



VINTAGE IRON

The Newsletter of the Vintage Iron Riders

JANUARY, 2009

www.virmc.com

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Upcoming Events

January 21-Monthly meeting at the Funny Bone building on W. White Oaks Dr, Spfld, IL .

For more non-VIR events, please check out the Springfield Miler's newsletter at
<http://www.springfieldmilers.com/milerNL109.pdf>

PRESIDENT'S PRATTLE

Already?!!

It seems like yesterday I was learning to put "2008" on my check, and now it is **2009**. We have a brand new year to explore and a year's worth of chances to do it *right* this time. That may be easy to do for someone like me who won the "Most Trailered Miles" award in 2008.

The front hub is fixed on my Chief (thanks, Mike Irwin), and the kickstand just got a new spring this evening. Whilst repairing the kickstand in the comfort of my garage/shop, I found several other parts that were just about ready to depart – probably during a ride at a particularly embarrassing time. Motorcycle organizations like AMA and ABATE put a lot of emphasis on training motorcyclists to be safe; however, we should never forget to make the motorcycles themselves safe.

The really great thing about winter is that Nature is giving us time to get our act together before riding and show season is here. By spring, the parts for my war bike will be here and installed; my Harleys will have their gremlins evicted; and the Chief will be ready for more miles under its own power – and not on a trailer.

One more thing: Every motorcycle I own is now either antique (35 years old) or vintage (25 years old). My long mile 1984 Moto Guzzi is the most modern motorcycle I have ever owned. It is the only one with disc brakes, 12 volt system, tachometer, and no kick starter. Now, this high tech marvel is officially "vintage."

Geez, I wonder what that makes me?

"Vintage Wisdom"

Its hard to see just where one stands-when their sitting down.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The new officers for 2009 are: George Tinkham, President; Jim Trader, Vice President; Mike Irwin, Treasurer, Tommy Garber, Secretary/Editor; Gary Underfanger, Events/Products Coordinator. However, as George said in his "Prattle," rumor has it that an incoming member has graciously volunteered to take over the job of Secretary/Newsletter Editor. (Thank you both for stepping up to the front table.)

The officers appreciate your faith in their leadership and look forward to another great year of vintage iron riding!



Activities

Hello, I'm Gary "Goog" Underfanger, your new Activities Director. This is a new experience for me, but I'm excited about the challenge. I appreciate the confidence you've placed in me to perform the duties of this position. I want you to know that your suggestions are always welcome and I can be reached at (217) 341-5550 (cell) or (217) 528-9905 (home) or via e-mail at goog1965@comcast.net. I have a few ideas that I think everyone would enjoy, but it will take participation from everybody to make these ideas a reality. I will share these ideas at our next Vintage Iron Riders at this months meeting which is January 21, 2009. Please bring ideas of your own to share. I look forward to working with all of you.

Upcoming Events

Jan, 16 &17, 2009 – Sullivan Auctioneers, Hamilton Illinois - Several dozen 60s and 70s Japanese Motorcycles, hundreds of N.O.S. motorcycle parts, and signs and memorabilia. You can check out this site at sullivanauctioneers@frontiernet.net. If you're trying to restore an old Japanese bike, they have a lot of parts here.

March 1, 2009 – A.B.A.T.E. Swap Meet @ Springfield, IL for more information you can call 1-800-87-ABATE.

See you at the meeting.

Goog

FROM THE EDITOR- MOTORCYCLE OF THE MONTH

Motorcycle history begins in the second half of the 19th century. Motorcycles are descended from the "safety bicycle," a bicycle with front and rear wheels of the same size and a pedal crank mechanism to drive the rear wheel.

Despite some early landmarks in its development, motorcycles lack a rigid pedigree that can be traced back to a single idea or machine. Seemingly, the idea seems to have occurred to numerous engineers and inventors around Europe more-or-less simultaneously.

Here is bike I found online while attempting to find an example of one of the earliest functional motorcycles.

Der Reitwagen



The inspiration for what might arguably be the first motorcycle, was designed and built by the German inventors Gottlieb Daimler and Wilhelm Mayback in Bad Cannstatt (since 1905 a city district of Stuttgart) in "1885." This first petroleum-powered vehicle, although it was essentially a motorized bicycle, was called the *Reitwagen* ("riding carriage"). They had not set out to create a vehicle "form" but to build a simple carriage for the engine, which was the focus of the endeavour.

Obviously (from the picture) this bike is currently owned by George Tinkham and will appear on one of our future rides, on a trailer of course...

My name is Tommy Garber. I am perhaps the newest member and really excited about being associated with the club. I have owned many bikes over the years, and currently own a 1981 BMW R100CS. Although the bike was in great shape when found, I have been in the restoration mode for about a year. With the technical help and advice of club members, Dave Reischauer, Rod Westendorf, and Bill Follis, the old bike appears quite wonderful for its age and is ready for events in the upcoming riding season...

Thoughts, ideas, and advice are all welcome.

Final thoughts: "Provided your not in a hurry, speed up."

**MINUTES OF MEETING
Vintage Iron Riders
Diamond's Buffet
December 17, 2008**

Meeting called to order at 7:45 PM by president Tinkham.

We observed a moment of silence in memory of deceased members JoAnn Charles, Dave Yost and Jeff White.

New members making application and recommended for approval by the Board are Tom Garber, Joe Millburg and Jim Grahn. Members voted by voice vote for approval. Tom Garber has volunteered to take over the secretarial/newsletter duties, as Carol wants to resign. Motion made and seconded to appoint Tom. Motion carried.

George reported that the 2009 calendars are available for \$10. He also mentioned that dues are now due for 2009.

George noted that we have had outstanding participation by several members of the club and presented Bob Tapscott with a gift of the book, "Springfield Aviation," that has been signed by the author, Job Conger. He also brought can tabs and presented them to Lisa Casson, who promised to set up a ride to Ronald McDonald House to present them.

Bob Tapscott commended Carol Edwards for the job she has done as secretary/newsletter editor and setting up the web site and presented her with an appreciation crystal and gift certificate from Longhorn Steakhouse.

George was asked about and reported on the motorcycle funds case against the Governor. They are still trying to get funds returned and stop more from being taken out.

Bob Tapscott commended Mike Scarborough for being a dedicated rider, in that he lives in southwestern IL, but still rides to Springfield to meetings, as well as numerous other events. Roy Sims presented him with a metal "shield" to honor him. Roy also presented a shield to George Tinkham for the "most trailered mileage" in the club; and one each to Bob Tapscott and Carol with a shield for their dedication to the club. Emerson Roderick asked if there had been a discussion about paying for gas – by the first person who breaks down on a ride!

Carol presented George with a small gift book entitled "Lawyers and Other Reptiles."

Alvin Edwards was the recipient of a "tool box" from an anonymous donor that included a reference to injured fingers...

Motion made and seconded to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

Carol Edwards, Secretary

DUES ARE DUE FOR 2009.

PLEASE PAY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE SO WE CAN UPDATE THE ROSTER!

**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
Vintage Iron Riders
Bernie & Betty's
January 7, 2009**

Meeting called to order at 5:10 P.M. George, Jim, Mike, Carol and Gary were present.

There were no Applications for Membership.

We need to emphasize in the newsletter that dues are now due and should be paid immediately or at the January meeting.

We also need to let members know that calendars are still available and can be purchased at the January meeting.

Gary handed out a newsletter article for approval. Ideas for various events were discussed, such as asking members of some of the smaller communities to host a picnic on the square; hold our own swap meet; work with IMDA or other organization to put on a larger swap meet to include dealers, suppliers, etc.

Gary asked if we wanted to buy a spot at the ABATE Swap Meet on March 1st. Board thought that would be a good idea, but will bring it up at the meeting. Cost should be around \$35. George said he personally would chip in on the cost. Jim is going to see if Bob Tapscott still has any of our brochures.

George suggested that the members talk about their projects so that we can network with each other for parts, repairs, etc.

Gary asked if we would be interested in putting together a package to attend the auction in Las Vegas. This was discussed. Mike said that if we get enough to fill the plane, the airline would come to Springfield.

George is going to send Carol the format and list of companies for the insurance survey.

Gary asked about raffling a VIP package for the September Springfield Mile. This will be discussed further.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 6:05 P.M.

Carol Edwards, Acting Secretary

JANUARY, 2009

				1 NEW YEAR'S DAY	2	3
4	5	6	7 BOARD MEETING	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 M. L. KING, JR. BIRTHDAY	20	21 REGULAR MEETING	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

FEBRUARY, 2009

1	2	3	4 BOARD MEETING	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12 LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY	13	14 VALENTINE'S DAY
15	16 PRESIDENTS' DAY	17	18 REGULAR MEETING	19	20	21
22 WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY	23	24	25 ASH WEDNESDAY	26	27	28