

AMERICAN MOTORCYCLIST

MAGAZINE OF THE AMERICAN MOTORCYCLIST ASSOCIATION

www.AMADirectlink.com

September 2004

Volume 58 Number 9

Features

26

Bike Nite

Across the country, riders gather at local restaurants to kick tires, ogle bikes and talk motorcycles.

32

Johnny Murphree

Nobody ever said that mastering the fine art of flat track was easy. But two-time runner-up Johnny Murphree is aiming for the top.

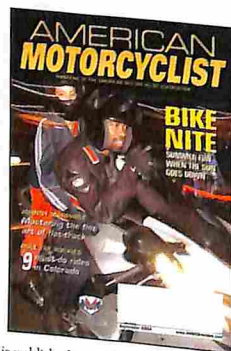
38

Rule the Rockies

Colorado has some of the best motorcycle roads in the country. Here's your guide to nine unforgettable rides.

Cover: Cruisers, customs, sportbikes, standards. You'll find them all, and a lot of good folks, at the Quaker Steak & Lube restaurant on Bike Nite. Read all about the growing cruise-in phenomenon, beginning on page 26.

Photo by Bill Andrews



Columns

12 **Bill Wood**
Heart of the season

Departments

6 **Post Entry**
Letters from our readers

14 **Top Gear**
2005 Yamaha and Victory models

17 **Top Gear Tested**
Suzuki's updated cruisers,
Harley's CVO specials

22 **Right to Ride**
A raging storm

44 **AMA News**
Wired for sound

49 **Gear Head**
Sparking hot and cold

50 **Road Signs**
Long-distance rescue

57 **Racing Lines**
Chasing the Horizon

75 **Museum Classic**
1991 Harley FXDB Sturgis



rights. riding. racing.
American Motorcyclist Association



There's nothing more American than flat-track racing. We learn the fine points of half-miling with Johnny Murphree, beginning on page 32.

Bill Wood

American Motorcyclist Magazine (ISSN 0277-9358) is published monthly by the American Motorcyclist Association, 13515 Yarmouth Dr., Pickerington, OH 43147. Copyright by the American Motorcyclist Association/American Motorcyclist 2004. Printed in USA. Subscription rate: One year, \$10.00 members; \$12.50 non-members; \$15.00 foreign non-members; single copy \$1.25. Postmaster: Mail form 3579 to 13515 Yarmouth Dr., Pickerington, OH 43147. Periodical postage paid at Pickerington, Ohio, and at additional mailing offices. Manuscripts, photos, drawings and other editorial contributions must be accompanied by return postage. No responsibility is assumed for loss or damage to unsolicited material.

AMERICAN MOTORCYCLIST

MAGAZINE OF THE AMERICAN MOTORCYCLIST ASSOCIATION

BIKE NITE

SUMMER FUN
WHEN THE SUN
GOES DOWN



MereMart.com

Vintage Magazines for Special People

JOHNNY MURPHREE

*Mastering the fine
art of flat-track*

RULE THE ROCKIES

9 *must-do rides
in Colorado*



rights. riding. racing.
American Motorcyclist Association

#BXBCGCB AUTO** 5-DIGIT 55045



#07546021# FULL X04/05 000026

JOEL SCHWALICH

PO BOX 244

LINDSTROM

MN 55045-0244

September 2004

www.AMADirectlink.com