

VINTAGE IRON RIDERS
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VINTAGE IRON

**The Newsletter of the Vintage Iron Riders
April, 2009**

www.virmc.com

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Upcoming Events

April 15--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

Ride or Write?

April in Illinois can be wet, snowy, windy, and beautiful. The first weekend of April certainly had all of those characteristics. On Saturday, Les Eastep and I enjoyed perfect weather as we took the Advanced Rider Course of the Cycle Rider Safety Training program. My '48 Chief was clearly the oldest bike ridden in the course, but it handled all of the tasks without trouble. All, that is, but the emergency braking part. Apparently, front brakes were not considered that important by Indian in 1948. I am glad we are smarter now.

The reason I used the Chief in this course was to test what it and me could do. Even with old, skunky gasoline, the Indian fired up and ran like a real motorcycle. It was the master of the slow ride and easily made all the turns in the marked boxes on the pavement.

On Sunday, Lincoln Land Chapter of A.B.A.T.E. braved rain and hail to deliver Easter baskets to the children at Hope School. My 1984 Guzzi is now "vintage"; so, a bike whose age is consistent with our club's name represented V.I.R.

Now that both my motorcycle and I are prepped and ready for the riding season, all we need is good weather and time. If I can pry myself away from this computer and stop writing these articles, maybe I'll be able to ride instead of just writing about it!

Let us not forget another important element of motorcycling: fellowship. We are blessed with a club like Vintage Iron Riders that has members with a range of interests almost as great as our range of motorcycles. Let's get out and join fellow members at the shows and on the rides. We cannot promise good weather for every event, but – if we do it right – we will have fun!

**George Tinkham
Springfield, Illinois**

"Vintage Visdom"

"Wise men speak because they have something to say; fools because they have to say something."

Current Officers

The officers for 2009 are: George Tinkham, President; Jim Trader, Vice President; Mike Irwin, Treasurer, Tommy Garber, Secretary/Editor; Gary Underfanger, Events/Products Coordinator.

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



Activities **Goog Underfanger**

I've only got a few things. But remember if anyone hears of something going on that would interest the rest of our members, let me know and I will include it in my "Activities" article. My phone numbers are Home 217-528-9905 and Cell 217-341-5550.

Up Coming Events:

Walneck's Motorcycle Show & Swap 2009 Schedule.

April 19- Woodstock, Il.

April 26- Marshall, Mi.

This is just a few of Walneck's for now I'll post more next month. Contact Number 630-985-2097 or www.walneckswap.com

April 26- Lincoln Circuit Ride starting in Springfield Il.

May 3rd A.B.A.T.E Freedom Rally Staging at IDOT lot on Dirksen Parkway Springfield, Il. 10:30A.M.

May 24 Springfield Mile Springfield Il.

June 5-7 AMA Pro Racing Super bikes at Road America.

June 20- Vintage M/C Show at Marshal Il.

June 13-14 AHARMA at Road America

October 10-11 AHARMA Races at The Barber Vintage

Festival in Alabama. Also home of the Barber Motorcycle Museum.

June 28 Ashland's village festival. Details at meeting.

July 10-11 Lincoln Land Community College 6th Annual M/C Show & Cruise.

We will be taking orders for shirts at this months meeting. T-Shirts will run between \$8.00 and \$12.00, and Golf shirts between \$19.00 and \$24.00.

I think this is enough for now, I'll see ya at the meeting.

See you at the meeting.

Goog

FROM THE EDITOR- MOTORCYCLE HISTORY

First commercial products

In 1909 Harley, the six-year-old Harley-Davidson Motor Company introduces its first V-twin powered motorcycle. With a displacement of 49.5 cubic inches, the bike produces seven horsepower. The image of two cylinders in a 45-degree configuration would fast become one of the most enduring icons of Harley-Davidson history. Also available for the first time from the Motor Company are spare parts for motorcycles.



And since you may or may not know, the vernacular associated with the HD motor follows:

Flathead: 1909-1936

The Flathead was named because of the tell-tail flat vented tops that are recognizable at the top of each cylinder head. This is the famous motor that propelled the Harley-Davidson to victory after victory in the motorcycle races of the twenties.

Knucklehead: 1936-1947

On the eve of WW2, Harley-Davidson introduced an overhead-valve V-twin with knuckly looking valve covers. The new motor, affectionately named the "Knucklehead", performed well both for HD and for America in the difficult years to come.

Panhead: 1948-1965

With improvements to engine design, like hydraulic valve lifters that supplied oil through rocker arms, the Panhead hit the market in 1948. It was named for the pan-like valve covers replacing the knuckle covers.

Shovelhead: 1966-1983

By 1966 the Panhead underwent still more improvements. The most noticeable being the distinctive enclosed cylinder head in a sleek, slightly curved top. At a glance this looks unmistakably like a shovel with the pushrods tubes resembling the handle of a shovel, and the shovel itself.

Evolution: 1983-1999

In 1984 on the heels of a bold employee buyout of AMF, the motor company went public and introduced its now famous redesign of the V-twin. This radical new design utilized styled square blocks to house the valve train. This motor, revered as the Evolution engine is known amongst Harley enthusiasts as "the **Blockhead**".

Twin Cam 88: 1999-Present

With numerous American motorcycle manufacturers trying to surface and resurface, Harley-Davidson introduces its most revolutionary engine yet. The Twin Cam 88 gets its name from its two cams versus the single cam in all its ancestors. This motor also goes by the nickname "**Fathead**" for just exactly that, bigger heads. With this new engine design Harley-Davidson puts one more notch in its insurance for success

**MINUTES OF MEETING
Vintage Iron Riders
Diamond's Buffet
March 18, 2009**

Meeting called to order at 7:20 PM by president Tinkham.

The club acknowledged a respect and love of our country by participating in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Goog presented a synopsis of scheduled and upcoming events. Some of these events included the May 3 Freedom Rally which consists of a ride from the IDOT bldg to the Capitol. Additionally on May 15 members might consider the Kirkwood, Ill Moto Guzzi Rally...

Treasurer Mike Irwin stated that VIR currently has approximately \$4,000.00 in coffer.

Potential club member, Larry Wade, asked for and was provided a membership application.

Goog suggested members should consider the selection of two primary colors for VIR apparel.

George briefly spoke of the AMA's current opposition the recent legislative presentation referred to as "The Child Protection Act". The bill would prohibit any individual under the age of 16, to operate any form of motor driven cycle.

Several members inquired as to the outcome of the recent "Mario" video...

Motion made and seconded to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:06 P.M.

Tommy Garber, Secretary

**DUES ARE DUE FOR 2009.
PLEASE PAY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE SO WE CAN UPDATE THE ROSTER!
\$15/individual; \$25/family**

APRIL, 2009

			1 BOARD MEETING	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 EASTER	13	14	15 REGULAR MEETING	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 "Lincoln Circuit Ride"	27	28	29	30		

MAY, 2009

					1	2
3 "Freedom Rally"	4	5	6 BOARD MEETING	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 	14	15 "Moto Guzzi Rally"	16 "Moto Guzzi Rally"
17	18	19	20 REGULAR MEETING	21	22	23
24 "Springfield Mile"	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						