

2009 Inductees Into Sturgis Motorcycle Museum Hall Of Fame

The Hall of Fame inductees for 2009 are:

Jack Kirchgessler. J.C. "Pappy" Hoel Outstanding Achievement Award – Jack Kirchgessler owned the Rapid City Harley-Davidson dealership – Mat-Kirk Cycle - from 1941 until 1963. During that time, Jack was a major supporter of motorcycling in the Rapid City area. He sold the first police motorcycle to the city of Rapid City, and was even a motorcycle police officer for a time. Jack passed away in March of 2008.

James Clark. James Clark had a lifelong passion for motorcycles and a lifetime of experience in improving sealing technology for HD engines. His ideas eventually lead him to create James Gaskets, Inc. Known throughout the industry as the "Godfather" of gaskets, his reputation for producing superior gaskets combined with his professional and personal integrity earned him the respect of industry leaders and built James Gaskets into the world-renowned company that it is today. James passed away in September of 2007.

Cookie Crum. Cookie Crum has been riding on two wheels since she was in high school. She started riding the Wall in the Motor Drome at the age of 18. She spent several years traveling with the show. Later, Cookie and her husband owned a Harley Davidson dealership in Medford, Oregon. She's encouraged countless riders, both men and women, and has assisted in the formation of a number of clubs and organizations.

Lou Kimzey. Lou Kimzey was the creator and publisher of Easyriders, the first lifestyle biker magazine on the market. He also served as CEO of Paisano Publication and was editorial director of a number of monthly magazines. Lou was a co-founder of A.B.A.T.E., which at that time was an acronym for "A Brotherhood Against Totalitarian Enactments," but has since become known as "American Bikers Aimed Toward Education." Lou passed away in 1997.

John Lehman. John Lehman is the founder of Lehman Trikes. It was 1984, and John wanted to share his love of motorcycling with his wife Linda. Linda wasn't comfortable riding on two wheels with her children, so John began to construct the forerunner of today's modern three-wheeled motorcycle.

Dale Walksler. Dale Walksler is the founder, owner and curator of the Wheels Through Time Museum in Maggie Valley, North Carolina. Walksler's collection of rare and antique motorcycles is unparalleled. He is also responsible for developing and launching "The Time Machine," an online video library where viewers can watch restorations of old motorcycles, learn about the history of the sport, and visit not only Dale's museum, but other motorcycle related museums around the nation.

The annual Sturgis Motorcycle Hall of Fame Induction Breakfast is scheduled on Wednesday, August 5 at 9:00 a.m. at the Rushmore Plaza Civic Center in Rapid City, SD. Tickets can be purchased through the Museum 605.347.2001 or on line at Sturgis Museum. www.cyrilhuzeblog.com



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Easy Rider And Captain America Turn 40

Published by Cyril Huze July 15th, 2009 in Editorial, Events and Movies.

Is it a western movie with bikes replacing horses or just a male-bonding LSD joy ride across the USA? It doesn't matter. the way you see or live it. Today, the road movie Easy Rider turns 40 and the quite simple story of 2 bikers traveling the country and enjoying their freedom has be deemed "culturally, historically and aesthetically significant" enough to deserve to belong to the U.S. National Film Registry. Just a reminder that Peter Fonda as "Captain America" rides a custom chopper created from a Harley-Davidson FLH police model.



As a matter of fact, 2 "Captain America" were built. One was crashed during the filming for the final scene, the other mysteriously disappeared from the movie set. Many replicas have been made by individuals and custom builders, but only one is considered "period exact", and was created for the movie 30th Anniversary 10 years ago. It is permanently displayed at the Harley-Davidson Museum in Milwaukee. Will this 40th Anniversary stimulate the resurgence of the American flag tank and of the ultra-high-back sissy bar seat on new bikes to be built?

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