Florida Eagle Takes Journey Of A Lifetime

A pack of motorcycles turns down the road between the Amway Grand Hotel and DeVos Place Convention Center. Leading the way is a beautiful cherry red bike, with a pair of American flags on the back, flowing with the freedom its very colors represent.

Behind the handlebars sits an approachable man with a perpetually humble look. An eagle cap rests atop his head. A calming white beard that could make Santa Claus envious peeks out from underneath. Across his chest is a black leather vest, filled with various pins collected throughout his journey.

John “Bear” McMillan is in the midst of a quest to visit each of the Fraternal Order of Eagles’ more than 1,600 Aeries. On this particular day, he’s in Grand Rapids as part of the Finish For Darrell event in honor of brother Darrell Rall, who was injured on the 11th day of a 25-day, 25,000-mile ride to raise awareness for the F.O.E. Diabetes Research Center.

Bear and his wife, Lorry, have been on the road since November, making friends, enjoying life and raising more than $27,000 for various F.O.E. charities including the DRC.

Figuratively, Bear’s heart is roughly the size of the mass of land he’s traversing for such a great cause. Physically, that same heart pumps at just 30% after a pair of heart attacks more than 18 months ago changed the McMillan’s lives forever.

“I’ve never been the type to just sit around,” Bear said. “For 50 years I worked hard, then they told me I had a bad heart. I have to do something. Obviously, I’m not going to do anything to make it worse, but I just can’t sit around all day.” What happened next can – and has – moved just about anyone. For years and years he’d worked tirelessly adding years to his life. Now it was time to add life to his years. Knowing that every day could potentially be Bear’s last, he and Lorry sold almost everything they owned and hit the road with an old motor home and that beautiful cherry red bike to visit every...

2012-2013 Grand Aerie & Grand Auxiliary Officers

Grand Aerie

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jr. Past President</th>
<th>President</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mel Fry, Carlisle, PA #1299</td>
<td>Ron Stine, Cadiz, OH #2162</td>
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<tr>
<td>David Tice, Two Rivers, WI #2433</td>
<td>Bud Haigh, Three Rivers, MI #2303</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ron Malz, Faribault, MN #1460</td>
<td>Chuck Cunningham, Akron, OH #2736</td>
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<td>D.R. &quot;Jim&quot; West, Hopkinsville, KY #3423</td>
<td>Pat Gray, Depew, NY #2692</td>
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<td>Dave Smith, Penticton, BC #4281</td>
<td>Brian Rogers, Sunnyslope, AZ #2957</td>
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<td>Chuck Lang, Harvey, ND #3080</td>
<td>Jerry Sullivan, Fredericksburg, VA #4123</td>
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<tr>
<td>H. Carl Burnett, Clovis, NM #3245</td>
<td>Tom McGrath, Vergennes, VT #3801</td>
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Grand Auxiliary

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Gwen Stallkamp, Albert Lea, MN #2258</td>
<td>Sally Villalva, Pueblo, CO #3367</td>
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<tr>
<td>Katie Ziebol, Ogden, UT #2472</td>
<td>Lori Matheson, Vancouver, BC #2075</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary Myers, Flint, MI #629</td>
<td>Althea Lane, Folsom, CA #929</td>
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<td>Helen Poehner, Hamilton, OH #3986</td>
<td>Gloria Williams, Portland, OR #4</td>
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<td>Betty Browning, Knoxville, TN #2698</td>
<td>Sandy Biery, South Omaha, NE #154</td>
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<td>Gloria Mason, Vincennes, IN #384</td>
<td>Helen &quot;Penny&quot; Skinner, Clarksburg, WV #2353</td>
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<tr>
<td>Judy Johnson, Lawrence, KS #309</td>
<td>Jacque Marble, Phoenix, AZ #2957</td>
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John “Bear” McMillan, center, poses with Jr. Past Grand Worthy President Mel Fry and other participants of the Finish For Darrell ride.
Face Of Diabetes Returns To International Convention Stage

It always starts with something small. Maybe a cold, or an ear infection. For a typical 13-year-old girl, catching something at school or from a friend is inconsequential. For Amanda Christ, nothing’s ever simple.

Since August 2007, Christ has suffered from Type-1 diabetes. It was during that summer that her mother, Kathy, found her lying under a coffee table in the midst of a seizure caused by a disease she wasn’t aware had taken control of her body.

In 2010, she first shared her story with members at International Convention in Louisville, Ky., as a representative of the F.O.E. Diabetes Research Center at the University of Iowa.

Last month, the Christ family returned to Convention to help further the quest for a cure and provide an update on her current health.

Since September 2011, Amanda has been hospitalized seven times. On two occasions, she had to be transported by ambulance from her hometown of Meadville, Pa., to Pittsburgh – nearly 90 miles away.

“It was hell,” her mother said.

Each stay was the same. A simple ailment made exponentially worse due to complications from diabetes. Another harsh reminder that no matter the effort, the life of a diabetic is never normal.

Recently, things have turned upward for the Christ’s, as changes to medication and increased education about maintaining the disease have kept Amanda free and clear of hospital stays.

Despite the hardships, Amanda and her mother made their way to Grand Rapids in positive spirits. July 8, Amanda celebrated her 13th birthday with a private party thrown by F.O.E. staff, a motorcycle ride as part of the Finish For Darrell event and a special presentation during the Welcome To Grand Rapids show.

The Junior Order of Eagles, the F.O.E.’s youth group, presented a $5,300 check for the DRC in her name and she was surprised on stage with a special video from comedian Mark Eddie, also a diabetic, with whom she bonded during her first visit to International Convention.

Eager to help in any way possible, Amanda traveled the Convention floor with donation jars, generating contributions from members and hotel guests and selling various DRC merchandise to help the cause.

As one 13-year-old girl proved in Grand Rapids, living with diabetes means you aren’t the average teenager – it means you’re something far, far greater.
People Helping People - Convention Edition

Diabetes Research Center Live Auction
- Vinnie & The Moochers Signed Guitar donated by Vince Kinman. Won for $1,000 by the Massachusetts State Aerie.
- Crown Royal Quilt Package donated by the Dakota State Aerie & Auxiliary. Won for $500 by Creighton Thurman.
- Money Wine Divine Tree donated by the South Central Region. Won for $900 by the Kansas State Aerie.
- Indianapolis Colts Basket donated by Alexandria Eagles #1771. Won for $400 by the Indiana State Aerie.
- Virginia Ham Basket donated by the Virginia State Aerie. Won for $1,750 by the Mass. State Aerie.
- Party Wagon donated by the Georgia State Aerie & Auxiliary. Won for $3,000 by the Kansas State Aerie.
- Autographed Don Felder Guitar. Won for $2,200 by Zo Drummond.

DRC Silent Auction
An additional 39 items were donated to the auction by members and generated $3,286 in contributions to the DRC! For a complete breakdown of items, visit the Members-Only website.

Mile Of Quarters
Members donated 23,611 quarters through collections taken during sessions for a total of $5,902.80!

DRC Marketplace
In its second year, the DRC Auxiliary Marketplace generated $9,153.42 thanks to 50/50 raffles and a variety of items for sale. Thank you to all of our wonderful ladies involved in the planning and selling of items during the week.

A Little Help From Our Friends
Todd Braun and the Turner Motorsports race team each contributed a $25,000 donation to the DRC.

International Convention Grants
- $120,000 to The Fraternal Order of Eagles Diabetes Research Center
- $60,000 to Menninger Foundation
- $30,000 to Jackson Laboratory
- $30,000 to Orlando Regional Health Care Foundation
- $30,000 to Harry S. Truman/ F.O.E. Cardiology Laboratory
- $30,000 to Alberta Children’s Hospital
- $30,000 to the University of Michigan Spinal Cord Research
- $30,000 to Children’s Hospital of the King's Daughters

Finish For Darrell
Through money raised during the Finish For Darrell ride July 8, our members contributed $4,082.81 in donations in honor of brother Darrell Rall.

Parade of Checks
Throughout the week, various Aeries/ Auxiliaries and individuals presented checks to benefit the DRC. Their efforts brought in a total of $126,540.12!

DRC Pin Sales
For the third consecutive year, a limited edition DRC pin was sold, generating $1,260 in donations to help find a cure.

A Bright Future
The Junior Order of Eagles also made a splash this year, with a $5,300 presentation from the Virginia Beach, Va. and Spotsylvania, Va., J.O.E.’s on Sunday night and a $4,000 presentation by the Clovis, N.M., J.O.E., previously featured in Soar, from sales of their green apple "J.O.E. 4 DRC" pins. Way to go Junior Eagles!

DRC Total - $221,400.15

2011-2012 Charity Contribution Totals

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Charity Foundation</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<td>Art Ehrmann Cancer Fund</td>
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<td>Max Baer Heart Fund</td>
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<td>Parkinson's Fund</td>
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**BEAR from page 1**

Aerie across the jurisdiction.

“I thought it was a little crazy at first,” Lorry said, “but I didn’t once think about saying no. It’s hard to give up everything, but John’s situation made me realize I might only have a month left or a year or five years. You never know.”

Since then, the McMillan’s have visited every Aerie in Florida, Georgia and Tennessee, greeting each club with warm hearts and a story that could make even the most callous observer melt with emotion.

Each month, they carefully budget their funds, with nearly half going toward their motorcycle payment. Remaining funds help with food, recreation, RV park fees and motor home repairs. While the arrangement can sometimes be tight, they’re quick to let anyone know there’s nothing rough about living a dream.

Since the accident that brought an unfortunate end to Rall’s ride on June 24, Bear has pledged to raise money exclusively for the DRC during the remainder of his ride in an effort to help meet the goal Rall set before his journey of completing the Eagles’ $25 million commitment to finding a cure.

The McMillan’s are taking their trip north, including Pennsylvania and Ohio, for the remainder of summer and fall in hopes of visiting as many northern states as possible before winter.

Once finished, they would like to have the name and number of each Aerie written on the motorcycle, which they plan to auction off for the DRC. Bear also hopes to auction of a number of vests, all of which he plans to cover in pins collected along the way.

Until then, the couple will continue their travels, enjoying life together for however long it may last and sharing their time with friends new and old along the way and raising money for the DRC.

“Everywhere we go, it feels like home,” John said. “That’s why we got so involved in the Eagles to begin with. They make you feel like family. We gave up everything to do this, but they make me feel like I have more now than I did before.”

To find out more about Bear's journey, visit www.aseaglesfly.com or follow his progress at www.foe.com.

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**News & Notes**

**Ladies Auxiliary Donates $2.5 Million To DRC**

Thanks to the ladies of our Auxiliary, The Fraternal Order of Eagles Diabetes Research Center made another great leap toward finding a cure last month. During the Board of Grand Trustees meeting Friday, July 13, Jr. Past Grand Madam President Gwen Stallkamp officially announced a $2.5 million donation to the DRC from the Auxiliary. Once again, our ladies have gone above and beyond the call of duty to show why the F.O.E. is the greatest organization in the world!

**Let Us Help!**

The summer is winding down and we know most of our Aeries and Auxiliaries are hard at work preparing big outdoor events while there's still time. Let the Grand Aerie Marketing & Communications Department help bring attention to your event by utilizing the Local News Program. Give us details for your upcoming event and we'll put together a release and share information with followers on Facebook and Twitter. Let us know what you're up to this summer and beyond at marketing@foe.com or call us at 614-883-2210.

**Membership Contest Winners**

The numbers are in and the winners of the June 2012 Membership Contest are:

**Aerie Officer:** Robert Wright, Newark, OH #3723; 26 members  
**Aerie Member:** Robert Porter, Twin Rivers, KS #3448; 18 members  
**Aux. Officer:** Leann Meyer, St. Marys, PA #536; 13 members  
**Aux. Member:** Erin Moylan, Virginia Beach, VA #3204; 6 members

Each winner will receive a $45 prize. Thank you to everyone who participated and helped bring new faces into the organization!

**Reminder**

All NASCAR merchandise should be ordered from the Supply Department at supplies@foe.com or by phone at 614-883-2178. The Membership Department does not fill merchandise orders.
2012-2013 Membership Awards

F.O.E. Diecast Car
- 5 Members • 1/64 scale car

Button-Up Shirt
- 15 Members • Sizes S-5XL

Bamboo BBQ Set
- 25 Members • 5 piece set

Bomber Jacket
- 50 Members • Sizes S-5XL

Pocket Pal Tool Pen
- 2 Members • Includes 6 Bits

Meeting Tote
- 10 Members

Lightweight Jacket
- 20 Members • Sizes S-3XL

Amazon Kindle
- 35 Members

2012-2013 Membership Awards

Sally Villalva, GMP 2012-13
Don’t Miss The Biggest Weekend In F.O.E. Racing History!

2 Races, 1 Great Weekend • Sept. 21 & 22 • Kentucky Speedway

Friday, Sept. 21: James Buescher drives the No. 31 black-and-yellow F.O.E. Chevy in the NASCAR Camping World Truck Series Kentucky 201. Tickets Available Now for just $34!

Saturday, Sept. 22: F.O.E. Racing Hospitality Event & James drives the No. 30 F.O.E. Chevy in the NASCAR Nationwide Series Kentucky 300

Tickets for Saturday are $95 and include:
A ticket to the Nationwide race • A ticket to the hospitality tent • T-Shirt • Koozie
Access to infield for pre- and post-race festivities

Get A Discount On Your Ticket!
By signing three (3) new or re-enrolled members from July 1-Aug. 31, you will be entitled to $20 off the cost of your hospitality event ticket. Each additional new or re-enrolled member you sign will entitle you to a $5 discount up to the value of the ticket.

Contact the Grand Aerie Membership Department at 614-883-2162 or membership@foe.com

Can’t Make It? Throw A Party!
Send your NASCAR Party ideas to marketing@foe.com to receive a free party kit while supplies last! The best ideas will receive a special kit with an item autographed by James Buescher.