



**CLUB # 4870**

**July**

**2012**



# CRUISIN' TIMES

*The Monthly Newsletter of the Jersey Pine Cruisers Motorcycle Touring Club*



**Al Large**  
**1937-2012**



**Bill Thedorf**  
**1932-2012**

**You'll be missed**

## Meet Chapter Management VP Bill Mumford

Jean and I first started riding together in 1965, on a small motorcycle. It was a very small motorcycle by today's standards (and my own). It was a 50cc Honda Sport, but it was a "real motorcycle", with four speeds and a clutch! We have had a variety of sizes of bikes over the years.

The first club we ever joined was the Jersey Pine Cruisers. After getting some pressure from Joe Fiedler back in the late 80's, to just "come to a meeting and see what you think", we finally did and it turned out to be a very interesting group of people. The club was a lot different then, with the "Harley group" that pretty much sat together at the meetings, and "the rice burners", which were pretty much the rest of us. There was only one American made brand back then, so you were one or the other, but everyone got along. We had never belonged to a club of any kind, so this was all new to us, and a little intimidating-there were hundreds of us!

I remember meetings where there had to be over 100 bikes in the parking lot, all parked pretty much neatly in rows so as to get as many as possible in the lot. After a while, a year maybe, I felt it was time to take on some stuff besides just what I had to do to get my brown card, but there were so many members,



there wasn't a lot of pressure to take on a lot. There were people gladly volunteering for everything that came along. I started out by helping organize and run some of our poker runs, like Project Hot (hand operated tricycles for handicapped kids), the CCFA poker run, the Cystic Fibrosis run, and whatever else came up (and of course The Midnight Tour which I chaired and co-chaired). Along the way there were several offices that I held, and directorships, but the most challenging and fun of all was the Precision Riding Team-what a rush that was! I have seen a lot of good friends come and go in the Club but our current group is as good as ever.

Bill Mumford



### From Marsha

Dear Friends of the Jersey Pine Cruisers,

On behalf of the family and myself, we wish to thank you all for all of your love and support in the most difficult time of our lives.

Al would be ever so humble to know the insurmountable numbers of people that came to show their love for him and his family with a telephone call, card, flowers, or your presence.

The members, as well as past members, will always be dear to my heart. The years Al and I rode with all of you and all of the campouts and parties we attended will remain some of the best memories of my life.

It is an honor to still remain a life member of the Jersey Pine Cruisers.

Fondly,  
Marsha Large

*Due to the overwhelming sadness the club has experienced this month, the tribute to Al and Bill will be in a future edition as decided at the June meeting. Stories and thoughts can be sent to [editor1@jerseypinecruisers.org](mailto:editor1@jerseypinecruisers.org) until August 3<sup>rd</sup>.*



## ***Toy Train Museum***

A group of fourteen led by Bill Lindwall left on June 2 for an overnight run to Monroe, WI. Leaving from Dilar's Restaurant in Richmond, IL, the group rode the scenic back roads to Argyle, WI to visit the Toy Train Barn. A large barn that once was home to a herd of dairy cattle has been transformed into a miniature world of toy trains. The barn houses Buck Guthrie's large collection of trains and layouts. Operating display layouts range from tiny Z scale to G scale along with tin plate and depression era toy trains. A small layout fits on a coffee table whereas other layouts cover the entire barn. The layout features numerous animated action scenes powered by household appliances such as microwaves and motors from vcrs and record players. Animated scenes include a picture show that plays at a drive-in movie, oil wells pumping, a hot air balloon floating across and carnival rides turning. It is a unique and fascinating display. There is also a large collection of photos and memorabilia from Buck's career as an engineer and collector.

Outside there is a real 12" gauge operation railroad. It allows you to ride the rails through the countryside. This layout is a work in progress and has been enlarged each year.

After touring the display, the group continued to ride towards Monroe led by Steve Mendel. After having lunch in Monroe, the group stayed overnight at the Gasthaus Motel in Monroe and enjoyed a scenic ride back on Sunday.



***The DARK SIDE Strikes Again***

**Congratulations  
George Barrington  
On your new Harley FLHTR  
Electra Glide Ultra Limited**

# Upcoming Events

## July 14 –Save-A-Vet-Poker Run

Event starts at Lake Shore Harley in Libertyville. Registration is from 9-11AM. For more details visit:  
<http://www.saveavetcharityriders.com/fundraiser.html>

## July 15 –Chicagoland Ride For Kids

Event starts at Elgin Community College in Elgin. Registration opens at 7AM and escorted ride begins at 9:30 AM. For details, visit  
<http://www.pbtfus.org/rideforkids/events/2012/chicagoland.html>

## July 21 Navy SEAL Frogs For Freedom Midwest Run 2012

Event is from 9:00-5:00 starting at the Fat Man Inn Pizza Pub in Gurnee, IL. Proceeds benefit the Navy Seal Foundation.

## July 22 – Friends of Nathan Foundation

This first annual run supports children with cerebral palsy and other debilitating diseases. The event starts at Penny Road Pub in Barrington, IL. For more information, visit  
[http://www.thefriendsofnathanfoundation.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=87&Itemid=83](http://www.thefriendsofnathanfoundation.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=87&Itemid=83)

## July 22 – Family Picnic and Bean Bag Tournament

Chicagoland Toys For Tots will hold a family picnic and bean bag tournament at Sundown Meadow located on LaGrange Road from 12:00 PM until sundown.



Every woman needs a past  
 fulfilling enough  
 to leave behind But  
 juicy enough  
 to tell her grandkids About!

| July |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| SU   | M  | T  | W  | TH | F  | SA |
| 1    | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  |
| 8    | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15   | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22   | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29   | 30 | 31 |    |    |    |    |

July 4 – Parade & picnic  
 July 14 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Fundraiser  
 July 19 – Old Farts Coffee  
 July 20-22 – Summer Camp Out  
 July 24 – Board & Membership Meeting

| August |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|--------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| SU     | M  | T  | W  | TH | F  | SA |
|        |    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |
| 5      | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 |
| 12     | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19     | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26     | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |

August 10-12 – River Road North  
 August 16 – Old Farts Coffee  
 August 26 – Sunrise Memorial Run  
 August 28 – Board & Membership Meeting

## July Birthdays

**Marge Anderson July 8**  
**Nancy Gregory July 9**  
**Andy Strzemp July 14**  
**Linnea Cooper July 17**  
**Mike Lisciandrello July 23**  
**Bonnie Cousins July 24**  
**Steve Penczak July 25**  
**Steve Czyz July 29**



## **Doc's Dreams**

This past month has been a mad house filled with highs and some definite lows. In the highs column, I think I may have finally licked the pneumonia bug that has had a-hold on me for the past couple of months, and I am almost back to normal. Whatever normal for me actually is! Second of the highs is that Linda, throwing all caution to the wind has accepted an engagement ring from me and, by implication, has agreed to marry me. As for our lows I am sure all of you are aware, that tragically we lost both Al Large and Bill Thedorf to motorcycle accidents this past month.

At Al's wake and funeral I met many of our current and former Cruisers who came together to mourn for our fallen friend. It set me to thinking on why if we can come together and overcome our differences for a circumstance such as this why do we find it so difficult to put aside these differences on a day-to-day basis? The JPCs are always willing to welcome our former members back into the fold. Check our website or come out again to a meeting. I think you might find that while things seem like the old days that there are lots of new members running lots of riding events going to new places, and yes, going to some of our old haunts. The point is that while we may no longer host a Midnight Tour, we do host more riding events and get togethers than ever. If you still want to ride I think you will find that this could be the place for you.

Remember most JPC members are just like me and you, we love riding motorcycles and the camaraderie that comes with it.

\* \* \*

Hey! Remember what I said about wearing your club vests? Let's get them on!

\* \* \*

Don't forget to join us at the Summer Camp out in Pardeeville, Wisconsin at the Duck Creek Campground on Friday, Saturday & Sunday, July 20, 21 & 22. Come on out and relax in front of a roaring campfire and enjoy a weekend of Cruiser companionship. See the

flyer on the website so you can call the campground for a reservation.

Let's Ride, but please ride safe.

Dennis 'Doc' Hyde

## **From the Bleachers**



Steve Penczak

### *Awards & Recognition*

*Toy Train Run*

**Bill Lindwall**

**Steve Mendel**

**Ken McCall**

*- Ride & Golf Event*

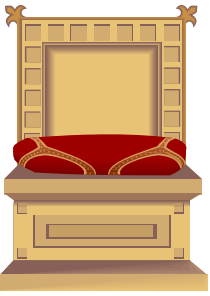
**Mike O'Malley**

**Joe Fiedler**

### **JOB WELL DONE**

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

## From the High Chair



Greetings and Salutations fellow Cruisers. The month of June has been full of rides and events, but it also has been a month of great sadness with the passing of two respected members of our club, Al large and Bill Thedorf. I used to say with great pride that members of this club usually died of old age and disease rather than accidents. June has rather shaken me up, in that respect.

The month started with great expectations, Bill Lindwall led a ride to the Toy Train Museum in Wisconsin. I even went up with the group just for the ride, returning after they had reached the hotel in Wisconsin. I was pleased as punch that I had ridden the Can-Am for over 250 miles that day. Then that evening, Joe F. called the house to inform me about the accident involving Al Large, and George Barrington. That was a real bummer. I wound up going to the Sunday breakfast ride, as a bearer of bad news.

Two weeks later, Bill Thedorf was involved in a fatal motorcycle accident coming home from his son's house at night. I believe the upcoming Sunrise/Memorial Ride will hold more meaning for our club than it has in the past few years. I hope that you my fellow Cruisers, will be able to join us for this Sunrise/Memorial ride to pay homage and respect for all our fallen comrades.

Of course Mike O'Malley and Joe Fiedler astounded us with the RAGE event (ride and golf event). They indeed came up with some twisted "JPC special rules" for some of the holes. Those of you that attended, including myself and my wife enjoyed ourselves immensely. Unfortunately, Rick Tymczuk wound up going to Des Plaines Honda after the event for another new tire. Maybe the club should invest in some stock in Goodyear. Rick seems to have that magnetic personality that attracts nails to his bike tires.

Yes, Linda and I celebrated our second wedding anniversary in June.

I'm sure Mike O'Malley is happy that the curse of the Harley has been transferred to Don Malina as Don found out on a recent Sunday Breakfast Ride. Fortunately Don loves a challenge, and I'm sure we will be hearing more about his tinkering on the bike in the upcoming months. I have no doubts that Don will get it fixed.

Last year it was wet and cold, this year, we're baking on the rides. What a difference a year makes.

July also is filled with rides, camping, and events. We start off the month with the Des Plaines 4th of July Village Parade, followed by our annual picnic at George Gauss' house, which appears to be settling in as an annual event, at least that is, until George's wife whacks him with a skillet. Our annual fundraiser is scheduled for the 14th, and we do need bodies to help at the tables to make this an effective fundraiser. Please see Mike O'Malley if you can assist. Then we have the Summer Camp out on the 20th at Duck Creek.

In August, we have The River Road North weekend trip (with Ken and Sandy leading the way, oh boy and Rick and Flo at the tail keeping everyone together), and toward the end of the month the Sunrise/Memorial ride which I would like to encourage all our members to participate in.

As always, be careful, ride safe, look out for cagers, and especially for politicians this year.

Stephen CZYZ, COB

### Quote of the Week

**We do not stop playing because we are old;  
we grow old because we stop playing.**

## The Adirondacks and More

Frank and I had a very loosely knit plan to see the Adirondacks and to ride down Rt 7 through Vermont, Massachusetts and Connecticut, beginning Sunday, June 10<sup>th</sup>. We made no reservations at all.

The first day passed quickly on Rt 80 to Strongsville, Ohio, where we stayed with our niece and family. It was great to see them, and what's not to like when they said they would put our bikes in their garage!



On Monday, we took Rt 80 again, and then Rt 90 and 20 toward Canandaigua, NY, which is southeast of Rochester. Two days and 700 miles logged on highways in 93 degree heat so far - not exactly an exciting time, mainly flatland. We did find an awesome grocery store chain called "Wegmans" which even had a banquet hall, sushi, and lots of "take and bake" foods made fresh in their deli area. I could have slept there and been very full and happy!

Tuesday 6/12 – Day Three

As we shook sleep and exhaustion from our bodies on Tuesday morning, is that rain we hear? Ugh, complete cloud cover and a steady drizzle lasted for the next 10 hours as we rode down the western edge of Cayuga Lake (35 miles long, it's one of the "finger lakes" of that area). We then rode north on Rt 13, east on Rt

20, north on Rt 12, Rt 8 and Rt 30 through the majestic Adirondack Mountains. Despite the rain, it was impossible not to appreciate the beauty of the pines so thick that no light could be seen through them. We learned that much like the Smoky Mountains, "smoke" also rises from the Adirondacks. We also learned that there are very few gas stations, so if you ever venture to that area, be sure to gas up in Utica before you reach the park area. Along the way, the road was dotted with a number of small disheveled cottages with plenty of littered lawns...bikes, junk cars, furniture, you name it, we saw it!

We spent that night in Lake Placid after 10 hours of rain and one last dry hour. There were no motels closer; at least none that we would want to inhabit. "Art Devlin's Olympic Motor Inn" was built by one of the Olympic ski jumpers and showcased all of his trophies and awards behind glass in the lobby. Chalk up another 350 miles.



Wednesday 6/13 – Day Four

We were looking forward to a dry, sunny day (so said the TV weather guy). What did we find outside our window but a misty, overcast morning. Happily, we rode out of the misty mountain air into sunshine, enjoying the curves and hills of Riverview, Cadyville and Pickett's Corners, NY. It wasn't long before we were in

Chazy and five miles from the Canadian border. Crossing over Lake Champlain on the bridge from Rouse's Point gave us a great view of both mountains and water.

Rt 7, beginning in St. Albans wove its way through small Vermont towns, dotted with cottages, steeped white frame and stone churches, small herds of cows, and the sudden, surprising sparkle of a beautiful stream. Five o'clock brought us to Burlington, VT, which we learned was a very busy college town with horrendous traffic. Battling bumper to bumper backups, we ended up at the Middlebury Inn, a historic and elegant hotel with very proper desk clerks. I'm sure they seldom see the likes of two bedraggled seniors in leathers, dragging helmets and bags through their doors. So far, 1236 miles logged.



Thursday, 6/14 – Day Five

BUMMER – Frank thinks he left the GPS on his bike seat last night, possibly not grabbing it with the other many items we had to carry into the hotel. It must have been stolen while we slept. We examined every bag multiple times and will be lost without our "Garmina"! Back to studying the map! Rt 7 was the plan.

What a treat for bike riders, if you disregard the construction areas with their 30 mph speeds through some of the towns. Rt 7 makes many turns, so we both watched carefully and really

appreciated our person to person communicators to warn each other about the jogs and need for lane changes.

At lunch near Pittsfield, Mass, we sat down to study our map, and after placing our order, couldn't find the map! Oh great...no GPS and no map! We started laughing and scratching our heads, making jokes about dementia. We soon found out that our waitress had grabbed the map along with the menus. Ah...not our fault! Whew!

Rt 7 between Great Barrington, Massachusetts and New Milford, Connecticut, was an absolute joy with its constant curves, hills, and the amazing scenery always a surprise. Heavily treed mountains weaving into each other was our constant backdrop.

We decided to end our day early for a change, in Danbury, Connecticut, at a lovely and newly renovated Comfort Inn...my favorite stay so far! Laundry tonight! Dumping the laundry out on the bed, Frank gave a whoop of delight as he found Garmina among the dirty laundry. Great relief!!

We then received the phone call from Hermin, our glee turning to sadness, as we learned about Bill Thedorf's death...two JPC's gone in as many weeks. The news really shook us up and we agreed that we were ready to ride home. Our mileage – 1466.

Friday, June 15 – Day Six

Up and on the road by 8:15 -Rt 84 to 81 to 80 - fast paced, trying to stay out of the way of semi trucks, but light traffic most of the way. We had wonderful wide views of the Pennsylvania Allegheny Mountains on Rt 80 at an elevation of 1300 feet. It doesn't sound like much, but it quickly became cool, cloudy and damp, mimicking our Lake Placid experience.



By 5 pm, we were tired, hot, and listened to enough road noise for another day, so we pulled into a Quality Inn in Hermitage, PA. We were pleasantly surprised about the great pizza we had delivered shortly after arriving. Good pizza outside of Chicago??? What a treat!

Only 83 more miles to our niece's house in Strongsville, OH, and an early Father's Day celebration! My parents, brother, sister-in-law and our nephew will all be there. We're going to surprise my Mom and Dad - they think we're still in Pennsylvania. Mileage – 1879.

Saturday, June 16 – Day Seven

Visited with family all day, had an excellent meal at a brewery, and stayed the night on Lauren's couches. All other beds were occupied! Mileage 1969.

Sunday, June 17 – Day Eight

Yuck, another wet one but not for long. We left Lauren's at 8:15 with raingear in place under overcast, humid skies. From the TV weather report, we were going to have rain all the way home, but after our first 45 minutes, the sky cleared. We were roasting in early morning heat and decided to get the layers off....ah!

Uh-oh, you can probably guess that shortly after stripping, we hit a heavy drizzle on Rt 80 and it wasn't long before we felt that familiar trickle of water running down into our boots. By the time we rode to the next rest area, we were pretty wet, but pulled the rain gear back on while under the protective canopy over the station's gas tanks. And once again we were off.

It wasn't until we reached the Hinsdale oasis that Frank said he wanted to get the rainsuit off; by that time, it was sunny and hot, somewhere in the 90's. We treated ourselves to a McD's ice cream sundae and reached

home around 3:30. Mileage 2361, our total for eight days.

We would happily do the trip again and would recommend it to all who haven't had the eastern experience. The Adirondacks are quite a sight and the roads, mostly excellent.

Thank you to Steve Penczak and Sandy and Ken McCall for their route guidance!

Candi Wenzon



### ***Newsletter Article Rebuttal.***

The following article is not intended to be viewed as a derogatory or mean statement; it should be viewed as an attempt at some light hearted humor by a person who collects octagon sided marbles.

If I may, I would like to add a "statement of clarification" in regards to a point stated by Mr Joe Fiedler in his article entitled "A Really Good Friday ". (May issue of the "Cruisin' Times) During the ride, myself and George B. were comparing the speed of my bike's speedometer with that of George's G.P.S. In a painful example of Mr Fiedler's infinite wisdom he states, "Odometer reads 60, the Mayan calendar reads 55, he should know he was there". I would like to point out the correct date for that day using the date conversion table of the" Foundation For The Advancement of Mesoamerican Studies Inc. with the correlation constant of 584283-G.M.t. The Maya date for that day is day # 1871.41. I am also including a few more examples. The Julian day is day # 2456.024, the Lunar age is 16.94 days, and the Aztec calendar 5cipactlt-4-.

Just saying.  
the shadow knows .

# Bikers Hit the Links

By Biff Burns, Sports Director, JPC News

Jerseypine Cruisers hit the mini-links on Saturday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> and may have set the sport back immeasurably. Sixteen intrepid members met at the McDonald's in Hoffman Estates and followed event Co-Chair Joe Fiedler on a pleasant ride



through the northwestern countryside. We eventually arrived at Roscoe, IL host of the 2012 Invitational, Pro-Am JPC Golf Open, The Club House Pizza, Sub and Ice Cream Shoppe and Mini Golf Center.



Police and security were on hand to keep the thousands of spectators under control. The weather cooperated with sunny skies and warm but manageable temperatures. And the field of gifted golfers did not disappoint. A commentator from

Sports Illustrated noted that in all of his years covering professional and amateur sports he had never seen an exhibition quite like the one he witnessed on Saturday.

In keeping with international rules established by the AAMGAPR (the American Association of Mini Golf and Pizza Restaurants) the course boasted a challenging Par 47 with lightning fast greens, boulder strewn rough and abundant water hazards. These natural challenges were heightened by event coordinator Mike O'Malley who randomly enhanced course hazards with

bean bags, whiffle balls, blind folds, mini-footballs and other absurd requirements that tested each and every golfer. As a result the winning score was a stunning 20 over par 67 turned in by Rick Tymczuk.

"The f\*@#\*\*% organizers of this event should be taken out and shot and the family sent a bill for the bullet," shouted Tymczuk to reporters gathered at the club house. Other golfers echoed his praise of course conditions. High score was turned in by Marie Cooper. Organizers of the event refused to disclose her score in the interests of the sport and Marie's privacy. Sources tell us that the score would have been much higher if there had not been a cap of seven strokes on each hole.

Rounding out the trophy winners for the day was Hermin Valazquez who won the "Closest to the Pin" award by tossing a bean bag over his shoulder, over a 14 foot Burberry hedge, past a 50 foot light station, over a stream and onto the 12<sup>th</sup> green. He landed only four feet from the hole. He was declared the winner by default as most other golfers failed to reach the green at all. Hermin credited his previous work making little rocks out of big rocks and stacking them at a government facility at which he was a guest during his youth.

All in all, it was a splendid day and all golfers who survived the day will receive an automatic invitation to the 2013 Open.





## ***View From the Side***

"You are my sunshine, my only sunshine. You make me happy when skies are (sunny and) gray. You'll never know dear how much I love you; please don't take my sunshine away." My "Sunshine" was taken away for 11 weeks due to foot reconstruction surgery. When one enjoys riding in a sidecar and being out on the road with the Cruisers, it is extremely difficult to be homebound for six weeks at the beginning of a new riding season. Not being able to get in the sidecar for 11 weeks is even more frustrating. It's no fun not being part of the JPC fun and seeing all your friends.

Before the external fixator came off, the surgeon reminded me he'd be putting on a walking cast. My first question was "can I get into the sidecar?" After looking at me rather strangely he said I could do whatever I could tolerate. While I didn't try getting into "Sunshine" when I got home from the hospital, I did try the next morning. I may have sat in the sidecar all day except Ken had to work and couldn't go out to play and I was ready to go places and not just sit in the garage. I couldn't wait for the weekend and luckily it was the JPC mini-golf event. I was able to enjoy the ride to Roscoe and thoroughly enjoyed watching the "pro" golfers we have in the Club playing by JPC rules. You had to be there! On Sunday, Ken led the breakfast run and ride to Starved Rock after breakfast so I was able to spend the day riding in the sidecar. Now, just try to keep me away from the rest of the JPC fun this riding season.

Ken and I have been taking a motorcycle vacation during the first week in July for years so while the rest of the Cruisers are reading this newsletter, I'll be happily on my way to the Black Hills of South Dakota and pre-riding the roads for the River Road North trip in August in the sidecar.

By the way, if you see the tall long legged, long haired redhead lurking around, be sure to let her know that I'm once again the "monkey" in "Sunshine!"

## ***2012 Board & Directors***

**President – Dennis Hyde**  
**Chairman of the Board- Stephen Czyn**  
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Ken McCall  
Ken Vicker  
Bill Lindwall  
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**Color Guard - Mike O'Malley**  
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**Community Relations-Bill Mumford**  
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**Parliamentarian - Bob Wagner**  
**Quartermaster - Joe Fiedler**  
**Sergeant at Arms - Steve Penczak**

Meetings are held the fourth Tuesday of every month at 7:30PM at the Des Plaines Elk's Lodge (Rt. 45 – two blocks north of Rt. 14)

Submit articles and photographs to the Editor by the monthly meeting at [Editor1@jerseypinecruisers.org](mailto:Editor1@jerseypinecruisers.org)

Website: [www.jerseypinecruiser.org](http://www.jerseypinecruiser.org)