

Music City “Ride and Have Fun” Legacy

If you've ever visited the grill at Boswell's, you've no doubt seen the enlarged, old black and white photo of the couple with their backs to the camera, showing us the Music City Riders logo on the back of their matching shirts.

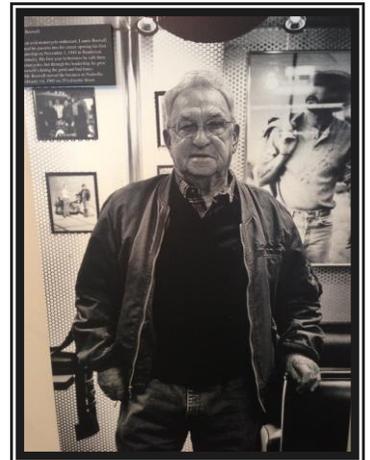


I've often wondered about this photo.

Who are the people in the photograph and what's the story behind The Music City Riders? I sat down with Bubba Boswell to get the answers. Here's what he had to say.

“The Boswells moved from Evansville, IN to Nashville in winter of 1964. They opened their first shop (in Nashville) on February 1, 1965 at 29 Lafayette Street and began the club, then called the Music City Riders, shortly thereafter.

The club had field meets, rides, mileage runs, poker runs and other events similar to the MCC today.”



The Music City Riders even had a hill-climb in Joelton at Germantown Hill. The membership of that early club was around 50 people, which was a good size for the time. The earliest motorcycle club in Nashville dates back to 1917.”

I also asked Bubba about the shirts worn in the photo, and he shared that those logo shirts were a typical example of what would be worn to ride back then.

"Back in that era, when people rode a motorcycle, they dressed up a little more. It wasn't just the bike; it was also what you looked like." Polished shoes and starched shirts were often worn, as Bubba said "you had to look good, that was the deal."



So who are the two people in the photo?

Bubba said, “Bill Biffle is the gentleman, he actually worked at Boswells for a while. The lady is the mystery. We've tried to ask around, but at this point there are only a few folks left alive from that era, and none of them seems to know.”



The next time you're in the grill, check out this historic photo.

I hope this article gave you some insight about it and the early days of The Music City Riders.

I encourage you to learn more about the history of the Music City H.O.G chapter. Don't let your knowledge of this subject end up like the lady in the photo: a mystery.

Let's ride and have fun!

Robert Kearns
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