

Hello from Juergen, Bettina and Stephanie from Germany.

Here is my report about our trip to Missouri.

Our trip to the Midwest! You ask, how it was? It was great and before I'll tell you what happened something about my person. I have been riding since 1982 and a member of the "Biker Union" here in Germany. The Biker Union was founded in 1986 and was the former political head of the German MC's. Today many free-bikers are members of the BU.

In 2002 we visited the Harley-Davidson plant in York, PA. I was very impressed and in 2003 I bought an XL 1200C. But a Harley is not a Harley, if the motorcycle is not customized and so I modified my Sportster: KessTech exhaust system - Arlen Ness Air cleaner - 150 rear tire - Drag bars - lower seat and much, much more.

You know, what's going on in Germany. In 2003 we had the 100th Harley-Davidson anniversary party. This year the party started in July and approximately 25,000 bikes and 1 million visitors enjoyed the sound of the V-Twins. Hamburg (a big city in the northern part of Germany) is famous for the harbour and the nightlife! If you come to Hamburg someday, you must visit the main street called "Reeperbahn". But we have much much more parties around. If you will come to Germany, you will be shocked, when you see the gas price; 1 gallon ~ \$6. So you can be lucky with the US gas price!

In spring we were on the East-coast and visited Philly. A friend of mine is a local bike builder and so I was able to ride on a Chopper through PA + MD. This fall we spent some days in the Midwest. We stayed in St. Louis and enjoyed the beautiful weather. We visited the Arch, the Zoo and some shopping malls. As a biker I spent some time and money at the local H-D dealers in St. Louis. (Special thanks to Doc's Harley Davidson / Jon Sykes + Steve Malone.) In the magazine we found an advertisement for a local bike show at TJ's in Pevely. Yeah, a US bike show, let's rock'n roll.

The afternoon we stayed at TJ's, we enjoyed the music, the hot coffee and the friendly people. At this time: Many thanks again for the Mardi Gras stuff for my wife. She has no idea what Mardi Gras means :-). Hopefully we'll be able to come to St. Louis again.

If you are still interested, I can write something about the German bike scene or my next stay in the US.

Take care, Juergen
Looking forward to your magazine!



Juergen and Bettina at TJ's



Juergen, Bettina and Stephanie at the St. Louis Gateway Arch