

## VINTAGE IRON RIDERS

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# VINTAGE IRON

## *The Newsletter of the Vintage Iron Riders*

December 2014

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

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For more non-VIR events, please check out the Springfield Miler's newsletter at  
<http://www.springfieldmilers.com/milerNL1214.pdf>

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### President's Prattle

December, '14

Ready for Winter?

It is that time of year again. Frankly, Winter doesn't care whether you are ready for it – it is coming anyway. Each year, I vow to get my equipment ready to hibernate. Most years, however, I rarely get around to it. It's amazing that my sports car and motorcycles run at all!

Although I have written on this subject before, it may not hurt to revisit it again. Here are some of the basic principles of winter vehicle care:

1. If you plan on riding during the winter, make sure your tire pressure is up to spec. Charles's Law tells us that the pressure of a gas contained in a vessel is directly related to temperature. If the temperature decreases, then so does tire pressure.
2. Change oil and (if your bike has one) filter. There is no sense in letting used oil with combustion byproducts damage your engine over the winter.
3. Fill the tank with zero alcohol content fuel and fuel stabilizer. Hy Vee at 1025 Outer Park Drive in Springfield (217-726-1002) has 91 octane no-ethanol gasoline.\* Some people use 2 stroke oil as a fuel stabilizer. Others use a commercial brand like Sta-Bil. Either or both are better than nothing. If you have access to aviation gasoline with lead, that works best of all.
4. Fanatics clean and wax their machines. I tried that once, but the bike didn't go any faster. So, what was the point?

5. Put your battery on a maintainer or remove it and bring it into your warm house – and then put it on a maintainer.
6. Ideally, your bike(s) should be stored in a controlled environment location that limits relative humidity to no more than 50-60 %. I do not worry about freezing temperatures or very low relative humidity. Maybe I should, but I don't. My garage has a dehumidifier to limit humidity when temperatures are above 45 degrees. Many people rely on heating their storage to drive down humidity. Of course, none of this works very well unless the storage area is fairly well sealed.

Having said all of this, the best way to maintain your motorcycle over the winter is to ride it. I had a chance to ride my '56 KHK Harley today, and it was wonderful. Whether your bike is ridden or simply stored, you really should visit it often. Turn up the heat. Put on some biker music / background sounds. If you have mechanical skills & inclination, turn a wrench or two and make sure the bike is ready for the upcoming riding / show season. This may not help the bike, but it will do wonders for you.

Well, these are my “words of wisdom” this month. It is great advice. I only wish I practice what I preach....

\* To find other non-alcohol gasoline sources, go to: <http://www.pure-gas.org/index.jsp?stateprov=IL>

George Tinkham  
Springfield, Illinois

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## **Christmas Party**

It's that time of year again!!! The Annual VIR Christmas Party is Tuesday, December 16 at the Elk's Lodge. Happy Hour will begin at 6 pm with dinner to follow at 6:30. Poe's Catering will be providing the food. The menu for this year will consist of fried chicken and Italian beef, lettuce salad, green beans, loaded mashed potatoes, and rolls. Coffee and tea are included and the club is providing several dessert options. There will also be a cash bar.

There will also be a gift exchange for anyone wishing to partake. If you bring a gift to the party, you will be able to select a gift from the table to take home. Please label all gifts that are gender specific so we can ensure that they go to the correct members.

Once everyone has arrived and gotten comfortable, we will be passing around a hat with numbers in it. One member from each table will draw a number from the hat and this will become the table number. We will then go in numerical order for dinner and the gift table.

Please be advised, when you registered to attend the party, you were given cards for each in your party. These are your admission tickets. Things will go much quicker at the door if you have your tickets out and ready. If you have misplaced your tickets, do not fret, we do have a list we can refer to when you arrive.

We would also like to take a group photo at the Christmas Party. We are hoping this evening will be a fun and relaxing event for all to enjoy.

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## **Elections**

The Annual Board Member Elections were held at the November meeting. The Nomination Slate is as follows:

President: George Tinkham  
Vice President: John 'Fireball' Anderson  
Treasurer: Gary 'Goog' Underfanger  
Events Coordinator: Mark Morrison  
Secretary/Newsletter Editor: Sara Follis

The club voted unanimously to keep these members in their current positions for another year. The election is now closed.

NOTE: The office of Events Coordinator is not an actual Board position, per the club bylaws. A suggestion has been made to amend the bylaws to reflect this position as a Board position. This will be put to a forthcoming club vote.

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## **Monthly Meeting**

At our November meeting we had a guest, Sandy MacDonald present a wonderful slide show about motorcycling in Scotland. We had a fabulous turnout for this meeting and greatly enjoyed his presentation.

## **January Meeting**

We will be having movie night at our first 2015 meeting. The requested movie is On Any Sunday Revisited if it becomes available before the date of the meeting. If not available, we will be viewing The World's Fastest Indian. The popcorn machine will be at the meeting so we can all enjoy some freshly popped corn during the movie.

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## **Annual Dues**

As 2014 draws to a close, it's time to look forward to 2015. This means annual dues!! We will begin taking dues payments at the January meeting and are requesting to have dues paid by the February meeting. Goog will be on vacation and unable to attend the January meeting, so Sara will be collecting dues.

Minutes of Meeting  
Vintage Iron Riders  
Donnie B's  
November 19, 2014

Meeting was called to order by President George Tinkham at 7. Pledge was taken and cell phones were turned off. Minutes approved from October meeting. There was an amazing turnout of members.

**Activities:**

Reservations and money were taken for the Christmas Party. Time, location, and catering menu were presented to the club.

Ideas were taken for a club winter trip. Locations mentioned were Wheels Thru Time; Harley Davidson Museum in Milwaukee, WI; Barber Motorsports Museum in Birmingham, AL; and several car shows in Taylorville.

Reminder to club of upcoming Sid Wood Memorial Toy Run taking place Sunday November 30<sup>th</sup> rain or shine.

**Treasurer's Report:**

The Jeff White Memorial Fund has a balance of \$2385.75. The General Fund has a balance of \$2837.41. Total balance of \$5223.16.

**Products:**

John Anderson revealed new bottle cozies available for \$5. Shirts were available.

**New Business:**

Sandy MacDonald did a video presentation on Motorcycle Riding in Scotland.

2015 Club Calendars were available for purchase at \$10 each.

George Tinkham reported that Jeff Rodmaker of Tuscola is looking for an old (30's) Ariel Red Hunter. Can be contacted at 217-253-3596.

George Tinkham announced IDoT Seminar being held December 10-11<sup>th</sup> where he will be speaking on the history of motorcycling. Asking for volunteers to bring bikes for display.

Officer nominations were closed and election was held. Club unanimously voted to keep the board members currently serving.

National Motorcycle Museum Raffle tickets available.

**Visitors:**

Sandy MacDonald visited and gave a wonderful presentation on Motorcycling in Scotland. Chris Rhine visited. We also had member Phil Wigeng attend his first meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Sara Follis, Secretary

January 2015

				<b>1</b> <b>Happy New Year</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> <b>E-Board Meeting @ 5:30</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> <b>Members Meeting &amp; Movie Night</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>

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