

Media Contact:
Charity Lacey
Charity@inthenewspr.com
O: 619.328.5792
C: 619.368.6688



Former WWE Superstar Professional Wrestler Turned Custom-Chopper Builder Rides Cross-Country for Military Families

Chuck Palumbo will give away the custom motorcycle he built to raise awareness of "Fueled by the Fallen" military charity

SAN DIEGO, May 7, 2009 – Not all bikers are rough and tumble, some are reformed. And then others are big teddy bears with a purpose. Chuck Palumbo is a reformed, rough-and-tumble teddy bear on a mission to bring awareness about the plight of soldiers that have been wounded or fallen and their families' needs.

Today, Palumbo will head out from San Diego on a cross country ride on the chopper he built by hand – dubbed "War Machine" – and will pluck the name of a lucky winner at the end of his trip in Rockingham, North Carolina. Anyone can purchase one of 5,000 \$25 raffle tickets to have a chance at riding away with the prized "War Machine". All of the proceeds of the ticket sales will be donated to "Fueled by the Fallen" – a 501c3 providing scholarships to families who have brought home a wounded warrior or lost a loved one in combat, as well as funding organizations that promote research on Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder.

Palumbo skyrocketed to fame as one of the professional wrestlers of the World Wrestling Entertainment. When he retired his wrestling persona, he felt called to follow his dream to build custom choppers individualized for the rider. He opened CP Kustoms and began building bikes. Palumbo's love of family and love of motorcycles took him down a cross-country path.

After Palumbo's younger brother returned from a devastating tour in Afghanistan where the younger Palumbo's co-pilot and door gunner were seriously injured, Chuck visited the flight crew at Walter Reed Memorial Hospital. Lt. Chris Palumbo was awarded the Silver Star for his valor in the face of the enemy for his amazing flight skills and saving the lives of his flight crew. Chuck wanted to hang out with the crew while they were receiving treatment, boosting morale. While the elder Palumbo was visiting his brother's comrades-in-arms, he was alarmed at the conditions that returning soldiers and their families faced.

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Chuck Palumbo Takes Custom Chopper Cross-Country

"It was shocking to see the condition of our soldiers who have suffered injuries in Iraq," said Chuck Palumbo. "We all hear about it but until you step foot in a military hospital room, it doesn't hit you."

It was at that point that Palumbo vowed that he would do something to help those families in need. "War Machine" was incepted. He chose to ride out during the Horse Smoke Out Rally to christen the chopper and increase awareness of "Fueled by the Fallen". The Horse Smoke Out Rally will kick-off in Cottonwood, Arizona and end in Rockingham, North Carolina. Along the way at each stop, raffle tickets will be available to be purchased until the 5,000th ticket is sold. That is 1,000 tickets a stop!

Palumbo will be available at each stop to meet his fans, tell the story of "Fueled by the Fallen" and the families that benefit, and show the "War Machine" to its future owners.

For more information on CP Kustoms or to purchase tickets for the "War Machine", visit:

www.cpkustoms.com. For more information on Fueled by the Fallen, visit:

www.fueledbythefallen.com. For more information on Horse Smoke Out Rally, visit:

www.smokeoutrally.com.

"War Machine" 2009 Appearances:

May 8 & 9 (Friday & Saturday)	Cottonwood, Arizona
May 10 (Sunday)	Santa Rosa, New Mexico
May 11 (Monday)	Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
May 12 (Tuesday)	Clarksville, Arkansas
May 13 (Wednesday)	Nashville, Tennessee
May 14 (Thursday)	Asheville North Carolina
May 15 (Friday)	Rockingham, North Carolina

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