

# SERVING MISSOURI / NORTHERN ARKANSAS



# NEWSLETTER

17TH ISSUE

LOCAL DIRT BIKE NEWS

JAN '96

## "NEW" ISDE Performance Event!

Yes Really! It may never come to pass but the thought occurred to me at the "Toy's for Tot's" Hare Scramble held at POSSUM HOLLOW MX on the 17th of December. I was feeling a little "older than usual" mainly because I attended the annual "work" Christmas Party the night before, so didn't really ride. Sure I did a lap or two with l.o.n.g rest periods in between but that's not what this story is about.

The scramble went in one direction for an hour. Everyone took a half-hour break, then it went in the other direction for an hour. That second hour created some new obstacles . . . mainly in the form of a 8' bank up out of a very loose creek section. This thing was angled (slight curve to the left) with a three inch root across it about 2/3 of the way up.

The whole key to this thing was momentum and that was a little elusive due to the loose creek gravel at the bottom.

Joe Beaver and his boy, Koonta-Kinta Man, and myself were standing at the top of this thing when the second half of the scramble

started. Rusty Reynaud (on his borrowed, '96 300 KTM) went up it smoothly, under power. Steve Leivan on his WR-250 Yamaha blasted up it and did a little cross-up at the top before landing back in the trail. About ten guys came up it in various attitudes of style (some better than others) before a couple of 125's came up a little too timidly and we all helped get them up to prevent a bottle neck.

I'm hanging with one arm around a 10" tree at the very top, using it as an anchor to grab front wheels and pull them up . . . that is until "Dan the parts man" at SURDYKE YAMAHA of MARIONVILLE comes up on some late model YZ-250. He bogs the motor about half way up . . . steps off the back . . . and lets go with a handfull of throttle. The YZ hits "MY TREE" taking out about 3/4 of an inch of wood before the back wheel goes by my face about 6" away. Does this huge back flip, still 6' in the air before landing back in the trail. I hear Koonta-Kinta Man say: "Now that's a Kodac moment." I'm thinking *That's fine for Koonta-Kinta Man to say . . . he's on the other side . . . not behind "MY TREE!"* Dan the parts

man is still slowly sliding down the bank so I know this whole thing couldn't have taken very long.

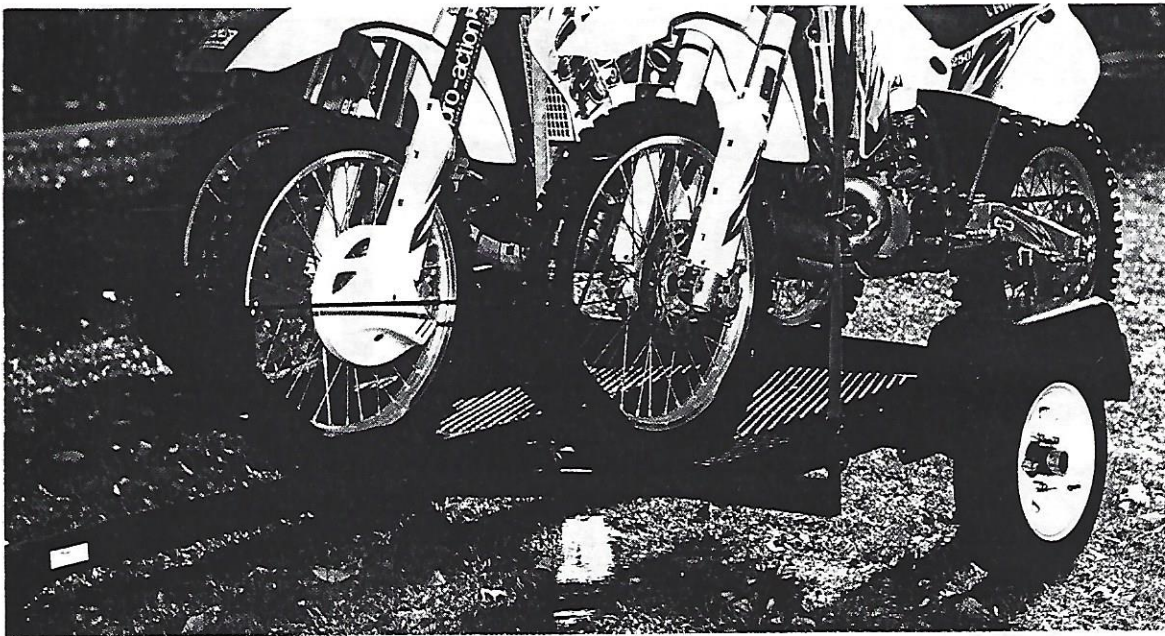
#1.-I left my tree! It was an instant decision. My new attitude was . . . if they don't make it . . . they don't make it but I'm not standing there anymore!

#2.-It brought up thoughts of the ISDE! I can remember when the ISDE had events like acceleration tests, you know, drag races.

WHY NOT send in demands from all the slow people who can't qualify for an ISDE (people like me) that the AMA and FIM include BIKE THROWING! I'm for it because I know, I'll never qualify . . . and have to do it!

Think about it for a minute. They could be judged on height and distance. If you can throw it more than 15' and remain standing, that would earn an extra point. It would be COOL!

The other thing I thought of was my bill at Surdyke Yamaha . . . I think I'll go ahead and pay it RIGHT NOW! I can't really see making DAN the Parts Man, mad. He seemed a little violent . . . and he can really throw a motorcycle at YOU! !



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I know this picture is going to be hard to see but it's the best I have (the original is in color) and I wanted to share it with you . . .cause it's cool!

This is a new product on an old theme . . .an open, three rail bike trailer.

What makes this unusual is the way it's designed, and made. It doesn't have any ramps to fool with (you just bump the front wheel up on the angled ramp.) Tie-downs are almost optional. Once you roll the bike up on it, just let go and it stays there while you go find your tie-down straps. It has a recessed area that cups the front wheel, making it very secure. The straps are needed for insurance on the road but very little force is required (no mashing the fork springs here!) It has an expanded metal floor (read mesh here) with holes big enough that you can bungee gas cans anywhere on it. Add a torsion axle, grease jerk bearings, and ultra light weight (you can pick up the tongue

when it's empty with like two fingers and move it around easily, and it's not much more difficult with bike's on. It promises to be a handy thing to have when you have to roll it in the back yard.

If you're looking for a quality open trailer that will last for years or want an alternative to big bulky enclosed trailers for those little trips . . .this is probably it.

**CHECK IT OUT!**

## Goofy Things!

I noticed Rusty Reynaud on his borrowed 501 Husaberg getting ready to load it at the New Years thing. Wayne Beindorf is standing there watching (Wayne had a BIG problem starting one of these things at a recent Hare Scramble.) Rusty takes his "hand" and slowly pushes the kick starter through . . . .and the thing fires! I look

at Wayne's face as the big "Burg" just sits there idling. The look of course was amazement. Rusty doesn't have huge arms . . . maybe there is a technique to starting those rascals?

I came around the New Years course in the 104 section that JAC RICHMOND laid out to this thawing, slimey slick, downhill in tight woods to find what appeared to be a dirt bike junk yard. Bikes piled in all sorts of awkward positions as a result of crashes. Did I stop and turn around? Of course

not! Let the clutch out, crest over the rise and immediately slide to an ungraceful crash landing at the bottom! This just proves that you don't have to be smart to ride dirt bikes!

Buying a perfectly good '96 KTM 300 EXC that probably has perfect power for my slow riding style . . .and adding a FMF pipe, reed block, and muffler, along with a thin base gasket which created something I'll refer to as a rocket (the thing explodes out of corners and with my slowing reaction time means I am sure to miss the next corner) that isn't even fun to ride after 20 minutes due to arm pull. Put Rusty Reynaud on it to try out the motor and he comes back asking if KTM makes a 550! Actually he said it runs like a good 250.

At least that's comforting! It means I'm "normal" and he really is "that goofy!"

# TOY'S FOR TOT'S

What is Toy's for Tot's? It's a Hare Scramble . . .sorta. It's also a motocross . . .sorta. It's also kind of an Enduro . . .you get a 30 minute reset halfway . . .sorta. It is a HOOT!

This is an annual thing that always happens around the middle of December. It's sponsored by Surdyke Yamaha of Marionville and Possum Hollow MX. The entry fee is a toy. All the toys are collected at sign-up and delivered to needy kids. You do not have to be a fast guy to come ride it (I proved that by showing up) but there are usually fast guys there. The course is mostly tight woods trail (Hare Scramble type stuff) but you also run about half of the MX track and you go one direction for an hour . . .take a half hour break, then go the other direction for an hour. It is, a lot of fun!

This year it rained pretty good the night before and the morning of the event. The ground was very dry so the trail sections were nearly perfect. The MX section however, was a quagmire to me and 90% of the other riders who slithered feet down, and occasionally tank shroud down. The other 10% (namely Steve Leivan, Rusty Reynaud, Jamie Jennings, and a few others) acted like there was no mud and went faster on it than I can (or would want to) go on a dry track. I talked about "the ditch" on the front page so I won't go through again but I did see Rusty Reynaud on Steve Underwoods new KTM 300 EXC wheely up out of that ditch, hit a tree about 15' down the trail throwing him to

the ground with Steve Leivan right on his back wheel. Steve just waited for Rusty to get up . . .and they both left. Either a little goofy . . .or Steve was just waiting on him. Rusty showed up that morning . . .saw Steve Underwoods KTM for the first time. Adjusted the back brake a little . . .got on . . .and went fast. How does he do that?

Surdyke Yamaha . . .and 71 little kids would like to express their sincere thanks to the riders who attended.

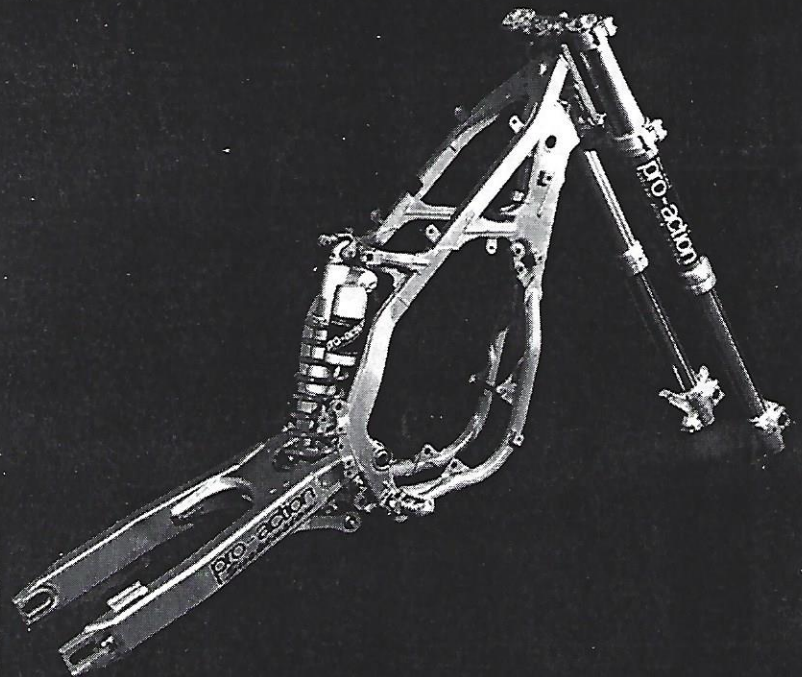
Steve Leivan, Jamie Jennings, Rusty REynaud, Kevin Borts, Kevin Boyle, Art Simmoneax, Gene Clymer, Stev Gann, Bart Williams, DUCK (Mike

Edwards,) Bob Fuerst, Cliff Davis, Kevin Rix, Scotty Vaught, Mike Clymer, Anthony Meyer, Chance Hedgpeth, Scott O'Conner, Dennis Tomlin, Kevin Allen, Gary Burrell, Doug Meyer, Jac Richmond, Dwayne Miekley, Tom Ray, J.P. Compton, Chad Vaught, Dan Sanford, Vince Shelton, Greg Johnson, Eric Bartel, Kelly Kile, Elston Moore, Eric Burrell, Jon Ghan, Tim Metscher, Brian Jordon, Robert Stuckert, Dale Rector, Gary McHeilley, Russ Vanskike, Eric Ghan, Rick Crawford, and Mike Striegel.

Mark this on your calender for next year . . .as a GOTTA DO! It is a very good cause!

Toy's for Tot's!

## FOUNDATION OF A WINNER



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Marionville, MO

# NEW YEARS DAY IN CHADWICK

The annual New Years thing at Chadwick honored "Aggie St Clair," for this year. Gloomy stories about impending snow storms had everyone worried . . . .OK, maybe only I was worried as we were the only ones camped there on New Years Eve. New Years day turned out in the high 30's, no snow on the ground, and no rain!

## IT WAS A HOOT!

A bunch of people turned out by 10:00AM to start the clean-up with Wayne Crosby of Lebanon Suzuki volunteering to head that thing up while I was out putting up arrows . . . they manicured about 6 miles of roadway in both directions of the riding area! It looked sterile! Rusty Reynaud showed up with his P-up and got the washing machine, assortment of old car tires, and some other household junk I KNOW wasn't hauled in on some motorcycle! I conned Jac Richmond (main troubleshooter at Surdyke Yamaha of Marionville) into doing the arrows with me and picking the trail. If you thought that section up around 104 was a little slick and muddy . . . .thank Jac (see how slickly I got out of being blamed for that one!)

The hot dogs, beans, potato salad, and fix'ns were ready to go at 2:00PM when everybody started getting in along with a surprise batch of venison chili provided by Joe Beaver that was an instant hit.

Jerry Sharp was the "dealer" figuring the poker hands with the top hands winning a MOOSE back pac I carried around all week at the Six-Days in Tulsa full of medical supplies,

and two new front tires provided by Surdyke Yamaha of Marionville. (At least one of those tires was won by Donna Moore, parts person at Surdyke Yamaha, who promptly had her prize confiscated by her husband Elston . . . .who mumbled something like, "but Honey . . . .I need this!" Once the poker hands prizes were gone the raffle started for over fifty smaller items including jerseys, tie-downs, lube, oil, t-shirts, hats . . . .all donated by local dealers concerned about the future of Chadwick. That list includes (in no particular order)-ACTION CYCLE, D&S CYCLE, SKYLINE HONDA-YAMAHA, SURDYKE YAMAHA of MARIONVILLE, MOTOSPORTS, LEBANON SUZUKI-KAWASAKI, and POSSUM HOLLOW TROPHY'S. I thank you all for your generous donations!

My next THANKS go to the people who showed up inspite of the gloomy forecast. This is the second year for this NEWSLETTER to sponsor this thing. We pop for the food and encourage donations for the Chadwick Emergency Services in an effort to help them pay off their fire truck(they respond to all emergencys at the riding area.) \$471.00 was raised this year (including a generous donation by the Ava Forest Rangers . . . .namely Jim Voyles together with the Hardwood Enduro crew) and will go to a very worthy cause!

Aggie (The Chadwick "Babe") demanded I include a special thanks from her . . . .to all the "boys."

It's refreshing to see how much fun can be had in a noncompetative, non-event like

this. Of course . . . .we gotta do it next year! Last year we honored Jim Moon for his contributions to the area over the years. This year it was Aggie for her ongoing contributions. Maybe next year we can find Don and Melba Herndon . . . .and honor them for their many contributions over the years. We'll keep you posted!

Special thanks to the "special people" who showed up!

Wayne Crosby, Ralph Climer, Art Simmoneau, Greg Johnson, Tim Bradshaw, Dustin Harrison, Shawn Hall, Gary Jackson, Elston Moore, Donna Moore, Larry Scharnhorst, Jason marks, Ruby Climer, Mike Climer, David Berry, Cindy Crosby, Cheri Crosby, Steve Gann, Clint Gann, Paul Jackson, Dwayne Miecckley, Chris Bower, Jon Berry, Bart Williams, Eric Coburn, Matt Pickering, Todd Knight, Dennis Tomlin, Jonathon Tomlin, Tim Hall, Peter Beckers, Les Blizzard, Gary Silvey, Bob Fuerst, Dale Willis, Jerry Sharp, John Lawson, Greg Lowe, Floyd Seibert, Josh Seibert, Jon Richmond, Jac Richmond, Doug Stever, James Kelb, Nick Richart, Sam Richart, Gene Richart, Allen Haynes, Joby Windmiller, Kevin Henslee, Rusty Reynaud, Wayne Beindorf, Russ Vanskike, Joe Green, Darin Hall, Jim Sumner, Mike Edwards, Jim Thompson, Jeff Summers, Jeff Snider, Tyler Mallow, Todd Mallow, Kevin Young, Jody Thompson, Joe Beaver, Brad Ghan, Ron Shreve, Stan Bowman, and two extra"special people" the cooks! Aggie "the Chadwick Babe" St. Clair, and my wife . . . .Sandy.

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# THIS IS FOR FUN!

I picked up the February issue of *MOTOCROSS ACTION* the other day out of boredom. I don't motocross, and therefore, rarely read this magazine. I'm very glad that I did.

In it is a one page article by *Jody Weisel*. He's talking about "fast guy's." I won't try to retype the entire thing partly cause I can't type as well as they can and partly cause I don't want to go to jail for copying their stuff.

The whole article talks about . . .losing.

A couple of paragraphs jumped out at me; *A slow guy rides for the love of riding. Then, suddenly, if he's unlucky, he becomes fast-Fast guys grow to hate riding. They live in fear of faster guys. All their friends must be fast guys. Second place is a disaster. Their bikes are never good enough. When a fast guy gets slow, he quits (when a slow guy gets slow, he doesn't know it.)*



I am glad to be "slow!" After the amount of years that I've been doing this . . .the main focus is to have fun. That is how it should be.

Probably the best time I've had in the last several years is riding for the first time in Colorado with David. Sure David is a beginner rider and sure I could have gone faster, but . . .why should I? riding and exploring, sharing cool experiences with a good friend is far better than going, or being, fast.

If you're going to be fast, you're going to be fast. Just take time to file the memories of being slow . . .it's hard to recapture the good times when winning means less than having fun!

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# Politics? . . . YES, Really!

I recieved this letter the other day and thought it was significant enough that it needed to be shared with You!

The deal for me is knowing that eventually we will be affected by land closures or legislation that will attempt to limit our ability to ride off-road . . .freely. This includes riding 4-wheelers when hunting . . .and who knows what else!

Most of us are busy. I realize it's difficult to be active and vocal in the right places so that your voice may be heard. This guy is running for a seat in a governing body that will hear his voice. If "we" can't do it . . .let's at least support someone who can, and is trying.

I called Steve at the number listed to ask permission to run his letter in this Newsletter. He seemed like a down-to-earth kind of guy. He's under the gun in regard to timeframe on contributions. If you want to make a contribution . . .date your check for Dec '95, or post date it for June '96.

The real deal is for us all to "do something" positive to help protect our sport . . .and our "Right to Ride!"

Dear Rider,

A little over a year ago I came in contact with several representatives of the Midwest Trail Riders Association in conjunction with the ongoing People for the West Campaign. I am a former chapter President in the St. Louis area.

I became involved because I was tired of professional politicians taking away our money and our rights. People for the West seemed the logical choice because of my involvement and my livelihood in the timber industry. I have watched as environmental wackos have slowly eroded our ability to use our natural resources.

Through my involvement I came into contact with the movement to slowly end all use of our backwoods and its impact on off road trail riders. It has become clearly evident to me that this issue is about CONTROL, and nothing else.

Well, I have decided to do something about it., and that is why I am writing to you. I am pleased to announce that I am a candidate for Missouri House of Representatives. I feel strongly that watching from the sidelines is no longer an acceptable choice. I feel I must get involved to a higher degree. This is my basic reason for my candidacy.

I'm running in the 68th district in the St. Louis area. This will not be a super costly seat because there is no need for radio and television advertisement. This campaign will be won by extensive targeted direct mail, voter identification and an aggressive door to door effort.

I have learned that running for office is difficult. Due to Missouri law, candidates are not allowed to raise money while the legislators are in session, which I am sure most of you know runs from January thru May. That is why I am asking for your support at this time. I have a tremendous amount of work ahead and it is an old truth that early support in a campaign is worth more than at the end.

I need support from people like you. People who believe that continued multiple use of our land is essential to maintaining a free society. Because of Missouri law, contributions are limited to a hundred dollars per person, but whatever you are capable of giving at this time will be greatly appreciated and wisely used. You can write to me at:

Friends of Steve Millman  
7544 Murdoch Avenue  
St. Louis, MO. 63119  
314 647-4745

Thank You for all of your support. I look forward to hearing from you in the weeks to come.

Best Regards



Steve Millman Candidate, Missouri Legislator