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## NEWS RELEASE

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### **“Sarasota Rocks As Thunder Rolls” at the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Thunder By The Bay Motorcycle Festival January 4-6, 2008**

December 7, 2007 - Sarasota, FL – The 10th Annual Thunder By the Bay Motorcycle Festival is bigger than ever before. More than a dozen nationally known bike builders and special guests, many recently appearing on the Discovery Channel \*(see attached list), unite with The Florida Center to raise funds benefiting local children.

The weekend begins with a “VIP Meet and Greet” Reception and “Born To Be Wild” Kickoff Party Friday night (Jan 4<sup>th</sup>) at Michaels on East. Saturday (Jan 5<sup>th</sup>) continues with the “Bikes, Builders, Bands & BBQ” Event held at the Sarasota Bradenton International Convention Center and featuring Motocross and Riding Skill Demos, the premier of the National Guard Patriot Chopper (built by Orange County Choppers), live entertainment, great food, lots of vendors, and a special autograph signing with this year’s bike builders and special guests (such as Eddie Trotta, Ron Finch, The Detroit Brothers, and more)!! On Sunday (Jan 6<sup>th</sup>), the day begins a motorcycle poker run, ending with a bike show and downtown Festival on Main Street featuring motorcycles, food, vendors, live entertainment, and the ever popular Clydesdales. Then the day wraps up with a “Festival Wrap-Up Party” at Barnacle Bill’s Seafood on Main Street with Captain Johnathan Hillstrand, featured on Discovery Channel’s Emmy Nominated television series “Deadliest Catch”.

To date, more than **\$600,000** has been raised from this annual event. Proceeds benefit The Florida Center, a non-profit agency offering screenings and therapy services (speech, physical and occupational) for children with special needs, grief support groups for children, infant/young child mental healthy therapy, early childhood education, outreach services for Hispanic families, a healthy families program to prevent child abuse and neglect, family/marital counseling, parent education classes, child welfare case management, and a Fetal Alcohol Diagnostic Assessment and Intervention Clinic to the children and families of Sarasota County.

For more information, call the Festival Hotline at 941-371-8820 ext. 1800 or visit [www.thunderbythebay.org](http://www.thunderbythebay.org).

#### **Press Interviews – Passes Into All Events**

**\*\*Please Note: Your press pass will access you into any of the Festival events. Should you wish to schedule a special interview with any of the 2008 Bike Builders/Special Guests in town contact Festival Director, Lucy Nicandri, by calling (941) 915-3498.**

#### **Names for 2008 Committee Photo Attached**

**Back Row (L-R) Pete DeFant, Lucy Nicandri, Bonnie Jackson, Scott Kessler, Robin Rossiter, Tom Houser, Terri Antonelli, Lori Sinclair Front Row (L-R): Joe Young, Mike Welch, Rick Rossiter**