



VINTAGE IRON RIDERS

C/o Melissa Rowley

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VINTAGE IRON

The Newsletter of the Vintage Iron Riders

February 2017

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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

Almost There

One of the fun things about having an older motorcycle is the excitement and satisfaction of finally getting it in the condition that you want. It is wonderful when that happens. Sometimes, however, there is a glitch that turns progress into heartache.

So it has been with my World War II Indian: Tonight was to be the final step of having a correct, running manifestation of a motorcycle I had dreamed about since the 1950s. Well, it would have been except the correct replacement petcocks I just received would not fit the “jerry rigged” fuel line a former owner had used. Also, I find I do not have a 3/8”, 28 tpi die to clean the threads of the fuel tanks before installing the new petcocks. Oh yeah, the flat “U” bolt I got for the crash bar is roughly ¼” too narrow. Then, there is the rat’s nest of unconnected wires under the instrument panel. [sigh]

I guess that is the way it goes: If I want anything near perfection with few delays, I should just get a new bike. Frankly, there is some satisfaction in learning the intricacies of this motorcycle whilst massaging it back into shape. It is too much to expect a Zen like melding of owner and object because of this experience; however, I do feel more vested in the machine because of the work I put into it.

Our club is a bit the same way: The more we participate in what Vintage Iron Riders does – especially participating in the decision making – the more meaningful and satisfying the club will be. This is, after all, a membership organization in which the members have the final say.

When V.I.R. does something that really takes off, we can all take pride in the accomplishment. When we try something new that does not meet expectations, we can all learn from the experience. Whatever we do and whatever we try, we do it together. There will be times when not everyone agrees. When that happens, majority rules. It is the fair way to resolve matters. Even then, we act as a club.

To maintain the club / war bike analogy, it is fair to say that Vintage Iron Riders, like my old Indian, is neither perfect nor complete. They both require attention. The good news is that the efforts made in both these areas will produce results that will be a source of pride and enjoyment.

We may never get it 100% right, but we will have fun trying!

2017 VIR Calendar

The calendars are in the cost is \$10. Not many left so get yours soon. Remember the money that we raise from the calendars goes to the club to help pay for the spring / fall picnic, Christmas party, and pizzas.

Get a calendar for the office, home, garage, the man cave. See who bikes are in the calendar. Every month is something totally different.

VIR shirts are in.

2017 Dues

They are due

\$15 for single \$25 for family

You don't want this to be your last newsletter

Minutes meeting

Minutes from the January 6:15

Hotel new owners Dues now due Products Movie night

Abate Swap Meet & Bike Show Feb.19th from 10-2 @ the Orr Building Il State Fairgrounds

Treasurer's Report

The JWMF (Jeff White Memorial Fund) has a balance of \$2362.50 and the General Fund has a balance of \$2107.21 the total balance is \$4469.71. The maximum balance allowed for JWMF is \$2,500.

Monthly Meeting

This month's meeting: Wednesday, February 15, 2016 @7 pm

Of Interest:

Keeping UP with VIR Current Events

Do you want to keep current on club activities and events? Did you know we have a Facebook page and the information it contains about the club is current? Did you know that if you join it, that you can post club information to it also? If not, I encourage you to "Join the Group".

For those of you not technical like me, here is how to join.

1. If you are not a member of Facebook, you will need to create an account.
2. Once the account is created, go to your internet home page and enter the URL
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1020653317952869/> and click search.
3. You will be taken to our Facebook page.
4. Once there, click on the icon "Join the Group". You are now a member of the VIR Facebook page.

When you check you Facebook page, any new club posting will come up for you to review. You can add information and photos any time that you want to share with the club. Be aware that anyone with a Facebook account can join this page. So don't post anything confidential that you do not want to be seen outside the club.

The page was created as a tool to keep members current about club happenings and as a recruiting tool for new members. It is important to note that this page is not a replacement of our webpage. The webpage will continue to be your source for official club and member information.

VIR WEBSITE

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