

# Montana Hope Project

*Sponsored by the Association of Montana Troopers*



In Memory -- Trooper Evan Schneider

# Table of Contents

In Memory -- Trooper Evan Schneider ..... 1  
 Our Sponsors ..... 3  
 "Ride for Hope" 2008 ..... 4  
 In Memory -- Trooper Evan Schneider ..... 6  
 Montana Hope Open Golf Tournament ..... 7  
 Montana Hope Bronze ..... 8  
 1st Annual Flag Day Cruise ..... 9  
 Chrome for Kids Motorcycle plates ..... 9  
 AshlyN Vuicivh - Wishes ..... 10  
 Tessa Gehring - A Wish Comes True ..... 10  
 From the President ..... 11  
 Summer Reunion - Essex, Montana ..... 12  
 2008 Children of Hope ..... 14  
 Give the gift of HOPE ..... 15

## Give the gift of HOPE

Help make a wish come true for a critically ill Montana child. Make a donation to the Montana Hope Project in the name of a family member, friend or recipient.

A donation to the Montana Hope Project directly benefits Montana children.

## HOPE—always the perfect gift

This gift is made in **honor/memory** of: \_\_\_\_\_

It is being given by: \_\_\_\_\_  
(your name)

Send confirmation card to: \_\_\_\_\_  
(name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(mailing address) (city) (state) (zip)

**Complete and send to: The Montana Hope Project, P.O. Box 5927, Helena, MT 59604**

Published annually by the Montana Hope Project.

Copyright © 2003-2007. Montana Hope Project. All Rights Reserved.

The Montana Hope Project is a non-profit organization registered with the Secretary of State. It is a 501(c)(3) organization and it follows all federal guidelines to maintain its status.

# Our Sponsors

AAA Montana  
 Jensen Jewelers  
 Jim's Bar  
 Kleen King  
 Cardinal Distributing of Bozeman  
 Rocky Mountain Credit Union  
 Coldstone Creamery  
 Creative Vision Photography  
 Missoula Federal Credit Union  
 Town Pump  
 Washington-Dennis & Phyllis  
 Montana Tow Truck Association  
 Wingate Inn-Missoula  
 Neomesh Microsystems  
 Enterprise Rent-A Car  
 Minuteman Aviation  
 Glacier Heli Tours  
 Hellgate Corvette Club  
 Garden City Rods and Customs  
 Wingate by Wyndom  
  
 406 Motoring Automotive Specialists  
 Glacier Haven Inn  
 Exchange Clubs of Montana  
 Robert Hawkins Oil and Gas  
 Clausen Distributing of Helena  
 Action Print of Helena  
 Albertsons  
 Knight, Dahood Everett, & Sievers  
 Subway of Anaconda  
 Skakles & Gallagher Law Firm  
 Big Sky Radiology  
 Klingler, Russell & Helen  
 The Leather Store  
 Lewistown Honda  
 Summit Beverage  
 Dee Motor Company  
 Dick Irvin Trucking  
 Thriftway/Sutey Oil  
 Montana Harley Davidson of Missoula



Valet Limo  
 Yellowstone Harley Davidson  
 Redline Sports of Butte  
 Outdoor Motor Sports of Helena  
 Yellowstone Club  
 Grizzly Marathon & Half-Marathon  
 The Rebecca's of Montana



**Publisher:**

Montana Hope Project

**Editor/Layout/Design:**

Roxy Caraway

**Contributing writers and Photographers:**

Cal Janes  
 Tiana Hader  
 Richard Hader  
 Alice O'Donnell  
 Jerril Ren  
 Tom Taylor  
 Dave & Victoria Wojciechowski

*90 cents of every dollar raised directly benefits Montana children.*

## “Ride for Hope” 2008

This year Ride 4 Hope (2008) had approximately 100 motorcycles that participated in the ride and we served over 170 at the banquet in Red Lodge, MT. (Rock Crk. Resort).

We were blessed with three recipients and their families. Shelly Benson (Polson, Mt.), Rachael Kane (Manhatan, Mt.), and Nicholas Kolstad (Glasgow, Mt.) provided the entertainment with their stories and events surrounding their individual wish/s.

One highlight of the event was the shearing of Metzger's beard. His growth of many years was sheared off from one happy bidder. The bid to do so raised over \$3000.00 alone and came with a brand new Vespa motor scooter. It was quite a sight.

The Mt. Hope Project cannot give enough thanks to the riders and pledgers for their continued



efforts to help serve the children of Montana. Again it appeared that the ride was a success even during these tough economic times. Amazingly this year's (2008) event raised over \$100,000.00.

Our first through third place pledge earners are again the same three that have held these spots for several years. The first place pledge earner was Royce Bird from Polson, Mt. He collected over \$30,000.00 this year. WOW! Second place honors goes to Dave McCormack of Victor, Mt. and Wes Matson of Hamilton, Mt. was third. A great big thanks and appreciation goes out to these three for all their continuous efforts. The Hope Board and the children of Montana appreciate it all.



This coming year will be

*The Montana Hope Project has*



the cruise give away year. For every \$100 of pledge money received the earner will receive one coupon, good for a chance to win the cruise for two. All pledge money must be turned into the treasurer at the ride's ending point to receive their coupon/s. The totals of the 2008 pledges will be added to the earners 2009 pledge money.

Next year (2009) is the Montana Hope Project's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary and will be the Hope Rides 20th annual ride. The ride is scheduled for July 25th 2009. We hope to see you there.

Check our website --

<http://www.montanahope.org> for details as they become available.



## In Memory -- Trooper Evan Schneider

For the second time in less than a year, the Montana Highway Patrol family lost one of its members. On August 26, 2008, Trooper Evan Schneider of Kalispell was killed in the line of duty while trying to catch a speeding driver. The vehicle that Trooper Schneider was attempting to stop forced a third vehicle off of the road who lost control and crashed into Evan's patrol vehicle.

All losses are difficult, but the loss of a person like Evan is felt even more deeply. Evan was one of those people that you don't forget meeting. The first time I met Evan, he was in the process to be selected as a trooper. Out of the hundreds of people that go through the one on one interview process, it is hard to remember those that really stand out in a positive way. Evan did. I don't think I have met anyone more sincere or "real" than Evan Schneider. He wasn't trying to impress anyone, but he did.

Evan's ability to impress didn't stop with the selection process. He was one of those quiet performers, truly dedicated to duty and service to his fellow man that any organization would be lucky to have. The patrol was lucky enough to hire him first. He never failed to give the people of Montana anything less than his best effort. He wasn't trying to impress anyone, but he did.

Evan even managed to impress us when he didn't do everything "by the book". Once shortly after he went to work, he was arresting a man for driving under the influence who began to resist. The offender was a wiry little guy that was hard to control. In the middle of the wrestling match, Evan's cell phone rang. Evan answered it with one hand and kept wrestling the wiry man with the other. Evan was still winning the fight even with one hand to his ear talking to dispatch on the phone. Not many troopers could get away with that, and we asked Evan to please finish the "fight" next time before answering the phone. He sheepishly agreed that it would be a good idea, and we never addressed such issues again.

We will never forget Evan. Our deepest condolences and concerns go out to Evan's wife Carrie, his brother Trooper James Schneider, Evan's parents, extended fam-



ily, friends, co-workers, and acquaintances.

The Montana Highway Patrol appreciates the support of our extended Montana Hope Project family again during this difficult time. God bless you, the children you serve and their families.

Sincerely,

*Lt. Colonel Mike Tooley*

# Montana Hope Open Golf Tournament

The 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Montana Hope Open Golf Tournament was held at the Yellowstone Club on August 18<sup>th</sup>. Fourteen teams took part in the event and had a great day of Golf. The weather certainly was cooperating to make this another special day. The teams were greeted by ...

Manhattan wish child Rachel Kane and her Mother Becky and Grandmother Barb Coons



Missoula wish children Thomas and Jessica Beers and their Mother Leanne and Dad Steve. Also pictured is Governor Brian Schweitzer.

The children took part in painting a pony while everyone golfed. Once again, Governor Brian Schweitzer acted as our auctioneer.

Please watch our website for the date of 4th annual Montana Hope Open



# Montana Hope Bronze

The first ever Montana Hope Project bronze was revealed to the public and members of the Patrol when it was presented to MHP Trooper Ginger Kinsey for her 20 years of service.

Ginger has been battling cancer for many years and continued to come to work day in and day out to protect the citizens of the State.

The bronze is modeled after our logo which is drawn by Montana Artist Stan Lynde. The bronze



*Pictured left to right: Montana Hope Project Vice-President/Trooper Cal Janes, Wish Coordinator Tiana Hader, Colonel Paul Grimstad, Retiring Trooper Ginger Kinsey, Lt. Colonel Mike Tooley and Hope Project President/Trooper Richard Hader*



was made by Mary Blair, another Montana Artist who did an outstanding job turning our logo into a beautiful life like bronze. The Hope Project is so thankful for these great artists who are so generous with they time and talent. Thank you again Stan and Mary.



Visit Coldstone Creamery in Missoula every second Tuesday from 4-7. They will donate \$.30 of every \$1.00 spent to the Montana Hope Project.



## Chrome for Kids Motorcycle plates

On June 6th 2008, Montana State Senator Bruggerman held a news conference at the State Capital to introduce the new "Chrome for Kids" plate. Several years in the making, this dream became reality when the 1st plate was shown to the general public. The event was attended by President Richard Hader and several Ride for Hope riders as well as wish child Aimee Wilkerson and family. Montana Hope Project Ride for Hope 500 member, Royce Bird was caught off guard when Sen. Bruggerman handed him that very first plate for all of his unselfishness in fund raiser. The fee is \$ 30.00 per plate with half of the proceeds going to the Hope Project and half to Camp Mak-a-Dream.

## 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Flag Day Cruise



The 1<sup>st</sup> annual Flag Day Cruise was held on June 14th. This idea came from a long standing supporter of the Hope Project, Geoff Oriet and his wife Melody. Geoff took his idea to the Hellgate Corvette Club which he belongs to. From there, they invited the Garden City Rods and Custom Car Club to make a great day for a road trip to Idaho.

Over 40 cars took part meeting up at Karl Tyler Chevrolet and hitting the road. The weather provided a beautiful day for these cars to get out and stretch their legs. After going up U S 93 North to Montana

200, the clubs dropped into Idaho and were met by members of the Spokane and Seattle Corvette Clubs.

Lunch was at the Hot Rod Café in Post Falls Idaho. Over \$7,500.00 was raised by these clubs.



## Tessa Gehring - A Wish Comes True



*Trooper Scott Zarske of Lincoln joins Board member/ Trooper Rocky Bailey and Hope Project President Trooper Richard Hader for a photo with Tessa Gehring of Lincoln.*

**T**he Troopers made a surprise visit to Lincoln for her benefit and granted her wish to go to Italy. Only 4 individuals in Lincoln knew what was going to happen. Tessa had no idea that her parents and teachers conspired with the Project to make her dream come through.

This was all made possible by a conversation with Governor Schweitzer while at the annual Montana Hope Open in Big Sky the week before. When Governor Schweitzer found out about Tessa, he told the story during the auction and secured the funds for the trip from a generous member of the Yellowstone Club.

## AshlyN Vuicivh - Wishes

**A**shlyN Vuicivh was Disney world bound last April. She was accompanied by her mother, stepfather and two sisters. Alice O'Donnell, Butte/Anaconda Coordinator for the Montana Hope Project, and Troopers Joe Wyant and Rodger Kennet presented the wish award.



*The Montana Hope Project is funded entirely by your donations and local fund-raising events.*

## From the President ...

**G**reetings friends and families. This year's note will be short, as I will let the newsletter highlight most of the events and happenings within the Project. For the 2nd year in a row, the Patrol family lost another Trooper in the line of duty. Trooper Evan Schneider was killed when a full sized pick-up crossed the centerline and crashed head-on into his cruiser. To his wife and Brother who also is a Trooper, may God be with you.

With the economy on everyone's mind this year, I have been absolutely amazed at the success in our fundraisers, but really when I sit and think about it, I shouldn't be. This is Montana and we deal with Montanans and there is no limit to the generosity of the people of this great State!!!! Without them, we could not do what we do.

Thank you again!!!

I end this with a salute to our families that we have the honor to serve. Each and ev-

eryone of you are truly amazing, unbelievable individuals that continue to impress us daily. Your resolve is remarkable, your attitude is contagious and your determination is unwavering.



*Montana Hope President, Richard Hader with President-elect Barack Obama*

*Richard Hader*



**BUILT FOR BUSINESS®**





# Summer Reunion - Essex, Montana

The 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Montana Hope Project Reunion was held in Essex, Montana. We once again extend our thanks and deepest appreciation to the owners and staff of the Isaac Walton Inn for hosting our event. Special thanks as well to the owners of the Glacier Haven Inn and Halfway Motel for extending their generosity.



Events and amusements abounded to keep the Children of Hope entertained -- as well as their families and the other guests that were on hand to enjoy the festivities.





Cardinal Distributing

*90 cents of every dollar raised directly benefits Montana children.*

# 2008 Children of Hope

## Wishes Granted

Hunter -- Disney World -- Missoula  
 Alex -- Disney World -- Billings  
 Travis -- Disney World -- Fromberg  
 Kimberly -- Disney World -- Stevensville  
 Gabrielle -- Disney World -- Missoula  
 Bethany -- Disney World -- Missoula  
 Parker -- Disney World -- Missoula  
 Mabel -- Hot Tub -- Great Falls  
 David -- Disneyworld -- Jordan  
 Kayla -- Disneyworld -- Havre  
 Thomas -- Disneyworld -- Missoula  
 Ashlyn -- Disneyworld -- Anaconda  
 Aimee -- Disneyworld -- Helena  
 Chase -- Disneyworld -- Polson  
 Alan -- Alaska Trip -- Billings

## Wishes Pending

Aaron -- Disneyworld -- Missoula  
 Allyson -- Disneyworld -- Missoula  
 Raffaele -- Disneyworld -- Missoula  
 Zane -- Disneyworld -- Missoula  
 Mairissa -- Hawaii -- Butte

*Life of children is  
 precious and should  
 never be cut short  
 without wishes  
 coming true.*



Montana Owned and Operated



The Montana Hope Project has granted more than 299 wishes since 1984.



# Give the gift of HOPE

## Give the gift of HOPE

Help make a wish come true for a critically ill Montana child. Make a donation to the Montana Hope Project in the name of a family member, friend or recipient.

A donation to the Montana Hope Project directly benefits Montana children.

### HOPE—always the perfect gift

This gift is made in **honor/memory** of: \_\_\_\_\_

It is being given by: \_\_\_\_\_  
(your name)

Send confirmation card to: \_\_\_\_\_  
(name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(mailing address) (city) (state) (zip)

**Complete and send to: The Montana Hope Project, P.O. Box 5927, Helena, MT 59604**

## Hope Project Facts

- 90 cents of every dollar raised directly benefits Montana children.
- The Montana Hope Project is NOT affiliated with any national organization. It is funded entirely by your donations and local fund-raising events.
- Every year, wish recipients and their families are invited to spend the weekend at the Izaak Walton Inn, located in Essex, MT at the edge of Glacier Park.
- 2006 marks the first annual recipient Christmas party.
- The Montana Hope Project has granted more than 275 wishes since 1984.





Please send all photos, letters, ideas, information, updates, and articles for the website and future newsletters to the editor at:

**Montana Hope Project**  
 PO Box 5927  
 Helena, MT 59604

or email  
**rcaraway@montanahope.org**



**Montana Hope Project**  
 PO Box 5927  
 Helena, Montana 59604

Non-Profit  
 US Postage Paid  
 Helena, Montana  
 Permit #81

Address change or know someone who would like to receive our free publication?

- Address Change**
- Add a subscriber**

Name

Address

City                      State                      Zip

Telephone Number

**Mail to:**

The Montana Hope Project  
 PO Box 5927  
 Helena, Montana 59604