

## Vintage Iron Riders

A Vintage Motorcycle Club founded in 2003 whose members are primarily located in Central Illinois



# Vintage Iron

## Get out the Vote Edition



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**Next Member Meeting  
October 17th**

**October 17, 5:00. Note the location is Reischauer's Farm in Girard. More information published on the right side of the page.**

### President's Prattle

#### It is not just about motorcycles.

Vintage Iron Riders's moto "vir et machina" combines our interest in older bikes with the camaraderie of a social club. The fellowship of members is not limited to club meetings, rides, and V.I.R. events. Perhaps the most important interactions happen when a club member helps another or accompanies the member on a road trip.

Here is the tricky part: When you need help loading that bike or want a co-pilot for that trip to a swap meet, try asking a member that you do not know well. Better yet, ask a new member to join you in the project. By so doing, you may just make a new friend **and** may help a new member feel more like he belongs in the club. Besides the good company and help that benefits you, Vintage Iron Riders becomes a stronger club when our members relate to each other.

The worst a fellow member will say when asked to join you will probably just be "No." Really, you do not have much to lose and something to gain. If you are not sure how to reach other members, just go to the club website <[www.virmc.com](http://www.virmc.com)> and click on the "More" tab, then go to "Members Only." If you do not know the password to enter that section of the website, give me a call.

Do not be concerned about bothering someone you do not know very well. By sharing an experience, you *will* get to know them better. My favorite way of socializing with someone is to work with them on a project. I encourage you to do the same. Please do not deprive your fellow members of an opportunity to know you better – and to make Vintage Iron Riders a better club.

## Reischauer invitational Weiner Roast

Weiner Roast Oct 21st at 5pm (or earlier). This will also be our monthly member meeting to. The club will provide soda, meat, buns and napkins. Please bring a covered dish or dessert to share with the club. Please bring your own lawn chairs.

The address is 17792 Neff Rd, Girard, IL 62640.

The site can be reached by turning off IL Rte 4 south of Virden on road 3250N. Go west past Pleasant Hill Rd (19000E) to Seifert Rd. Take Seifert Rd south to where it joins Neff Rd and starts to turn west. At that turn, there is an entrance to the Reischauer property. That's it!

Map: <https://goo.gl/maps/8PFYvAVA42xWchQa7>



*The purpose of this organization is to promote the motorcycling interests of its members in an atmosphere of fellowship and civility.*

*It includes helping establish contacts and communication with others whose experience, knowledge, and access to parts and materials might assist those members in the acquisition, restoration, maintenance, and use of antique and vintage motorcycles.*

*Above all, the purpose of this club is to have fun!*

## Get Out The Vote

Not only are our federal, state, and local elections just around the corner, but club elections to. Voting is a fundamental process in a democratic system. It is a chance for the citizens to have a say in the people who represent them or an issue that impacts them. Informed voting and participating in elections is one of the responsibilities of citizens of the United States.

This year's election looks to be the most important in our lifetime. Whatever your point of view get out there and cast your vote. Be a part of the process.

## Upcoming Club Events

- 10/21/20 - Reischauer invitational Weiner Roast Weiner Roast Oct 17th at 5pm (or earlier). The club will provide soda, meat, buns and napkins. Please bring a covered dish or dessert to share with the club. Please bring your own lawn chairs.

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- 11/29/20 – Sid Wood Memorial Toy Run. Springfield, IL
- 12/4/2020 – Annual Christmas Party. Will be at [POE's Catering "On the Hill"](#) again.

## Tech Tip

**DIY! "How to Check and Recover the Contact Breaker (Points) Ignition System Problems of Vintage Motorcycle"**



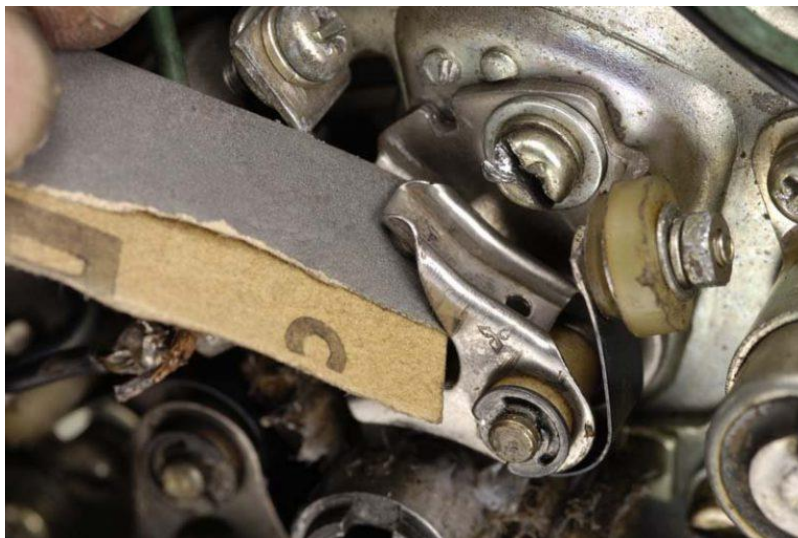
The most important thing is understanding the ignition circuit. But... the contact breaker (points) ignition system is often used in vintage models, and often referred to as the cause of malfunctioning. In the case of the contact breaker (points) ignition system, if you understand the ignition circuit, you can recover quickly even if you get into trouble. At the same time, it's helpful to keep in mind what happens when the points and condenser are out of order.

The points seems to change the flow of electricity by "opening and closing". What kind of symptoms appeared to suspect the contact breaker (points) ignition system? It is also important to know the malfunction pattern.

1. Dirt on the points will cause malfunction



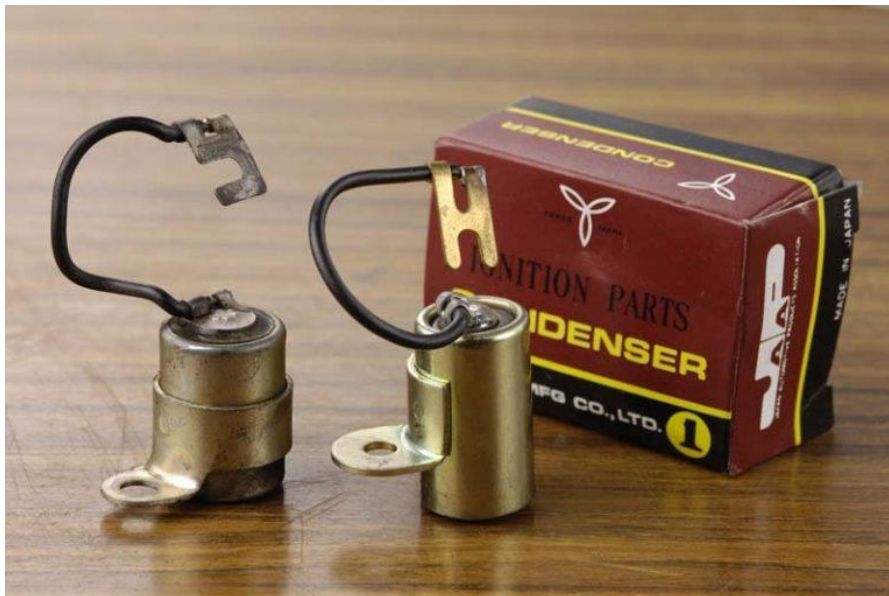
If oil sticks to the points, the contact surface may burn, causing the electricity not to be conducted. This may cause idling malfunctions and acceleration failure. Spread the points with your fingertips and sandwich a paper and pull it out.



Let's open the points in the position where the points heel is not on the cam lobe and look at the points. If the points are burned or rough, fold sandpaper in two, and sandwich it, and brush back and forth the contact point. Use #600 sandpaper.

- Since there are many cases that dirt on the points causes bad engine operation, it is essential to clean the contacts regularly.
- If the points are rough, fold the #600 sandpaper in two, and sandwich it, and polish the points.

2. Why will the points be rough?



With the contact breaker (points) ignition system, we tend to check only the point as a cause of a malfunction, but in fact, it can be the points being rough.



There is the case that dirt such as oil deposited on the points makes them rough, but in fact, it is often caused by a broken condenser. These points need to be replaced, but...





It is better to replace the points with a new one, if it's too rough. But if you want to fix it as an emergency measure, polish the contact point. The points are opened, and use sandpaper (#320) folded in two, and sandwich it and polished the contact point.



In some cases, the points heel is made of bakelite is reduced, so the proper point gap may not be obtained. To prevent the reduction of the heel, lubricated it with points grease.

- **The condenser may also cited as a cause of contact roughness.**

- **There are also many cases that the condenser does not work properly from internal destruction, and it is also not an unusual case that the capacitance of the condenser may change between cold and warm, and conduction breakdown occurs.**

In the motorcycle with the contact breaker (points) ignition system often found in vintage models, there are many causes that lead to malfunctions and troubles if regular checking and maintenance are postponed. The circuit is simple, but, regular maintenance is indispensable, so transistor-ignition models and CDI-ignition models have increased since the late '70s, and models with the contact breaker (Points) ignition system have disappeared.

In some cases, performance can be maintained by simple periodic inspection or cleaning, but if the user continues to run without maintenance for a certain period of time, the contact point contamination starts to cause a malfunction and can cause the condenser to break. The condenser cannot be checked with defects without measuring by the exclusive tester, and it is impossible to judge whether the condenser is in good condition or not by a visual check.

### 3. Whether the condenser is defective or not?

It is better to have visually check the points during idling after starting the engine. The points should be open and closed intermittently, and it is not a big problem if the spark is emitted with small sounds from the points at that time, but if spark continues to appear with big sounds from the points every time, it is considered that the condenser has already reached the end.

The most troublesome case is when the engine is cool, there's no problem, but if the engine gets hot, the engine fails to function properly. Since such symptoms are common for condenser failures, it is better to suspect the condition of the condenser in vintage models that fail to function properly when the engine gets hot.

In the case of an "outer rotor" type regardless of a 2-stroke engine or a 4-stroke engine, it is possible to check the condition of the points from the side hole of the rotor by viewing from the side after the engine cover is removed.

## Product of the Month

### Wonderbar Rust Eraser

Ever tried to use sandpaper on a tear in half? That is why these These 3-1/4 x 2 x 3/4" blocks are saturated with silicon carbide eraser works on paper. They will utility knife to fit any shape. Can including water.

The coarse block is superb for wood surfaces, and the fine block works for in-between situations. slickness; clean rust, corrosion, surface.



rusty surface only to have the flimsy paper Wonderbar Rust Erasers are so welcome. made from a special rubber compound particles. They work on metal the way an not clog up or load, and can be cut with a be used dry or with any standard lubricant,

cleaning any metal, fiberglass or even is great for polishing. The medium block Polish your machinery tables for extra scratches or stains from virtually any metal

[Buy Them Here](#)

## Contacts

### Vintage Iron Riders

3985 N. 8th Street Rd.  
Springfield, IL 62707  
<https://www.virmc.com/>

### Visit us on Facebook



### Officers

President - George Tinkham  
Phone 217-753-2737  
Email [coolbreeze@att.net](mailto:coolbreeze@att.net)

Vice Pres - Branden Powell  
Phone 217-652-1419  
Email [Powellb76@aol.com](mailto:Powellb76@aol.com)

Treasurer - Mandi Powell  
Phone 217-416-5575  
Email [mandiu828@aol.com](mailto:mandiu828@aol.com)

Sec/ News/Web - Mark Morrison  
Phone 309-662-5371  
Email [mmorr26407@aol.com](mailto:mmorr26407@aol.com)

Events - Melissa Rowley  
Phone 217-816-9275  
Email [melissarowley73@gmail.com](mailto:melissarowley73@gmail.com)



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## Classified Ads

- George Tinkham is looking for someone who can repair a fiberglass saddlebag. If you can help please contact George at 217-753-2737

Send submissions to Mark Morrison at [mmorr26407@aol.com](mailto:mmorr26407@aol.com)

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## Officer Elections

Election of Officers: Section VIII of our by-laws state that "nominations should be made at or before the October meeting" and that voting at the November meeting shall be by secret ballot, with written absentee voting and voting by proxy being allowed. No nominations have been made so far, and the current officers are willing to continue in their present positions with the exception of the Webmaster. If you can help or know someone who can let me know.

A suggestion (not a motion) was made at last month's meeting that V.I.R. reinstate its current officers. Please direct any questions about procedures to George Tinkham.

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## Distress and Illness

- Dave Swanson in Rockford reports that he is healing nicely after his recent hip replacement.
- Bill Follis reports his uncle Hank Charles is resting well at home, but is reluctant to have social contact because of COVID-19 concerns.
- Rick Allen is up and about but is a bit slowed down by injuries after his crash last month. Thank you Grover for helping with his motorcycle repairs.