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### Who's Who?

Julie "Mama Dame" Fink-National President/Founder

Steph "DeLo" De Lorenzo-

National V. President/National Lady Enforcer

Linda Rogers- National Sec/Tres

Tina "Fireball" B<u>undtrock-</u>

Lori "Indian Lori" Balcer- State President

Jenny "Kransky" Ridenour-State V. President

Lucinda "Lu" Bryan- State Lady Enforcer/State Road Dame

Welcome to the Dames! Billings- Shelly McMurrian, D'Anne Chouinard

Great Falls- Michelle Erickson

Hamilton- Heather Todd

Havre- Jamie Hower

Missoula- Terrie Canfield, Cecily Pfarr

## The Enfamous Reflection Letter; How We

"It all started with the realization there were other women like myself that had a beginning. They rode harder and faster than my comfort zone, and as a beginner, I became intimidated with riding. With the combination of limited experience and owning a bike not suited for the type of riding I wanted to endure, I nearly threw in the towel and thought I would never be strong enough to ride. After two riding seasons, only totaling 800 miles, I sold my bike and decided to be a passenger. The following summer, I decided riding two-up was no longer an option for me, and I wanted to ride on my own once again. I ordered my second bike, 2012 Harley Dyna Switchback.

I watched my bike come off the delivery truck and jumped on it the second it hit the pavement. I instantly fell in LOVE with my new bike! After installing some modifications to my bike, I took off for my first weekend and rode 1,000 miles. Three things I learned after riding my new bike: 1) women ride differently than men. Men have upper body strength and for women, ours is in our legs. 2) your bike needs to fit you and be the right bike for your type of riding. 3) I can out ride most men and now I do it all the time, so can you! I later then approached my friend, Colette Haun, and discussed the need for women to find each other and ride. Due to the lack of women clubs in Montana, I asked Colette about starting a women's club. In April of 2013, we put our plan to action and the Tenacious Dames were born. Tenacious stands for stubborn, strong, persistent, etc... Our patch symbolizes all of us riders, the strength as women. By the start of 2015, we had 50 members. By the end, we grew to 110 members and could be found in seven cities across Montana. My dream for women to find each other, friendships, strengths, and empowerment had been reached. What happened, was and is, more than that; it's way more. I have found a place for women to heal old wounds, to trust again, build friendships, believe in themselves once more, and to ultimately become stronger. We are all here for our own reasons and the common interest that brings us together is the riding."

> Julie Fink, President/Founder Tenacious Dames RC

# Mentor/Mentee Spotlight:

So we don't know much about the why behind Julie joining the Dames, but she is a spitfire! I can say it is never too late to become a Dame and Julie is proof of this. She has added an energy to Miles City that brings light in their time of sadness from loosing Robyn. She always has a positive outlook at life and man does she love her trike!

Patti was the one who brought
Julie to the Dames and over the
year and a half that I was
around, Patti has the patience to
help new riders gain confidence,
she is willing to do a short ride
around town, take riders out on
the interstate and never be too
pushy to get out of their comfort

Patti has taken Julie under her wing like a momma duck, always watching out for her, helping her learn about her bike and helping her with life.

Together they are a great pair and both have the most infectious smiles.

-Carla Watson, President Sidney Chapter





# Welcome Sidney!

Our newest Chapter to the Tenacious Dames

# Member Introductions:

#### President: Carla Watson: I

currently live Fairview MT with my husband Rob of 22 years and our furry kids. My husband and I have one son who is 23 and off adulting!! I own a hair salon in Fairview and when not able to ride I make hair beautiful. I joined the Dames 1 1/2 years ago. I had a friend lose her spouse unexpectedly and it made me realize life is short and never guaranteed. I knew I needed to step out of the "riding only with my husband" box I had been in. I needed to find like minded women/people who shared that love of riding.

#### Vice President: Jasmine

Anderson: I was raised on a farm outside of Lambert MT. where we raised some cattle and prayed the land would produce good crops. I've gotten married and stayed close to home. My husband Chris and I live in Lambert MT with our 4 kids. One year ago, I joined the Tenacious Dames after an invite to a meet and greet from a Dame. I found the Dames to be very community minded. The Dames are open and welcoming to all. The Tenacious Dames are women from all walks of life. I love how the Dames come together to support each other even

there is "family of women" out there rooting for you!

Secretary/Treasurer: Jody Reed: I

live in Savage MT with my husband of 38 years, Bruce. I'm a mom of 3 and grandma of 7. I have been riding motorcycles for over 20 years now and currently ride a 2020 Indian Chieftain. I joined the Tenacious Dames in February 2021. My daughter Heather is a Dame and she had been urging me to check it out for a couple of years. This club really is a sisterhood. There is a patch on my vest that says "I am my

sister's keeper". That patch pretty

much sums it up for me.

Road Dame: Jody Thompson: I was raised in Lambert MT. I followed my dad's footsteps and became an over the road truck driver. For more than 20 years I drove all over the country and got to see many places from the view of a semi. I bought my first bike 3 years ago and never thought I'd see myself 5K miles later loving every minute of it!!! The Dames accepted me for who I am as a person. Over the past year they have been the most welcoming community of women I have ever been introduced to. They are encouraging, welcoming and want to build a family and community of women who love to

Member: Lori Sharp: I am originally from Thompson Falls MT and currently live in Fairview MT with my husband Scott. I am a mom to 3 grown kids and MIMI to 3 precious grandbabies. I'm new to the Dames since February, in this short time I have seen the friendships that have developed because of the Dames. There is a sense of family within a sisterhood. The Dames are also a large group of supportive women who want you to succeed in life and in riding.

Member: Jen Vaira: I have been riding since 2007 and have enjoyed many miles touring our beautiful country with family and friends. Mostly with my best friend and husband Kelly. In June of 2021, I attended a meet and greet and I signed up. Then just a few weeks later, our daughter Angela died while riding with her dad and I. The Dames reached out and gave me support, prayers and confidence to ride again. I'm not sure I would be riding today if it were not for the love offered by my sister Dames, most who didn't even know me. This sisterhood and the support I received is what drew me in.

It dosen't matter if you are a beginning rider or a seasoned grandma rider, the Tenacious Dames will take you under their wing and support you.



**Mes** City

"Sisters share a bond unlike any otherthornier. but also tender. full of possibilities."

#### -Author unknown.

The sisterhood the Miles City Chapter has fostered over the past few years has been exciting to watch. The love these girls have for each other, their families, and their community is never wavering.

Miles City puts a lot of time and love into the communities schools and the children who attend. Every year, these ladies choose a local or rural school put in the work to find teacher's needs and wants, they rally together and donate these items back to the school and teachers. It's an event that these ladies look forward to every single year. It's incredibly heartwarming to see the smiles as these ladies pull up on motorcycles with bags full of supplies just for them.

Every single December, at the annual Christmas Stroll, the Miles City Chapter sponsors "Pictures with Santa". Hours are poured into planning, background choices. decorating, pulling off a successful event and ultimately being able to sponsor a graduating female senior with a scholarship for college. We are honored, this year, to have renamed the Tenacious Dames Scholarship, the Robyn Huber Memorial Scholarship, in honor of our President Robyn Huber.

Veterans hold a spot in our hearts that's very near and dear. It has been nothing short of an honor to be able to actively participate in Wreaths Across America in December. We are always humbled to be able to lay wreaths on the resting places of the fallen heroes.

We are looking forward to a great riding season and wish everyone a safe riding year.Ride only as fast as your angle can.

## This Month's Motorcycle G-Wiz

### Q: Should you run high-octane gas in your motorcycle?

A: When it comes to the octane number, many people think it's an indication of the gasoline's power density, and that a higher octane gas will net more horsepower, get better mileage, or offer better throttle response. High-octane gas alone does not yield more power, unless it's preventing detonation, which is also known as engine pinging or knock. The higher the octane, the more resistant the fuel is to detonation.

If you're running premium in a bike that calls for regular

because you think it'll make more power or net you more miles per gallon, you're wasting your money. The only reason you would need to upgrade your gas is if you've installed high compression pistons or advanced your ignition timing or installed some other modification that increases the combustion pressure and heat. Even then, unless your engine is knocking on 87 octanem it's not going to make more power or run any better than 89, 91, or 93. However, if you plan to use cheap gas and put it in a bike designed to burn premium, you're at risk of engine damage. So check your owner's manual or the sticker on the gas tank.

## **Road Dames** Things to Think About When It's Time to Ride:

As riders we are dedicated to staying clear of accidents and enjoying the ride. This is due in part to some basic safety tipsideas.

Gear up for your ride. As they say, dress for the slide and not the ride. Riding in sandals is not appropriate attire. Leathers, reinforced jackets, pants, and

Know your abilities and make sure that you choose the right route that you can handle. The more familiar you are with the route, the easier it will be for you to focus on safety instead of not missing a turn.

Give your bike a good onceover before hitting the road. Things you should check out every time you get on your motorcycle include tire pressure, mirrors and lights.

Watch the road and be cautious when going into curves and know the forecast so you pack the proper riding gear. We live in the Mid-west and our weather changes every hour and we need to be prepared for that.

One of the biggest dangers to a rider is getting on your bike in the wrong state of mind. Riding angry, drowsy or distracted is a recipe for disaster.



# Words for the Road

There is no better feeling than getting on your motorcycle and riding with the wind in your hair. As a rider you are representing the "Tenacious Dames" Riding Club and we as women riders can help make a difference by educating other women around us and encouraging them that they too can ride their own ride and discover the love and passion that we all have for the open road.

Remember our Motto:
"Women Empowering
Women Thru The Love Of
Riding". We were all once
new riders, learning from our
Mentors so let's help and be
a Mentor back to the new
riders.

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### **Noteable Upcoming Events**

- July
  - K Lincoln Bike Rally- 8-10
  - Wraith RC Poker Run-16
  - Tuffy's Biker Bash- 22-24
- August
  - TNT Biker Bash- 27
- September
  - **EOS-9-11**
- Mark Your Calendars for the FUTURE:
  - 🕱 Winter Getaway 2023- Feb 24-26
  - Tenacious Dames 10 year Birthday Party- Apr 28-29 2023



