

It all began at Weaselville, located in Uncle Don's Campgrounds, Exit 46, Elk Creek, off I-90 Piedmont, S. Dakota. A bunch of weasels & friends sitting around the campfire at Sturgis, 2005, reminiscing about the old days riding choppers. You know, gas every 70-80 miles, tightening bolts day & night and you knew which bike was yours by the amount of oil under it. Bring back memories? The only clothes you wore were black, so you couldn't see how much oil you had on you.

A brainstorm was building about riding the old bikes to Sturgis one more time or maybe this was a brain-fart! Anyway that's how it started, so everyone went home and worked on bikes they had in storage and the young guys went out and bought old bikes to rebuild.

#1, Jerry Roberts of Springfield, Mo. had been on a trip out West with his longtime friend, Squirrel from Florida, when they stopped in Delta, Utah for lunch. While there they saw an ad for a 1946 Knucklehead. Jerry had previously owed a 1947 KH, which he sold to buy his home. He said if he ever had the chance to buy another one he would. Well, he made an offer and while sitting in Sturgis he got the call to pick it up. When he's not riding bikes, he's at his pottery supply in Nixa, Mo. (Clay & Stuff).

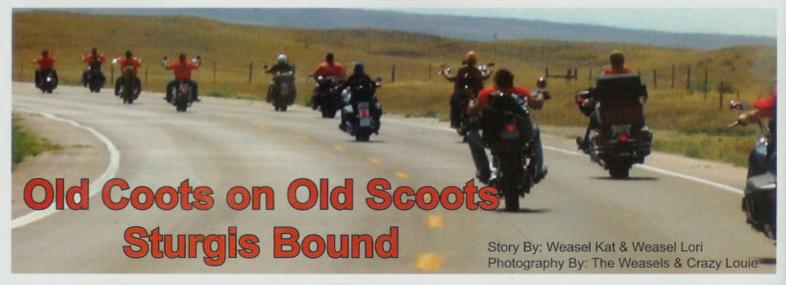
#2, El Butche, also from Springfield, Mo. is a T-shirt designer & printer of Odd Duck Designs. He bought his bike from Jerry. A 1970 FL Shovelhead; he placed in a 1968 frame and 6 over KH front end, with 2" down tubes. He shortened the struts and rolled the fenders. It's topped with dual plugheads and a metal seat, No leather or padding. This is a younger guy.

#3, Soupy Sales, Kansas Gas Co. bought the "Manley Bike" a 1982 Shovelhead from friend Gimp of K.C. Mo. He had always wanted a chopper and had ridden his friend Billy's chopper which made him decide to build his own. The only thing he didn't change was the frame. He added a S&S conversion kit with Evo lifters & cam, 80+ cubic",

Springer front end, a jockey shift by Billy, no weld fabricator, with a 5 ball, painted 23 by Eric of K.C.Mo. His wife is grateful it's finished because he's been in a bad mood for 8 months.

#4, Squirrel of Cape Coral, Florida had a bike in storage he built in 1972. A 1957 Panhead, jockey shift, 21 over Dick Allen Springer. He looked cool, but it wasn't great on long rides. The engine was rebuilt and he de-raked the front end with a stock Springer, kept the jockey shift and put on a bigger tank. He believes choppers should be simple and clean like his life-he's retired from Ford Motor K.C. Mo.

#5, Roger Grisham, Sports Associated, K.C. Mo. calls his 1977 FX Shovelhead – The Dog. It's anything but a dog, with a 93 S&S Stroker kit, S&S Super G Carb., 6 speed Baker Transmission with a kicker, 3 degree rake in the trees and a Wide Glide front end. The 80 spoke wheels rest on a middle finger kickstand. When not riding Harley's his company picks up & delivers



ikes all over the USA.

#6, Billy Ray of K.C. Mo. recently etired from Ford Motor Co. in K.C. Mo. n 1972 he built a 1952 Panhead with Jammer frame, Springer front end, 6 wer. After being run over by a car, Billy hanged the 1952 pan into a coffee table. n 1979 his wife bought him a Shovelhead angine for his birthday, wasn't that nice of her? It's a one kicker jockey shift with an 8 ball and a girder 12 over front end. Between 1980 -86 it has made California 2 times & 15 trips to Sturgis. This was probable it's last trip to Sturgis – T&T only.

We also had 9 newer bikes, one of these a V-Rod ridden by Susie, her first Sturgis ride on her new bike.
Lisa & Roy – Deuce –K.C. Mo.
Norman & Paula – Classic – K.C. Mo.
Tom & Kathy – Classic – K.C. Mo.
Ronnie – Patriot – K. C. Mo.
Kat – Softtail Deluxe – K.C. Mo.
Kim – Street Glide – K.C. Mo.
Tommy T – Confederate – Springfield
Todd – Road King – Springfield, Mo.

The life saver of the trip was Crazy Louie, a friend to all and his first trip to Sturgis. Louie drove a truck with a trailer and followed behind the pack. He hauled camping gear, picked up pieces of bikes and if you ran out of gas or just quit running, he would run down parts. He gave rides to girls who were riding on hardtails and made sure everyone had time to stop for a beer break, he did it all! Thanks again Louie – our Mascot!

Uncle Don's Campground was struck by lightning a week before we left and it burned everything cabins, showers, their house, garage and Weaselville. We had to find a new place fast and we did. Recreational Springs, owner Joe worked hard to accommodate us; but home is Uncle Don's and we hope he's open by next year.

The highlight of our trip was 6 jockey shifts going down the highway in Main St. Sturgis and Weasel Wednesday at Elk Creek Steak House. It was 2 fold this year, our friend Chuck from California had died and his wife Tammy flew to Springfield, Mo. with his ashes to make the trip to Sturgis to leave his ashes at Uncle Don's. The guys made a Bar N Shield out of steel for a memorial. This is actually our second memorial in Weaselville and I hope our last.

We had a great trip but I think the guys were ready to get back on their regular bikes and park the old.

-Ride Safe



