

AUGUST, 2009

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8	9	10	11	12	13	14 HAVANA BIKE AND CAR SHOW
15	16	17	18 CLUB MEETING	19	20	21
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SEPT 2010

			1 OFFICERS MEETING	2	3	4
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eight hours on those roads and still had a hundred miles to go at about 6:00 P.M. However, we noticed that all the gas stations were closed and no one seemed to be available. We experienced this in several villages and we were getting very low on gas. Suddenly we saw a sign for a motel. What a great stroke of luck...We would just stop, stay the night, and fill-up in the A.M. and ride on. To add to our good fortune the sign said the motel had cable TV, full bath and a restaurant. How lucky could we get? When we arrived it was getting dark. The parking lot was overflowing, the place had a jumping party going, and the restaurant was closed. However, they had one room for rent. We took it without question.

The owner of the place was like a Mexican cowboy right out of the movies, i.e., worn -out cowboy boots, blue jeans, checkered long sleeve shirt and a very big, worn cowboy hat. He was probably 6' 2" and weighed 140 pounds (a very skinny dude). His skin looked like beef jerky--from decades of sun and wind. But he was a very outgoing guy. He asked where we were from and we told him. He said he was very familiar with Springfield since he went to Chicago quite often. We thought it was best not to ask the purpose of the frequent trips to Chicago, however he told us enough about the Springfield area to convince us he wasn't B.S.ing us. What are the odds of meeting a fellow in the middle of the Chihuahua area who is so familiar with your home town?

I digress. The reason the parking lot was overflowing and a good party was going on was that a wedding had just occurred. They had a band which had arrived in one of the shortest yellow school buses I've ever seen. They were going to rock on into the night. The motel owner invited us as his guests to the party which had food and drink. Needless to say we took him up immediately and enjoyed the evening. It seemed that all the adult attendees brought all their children so it was a big family gala. When things wound down, the band got on their very short school bus and departed. I've never seen such a short bus before or since. Obviously the extra short school bus left an impression on me - it was shorter than the short school bus I rode to school. Somehow it was a big relief to me - well worth the trip).

Anyway we departed to our room. When we opened the door to the "room" it was quite a surprise. It looked like a bunk house room. The "beds" consisted of very thin dirty mattresses with blankets that looked like horse blankets. I was still impressed that we were going to have cable TV at this remote location so I flipped on the TV and could get one fuzzy channel. I checked the cable "claim" and sure enough there was a cable attached to the back of the TV that went into the wall. I tugged on the cable and it pulled out very easily. He had just attached a piece of cable on the TV and stuck it into the wall and he advertised as having "Cable TV." The bathroom was an even bigger surprise. It had a stool, tub and a sink. However, there wasn't a water piped into any of them. As an added feature two legs of the sink were inside the tub. The room just wasn't big enough to have all four legs on the floor. However, there were good instructions on a five gallon bucket on the floor which stated where the water supply was to get to pour into the stool, to flush, or fill the tub if we wished to take a bath. I thought to myself, this is living high. Anyway, we were tired; we had a good laugh, and went to sleep. The next morning we had a cowboy breakfast, found some gas and were on our way. When we reminisce about some of the fleabag motels we have stayed in, this one always gets us laughing....

Harvey

"Vintage Visdom

All of us who are concerned for peace and triumph of reason and justice must be keenly aware how small an influence reason and honest good will exert upon events in the political field.

~Albert Einstein



FROM THE EDITOR

Tall Tales

Hope you are having the best of summer, albeit hot. Our activities director Harvey Tapscott told me he took a bike ride on Aug 3, (temp approx. 98F) and it was not a good experience. I, too, however, having a ride as of late, find the hot wind in your face no longer does what it did when we were younger. I remember being 20 and taking off on my bike and having the best of time. Perhaps that's because my car, a Datsun B210, had no air conditioning. Perhaps because at that time my "medicinal marijuana" (of course it was prescribed (by my guru)), served to minimize the sting from the heat. Ok, the guru thing is not true. And, ok, the medicinal thing is not true either.

Really now, this newsletter and this club is not about anything but about "us." This club is here for you, it is dedicated to you, the heroes who would trouble themselves with restoration of old bikes. And who are these heroes? Yes, you who read this rag and attend the events. We are not the elites, but hardworking Americans. We tend not to be the country club crowd. Actually, it's my guess many snotty-like country clubs would never let VIR or our ABATE brothers and sisters in. Ha!!! That's their loss but you get "it." And you come from a long line of "it"-getters. Go America and goVIR...

And what's more??? This month we again have a long time club member who will share a bit of his extensive riding lifestyle. It's our very own Harvey Tapscott. Enjoy...

Best of summer to you my friends-Tommy G

MEMORIES THAT STILL GIVE US A LAUGH:

Several years ago one of my brothers, a good friend, and I took a ride down through Baja, Mexico and back across mainland Mexico. As usual for us it was a door-to-door trip on the motorcycles. We rode out to San Diego and crossed over into Tijuana. We took Highway 1 all the way down to San Lucas. On the way down, we would wander off the highway and ride the roads used for the Baja races. There were several teams out pre-running the course so it was interesting to experience the speeds they ran.

This is not a funny incident, but an interesting one for us. One evening we checked into a hotel and discovered that Ivan Stewart and Larry Roeseler also were staying there. We had dinner with them and were treated to numerous Baja experiences they'd had over the decades they ran the Baja. If you aren't familiar with these guys, Stewart has raced in the open truck class for years and has been very successful. Roeseler was racing motorcycles then and had several Baja wins. He was crazy fast on two wheels, winning overall on several occasions. Roeseler now races trucks.

On this trip we rode back north from San Lucas to Santa Rosalia and took a ferry over to the mainland at Guaymas. Our plan was to ride the mountain roads to and across Chihuahua. It was a Saturday and we thought the commercial traffic would be lighter than during the week. WRONG! We were on narrow two lane roads with corners so tight that trailer trucks would hang off the edge of the cliffs and they definitely took advantage of their size. We were great fun for them to see us do panic evasion and stops, etc. We spent over

Activities
Harvey Tapscott

Aug 14, 2010-Havana Bike and Car show.

August 22--AMA Pro Racing--Peoria Race Park--TT Races--Peoria, IL.

August 28--AMA Pro Racing --Mile Flattrack--Indiana State Fairgrounds--Indianapolis, In.

August 27-29 ---Moto GP Road Race--Indianapolis Speedway---Indianapolis, In.

September 2-5 --AMCA Swap Meet & Antique Motorcycle Races-- Blackhawk Chapter-- Davenport, Ia.

September 3 --Novice Races—Short Track-- IL. State Fairgrounds-- Springfield, IL.

September 4-- AMA Pro Races --Short Track -- IL State Fairgrounds-- Springfield, IL.

September 5 -- VIR VINTAGE PARK AND DISPLAY---SPRINGFIELD MILE----

Please keep in mind VIR attendance at the Havana Bike and Car show supports our VIR Christmas party. Please try to attend.

MINUTES OF MEETING
July 21, 2010

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

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

Officers discussed problematic events surrounding the departure of VIR's former treasurer. Although current audits suggest missing funds from approx \$500 to \$1000, a motion was made and seconded that no pursuit of the funds will occur. Members suggested annual audits, but George stated that regular audits are already within club by-laws. Motion carried.

Harvey emphasized member participation is all VIR events and stated the Virden Car and Bike show was excellent. Harvey proposed VIR consider a ride to Pana to visit the "Joe Tex" car collection.

Old Business: Treasurer Goog Underfanger stated that as of July21, 2010, VIR had \$1618.00 in club funds.

New Business: Bobbi Ozanic voted in as a new VIR member. VIR received three applications for membership.

Products: Marc Bumpus stated another clothing order will be arranged for fall of 2010.

VIR Raffle: Won by Deb Crain. Congratulations...

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 P.M.



VINTAGE IRON

The Newsletter of the Vintage Iron Riders

Aug 2010

www.virmc.com

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Upcoming Events

Aug 18th-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/milerNL0810.pdf>

PRESIDENT'S PRATTLE

George Tinkham - President

A Helping Hand

No matter how many experiences we have, how many years of schooling or degrees we get, or how much we read; we just cannot know it all. That is certainly true when it comes to motorcycles and what makes them run.

Here's an example: a couple of years ago, a Harley dealer told me that the Harley factory claims the non-motorcycle oil closest to H-D's formulation is oil made for diesel engines. At our July meeting, Emerson talked about how zinc in diesel engine oil helped reduce wear in motorcycle engines. The next day, I called Ashland oil and found their diesel motor oil has higher levels of zinc, phosphate, and molybdenum than gasoline engine oil. All those compounds reduce wear and increase engine life.

I also found that motorcycles that use the same oil for the engine, transmission, and wet clutch should not use diesel engine oil because the moly can cause the clutch to slip. Another thing, diesel engine oil should not be used in vehicles with catalytic converters because the zinc and phosphorous can damage the catalyst. Because most diesel engine oil comes in 15W40 weight, it is too thin for many older motorcycle engines. This oil, however, is ideal for my '84 Moto Guzzi. The viscosity is correct; the clutch is dry; and there is no catalytic converter.

OK, this may have been kind of long for an example, but what it illustrates is that it is never too late to learn something new. This example shows how we can help each other in our meetings and in this newsletter. Come to think of it, this example also shows that Emerson just may really know what he is talking about!