

About Jay Barbieri Author of **BIKER'S HANDBOOK**

“When I was four years old, I remember waking up one evening to the sound of motorcycles. When I looked out my window, I saw my uncle and a few friends sitting on their bikes. I was so excited I rushed out of my room and into the front yard. The next thing I remember was sitting on the gas tank and hanging onto handlebars. As I rode around the block, I could feel the warm air rush against my face. The smell of the gas and oil was intoxicating and the rumble from the pipes was awesome! That night I fell in love with motorcycles. But not just any motorcycle – American-made Harley-Davidsons. Twelve years later I got my motorcycle license and six years after that, I owned my first Harley.”

--Jay Barbieri



Born and raised in Stratford, Connecticut, Barbieri graduated from the Paier College of Art in Hampton, CT with a B.F.A in Fine Arts (1986), the same year he bought his first Harley-Davidson. For the next ten years, Barbieri worked in the music industry, where his most public and noteworthy triumph was his involvement with “*CHANT*,” the most successful classical-pop crossover album in music history. During these years, his obsession with American motorcycles grew so much that he partnered with a biker friend from Traverse City, Michigan to open a custom motorcycle shop called “Old Mission Scooters”.

In 1996, Barbieri struck out on his own to found the first Internet recording label, J-Bird Music Group. In 2001, he sold his interest in J-Bird and moved to California to pursue his dream of combining his passion for motorcycles with the entertainment industry. In 2004, Barbieri was at the helm of SPEED Channel’s highest-rated and longest running motorcycle magazine show, *American Thunder*.

Since he got his first Harley, Barbieri has racked up over two hundred and fifty thousand miles on two wheels and has attended Daytona Bike Week and Sturgis over twenty times combined. He has had the opportunity to ride with and meet other bikers such as Jay Leno, Tim McGraw, Big Kenny from Big and Rich, Eddie Montgomery and Troy Gentry from Montgomery Gentry, Vince Neal of Motley Crüe, Rick Allen of Def Leppard, Neal Schone from Journey and NASCAR driver Greg Biffle, to name a few.

In his new book, **BIKER'S HANDBOOK: Becoming Part of the Motorcycle Culture**, Barbieri shares the lessons learned from his years of experience on the motorcycle to help all riders feel more comfortable, credible, and knowledgeable on the road.

