

Source:
Easy Riders
Date
November 09

World's Largest-Selling Motorcycle Magazine For Men

Easyriders®

437 • November 2009



This year's run was a wonderful combination of high adrenaline and non-stop partying at the kind of old-school, slow bike event that takes us all back to our biking roots. The 69th Sturgis Rally had something for everyone, no matter what your taste. From the mild mayor's ride on August 3 and the wonders of the opening of Mike Lichter's *Motorcycles As Art* exhibit at the Buffalo Chip on Tuesday to the wild ride-in *Biker* magazine Old-School Chopper Show at the Broken Spoke on Wednesday, every day and every moment there was a different party to attend.



You could soak up the sun in the pool at Sturgis County Line, party at the Chip all week, hang at the Full Throttle, or head into downtown for all the fun and madness that has been awaiting Sturgis alumni since time out of mind.

It's a week to ride, ride, ride your ass off, come out of the sweltering heat to play Blackjack in Deadwood's air-conditioned casinos, or step back outside to see girls wearing hardly nothing while saunterin' down Main Street. Blast by bison on the road to Mount Rushmore. Buy a critter skull at a vendor booth. Kiss a sexy stranger while dancing to live music at The Broken Spoke, or take



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in a savage cage fight over at The Knuckle Saloon. Yell at the top of your lungs while watching the Jackpine Gypsies' Hill Climbs. Sing along with all the tunes at any of the dozens of live concerts available. Watch Steven Tyler fall off the stage mid-concert at the Buffalo Chip. Smoke a cigar while honoring the spirits of Native Americans at Bare Butte, or have a cold beer while watching a lightning storm over Beulah. Hug brothers and sisters you only meet up with once a year. Have an ice cream at Wall Drug before hitting the Badlands, or kick back in your sleepin' bag under a star-filled South Dakota sky.

Sturgis has it all, rain or sleet, hot or cold, pimpin', livin' large or busted. It has always been about the ride brothers and sisters, and Michael Lichter's photos prove once again that this is the rally to attend when all else in life fails you.

And when all else fails you...ride!

—Dave Nichols

Photos: Michael Lichter