

Volume 4 Issue 1 - Feb/March 2020

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# *Louisiana* **BIKER**

**Charlie  
Brechtel**

**Musician  
Biker  
Movie Star**



**By, For, and About Louisiana Bikers**  
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# WE'RE BY YOUR SIDE



# LOUISIANA BIKER MAGAZINE

Volume 4, Issue 1, February/March 2020

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# CHARLIE BRECHTEL

## BIKER - MUSICIAN - MOVIE STAR



“In all the world, only two legendary cultures exist that are purely American. They center around the music known as The Blues, and the American Motorcycle Culture.” —From the opening of Charlie Brechtel’s biker movie, *Rough Boys*

Charlie Brechtel grew up in New Orleans, surrounded by a family of gangsters; not the Crips and Bloods variety, rather the Good Fellas, Italian variety. He was raised rough, with a no-nonsense upbringing that shares many of its rules with the biker culture. We’re talking about such rules as “never snitch” and “your word is your bond” and “show no fear.” He spent many of his formative years listening to Blues musicians play at his Aunt’s bar. In this classic New Orleans Club, Charlie learned to love music and motorcycles; passions that would define his life. “A lot of motorcycle clubs hung out at my Aunt’s bar,” Charlie tells us. “The Gallopin’ Gooses used to hang out there. Then they’d ride over to the Royal Castle burger joint and take up that entire side of the street with their bikes. We’d watch the Mardi Gras parades from there. I was like 13-years-old and just loved that scene; bike people diggin’ the Blues.” Charlie moved to California and started a band called *Pointe LaHache* in 1989. “I wrote a song called

‘Redneck Mother’ and people went crazy over it,” Charlie recalls. The song echoed Charlie’s down to earth code of ethics. “The San Jose Hells Angels came to hear me play. They invited me to the clubhouse. Then they invited me to go ridin’, and pretty soon, I was the club’s favorite band.” This was not just because Charlie is a stand up biker, but also because his music is the perfect soundtrack for the biker lifestyle, taking listeners on a two-wheeled sojourn that began with the end of World War II and the beginning of the wild ones. Goodtime Charlie, as he is known in the music world, weaves legendary bikers into his songs; men such as Wino Willy Forkner and Sonny Barger. “I met Sonny at a club run and told him I had a song for him,” Charlie remembers. “I got up on stage and did ‘Red and White’ for the first time. Pretty soon, I started writing all motorcycle songs. About then the Internet was firing up and I had a little web site. I was getting gigs at motorcycle rallies all over the country.” This led to the Charlie Brechtel Band being booked on their own stage in Sturgis every year, as the house band at the famous Buffalo Chip. His popularity and acclaim reached television when his song ‘Riding in the Wind’ was chosen to be used in the smash hit TV series *Sons of Anarchy*.

The religion of “motorcyclism” also led Charlie to create *Bikers Inner Circle Radio* in 1996. “I had to invent *Biker Radio* to get my songs on the air,” Charlie says. “A Warner Bros executive told me there was no genre for biker music. But I knew that I had to keep doing this. I have to break down those doors.” Today *Bikers Inner Circle* is the biggest biker radio network in existence.

In his travels, Charlie has torn down walls and opened doors for bikers from all walks of life. In fact, since his music takes in the entire riding spectrum, he has been able to break down some doors and encouraged communication between motorcycle clubs. We can think of no other musician who has been able to bridge the gap between clubs the way Charlie has. His All-American motorcycle music albums include *Freedom*, *Iron Buffalo*, *Iron Voodoo*, and *Made in the USA*. Outside of the biker world, Charlie has worked with such world-class musicians as Gregg Allman, B.B. King, Dr. John, Buddy Miles, Aaron Neville, John Lee Hooker and Deacon Jones. He has opened for such artists as Dave Mason, Foghat, Edgar Winter, Jackyl and many others.

Playing with Blues legends, Charlie saw how great artists such as John Lee Hooker and Deacon Jones could so easily be forgotten. So, with producer Dennis Sanfilippo, the two friends started the Blues Awards to honor veteran musicians and create a scholarship for music programs. His long friendship with Dennis has included producing albums, and now, biker movies. Their film *Rebel on the Highway* is a modern day twist on the folk legend of Bluesman Robert Johnson selling his soul to the Devil in exchange for guitar-playing prowess. The movie was made by bikers, for bikers, and the entire cast rides. *Rebel on the Highway* has five stars on Amazon Prime and is also available on the website *Choppertown*. DVDs, Blu-Rays and the soundtrack album can be purchased on [rebelonthehighway.com](http://rebelonthehighway.com).

The same team is currently in production on their second biker film, *Rough Boys*, in which viewers can gather clues in an on-screen treasure hunt to find a real treasure in the form of a \$30,000 custom chopper built by Mondo of Denver’s Choppers and motorcycle industry leader Paughco, as well as \$10,000 in cash! Not too shabby a life for the “rough boy” who learned to play The Blues and make his mark in two-wheeled history. “It’s all about motorcyclism,” Charlie laughs. “I don’t want to be a mayor, or a congressman or the President or anything like that. I just want to be remembered as the guy who is known for doing motorcycle music.”

We’d say that’s mission accomplished, Charlie!

by Dave Nichols



## ROUGH BOYS VS. EASY RIDERS

Dennis Hopper and Peter Fonda did not write a full script for their movie, making most of it up as they went along. They didn't hire a crew, instead they picked up hippies at communes across the country and used friends and passers-by to hold the cameras.

When the history of Charlie's movies is written, there will undoubtedly be comparisons. While there was a working script for the Rough Boys, director Dave Nichols and Charlie had characters mostly ad lib their lines and the scenes were often collaborated on set. Friends held cameras, extras were friends and there was even a scene requiring guys that were randomly picked up at local restaurant.

Unlike the Easy Rider movie where specially constructed bikes were used, however, is the fact that the riding scenes in Rough Boys involved characters on their own bikes. The exception was Charlie, who was provided a beautiful new Indian by Metro Milwaukee Indian, and bikes loaned by Dana Peters.



"Goodtime is a true biker, musician, and entertainer that has the charisma to make any biker want to follow him and his belief in Motorcyclism."

Jeff and Becky Leitner



"Goodtime Charlie is one of the most dedicated people I know. Whether it be his music, ( which I haven't heard one song I haven't liked), the radio show, ( Bikers Inner Circle Radio a true frontier in biker radio), the movies, (Rebel On A Highway & Rough Boys) or Motorcyclism he gives his all 100%. His caring, compassionate side shines through when help is needed. His continued efforts to keep the history and enthusiasm of the worldly biker alive is second to none! I am forever grateful for the opportunity and support he has giving me. A true mentor! Love ya brother!"

Rock N Rollz (BIC Radio Personality)



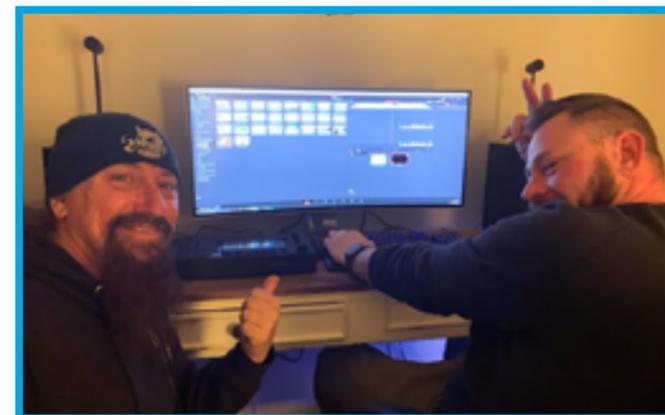
One of my favorite stories about Charlie goes back to New Orleans Bike Week, 2016, when his band kicked it off on Opening Night. They were on the main stage, doing a great show, when a 2nd Line Parade passed by on the street alongside the stage. I don't know if it was for a funeral or what, but Charlie stopped the band in the middle of a song to let the Parade go by. As they were passing, and Charlie's band caught on to what they were playing, he joined in and played along until the 2nd Line was gone, then picked right back up with his set. That's about as 100% Louisiana as you can get.

Charlie has had me on his Goodtime Charlie morning show on Biker's Inner Circle Radio a couple times. It's always just like catching up with an old friend, talking about music, motorcycles, Louisiana, or just anything else that comes to mind. I'm often in the chatroom there on weekdays, it's always a good crowd. Come join is at <http://www.bicradio.com/>.

You can get more info on the movies, "Rebel on the Highway", and the new film, "Rough Boys", at <https://rebelonthehighway.com/>.

You can order DVDs or Blu-ray discs, Soundtrack albums with an all-star lineup, and other merch there, With Charlie, it's always a good time.

Frosty



# THE TRUTH ABOUT MC'S PART 2

by Snoopy

A couple of years ago I went on a bit of a rant of how the world is so busy stereotyping motorcycle clubs they will most likely never learn the truth. To be exact, it was in the July 2016 issue of Louisiana Biker. Well I'm stepping up onto my soap box again after going to an amazing event yesterday (October 20, 2018) and witnessing what I witnessed.

Now let's get it straight right from the get-go, it wasn't AT the event that caused my Irish to get riled again; it wasn't the clubs at all! It was what I witnessed from a whole other type of club; namely, the LE. Y'all tell me if any of this I'm going to say sounds familiar to y'all; I'm betting it will to a lot of y'all who are reading!

Those of y'all who know me, know I can no longer ride. But, guess what! Even though I don't ride, I get profiled also!! I'm blessed to quite often be in the middle of many clubs and that's including not just MC's, but RC, MM, MA, and of course ABATE considering I am ABATE. So I have stickers on my truck supporting these clubs and organizations. I cannot begin to count the number of times I have had LE pull up behind me when I'm in the big cities of Shreveport, Bossier, Alexandria, etc... and see them looking at my stickers. Of course the #1 club they are looking at I'm sure is the Red & Gold stickers and that's just fine. They can check me out because my record is clean, my driving record is clean, I have a valid driver's license & insurance; call me in if that makes you feel better. Often I can see the expression on their faces; which I almost want to describe as disappointment and sometimes surprise. Of course, more often than not they don't give me a second look; but there have been quite a few times they did.

When my poor ol' Malibu finally broke down for good and I got the truck, I almost immediately started putting my support stickers on it, plus my Snoopy stickers too. I do this for a reason, so my biker friends know it's me on the highway and especially in the event I need some sort of help. It's also helped keep me safe, which I won't go into.

As we know, bikers take care of their own by holding benefits; but they also take care of a lot of others! Especially kids!! They hold benefits for people who have cancer, who have passed with no insurance or money, one lady who was a heart patient, so many cases. But you very rarely hear about the "motorcycle gangs" in that light on the news.

On October 20th, I was at a huge event! There were at least 400 motorcycles and no idea how many cages. The event was for a 50th Bandido Birthday. Bandido Wesley has been in for 50 years; that is major and there were a whole lot who turned out for this party. Only thing is, it wasn't just bikers or civilians; LE (in all forms) were driving up and down the road and

even stopped to complain about where everybody was parked, although there wasn't a problem with where the bikes were parked. Where the party took place is only a mile or two from the main highway and I wish I had counted how many LE I had passed in that short distance when I left. Further down, I saw one parked off of the highway and kind of hid. I thought that was illegal now.

There were no issues at the party; everybody was having a blast! Everybody got along; I never even heard a slight disagreement. But with the stereotyping and profiling of our community, the LE was out in force. Let me tell you something, I'm a very protective Granny! But when I'm around these clubs, I have let my 9 year old granddaughter run free and get out of my sight as long as she stayed on the property because I knew nobody would hurt my baby in this group. There are kids at these events often and they are safe. They are much safer in this group than in many other groups. For crying out loud, look at the news! How many times have you heard of a biker hurting a child??? Honestly, I can't think of a time ever! I would a lot rather my grandchildren be around these guys than some LE.

All of this profiling against bikers leads me to another story, which is ironic. In North Louisiana we had a State Trooper who profiled bikers a lot, especially patches. Thanks to his profiling, at a friend's expense, ABATE of Louisiana, Inc was able to fight and change the mask law. ABATE gets the credit for this, but honestly we can give thanks to our friend, Paul who ended up in jail over this profiling. There were others who this trooper profiled and arrested even up until a few months ago. But, the one who was doing the profiling actually was involved in criminal activity and is no longer LE. Isn't that funny how that works? I won't discuss his charges, but let's just say everybody is much safer around bikers than they are him.

I will now step back off of my soap box and who knows, maybe it'll be another two years before I feel the need to get back on it again. But, with any luck I will never feel that need to have to get on it again. We have to end motorcycle profiling and the only way to do it is to join A.B.A.T.E. & Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) in this fight! Please send in any calls to action to help bring this to an end!!!

Links:  
A.B.A.T.E. of Louisiana, Inc  
<http://abateoflouisiana.org/>

Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF)  
<https://mrf.org/>

If y'all made it to the end, thank you for taking the time to read it and please help us fight!

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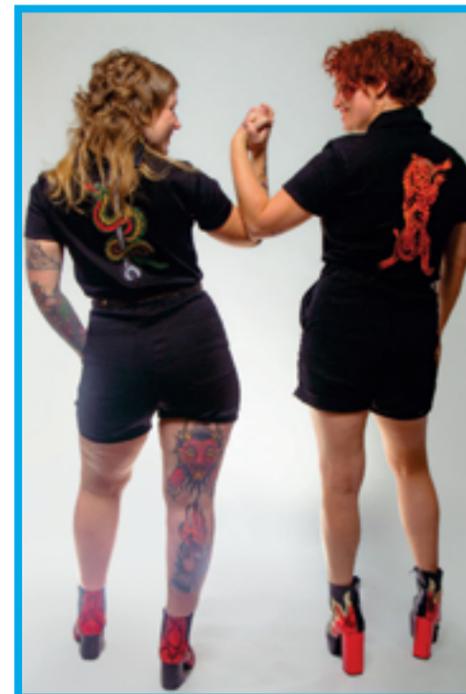


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# BIKER SANTAS! by Glamorous

I was able to meet up with Glamorous and the rest of the Biker Santas at Mariners Inn of Hammond, and I really had a great time. It's nice to see people doing such great things. *Frosty*

The year 2015 marked a thought of spreading Christmas Cheer throughout various communities. After being a part of a Christmas toy giveaway organized by a coalition of women bikers, over 500 large bags of toys were given out in the Opelousas area. I loved the idea of what we were doing and decided that one of our goals was to keep it going in other parishes. Along with the help of some of my wind sisters, brothers Biker Santas was originated in 2016.

We started out by participating with Opelousas City Marshall Paul Mouton Annual Christmas Community Toy Giveaway. During the course of years we took it upon ourselves to continue with our Christmas giveaways. In 2017 we spread Christmas cheer at the Summit Retirement Center in Alexandria. Upon our arrival, Diane Davis unbeknownst to us had some residents outside anxiously awaiting to see us ride in on our bikes. With a few monetary donations we were able to spread Christmas cheer throughout the facility along with our two Santa Helpers (thanks to Markayla Lewis who loves to bake cupcakes). She and Ja'Zahria Cass visited the clients rooms passing out cupcakes.

In 2016, 2017 and 2018 we participated with the Tyrone Glover Foundation by helping distribute toys in Opelousas. In 2019, our goal of adding more places to go started taking effect, with an invite to participate in the Community Christmas party at the Northgate Mall in Lafayette. Michelle Shakesnider organized the meet up times and places in order for everyone to ride in as a group. Not only were the people happy to see us, they insisted upon a brief motorcycle parade to take place inside of the mall. Yes! They rode their motorcycles through the Northgate Mall and the children were thrilled.... It has been a great year for us. We've embarked a large interest of those willing to participate. Biker Santas, all 54, happily met the requirements of purchasing the appointed outfits and their willingness to participate, we had participants streaming in from New Orleans, Baton Rouge, Lafayette, St. Martinville, Shreveport, Hammond, Lake Charles, Rayne, Cecelia, Opelousas, Carencro, Zachary, and Alexandria. With monetary donations to purchase blankets and the blankets that were donated from various businesses, we were able to distribute throughout the areas of Hammond, Ponchatoula, and Albany.



Our "Covered with Love" event organized by Maryann Walker brought about lots of smiling faces from the residents in various retirement living residential communities. With such a numerous amount of blankets we were able to make a surprise visit to distribute in a nursing home in Hammond. In Alexandria we volunteered our time to ring the bell for donations on behalf of the Salvation Army, with an overwhelming response. The buckets were overflowing with monetary donations. We finished out the month of December with an invite to participate in the Nubian Krusers Annual Toy Run, which had a very large array of motorcycles. We rode to different neighborhoods while the Nubian Krusers had their distribution of toys, and Biker Santas gave out the remaining blankets to the adults accompanying their child.

Biker Santas are not only in Louisiana, we have Texas, Mississippi, and Texarkana spreading Christmas Cheer as well. We're looking forward to continuing our mission for years to come...



# SCV MECHANIZED CAVALRY

By: Snoopy

SCVMC held their 22nd Annual June 13th through the 15th in Jefferson, Texas. When I arrived on the 15th, there were SCVMC everywhere in Jefferson! There was between 270 and 285 people attending the annual. After visiting with some of the people outside, I went inside to look for Bobby White, Captain, LA SCVMC 1B.

Captain White immediately got together a couple of other officers; Captain Frank Polk of Company C Texas and Major Frank Dietz commanding the 1st Battalion, which led to a very interesting meeting with a lot of laughs. They take the SCVMC very seriously in everything they do, but bring a lot of light-heartedness and camaraderie with it.

I learned a lot during this short meeting about the SCVMC; I never realized everything they do and I'm sure there are many others who also don't know what all these good men do. I knew they were Sons of Confederate Veterans and knew they placed battle flags on graves of Confederate Veterans. I knew they, like so many of us are against the removal of our Confederate Memorials. Other than that, I really only knew they rode motorcycles together. But, then I found out not all do ride. Riding a motorcycle is not a requirement; this is called Dismounted Cavalry.

I was surprised to learn the hotel where many of the SCVMC stayed had an employee who was "offended" by the SCVMC and the display of flags. The members left the hotel with money refunded due to the "offense." I don't recall how many members were at this hotel, but there were many. The hotel they moved to stated they loved the Confederacy and SCVMC was more than welcomed. Unfortunately, these people who are offended by the flag and wanting monuments removed do not know the true history. SCVMC wants to educate people about the true history of the South.

What do the SCVMC do? They do, as mentioned above, place flags on the resting places of our Confederate Veterans. President Eisenhower in 1959 declared our Confederate Veterans were American Soldiers. They ensure our Confederate Veterans have a marker and take care of their graves. They put up flag poles; as Major Dietz stated, "If they tear down one flag pole, we put up two more." The SCVMC coordinates some of the rallies in the fight against the removal of our Confederate Memorials; they also clean monuments. They fight for bills and call their legislators and the governor. The removal of statues is a big concern and fight of the SCVMC.

The SCVMC was formed when so many members of the SCV would show up on motorcycles and wanted to bring everyone together. Reuben "Ben" Hamby, SCVMC #1 is from Maryland and is the one who really got SCVMC started. General Kevin Stone is from North



Carolina is SCVMC #5 and has been to every annual. Leo Sykes SCVMC #3 is from Sulphur Springs, Texas. The very first annual was held in his driveway with people bbq'ing and people playing guitars and banjos. When Major Dietz joined, Texas had 5 members and now they have close to 200.

To be a member of the SCVMC "they must be a member in good standing with the Sons of Confederate Veterans and abide by all standing rules of the SCV. They must maintain current dues with the SCV. If they don't then they are no longer a member of the SCVMC. However, being reinstated in the SCV will have them reinstated with the SCVMC," according to 1st Lieutenant Brian McClure. The only fee with the SCVMC is a one-time fee of \$100 at the time of application to cover the back patch, also known as a Stainless Banner. There are no dues as they are not a club, but rather a "Heritage group". There are a set of "standing orders to uphold the ethics and values," which is a necessity (in my humble opinion) in any group, club, organization, etc...

I found the following on the SCVMC website, written by General Kevin Stone, whom I had the honor of meeting at the annual.

"We have formed this special interest group of SCV members who like to ride motorcycles to assist in the Charge of the SCV and hope you will give thoughtful consideration in "Joining the Cavalry". We attend all the usual biker rides, as well as, those specifically dealing with the War Between the States and History in General. The bond we all share as descendants of the most noble warriors this Nation has produced cannot be bought or replicated and as such this makes the Mechanized Cavalry a unique group in itself. If I may be of any assistance feel free to E-Mail (scvmecav@hotmail.com) me.

Ride as you would with Forrest!

Kevin Stone

General SCV Mechanized Cavalry, Commanding



GENERAL KEVIN STONE



MAJOR FRANK DIETZ



CAPT FRANK POLK



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If you are interested in Mechanized Cavalry, go to their website at <http://www.csascvmc.org/>

Special thanks to 1st Lieutenant Brian "Vex" McClure, PR/ Communications & Executive Officer for the Louisiana SCV Mechanized Cavalry for all of his help and especially his patience with my questions, plus proofing the article for me.



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# GRAY GHOSTS MC CELEBRATE 25 YEARS

by Snoopy



September 2019 the Gray Ghosts Motorcycle Club celebrated 25 years. I had the honor of having a sit-down with three individuals who were involved at the beginning of the Ghosts and before: Bandido Paul Pierce, Gray Ghosts Lou Hagler, Hell On Wheels Dennis Ocon "Gandalf", each were interested in starting a new club.

In the mid-80's, anywhere between 15-30 riders would go to Dennis Ocon's (who would later become HOW Gandalf) house on Sundays to get away from the HOG chapter and would ride over into East Texas. But, Dan Spears aka Smoot was the brain child of it all. Smoot was frustrated with riding in the HOG chapter; he went to Paul's (now Bandido Paul) house and said "We need to start a club." Bandido Paul said he blew him off at first, but Smoot kept on bugging him. Bandido Paul said "I don't know anything about starting a club!"

Smoot's (now ex) wife, Donna knew Bandido Kenny in East Texas, so they went to talk to Kenny about starting up a club. Bandido Kenny first told them to be Bandidos. There wasn't an active Bandidos chapter at this time in Shreveport, although there has always been a Bandido presence. None of them wanted to be Bandidos at this time so Bandidos Craig, Scruffy, Tramp & Kenny gave them advice on how to start a motorcycle club.

Bandido Paul along with Gray Ghosts Lou, Smoot and David Logan, gathered at Smoot's house along

with a few others to discuss talking with the Bandidos about structuring a club. Once the decision was made, the Bandidos suggested guidelines for the new club to follow. Bandido Paul then told the Bandidos what they could expect from new club in the future.

Apparently deciding on a name for the club was one of the hardest decisions. Rebel Souls was discussed and was immediately nixed. Southern Knights was kicked around, but that made the Bandidos think too much of the Glen Campbell song with the same name. The Bandidos said every time they would hear the name Southern Knights, they would think of that song. It's a decent song, but they didn't want that song stuck in their head all of the time either. Eventually, David Logan came up with the name Gray Ghosts and they all agreed.

They "Gray Ghosts" were doing it the right way. As long as they did it the right way and didn't embarrass the Bandidos, they could go for it. The Bandido National President at the time had talked about starting something new, which would eventually lead to the creation of the support club & everyone was excited about this. They met with the National President, National Sergeant at Arms, Chapter President, & Chapter Sergeant at Arms. Afterwards they said it sounds like a plan, let's go with it & see where it goes. The Bandidos would discuss what would eventually be the Gray Ghosts were doing at the National Run in Sturgis. After meeting with the National & Chapter Presidents & Sergeant at Arms, Bandido Paul was asked, "Why don't

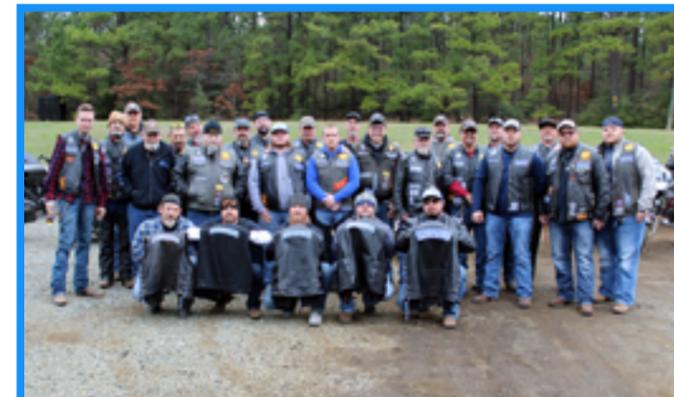
you come back here and look at our race bike?" Bandido Paul stated he knew at that point they were going to "beat him", but he said "alright, let's go look at your race bike." Listening to Bandido Paul tell this story (which he laughs throughout the whole story), it made me think of going behind the old proverbial woodshed. But sure enough, they walk to the back, flip on a light and there is a race bike. Can you imagine the relief? He said everything was going too well, never a glitch. They were told, "do what you want, just don't embarrass us."

September 4, 1994, the Gray Ghosts Motorcycle Club became official.

The first Bandido Support Clubs were the Gray Ghosts, the Hombres, and Hole N Da Wall. Being a Bandido Support Club gives the member a chance to check out the Bandidos & their way of doing things in case that member is interested in eventually moving up, but it also gives the Bandidos a chance to check out the support club members.

Originally the support clubs couldn't use the red & gold colors in any form or fashion. Of course this decision was later changed but the colors have to be reversed. When this decision was made, Bandido Paul asked Bandido Craig if they needed to change the Ghosts' colors to gold and red also. Bandido Craig's answer was "if it works, leave it." This is why the Gray Ghosts were the only support club (at the time) to have colors other than gold and red. The Ghosts' colors are blue & gray.

Approximately a year after the start of support clubs, what is now known as the "heart patch" was designed so the Bandidos & other support clubs would know the person wearing the patch is a support club member. The Gray Ghosts MC was the first support club to wear the heart patch. Bandido Paul states; "The Ghosts, at one time, had sent more people to the Bandidos than any other club."



Gray Ghosts - John Frank Run 2020

Bandido Paul & Smoot came up with the Gray Ghosts back patch concept; the chapter helped design & approve the patch. Molly Harper, an artist from Minden, was contracted to do some work for the company where Bandido Paul worked. Bandido Paul was working on the skull for the back patch when she looked over his shoulder and asked "What is that?" and he answered, "It's supposed to be a skull." She answered that it looked like a mask, she took the pencil from Bandido Paul and in about 5 minutes had it cleaned up and made it look like a skull.

The original Gray Ghost, who the club was named after was Colonel John S Mosby who joined the Confederate Army as a private and worked his way up to colonel. He even fought under J.E.B. Stuart from 1862 until General Stuart was killed in May 1864. He was a lawyer before joining and after the war, as well. He was shot five times during the war with all five shots going through. General Robert E Lee once said that Colonel Mosby was a great partisan, but he was always getting hurt. Colonel Mosby was called the Gray Ghost due to his attacking Yankee Camps at 2 to 4 in the mornings, stealing their horses and supply wagons. He would be gone before the Yanks knew he had even been around. Col Mosby went on to live to be in his early 90's.

There is only one "FF" (Founding Father) patch in the Gray Ghosts MC and that patch belongs to Bandido Paul. Bandido Paul said he never dreamed it would make it this long and become what it is today. Bandido Paul moved up to the Bandidos in 2000 and is the last of the original 10 members for the Shreveport Bandidos Chapter. Gray Ghosts Lou is the last charter member of the Gray Ghosts Mother Chapter in Shreveport.



GGMC Ambassador Freddie G & Snoopy  
The Gathering 2019

The Gray Ghosts MC Charter Members:

Bandido Paul Pierce

Dan "Smoot" Spears

Gray Ghosts MC Bill "The Dog" Wooley

David Logan

Gray Ghosts MC Lou Hagler

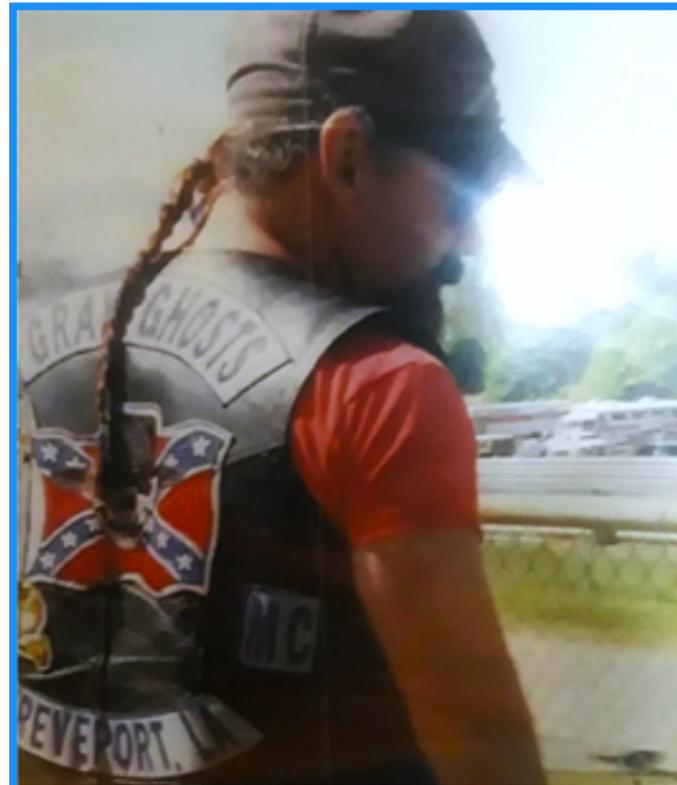
Richard Arrington

The Gray Ghosts MC Mother Chapter's clubhouse's is held by White Eagle MC (AMA) member, Dennis Leggett. The deal for the clubhouse was made on a handshake. The deal was made with the understanding White Eagle could use the clubhouse one Tuesday night a month if ever needed (it hasn't), no one could live there, and no bikes would be worked on inside of the clubhouse. The deal has worked well between the two clubs all of these years.

Per Dennis "Mr. Indian" Leggett (with White Eagle MC): "In 1994, when the Gray Ghosts MC was started, their founding members met with the White Eagle MC and asked if they could rent the White Eagle Clubhouse. The White Eagle MC is the oldest motorcycle club in Louisiana, organized in 1948 and purchased the land that the clubhouse is on from John Gorman on January 18, 1949 and built the clubhouse as funding permitted. The White Eagle MC is registered as a non-profit organization with the State of Louisiana so we agreed to allow the Gray Ghosts MC to use the facility for no charge of rent if they will maintain and improve the property. This agreement has worked well for both parties."

While writing this article I have had the honor and privilege sitting down and talking with current and former members of the Gray Ghosts MC and being allowed to be a part of GGMC family without actually being a part of them considering I'm obviously NOT a Gray Ghost member or even a PGGL (ol' lady). I know in every walk of life bad will manage to sneak in somehow, but I can honestly say I haven't personally seen it in any of the Gray Ghosts MC. The members and their families I've known have been honorable people. Sure, there's going to be some sort of problems in every family whether it by blood or chosen, but how it is handled is what makes the difference.

Thanks to all the Gray Ghosts from original members to current members and to those who have moved up to Bandidos for everything and Happy 25th Anniversary!! I hope I'm around to see the next 25 years! I would like to add a special thank you to Bandido Paul, Bandido Skull, Gray Ghosts Lou, HOW Gandalf, Big John, and Smoot for every part you've had in helping me to put this article together.



*Bandido Paul when he was GGMC Paul*



*HOWMC Gandalf, Bandido Paul, & GGMC Lou*

# VOODOO FEST 2019!

When I first started writing for motorcycle magazines decades ago, it was mostly about the machines. As times change, it has become mainly about the people and places. One of the best things about riding in Louisiana, is all the great destinations we have. Sports, Music, Mardi Gras, Music, and Festivals all over the state, we always have something to go to. VooDoo Fest is top of the list every year.

The lineup this time was exceptionally good. You really get your money's worth for the price of admission. Even with rain on opening night, everything went well. I was really impressed with the organization. "Great Job" to all staff and promoters.

I went with my friends Brad and Erin Bateman, their son Owen, and his friend Matthew. These boys are learning to play guitar and plan to start a band, and this was their first concert experience.

I thought it would be fun to let Owen write about what it was like for him. He did underestimate the almost 190,000 people in attendance, but I think he did a great job, and it really made things a lot more fun getting to share this with them.

It was a rainy friday afternoon and I had just got done with school. I got home excited for the Guns n Roses concert my friend and I were going to see for his birthday. My dad hands me my ticket and I fastened it onto my wrist and we hop into the car and we are on our way. When we arrived, there was a multi-colored sign that greeted everyone with "Worship The Music" right in the center. We go through metal detectors with no problems and next thing we know we are in Voodoo Fest 2019. My friend Matthew and I walk around the entire thing once and are in awe of how amazing this place was. I was so excited and felt so amazing that a band that I've been listening to for 3 years and inspired me to pick up a guitar was coming to play in my hometown.

There were a couple thousand. If not more people that came despite the weather being so bad. We went around once and there were tents with merchandise food and more. We didn't do much except look around and then 30 minutes before Guns n Roses started we went to the Altar stage and waited. We waited and five after nine we see two black SUV's and 5 or 6 police motorcycles roll up behind the stage. About 5 more minutes and the introduction started. They started their 9:00-11:00 set with "Shadow of Your Love". They didn't take any breaks and were happy to be playing. Despite the rain, this was one of the best experiences of my life, worth it even in the bad weather. *by Owen Bateman*



OCTOBER 25-27, 2019

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**PEEKABOO** † **STILL WOZZY** † **DR. FRESCH** † **GRANDSON**  
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**EMBA** † **TEMPLO** † **LILLY** † **DES ROCS** † **DJ NICE RACK**

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**BECK** † **BASSNECTAR** † **THE NATIONAL** † **ZHU**  
**YOUNG THE GIANT** † **CLAIRO** † **THE GLITCH MOB** † **JAI WOLF**  
**DENZEL CURRY** † **JAPANESE BREAKFAST** † **ELOHIM**  
**PINK SWEATS** † **MEDASIN** † **SHAED** † **WHIPPED CREAM**  
**FLAMINGOSIS** † **BRUTUS** † **SERATONES** † **MATTIEL** † **ILO ILO**  
**HELLO YELLO** † **SUN SEEKER** † **PAZ** † **CARMINE P. FILTHY**

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27**

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**SHECK WES** † **HIPPO CAMPUS** † **BIG WILD** † **OPIUO** † **MISSIO**  
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# JOHN SCHNEIDER STUDIOS

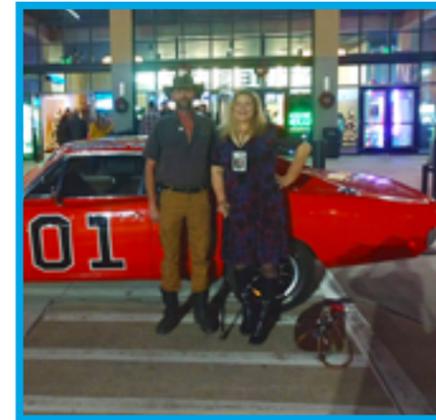
John Schneider of “The Dukes of Hazard” has a great place just outside of Holden, Louisiana. It’s a beautiful place right along the river, and it’s laid out like it’s own little town. We recently worked a couple of events with them, and really had a great time. I attended “Bo’s Christmas Bozaar”, and I can’t remember when I had a better time. We got there early to meet everybody, but we still didn’t have time to see everything. Frosty got a picture on his bike light painted by LightWork Studios, they really do spectacular work. That picture was taken in total darkness with nothing behind, all that effect was created while the photo was being taken,

The real highlight of the night was the concert, titled “Merry Christmas Baby”. This was a Christmas Gospel show featuring John Schneider, Cody McCarver from Confederate Railroad, Jacob Lyda, Keith Burns from Trick Pony and Andrew Pope. Jo-El Sonnier and the Louisiana Yard Dogs was the opening act, he’s always a big favorite around here. You could tell these guys were all up there just for the sheer joy of it, they were having as much fun as the audience. Most of these guys also make an appearance on John Schneider’s recent album, “Recycling Grace”, which is available from his website or sites such as Amazon.

December 8th was the premier of John’s new movie, “Christmas Cars”, held at the Celebrity Theater in Baton Rouge. We sent Susan Wallendal to cover that for us, because we needed someone fancy enough for the red Carpet. The film was written and directed by John, and produced by his wife Alicia. Although the film is fictionalized, it is very much based on real events from the last few years. You can buy copies from the John Schneider Studios website, or stream it online from sites such as Vimeo. Big thanks to Barry Rogers for looking out for during these events.

The next major event coming up will be “Bo’s Extravaganza”, on April 3rd-5th. This event will have something for everybody, with music, a stunt show, a car and bike show, and we’ve been promised some explosions. Pastor T will be there to perform a service Sunday morning. LightWorx Studios will be back, and anyone who gets their bike light painted by them will end up in a future issue of Louisiana Biker, and someone’s bike may end up on the Calendar. You may even end up in John’s next movie.

For more information on this event, go to: <https://bosextravaganza.com/>



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# DAY TRIPPING WITH MIKE PHILLIPS

I like riding with other folks. I enjoy the friendship and the fellowship. And the laughing and the lying. But, sometimes I just like to ride alone. Such was the case yesterday. No particular destination, no time appointed to get there or return. No worries if a riding partner needs to stop every 4 or 5 hours to go to the restroom. They are always instructed to “go” before they leave the house, but sometimes I think they don’t.

I woke up at 3:30 am because I didn’t want to miss the moonset at 6:43 am or the sunrise at 7:04 am. It takes me awhile to get my camera set up for that kind of activity. Plus, I don’t like to rush around at that time of the day, just kinda ease into it, drink a pot of coffee, educate wayward thinking facebookers, and so forth. But, right about dawn, clouds moved in from the west, blocking the moon fully and the sun partially, which messed with my picture taking plans. So, I rode into Bossier City and ate breakfast.

Not wishing to ride eastward and have to put up with staring into that sun now unobstructed by clouds, I rode westward after eating. Pulling up to the gate at Caddo Lake State Park, I inquired as to what the admission price might be.

“It might be \$4.00”, said the mustachioed gentleman wearing the Ranger outfit.

“Well, how much for a senior citizen”, says I.

“\$4.00”, says he.

“Okay, what about for a veteran”, I offered.

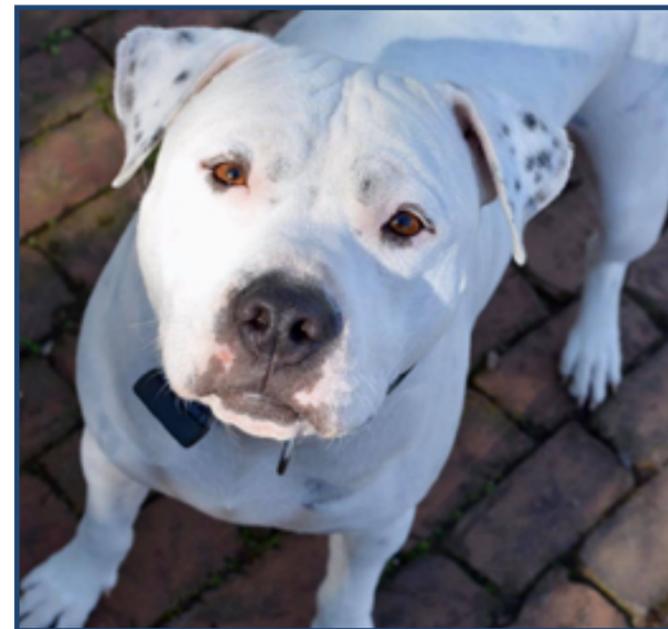
“\$4.00”, he counter offered.

Sensing that this deal was probably gonna end up costing me \$4.00, I went ahead and paid him. But, it was worth it, just to ride around and see the Bald Cypress trees covered with Spanish Moss. I was hoping to pet some alligators, but at this time of year, they usually ain’t in a petting mood. I had no trouble riding my bike past a barricade set up to keep cars and trucks out, and snap a few pictures with the Cypress trees in the background, then got back out on the road just as a park ranger pulled up. I flashed my most charming smile and waved as I passed by her vehicle. Her brow was furrowed and she didn’t wave back at me, but, that could have been caused by a gastric disturbance. Big Cypress Bayou runs through the park. From around 1845 to 1875, this bayou was used by steamships to transport cotton, polyester, and other crops from all over East Texas, from Jefferson, TX, across Caddo Lake, to Red River, then the Mississippi River, to New Orleans and the world. It was also a major entry port for pioneers wanting to settle in Texas. When the huge log jam on the Red River was removed in the 1870’s by Capt. Henry Miller Shreveport, the water level on Caddo Lake and Big Cypress Bayou dropped to

a level that no longer allowed steamboat traffic, thus diminishing Jefferson’s importance as a trade center.

In Jefferson, I stopped at Made In The Shade Boutique, after circling the town and finding this to be the only place where any activity was happening. Having no need of any boutiquey type items, I exited the side door to check out the fenced-in courtyard, which was loaded to the gills with doodads and geegaws, and a big white dog that apparently had a fake-leather-from-China addiction, because he kept trying to chew on my riding jacket. I pushed him away twice, accompanied by some very stern warnings from me. On his third attempt, I delivered the backside of my left hand across his snout, and it must have cured that nasty addiction because he ran off and found something else to occupy his time. I don’t know if that method would’ve met with that dog-whisperer on TV’s approval, but it worked for me.

I rode north to Atlanta, TX, and took some pictures of the Veterans Memorial in the downtown area. Then, into Arkansas for awhile, passing through Doddridge and Bradley. I turned south, and entered Springhill, La., just in time to miss their Mardi Gras parade. FYI: Louisiana State law requires every community, town, city, municipality, or gathering of of at least two people to have an annual Mardi Gras parade. I rode further south, to Minden. They were gearing up for their Mardi Gras parade, but I didn’t want to wait around for it to start in 2 1/2 hours, so I rode home. It, of course, was another great ride. Actually, I’ve never had a bad one, even those where I ended up in the hospital still had some redeeming qualities about them. But, on this one, once again, the good Lord protected me, and I thank Him for that.



Visit <https://www.facebook.com/DayTripping.US/> to read more of Mike’s adventures, and see a LOT more photographs.

# FAREWELL TO AN ICON

by Shadow

Many of you have enjoyed the photography of Pulsating Paula Grimaldi-Reardon in various biker and tattoo magazines, or more recently, on her Facebook page. Sadly, Paula recently passed away in her North Brunswick, New Jersey, home, after a prolonged illness against which she fought valiantly.

Paula was born in Jersey City, New Jersey, where she lived until age 8 when her family packed up and moved to New Brunswick. And that's when she discovered her natural talent as a photographer. The very first photo she'd ever taken was of her family, and years later, she submitted her first photo shoot to Biker Lifestyle, a magazine that was eventually bought by Paisano, publishers of Easyriders magazine.

To help her work get noticed by magazines, Paula's friends Lung and Floyd suggested that she use a catchy-sounding pseudonym and came up with the name Pulsating Paula, which she's used professionally ever since. Thousands of Paula's photographs also appeared in Biker magazine and Tattoo magazine, as well as other publications. Her work illustrates the rough, hard-partying biker lifestyle of the 1980s and 1990s in her native New Jersey and beyond, and speaks straight to the heart of those that live the motorcycling life. Paula's eye for composition and ability to elicit trust in her subjects, combined with the grittiness and authenticity of her work, has made her photographs world famous in the motorcycle and tattoo genres. Paula's work, including her "then and now" photo series, can still be viewed on her Facebook pages, and a book of her photography as well as her story will be published sometime in the future.

Fly free forever, Paula. You are an angel to those of us still on this earth.

"Pulsating" Paula Grimaldi-Reardon  
October 17, 1954 - December 3, 2019

Big thanks to Marjorie Kleiman, better known as Shadow, of Shadow-Light Media, for writing this tribute article for us. Paula was a big influence on me in my younger days, mostly before I even knew who she was. All of you have seen Paula's photographs before, whether you know it or not. Shadow and Paula were great friends, and Shadow has been entrusted with Paula's legacy. She is currently sorting through decade's worth of slides and negatives, which will ultimately become one or more books, that will keep Paula's work alive for generations to come.



Paula at Three Stages of Life



Original photo by Carole Humber Shloyda,  
Enhanced by Photography by Pulsating Paula



## FROM RIDER TO SPECTATOR

The sun is shining, it's a nice 70 degrees outside, and you hear the roar of a motorcycle riding down the road and all you can think is, "What I wouldn't give to be riding right now." That yearn for wind therapy never quite fades away completely if you've tasted the sweetness of riding; even if it's been years since you've twisted a throttle. You've hung up your leathers in the back of the closet and your helmet is collecting some dust. You still wear your old Harley shirts to run errands and every once and a while someone might ask you, "Do you ride?" Question is, if you're in a season that you're not currently riding, are you considered a biker?

My husband has ridden a motorcycle his entire adult life. He used to ride 365 days a year regardless of the weather because that was a part of who he was. Once we got married and had our second daughter, money was tight. My husband decided to sell his bike, against my wishes, and figured we'd get a new one later on. Well, she'll be two in February and the longer he goes without riding, the more he misses it. I often wonder would other riders

not respect him as a rider due to this season in life without a bike? What about those who have medical issues or age that have caused them to hang it up? What are your thoughts on this topic? It's the honest perspective of where we're at in life right now. He's going to get another one day so it's not like he's given it up completely but that's just where we're at right now. It's an open discussion piece that might spark up conversations or open peoples eyes to some bikers lives that have small children or when life happens sometimes.

by Ashley Roy Jones





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