

EVENT

another pal, a minor hand schlepping things into his booth. From there, I rode over to Main Street and the Speedway for more pics, then made my way back to Willie's around 5. The parking lot was packed with choppers, and the adjacent side street jammed with spectator bikes for three full blocks and then some! I managed to catch up with the owners of a few motorcycles I wanted to shoot for bike features, and then went home to clean up for an event AIM Editor Chris Maida had asked me to cover.

Sponsored at Biketoberfest by Wild Turkey, Biker Fusion stages events to benefit Soldiers' Angels, an organization devoted to making life more enjoyable for our troops overseas. Things we take for granted — wide-screen TVs, video games, movies, and other recreational items — can be a godsend when you're on the other side of the world, far from any semblance of a normal life. And those sorts of things cost money. That's where Biker Fusion and Soldiers' Angels step in. They invite select bike builders to attend their parties, in hopes that event-goers will attend to rub shoulders and donate generously. I



spotted Billy Lane, Bill Dodge, Steve Broyles, and Dave Perewitz talking with anyone who happened to approach them. Other big draws were nicely done custom motorcycles and an extensive display of Michael Lichter's photography. Thanks to their combined efforts and the contributions of 360 Brake and Ami James Jewelry, this year's event raised \$10,000.

The weather had been great throughout the week, and Friday dawned clear and warm as well. Nikon in hand, I hit Main Street early and then wandered over to the Boardwalk for the bike show. It's not as heavily attended as the Tropical Tattoo and Rat's Hole Shows, but the Boardwalk event has been a favorite of mine since the early 1970s. The atmosphere is extremely laidback, and conducive to shooting the breeze

