothers, It is truly a honor to be a Iron Soul, not only do I get to hang out with a bunch of dedicated, professional respectful and just cool people, I also get to be involved in helping within the community from Mother Wright, Lend a Hand and every other activity that the club is involved with. Certainly without saying it's also a lot of fun to get out on my Harley and ride, and hear the loud thunder of all the bikes as we roll from one fun spot to another. I am truly a fortunate individual to be involved with each and every one of you brothers I love you all and look forward to spending much more time with you, Brotherhood – Respect – And Unity. (Article by Cydecar).

IRON SOULS PICNIC AND BB-Q COOKS OFF WITH KC AT THE GRILL



Our Brother and Vice President prepare grills at 8:00am for the big BB-Q and picnic at Roberts Park in Oakland California. **Brother KC** shows his dedication to the



IRON SOULS - day after day and event after event whether it be the Xmas party - Mother Wright -Lend a Hand - IRON SOUL - Little League Baseball - The Anniversary Dinner -Brother Hood run - Earth Day - Prospect Ceremonies - long overnight rides or even a short roll down the highway, KC is always apart of and helping the Chair person and his

committee in every aspect, he's their to help make it happen no matter the pain he feels do to him being crushed by two Riggs while on the job some years ago. But on this day our Brother decided to do the Barbequing even prepared all of the IRON SOUL meats and seasoned to near perfection for Thirty one club members and their Families giving us all he got to see the Iron souls eat



and be happy. Coming together is how the Iron Souls live and ride we do this all year around there is never a dull moment when the Souls and family get together and have a good



this club, the park rangers even want to help and be a part of just that moment, one love to the park rangers. The day has warmed up and the dominoes got hot at the table, brothers and family members gathered to hear the domino lingo and the smack of the bones to the table along with the good smell aroma of a good Cohiba Cigar.



Cydecar - head of table invites the brothers and family to the table for a friendly game of dominoes.



ISMC LEND (ING)-A-HAND

Despite a later scheduling conflict, the ISMC, as usual, went above and beyond the expectations of others. On a brisk Saturday morning, August 25, several ISMC Members made an early morning rendezvous, 7:00 a.m., no less, with several other *Lend-A-Hand* volunteers to setup the *Lend-A-Hand Annual Back to School Backpack Giveaway*! Passing boxes from a second story storage area, the ISMC moved tables and boxes full of



thousands of calculators, pencils, crayons, notepads, books and, of course, backpacks to the parking lot staging area for the 10:00 a.m., stuffing and ultimate delivery of the completely full backpacks to students and children of the Oakland community.

What a beautiful sight we were: these dedicated men preparing a giveaway designed to help the children of Oakland get off to the right start for the new school year! The ISMC respects and understands the value of education. We constantly urge the young people we meet, as we ride our Hogs throughout this community, to get the best possible education they can! This *Lend-A-Hand* effort is designed to give students some of the basic tools to help them be their very best! The ISMC is a very proud partner for this *Lend-A-Hand* project! We extend a very special *note of appreciation* to our Brother Nas-D (TOP LEFT) for organizing us and for making sure we continued our important supportive role for this program. *Lend-A-Hand* can be sure to count on the ISMC for efforts to reach-out to the deserving students of our Oakland schools. The ISMC continues to *live* its Creed...we give back to our community again and again!

(Article by our President Tree).







IRON SOUL X-MAN - CHAIRMANS QUOTE:

The ISMC 2007 Mother's Wright Committee stands committed to keeping our ISMC Brotherhood involved passionately with helping Mother Wright this year, by raising funds to help her organization continue to operate, and succeed in helping the Oakland communities as it has done over the past years. The committee has worked endless hours conducting meetings, gathering information, making phone calls, and even attempting to reach out to get public support from the general public, which I am proud to say has been a wonderful experience to be part of. The teamwork that is involved in this endeavor is simply amazing! The ISMC brotherhood is a strong force that I am proud to be part of" The

ISMC brothers have been so supporting with their diligence in supporting the committee by getting flyer's out to the public, selling raffle tickets, gathering sponsorships, and being there for us for any beckon call, which by the way the real call hasn't been put out yet. The brothers' real support will be needed mostly on the day of the event. Please stand-by for the real call on October 20th thank you my brothers, Committee Chairman X-Man. (Article by Xman)