



Roadbed Ministries Inc

# Roadbed News

## Bob "Hut" Howard

### Special points of interest:

- Bob "Hut" Howard
- Enclosed Calendar
- Nineball Tournament Coming Soon



The hardest thing about good friends is having to say goodbye I was once told, and I believe it. I don't mind telling you I don't like that part. November 18th we had to do it again, Robert Howard left this world for his eternal home. He went peacefully in his sleep with family there with him.

Bob was a great guy. He had a wonderful sense of humor, a fiery temper, a willing heart and an inquisitive open mind. He loved to try new things, could be found on the dance floor quite often and had one of the most distinctive laughs I ever heard. It is how he got his road name, "Hut", I understand. One of his sons told me they never had to wonder if their Dad was someplace, they just had to wait a little to hear his laugh.

Bob lived by some simple values, he believed in honesty, loyalty and hard work. He spoke his mind, sometimes a little more than less, but you never had to wonder where he stood or how he felt about something. It was one of the things that made him so likeable. He wasn't afraid to say what was on his mind but he was just as willing to listen to you and grant your right to an opinion too. He worked hard most of his life and continued to do so until just before he became ill with his cancer. He had fought that



Robert Richard Howard

dreadful disease before and won, but he knew this time it would be a tougher battle to fight. But true to his nature he lived it his way right to the very end, just as he had for all of his 76 years.

Bob taught a lot of us some wonderful lessons about life and about other things but being true to yourself and to others was one he taught loud and clear. If he believed in something, he poured himself into

and we at Roadbed were blessed by him so often. It would be safe to say the Fire-Trike would still be a work in progress without him. His skills and knowledge blessed a lot of people in so many ways.

A servant, a Christian believer, family man, mentor and working stiff are just some of the words I could use to describe Bob but I think the best one would be "Friend", one hard to say goodbye to.

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Photo by godshd

Interesting how things change with time. It seems like yesterday I was playing football, scuba diving, riding and having fun. Mentally, I still see myself doing it but physically...no way! All those times I abused and mistreated this body are catching up with me and now it's surfing the couch or sleeping in that I look forward to.

Time has a way of changing lots of things, whether it be our priorities, our adventures or our relationships. That last item is the gnarly one. Things seem to change between people. Oh of course it is never on our part, its always the other person seeming to grow distant or something. Sometimes they move or just move along, but once good and close friends, you suddenly realize, you aren't seeing them as often as you used to. It's sad, it's a shame sometimes but it is a fact of life.

And then on occasion there is that ultimate goodbye, time

## A Time to Choose...

has claimed them, never to be seen or heard again. That can be the painful one.

That last separation we can't do anything about, God says we all have "a number of days." But the other ones? It's a choice that allows them to happen. Some times we don't see eye to eye, sometimes we can be hurtful or hurt and then sometimes we just seem to give in to the convenience of being "busy". Instead of working to keep our relationships going we get caught up in things and so drift apart. But it is still, a

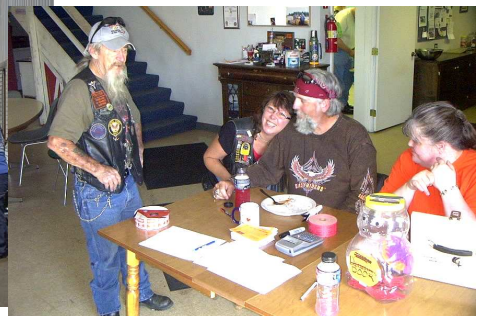
choice.

This past summer was too full of both of these, good friends gone being so busy with things we seem to have lost touch.

How about you? Notice the same going on in your life? Maybe it's time we all work a little more on staying connected before that ultimate goodbye has to be said. When that occurs, it'll be too late if we don't. Know anyone you should maybe give a call or maybe even stop by and see? I know I do, have and will...



## Pig Roast 2009



## 2012?!

I get a kick out of all the hype going on about the year 2012. I am sure you have seen or heard of it. It is supposed to be the year the Mayan calendar says the world will end. Others have jumped on board with Nostradamus, the Hopi, a people in S. America and more all saying that about that time frame this big blue marble will give it up and we will be gone. Makes great movies and scuttlebutt.

Truth is we have no way of knowing when it will all end.

Scripture says that even Jesus stated that He didn't know the day or time but it was coming. That part I do believe!

It is almost Christmas and as you read this it will be closer yet. I'm not worried about some cataclysmic event whether it be Global Warming (or Cooling), 2012 or any other hype. Truth is the Bible is right when Jesus said this day has enough trouble of its own. Man has worried since the beginning about "the last day" but if you are that means you are wasting this perfectly

good one! And there is a lot to be done while it is here.

I pray that you are enjoying the time you have and making the most of it. You only get to go around this life once and why waste it on worry?

You were created for this time and this place with a unique set of gifts and blessings to use for the betterment of all as Ray Levin says. Best put it to work on something really important rather than worry don't you think?

Have a very Merry Christmas and enjoy every bit of it!

*"Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.  
No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father."*

MT 24:35-36

## What's big and red and has flashing lights?



Close but nope, not a Fire Truck but a Fire Trike! Last September it finally came to life and was spotted running around the parking lot at Roadbed!

The bike that has been over

three years in the making impressed everyone and is just about ready to start its mission in life.

The bike was built in memory of Al Waterloo, a good friend and member of Roadbed's family who died of a brain aneurysm a couple of years back. It actually started as a ride for him but he didn't live to see it so why not make it in his memory eh? And since he was a retired GR Fireman, that became the

theme of the bike.

A lot of people have participated in the project, some great times were had along the way and it shows. It has all the naturals, flashing red lights, siren, air horns, extinguishers and even a water tank that can be filled for some "special" fun! Al's family, including his son and grandsons, contributed in special ways making the bike even more memorable. They made some of its parts!

There are a few details left to do, gold leaf to apply, some adjustments and plumbing, but this Spring should see it at various bike and related events. I hope you will get to see it too.

I do want thank all of those that have worked so hard on this unique hybrid of a bike. To his church family at Jenison and so many others, your efforts show and it has become a very special bike.

I think Al would be both honored and pleased with it.

## Nineball Anyone?

We are planning to run a Nineball league again this winter here at Roadbed starting in January. It will be pretty much the same as last year's setup with double elimination and a handicapping to assist those less experienced at the game.

Anyone can play and last year novices won against

some pretty experienced shooters at times so everyone had a good time. We run two tables so the action can go pretty quick.

The league will play on Saturdays from 1PM until done. Players may come and go as needed as long as they are there for their matches. There is always food and

snacks to be enjoyed and the minor entry fee simply pays for the awards given out at the end of the series.

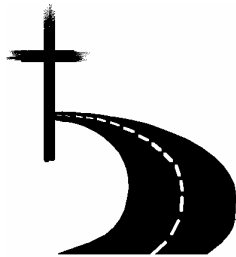
Winter is here and won't be going away anytime soon so why not get your cue stick out or borrow one of ours and try your skills at a game for fun. If you want more info, give Roadbed a call.



*Roadbed Events and Activities*

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**We're on the Web!**  
**[www.roadbed1.org](http://www.roadbed1.org)**

*Winter hours are in effect; Closed Mondays, Tuesdays 3 –10 PM, Wednesdays 4:30—9 PM, Thursday 3—10 PM, Friday 3—Midnight, Saturday 11:30 AM—Midnight, Sunday 2—9 PM.*

***Mark your Calendars***

Brandon Heath Concert - Dec 12th  
Christmas Eve Services (KCC) - Dec 24th  
PMS - Feb 27th

The Bethlehem Star - Dec 16th  
Chili Cook Off - Jan 23rd

The economy, loss of jobs and homes is a difficult situation for many right now. It is our job to help these people as much as we can, God said "Feed my sheep". As you may know, Roadbed has an emergency food pantry to help people in crisis. We usually do a one time food draw (or once per month) and give people information where they can go for food and the help that is needed. Our food pantry also provides special meals during the holidays for those who may not have the means to celebrate. We are in need of non-perishable food items or meats (that can be frozen) to give to God's "sheep".

Canned, Dry, Frozen or Non-perishable food items only and please, when dropping off donations check the expiration dates. We can not give out food items that are expired. Thank you for all your help and kindness.

*Also Please Note: If you are thinking of an end of year gift, all donations and contributions must be in by December 31st to be applied to the 2009 tax year*

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**Mail To:**