



# YANKEE CHATTER



SPRING 1992

No. 92-2

## YANKEE CHAPTER ANTIQUe MOTORCYCLE CLUB OF AMERICA, INC. *Chapter established in 1973*

### Stafford Springs Meet A Big Success!

The Spring swap meet held in Stafford Springs, CT on March 29th turned out a hearty bunch of riders and a large crowd of parts shoppers. Held at the stock car track by Jim Darby, all YANKEE members were welcomed to show their machines.

The weather was cool and breezy but there was plenty of sun, old bikes, vendors and parts. It seems that the first hint of warm weather gets everybody outside.



Dan Vance - Co-owner of D&S CYCLE



Jim Darby - event organizer



Mike Jacaruso - owner of  
RECYCLE RESTORATIONS



**YANKEE CHAPTER**

**Officers**

	<u>ZIP Code</u>	<u>Telephone</u>	<u>Term of office expires</u>
Director - Jessie A. Jacaruso			December 1993
Vice Director - David R. Howland			December 1993
Vice Director - Andrew J. Connor			December 1993
Vice Director - James E. Darby, Jr.			December 1993
Secretary - Andrea L. Downs			December 1993
Treasurer - Frederick D. Hirsch			December 1993
Chapter Judge - Andrew J. Connor			December 1993
National Director - George L. Yarocki			December 1993
Editorial Staff			
Editor - Martin Hansen			December 1993
Assistant Editor - Charles A. Gallo			December 1993
Advisory Editor - Frederick D. Hirsch			December 1993

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**Correction!**

In its last issue YANKEE CHATTER inadvertently reported that 1992 would be "Doc" Patt's final year as Chief Judge. NOT SO! He is not about to step down and we are all grateful for that.

We extend our sincere apologies to all who were concerned, and especially to "Doc", who has been such a staunch and loyal friend over the years.

YANKEE CHATTER is the official newsletter of the YANKEE Chapter of the Antique Motorcycle Club of America, and is published four times a year on a seasonal basis: WINTER, SPRING, SUMMER and AUTUMN. The YANKEE Chapter of the AMC of A was established April 8, 1973. Dues for the 1992 membership year are \$ 10.00 single; \$ 12.50 with spouse. Membership is not transferable and dues are not refundable.

Applicants wishing to join the YANKEE Chapter must FIRST be members in good standing (paid up) of the National AMC of A; however, applicants may apply for both memberships to the Chapter Treasurer at any time, and memberships received after October 31st of any year will be held over for the next membership year. National AMC of A membership dues for the 1992 membership year are \$ 20.00 single; \$ 25.00 with spouse. A \$ 1.00 service charge is made for handling an applicant's National application.

Distribution of YANKEE CHATTER is to members of record in good standing (paid up), officers and directors of the AMC of A, and certain editors and other officers of the AMC of A Chapters. As a member of the National AMC of A, YANKEE Chapter is a non-profit organization.



## Director's Message

Finish up those restorations and get those appetites ready for Acton! All details for June 13th & 14th have been set. The fairgrounds are ours for the weekend starting Friday afternoon. The 4-H'ers are set to come for the weekend and provide us with on-site breakfasts and lunches. Mary Dennett is all set to make us another magnificent "smorgasbord" banquet and Jim Darby has taken care of the trophies for the Sunday morning show.

Things also seem to be pulling together for the "Twin-State" Road Run. I have had many inquiries from all over the country. We still need a few volunteers to man (or woman) the back-up vehicle and help out at the registration table. If you plan on coming to the road run and would like to help out please let me know.

Unfortunately we were not granted a National Meet in 1993 at Bethlehem Connecticut. At a recent officer's meeting the possibility of holding a Chapter Meet next year in Connecticut was discussed. What we need to do, however, is get a good meet site in Southwestern Connecticut providing bathrooms, showers and accessibility. The thought being this could be a potential National meet site for 1994. If you know of a place please let one of your officers know. The search is officially on.

We Yanks have done it again and brought attention to ourselves. This time by starting a rumor concerning a National Officer. "Doc" Patt is NOT retiring from his position as Chief Judge, and has no intentions of doing so. You can all cast a sigh of relief knowing the only new thing in judging is the judging itself, not the Chief Judge... Sorry about that, Doc.

I am looking forward to spectacular weather and great times in Acton. Hope to see you all there!

Jessie

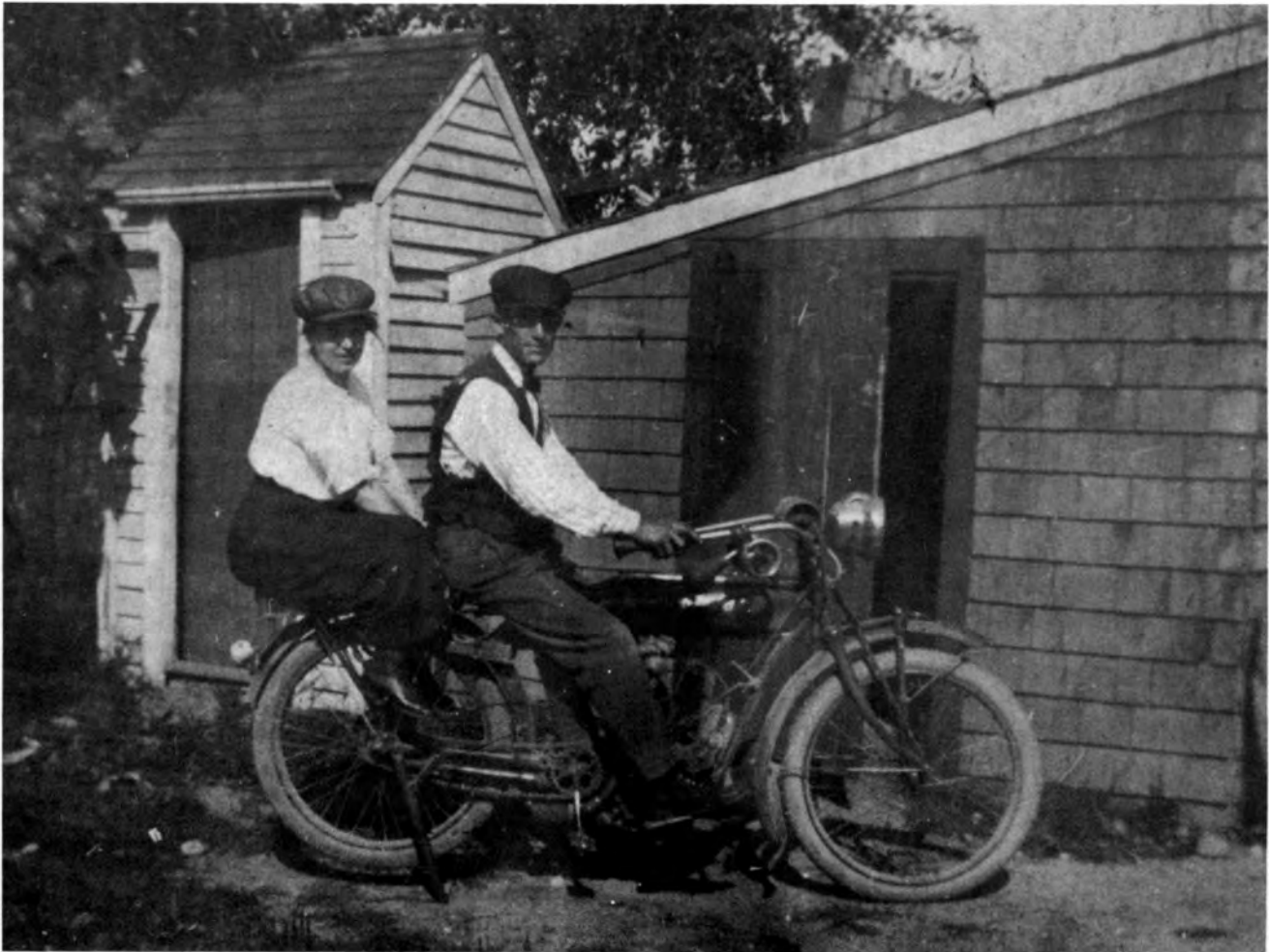
## "Sparkplug"

*The following "biography" of Leon J. Landry was generously provided by Club Member Dick Sharland.*

Leon J. Landry (1903-1987) was YANKEE Chapter's "Sparkplug" from its beginning meet in 1962 at the Larz Anderson Museum of Transportation in Brookline, Massachusetts. He conducted the meets, wrote the newsletters, helped judge machines and arranged for the trophies. He had the foresight to promote the preservation of the old and unique motorcycles. I wonder if he thought the AMC would ever grow to over 4000 members in our 38 years-1954-1992.



*Continued on next page...*



Leon was proud that he was born in 1903, the year that Harley-Davidson started its first production. The family of Leon W. Landry (Leon's father) bought their first Indian (1914) 30:50 (see picture) and started their shop in Franklin, Massachusetts and had a long association with the "Sport of Wheels". When he was about 10 years old, Leon started working on wheels; be it bicycles, motorcycles or cars. That was going to be his work for life. Local shops were owned by C. C. Arnold (Al's father), the Lang family, and the Sheldons. By 1920 Leon started his own shop for bicycles and Harley-Davidsons. He married Eva Proulx in 1925 and by 1929 was successful enough to buy a new 1929 Chrysler Sport Convertible (see picture).

He added cars to his business, buying crated "Model Ts" and assembling them for sale.

He soon moved to a larger town, Framingham, and there he started bicycle clubs and organized "The Franklin Whirlwinds", playing motorcycle polo with his buddies at area clubs. Eva rode everywhere with Leon, even on their honeymoon, in his sidecar rig. When their first daughter was about to be born in January 1927, Leon went to get the midwife with his sidecar. She refused to go on "that Thing!" He told her "that or walk"! She got into the sidecar reluctantly! Leon said snow never stopped any of their activities.



Leon sponsored a racing career for many young, daring riders---Ted Dumas, Lou Gustafson, Fran LeBlanc, Bobby Hill, Babe Tancrede, Sid Swan and others. They traveled to most of the popular tracks including Laconia, Daytona and Quebec.

In 1953 Leon packed up family and bikes and moved to Daytona, Florida to be near the beach track. His extreme enthusiasm for the sport brought on health problems. Taking doctors advice, he moved back to Framingham in 1959, giving up his beloved Harley-Davidson dealership in 1956. Although now selling Schwinn bicycles, he kept up his motorcycle associations through the emerging AMC clubs. Later in 1959 he bought a bicycle shop and home in Taunton, Massachusetts.

In 1980 he sold the shop to work at his pleasure in his garage. There I spent many noon hours and Saturday mornings. We went to AMC meets together until an illness forced his motorcycling career to halt. His memory, robbed of over 70 years of Harley-Davidson association, was completely blank. Leon died in Daytona at his daughter's home August 21, 1987.

*Dick Sharland*

Dick Sharland AMC Member #876  
February 26, 1992



## "RHINEBECK"

*From the pen of Ken Krauer:*

Dutchess County Fairgrounds,  
Rhinebeck, N.Y. May 15-16, 1992  
Empire Chapter Meet-AMC

The weather gods were against us for this meet. Saturday's weather radio claimed an early morning rain would end about noon and they promised the sun would appear, but it didn't come off as planned. It drizzled all day, cutting ride-in attendance that is usually a big part of our show, but we had a fair showing eventually, despite the weather. Sunday was more of the same early, but by noon the sun peeked through several times and both spectators and show bikes increased in number.

Several long time club members showed up without machines, due to the weather and other factors. Pauline Lichva and grandson Gary, with Harold North in his T-Bird; George and Milli Yarocki vended, doing quite well. Jerry Doering, recovering from recent heart surgery, came minus a bike, with his wife, but managed to buy my 1974 Cushman Police Truckster 3-wheeler.

The machine count this year, compared to 1991 was down about 10 to an even 40, but there was perfect weather in 1991.

I finally got Jack Kowal and his beautiful 1946 Whizzer H on a Columbia 1952 5 star, to come and he says next year he will have two Whizzers and a Simplex.

The Downs Trio, old faithfuls at our meet, arrived from YANKEE land; Dick, Tim and Andrea, all riding despite the weather, two Indian Chiefs and a WL Harley. Good show!

All our Empire officers and former officers rode down; Curt Bunce, Tom Thompson and Gary Wilcox, all Indian Chief mounted. The rain never bothered these six riders and several others.

Owners and machines other than previously described were George Popowich and dog "Rusty Parts" (who managed to gulp down a juicy cheeseburger I foolishly laid on my truck bumper for 15 seconds), brought a Rokon Trailbreaker and his WL Harley with his partner, Bob Bruckner, WL mounted.

Also: Mike Krawiec- '20 Indian and Reading Standard Bicycle, Ed Allyn- '72 MZ ISDT, Bob Garrity- '49 Panther Single, Fred Hirsch-YANKEE- '47 New Hudson Autocycle and newly acquired '52 Royal Enfield 125, Al Cechini- Ner-a-car, Larry Forget- '65 Super Hawk and '66 Honda Scrambler, Ron Westervelt- '73 Jawa 250, Mark Coleman-BMW, Bill Bowen- '30 Indian 4, Marty Hansen-YANKEE- '52 FL Harley (rode down and camped out), Ben English-'72 Norton Commando, Mark Fiato- '73 Norton Commando, Al McMichael- '52 Moto Guzzi 500 and '30 Raleigh 300, Jon Henken and wife- Welbike and WWII BSA folding army bicycle, Ken Krauer-'74 Cushman 3-wheeler, '38 BSA M20 Military, '65 Honda Dream, 1898 Sterling bicycle, and a '48 Schwinn/Whizzer.

My thanks to all who attended and to Karen Thompson who attended to club souvenir booth and button dispenser in her club tent. Several new members were signed up.

Next year's dates are May 15 and 16, 1993. Bring stuff to sell- we have lots of room and lots of buyers. Those who sold did well!

Ken Krauer  
Rhinebeck Meet Host



Ted Dumas, Harley-Davidson factory racer - Landry Photo Collection





☞ The Harley-Davidson team between races - Landry Photo Collection



# YANKEE CHAPTER Twin State Road Run

*Yankee Does It Again!*

Join us Thursday July 30 through Sunday August 2 for our National "Twin-State" Road Run. It will be hosted in Southern Vermont at the Lake Morey Inn Resort, located in the heart of the Connecticut River Valley. Two 100 mile runs have been planned; one in Vermont, the other in New Hampshire.

The Lake Morey Inn has made a Package plan for all AMC of A members, which will include two 4-course dinners, 3 full breakfasts and banquet ticket, along with full use of the facility. For those who choose not to stay at Lake Morey, the facility will be open to all AMC of A members for the entire weekend.

Although there are numerous other local accommodations in the area to choose from, we urge all who can to stay at Lake Morey Inn. No matter where you stay, be sure to make your reservations soon!



*For a complete information package,  
please contact:  
Jessie Jacaruso  
259 Sligo Rd.  
Rollinsford, N.H. 03869  
(603)749-0450*

# YANKEE PEDLAR

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Membership advertising in YANKEE PEDLAR is FREE to all YANKEE Chapter members of record (dues paid up).

**DEADLINE** dates for **ALL** ads:  
 WINTER Issue.....January 10  
 SPRING Issue.....April 10  
 SUMMER Issue....July 10  
 AUTUMN Issue....October 15

\*\*\*\*\*

**WANTED** - for HARLEY-DAVIDSON 1933 VL:  
 Mudguards, tanks, ammeter, air cleaner, tool box, and carburetor. Bruce Coffin, R 2 - Box 5266, Brunswick, Maine 04011.  
 Tel.: (207) 725-2798

\*\*\*\*\*

**WANTED** - For 1934 VD Restoration: Moto Lamp headlight, Part No. 4901-33; luggage rack, Part No. 2818-17; and air cleaner, Part No. 1401-28. Also want 1934 Connecticut license plate. Please call Tom.  
 Tel.: (203) 774-5310

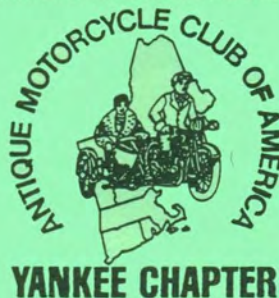
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**FOR SALE** - The "Sprint King of the Northeast" is now the MZ (East German) "Parts King of the Northeast". ALL Sprint Models 1961-1974; MZ Models TS 250-150. Send SASE for details. Have road tests of most models for Sprints and MZs at \$ 5.00 each Postpaid. Also have complete machines. Ken Krauer, RR 1, Box 611, Clinton Hollow Road, Salt Point, N. Y. 12578.  
 Tel.: (914) 266-3363 anytime.

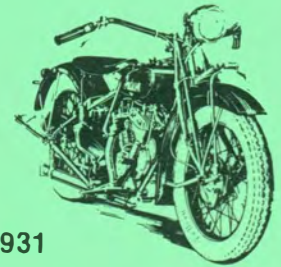
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**WANTED** - For 1931 Harley-Davidson DL- Luggage carrier, Part No. 2818-26. Dick Sharland, 193 Tremont Street #66, Taunton, Massachusetts, 02780. (508) 822-1709

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## YANKEE MEETS FOR 1992

**Acton Maine-June 13&14th**

**Twin-State Road Run  
 Fairlee, Vermont  
 July 30 thru August 2nd**

**Hamilton Rod and Gun Club  
 Sturbridge Mass. - Sept. 12&13th**





**YANKEE CHAPTER**

**Martin J. Hansen**  
45 Strong St.  
Manchester, Connecticut  
06040

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