

## **VINTAGE IRON RIDERS**

C/o Tommy Knox  
2312 W. Lake Shore Dr.  
Springfield, IL 62712



# **VINTAGE IRON**

## ***The Newsletter of the Vintage Iron Riders***

May, 2013

[www.virmc.com](http://www.virmc.com)

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## **May 15 – Monthly VIR Meeting at Rt. 66 Hotel & Conference Center**

For more non-VIR events, please check out the Springfield Miler's newsletter at  
<http://www.springfieldmilers.com/milerNL0513.pdf>

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### **PRESIDENT'S PRATTLE**

George Tinkham – President's Prattle

#### Motorcycle Awareness Month

You may have noticed yellow yard signs, popping up like dandelions in the grass, announcing that May is Motorcycle Awareness Month. Good to know. I would urge you to start being aware of motorcycles, but that would certainly be "preaching to choir."

Please remember that many motorists have not been used to seeing motorcycles on the road for a few months and may not be "programmed" to see you when you are riding. This means that we have to look out for them. Also, some of our riding skills may have tarnished a bit over the winter. It is worth considering taking an Experienced Rider's Course to polish those skills. Find the course that fits your schedule by calling [\(800\) 446-9227](tel:8004469227) or [\(309\) 438-2352](tel:3094382352).

Four Vintage Iron Riders (Leroy, Mick Larue, John Anderson, and me) got to test our riding skills in the rain as we lead the funeral procession for Dan "Woody" Woodward on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. We were joined by Harvey Tapscott in accompanying our valued founding member on this wet leg of his last journey. We have all ridden in the rain before, and this last chance to say "goodbye" to Woody and to show his family how much he meant to us was much more important than staying dry and warm. Our hearts and prayers go to Carole and the rest of the family as we thank them for sharing Woody with us in our club.

Before I take off to participate in A.B.A.T.E.'s "Awareness Rally" today, let me remind you of the Park and Display event at this month's Springfield Mile on May 26<sup>th</sup>. It will be fun to see what bikes and people show up this year. Sometimes, it is a toss-up as which is the most interesting: the machine or the rider!

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### **ABATE Motorcycle Awareness Rally**

The weather was damp and cool but the atmosphere was heated up at the ABATE Motorcycle Awareness Rally May 5 at the DOT parking lot. Club members Leroy Solomon, George Tinkham, Dave Culbertson, Tommy Knox, Frank Darneille, and Bob Ramsey were present to represent Lincoln Land ABATE Chapter from the Vintage Iron Riders. Our favorite Rock-A-Billy band, Suicide Shifters performed their first Springfield gig Saturday, May 4 to a small but enthusiastic crowd at the North end VFW. Club members spotted at the Saturday night party included Goog and Tammy Bobbi Ozanic, and Randy Spengler. If you have not yet joined ABATE, please consider joining this organization that is fighting to keep the motorcycle rights we already enjoy.



PHOTO BY TERRY FROM BLOOMINGTON

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### **Springfield Mile Park and Display**

On Sunday, May 26, the Vintage Iron Riders will once again sponsor a place to rendezvous and park motorcycles 25 years or older at the south end of the fairgrounds grandstand. The displays on Memorial Day and Labor Day are the biggest club events of our year. If ever there was an activity to be involved in, this one is it! Even if your motorcycle is less than 25 years old, you're still welcome to park in front and join in the camaraderie that typifies our organization. We will be giving out souvenir mementos to every motorcyclist who displays their bike. This year's gift is a band aid dispenser emblazoned with the flying wings of the VIR logo.

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### **VIR Picnic/Membership Recruitment**

What's not to like about dozens of motorcycles parked at a Lake Springfield setting while the aroma of slow-cooked ribs wafts on a gentle breeze?? You are also enjoying the beverage of your own choice (which you brought) and making new friends with guys you have seen in the past at club meetings. Tommy and Tracy Knox are once again opening their home to accommodate what is becoming a much anticipated annual event. The club is providing the meat. Please bring a covered dish and lawn chair, if possible. There is a leisurely ride of about 30-40 miles at 2:00 pm. Food will be ready at 11:00 on June 8. If you are definitely coming, please call Tommy at 529-2655 or email to [knox5fam@gmail.com](mailto:knox5fam@gmail.com). BYOB.

### **Daniel "Woody" Woodward**

Longtime VIR member and motorcycling legend, Woody, was buried in true biker style with a motorcycle hearse and a handful of club members who braved rain and cold to ride their motorcycles in the funeral procession on Friday, May 3. Woody was an asset to motorcycling in central IL as well as being a devoted husband and father. RIP Woody.

## Guess Who's Having Some Fun!



Minutes of Meeting  
**Vintage Iron Riders**  
Rt. 66 Hotel & Conference Center  
April 17, 2013

Social time from 7:00-7:21 pm, pledge taken and meeting called to order. Cell phones turned off and minutes from March 2013 approved. Sim's displayed the yellow band aid dispensers that will be given away at the Park and Display Memorial Day Mile.

**ABATE Awareness Rally:** Scheduled for May 4 and 5. On Saturday, May 4, the Suicide Shifters, a Rockabilly band, will have their first gig in Springfield at the North end VFW. Michael Baird attended the meeting and expressed appreciation for the support the band has received from our club. Leroy Solomon mentioned that breakfast will be available Sunday morning before the rally

**June 8, 2013 VIR Picnic:** Members were reminded of the picnic and ride. Final details at May meeting.

**Treasurer's Report:** there is \$2,203.25 in the Jeff White Memorial Fund and \$1,964.95 in the General Fund, which gives us a balance of \$4,168.20.

**Old Business:** Tinkham gave a status update for volunteer traffic control. Members were encouraged to call their Alderman to voice support.

**Dues:** There were 10 unpaid dues outstanding as of April 17, 2013.

Leroy Solomon alerted members to a coupon in the State Journal-Register for the Springfield Mile.

**New Member:** Harold Glick was unable to attend the meeting in person, but was voted into membership.

**Prospective Members/visitors:** Michael Beard and Chad Philippe, both from Bloomington, applied for membership.

Dave Reischauer highly recommended Ace Upholstery in Fairfield, IL.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50. Linda Woolery won the 50/50 drawing.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tommy Knox, Secretary

June 2013

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2	3	4	5 Board Mtg. 5:30	6	7	8 VIR Picnic  2312 W. Lake Shore Dr.  11-2
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 Ride Your Motorcycle to Work Day	18	19 VIR Meeting 7:00	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
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**2013 Motorcycle Events**

VIR Regular Meeting is the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7:00pm at the Route 66 Hotel & Conference Center, 625 E. Saint Joseph St. Springfield, IL 62703

- **Quaker Steak & Lube has a Bike Night every Thursday Night (in season), Springfield**
- **Blues Run to Alamo, Downtown Springfield, Monday, May 20, Call Tommy Knox for details 529-2655**
- **Park and Display, Sunday, May 26, State Fairgrounds**
- **Picnic, June 8, 2312 W. Lake Shore Drive, 11:00-2:00**
- **Ride Your Motorcycle to Work Day, June 17**

Dates TBD:

- Quaker Steak & Lube Bike Show, Springfield
- McLean County Car & Motorcycle Show, McLean County Antique Car Club, David Davis Museum, Bloomington
- **Annual Britenstine Car, Truck, and Motorcycle Show, Virden, IL**
- **Riverfront Car Show and Cruise In Return, Havana**
- Hooter's/VIR Bike Show
- Mods vs. Rockers, Chicago, IL

**Bold = VIR Events**