

# WELCOME BACK!

My not so glorious return to the glorious rides we call Enduros.

After 12 years I rode my first real Enduro in Marquette, MI 6/15/08.

The Loose Moose WOW What A Blast!!

Even though I didn't Finish (see tree vs. Ribs/ Branch vs. head and someone else needed Medical care worse than I needed to finish) PS the Tree won hands Down!!

So Here I was completely unprepared and Out of Shape I thought well After the wine fest that was the Bridgeton Hare scrambles, I thought I owed it to myself and anyone who had a bad day there 6-1-08 to throw my, unprepared, out of Practice, bike untested and seriously lacking seat time, WAY out of Shape self, head first into the Loose Moose National Enduro in Marquette..

(Oh yea, I double the previous mileage I had on the bike Sunday afternoon and it's a 2005, now that's a no seat time ride for me)

What I found was so many welcome faces, some of them old friends I hadn't seen in a long long time , some of them new up and coming national champion/national caliber riders, some of them just happy to be there riders from all over the country, of all levels. Some I got to pass, some I had to get out of the way, just about always was followed by a thank-you.

I also saw a lot of smiling new faces, WOW it is truly amazing what 12 years looks like on some faces,( no offence to the elder statesmen of the day) some of those used to be little tykes are national caliber riders!

Kids Enduros WOW Great Job Mike Mauer I saw so many changes! Restart Format instead of Time keeping, computers, Transponders, Flat screen big Screen TV scrolling live check results as they came in WOW indeed! No scorecards!! (One less thing to worry about!)

Timekeeping yea right if you're Mike Lafferty, Russell Bobbitt or Local Fast guy Aaron Wegner Maybe!

Otherwise Step up Boys leave your wine glass at the door and go race because your going to be late if your one of us mortals!

Alan Rant on a computer instead of tearing up the course on his trusty KTM!  
(thanks Al Great job)

No scorecards!! (One less thing to worry about!)

Dick Burlson is the Trail boss (I instantly thought oh yea this is going to be good)

Kato of Dirt Rider Fame out on Course, Capturing it all on digital I'm sure!

WELCOME BACK INDEED!!

Things sure do change in 12 years, but like the old story goes, lead follow or get out of the way! Well I was lucky enough to find A little time to do each this Fathers day in one of the coolest places I've ever Ridden my Dirt bike and wouldn't you know its right here in Michigan who knew !(I drove a mile away on my Ducati once if that counts &Da UP still counts as Michigan EH:)

A Special thanks to the Briggs Racing Crew for allowing me to tag along even though Fred Briggs Ended up working on his motor home Brakes Longer than HE rode his motorcycle! Mechanical gremlins bit his motorcycle rendering it useless (a few thought it was a long lost Troll but I don't believe it) But he took it all in Stride (see no whining here) Eric Briggs sacrificed his bed so an old snoring guy could tag along while him and his wonderful wife Amanda slept in a tent! (Eric's new condo) His Family helped and welcomed me like one of the crew! Thank-you would never begin to express my gratitude, what an awesome family to get to know and spend a weekend with chasing an Enduro.

Thanks-to the UP Sand Stormers group; don't let the name fool you these guys got rocks!

What an Awesome place, it has a little bit of everything to test you and than send you home smiling. (Even if some of us are still a little sore)

If anyone ever would like to go back I'm in, what a Blast!

Well thanks for having me back it Truly is a privilege to ride in areas like these or any event or Club grounds for that matter, I hope we remember that when we fill out those onion skins and throw a leg over the seat, there is always someone willing to sacrifice Family time, money, and sometimes a bit of there own blood to let us have our fun thanks to everyone for all the hard work on the Enduro's, keeping these things alive is no small task, Please help them out whenever you can, I know I sure will be !

Now if I can just Remember how get to Lansing motorcycle club grounds in Moorestown now that they tore down the house I used to use as my land mark to turn ...oh well I have Five weeks to ponder it, Google it, Mapquest it, GPS it, and Point the fun Mobile in they're Direction and maybe my 3 year old will want to ride the buddy class on Saturday to make up for Dad being gone on the one Day he really Really missed His daughter, No mater how cool the ride was, ... ahhh time sure does change some things, Pretty cool isn't it!! J

Happy Father Day to all the Dads (I hope Everyone had a great Fathers day)

Phrase of the day: "Don't Justify Ignorance by responding to it!" (thanks EB)

Smiling sore and ready for more!

Jim Royce J