



VINTAGE IRON RIDERS

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VINTAGE IRON

The Newsletter of the Vintage Iron Riders

April 2016

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

President's Prattle

I Had a Dream....

This time, I am not talking about Soichiro Honda's early motorcycles reportedly named because they fulfilled his dream of being able to ride his motorcycle up a famous mountain in Japan. Also, I am not talking about Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr's famous speech. Rather, this is my own story of dreaming of a taking a trip on my Guzzi. The dream was a bit disjointed, but the part I recall was the bike losing power to the point that a guy on his bicycle passed me by!

Alas, this dream had some basis in fact: the electrics on the little Guzzi seem to be a bit sour. The ignition switch needed to be cleaned and a coil may (or may not) be on the fritz. More than once, I started on a long trip firing on 2 cylinders – just to return on ~1 ½. That is why we have been fooling around with the bike this winter, trying to bring back the smooth running little hot rod the Italians made 32 years ago. We should be able to accomplish that goal by the "Awareness Rally" on May 1st.

For the past ½ year or so, I have been living out another dream: a nightmare. My Indian 841 war bike has transmission problems that can only be fixed with new gears. They stopped making gears for this bike 70 some years ago. That means I needed to send my old, worn transmission pieces to a specialty shop to have them duplicated – without the wear, that is Last August, I shipped 3 worn transmission parts and 2 good parts (to ensure proper clearance) to a shop in California. Since

December, I have been told the parts would be done shortly. Then, toward the end of February, my contact at the shop said he thought the parts had been shipped. Strangely though, he would not give the shipper's tracking number. When I called at the beginning of March, I was told the parts had not been shipped. Worse, no work had been done on my order. Even worse still, they could not locate most of my parts!!

Now, I have been told that the folks in California have located an Indian 841 tranny from which they can remove the parts I need. Then, they will duplicate those parts and will ship everything back to me at no charge. That is what I have heard. I have yet to see my parts; so, this particular nightmare will continue for a bit longer – until I get my parts and Honda Bob uses them to reassemble my transmission and the bike functions correctly with the rebuilt transmission.

Hopefully, I shall be able to report at this month's meeting that both the Moto Guzzi and the war bike are in good running order. Yep, that would be great, but I may just be dreaming again!

Club Events

Springfield Mile: Park & Display Sunday, May 29th. Goog has the flyers

Club picnic on Saturday, June 18th

If you know of any events that we can do as a club let us know.

2016 Dues

With the arrival of the new year, we still have around 40 people that have not paid their dues. Annual dues are due. \$25.00 for family and \$15.00 for single. If not renewing, please let us know.

Minutes meeting

At 7:15 PM, we started meeting. We talked about license plate renewals: make sure that you are checking to see when yours are due. The Springfield Mile Park and display in May and September. If you can't make it, let us know and we can see if someone will trailer your bike to the show. We inducted two new members Tad Brenner and Bob Young. We talked about where the bike committee is with the show. At 7:50 we adjourned.

3rd Annual Bike show

The Bike Show Committee holds its monthly meetings the first Tuesday of the month at Bernie and Betty's on Spring St in Springfield at 6pm. Everyone is welcome to join the group. The committee has 10 sponsors so far to help pay for the trophies for the 13 classes.

Treasurer's Report

The JWFM (Jeff White Memorial Fund) has a balance of \$2099.50 and the General Fund has a balance of \$2144.36. The total balance is \$4243.86. The maximum balance allowed for JWFM is \$2,500.

Springfield Mile

Supporting the Springfield Mile. If you would like to get your tickets early the cost is \$30.00. The week and day of the race goes up to \$40. See Goog or Leroy for information on how to get tickets – or call Dave or Tomora Kiesow at (217) 632-0277.

Welcome to (prospective) new Members

No new member

Monthly Meeting

The monthly meeting will be at the Rt.66 Hotel and Conference Center @ 625 E St. Joseph St., Springfield, Il. 62703. On [April 20 @ 7:00](#)

Of Interest:

From Don Butler: IL Secretary of State website for license renewal reminder: <https://www.ilsos.gov/greenmail/>
Because of money shortages, the IL Sec. of State will no longer mail license renewal reminders.

2016 VIR Calendar

There will be no calendar this year. We are looking for members who will participate in the calendar committee. We are also requesting project photos showing (1) tear down / work in progress and (2) the finished bike. When you work on your machines, please remember to take plenty of photos. So far, we have enough photos for 11 months.

We need photos for 1 more month.

For Sale

I am selling this for a friend:

1981 Yamaha Virago 750 V-Twin 27,000 miles. Comes with extra seat, two good helmets, spare wheel, battery charger and aftermarket book. Needs the following repair: One Turn signal not working and speedometer not functional, also has a gasket leak. Asking \$800 obo. Melissa 217-299-5255

Please make sure that I have your updated email or address so I can get your newsletters out to you.

Respectfully Submitted,
Melissa Rowley, Secretary

2016 VIR UPCOMING EVENTS

5/1	ABATE “Awareness Rally”
5/29	Springfield Mile Race
5/29	Memorial Day Park and Display
6/10-11	Mecum Motorcycle Auctions Schaumburg IL
6/9-12	Hogrock Cave n Rock IL
6/18	Club Picnic (@ Tommy Knox’s)
6/20	National Ride to work
6/23-25	2016 VJMC Rally Spring Mill St. Park Mitchell, IN
6/25-26	J&P Cycle 37 th anniversary open house
7/8-10	Vintage Motorcycle Days @mid-Ohio, Lexington
8/13	Havana’s riverfront car/tractor/motorcycle show
8/14	Peoria TT
9/1-2	Chief Blackhawk swap meet @ Davenport, Iowa
9/4	Springfield Mile Race
9/4	Labor Day park and display
9/10	VIR bike show
9/11	Ernie Langheim “Tail of the Possum” ride
9/24-25	Ride to Ron’s
10/7-9	Barber Vintage Festival: Leeds, AL
10/23	ABATE Toy Run
11/26	Sid Wood Memorial Run
12/21	VIR Christmas Party

Ride to the Blues-Every Monday 7:00pm join Tommy Knox for a ride to The Alamo downtown to listen to quality blues bands. 529-2655