



Yankee Chatter



Winter 2018

www.yankeechapter.org

Est. 1973

Antique Motorcycle Club of America
Yankee Chapter

Ride 'em, don't hide 'em!



-CONTENTS-

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
EDITOR'S PAGE
ONCE UPON A TIME
OCTOBER BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FROM LOOM TO VROOM
UPCOMING EVENTS
OTHER STUFF

Winter 2018 President's Message

2018 not only lived up to it's potential, it was better! As usual, we started the year with the OSEG show in Springfield, followed by TomTom's Camp and Ride in RI, then Jim Gorman's Camp & Ride in Maine, then Jim Seidel's Indian Summer event and let's not forget Terryville. Those are only the high points. Chris Lenox hosted several of us at Indian Day. George Kyler, known to some of us as Doctor George, put together an exhibition that was the hit of a local car show.

This year's Christmas Party/Annual Meeting, as always, was lots of fun. Some of the highlights were:

Because of Dr. George's energetic and enthusiastic support of our club we asked him to become our new Eastern Massachusetts Ambassador. He accepted! His acceptance will allow Peter MacMurray to concentrate more of his time with our Vermont members.

Mike Brown, Darryl Cutter and Tim Gottier were nominated for our prestigious Yankee Spirit Award. In an extremely close vote Tim Gottier was chosen to receive the award. Congratulations Tim. Mike & Darryl were recognized with their choice of a Yankee ball cap or Yankee tee shirt.

We also

- Enjoyed our traditional pot luck feast
- Reviewed the good and bad of our National Meet
- Discussed the need for a lot more help at our 2019 Terryville Meet

The following members were unanimously elected or re-elected for three-year terms:

- 1st Vice president, Darryl Cutter
- Director #3 Diane Stoyanovich
- Director #4 Chris Lenox

Additionally, Tom Covill (TomTom) was unanimously confirmed to continue as Director #2 for the remaining two years of Jen Goselin's term.

The January 19th & 20th 2019 OSEG show at the BIG 'E' in West Springfield will be here before we know it. Come on down. Join Chris, bring an old bike or hang around and have fun.

On a less happy note, shortly before Thanksgiving Dan Margolien sent the Board of Directors the following message:

On Sunday, November 18, 2018, 08:15:03 PM EST, Dan Margolien wrote:

Hello Yankee BOD. I consider all of you my friends, and so have news to share.

In the past three months, a hip and leg pain worsened. I was given x-ray. A lesion was noted in my right femur. The big thigh bone.

This drove MRI AND CT SCAN. Cancer was found and confirmed with a biopsy. Kidney cancer has spread to my lung, liver, and the femur.

A few days ago, the femur cracked due to the corrosive effect of the tumor creating incredible pain. Wednesday night I had an emergency procedure to replace the upper part of my right femur. A new solid stainless part gets grouted into the femur after cutting off the top.

I am home! Am walking with a walker, doing PT exercise and for some miraculous reason feel pretty well. The next 4 to 6 weeks can get me back to walking with cane or nothing.

And yes, I will be getting Immunotherapy IV soon. This is intended to supercharge my own immune system to attack the cancer cells. It is a process of months and longer.

But DRs have an excellent prognosis of many good years of quality life. No need to cry for me! LOL!

I won't make the business meeting. I hope to be reasonably normal next season. Not sure about riding, but getting out and about.

If I don't answer the phone, I will call you back.

I started off with Happy Thanksgiving. I give thanks for all my friends and support, and a chance to enjoy my life and family a while longer.

Dan Margolien

Please join me and the BOD in wishing Dan a speedy and complete recovery.

Ted



Editor's Page

Since the publication of the Fall Edition, it's been a fairly quiet time for me with respect to riding and wrenching bikes. The last time I was out for a ride, it was Columbus Day, which was a rather damp and cool day that my buddy Bruce and I were hoping would turn from a gray mist into something more cheerful sunny and allow us to continue our ride up the western side of Connecticut and Massachusetts along the Route 8 corridor. Alas, it wasn't to be; the mist turned to a light rain and the temperature dropped, as did our resolve to continue.

The next day, I woke to find that there was something wrong; my left hand was completely bereft of any strength. Couldn't pull in the clutch, let alone hold on to the hand grip... WTF!

It's been a couple of months and I'm slowly regaining strength. The orthopedic docs, so far have no explanation, and I've been referred to a neurologist at the UCONN Medical Center. I guess it's good this is happening now during the nadir of the motorcycling calendar.

With the expectation that I will be wrenching and riding again sometime in the near future, I'd like to as a favor. With the experience gleaned from this opportunity (as newsletter editor of the Yankee Chapter) and attending the various Chapter events this past year, I've become newly enamored with the classic Harley FLH. If any of you have mostly stock Shovelhead Electra Glide in decent condition in \$5,000 price range that you could part with, or may know about, please let me know. I understand that's probably a tall order, given that these bikes are growing in desirability, but I won't know if I don't ask. I've seen quite a few Evo FLHs in that price range, and I may go that route if this doesn't Pan out (yes, pun intended!).

Best wishes to Dan in his courageous fight with cancer. He's taken the lead so let's all be there for him by keeping him in our thoughts and prayers...

Greg



Once Upon a Time

Way back in 1985, I was working at The Technical Services Center of the University of Connecticut. Since I had a parking spot near work, I would ride my 1959 Harley-Davidson to work on most days. One of our student technicians had been dropped of at work by a rider on a Harley-Davidson with Royalite saddlebags. This piqued my curiosity since my 1959 Harley had nearly identical bags. I introduced myself to Terry Kelly, the rider of this 1957 Harley-Davidson Sportster with the Royalite bags. A genuine friendship developed over the years as we took numerous rides to swap meets and other gatherings. Outings to see old blues legends such as Clarence "Gatemouth" Brown and John Lee Hooker were not unusual. Terry also hosted a St. Patrick's Day party each year. He would build a huge bonfire in his back yard, surround it with pallets for people to stand on, thus keeping them from sinking into the perma-frost of Chaplin, Connecticut. Pitchers of draft beer were fortified with a bottle of Guinness stout making them "Black and Tans". Mini corned beef sandwiches were in abundance.



During the winter of 1993, as Sandy, Terry and I were relaxing after dinner, our conversation drifted to the recent rebuild of my 1929 Harley JD. I had accumulated a number of spare parts, some broken, some good, during the rebuilding process. I half jokingly stated that I could probably build another bike if I just had a front end and wheels. Terry chimed in that he had an old H**** leaning against the side of his shed and I could have it to use for my project. Several days later, I stopped by Terry's to pick up the donor bike which was not leaning against his shed but lying in the mud next to it. I hauled it home and over the course of the winter I mocked up my "bobber" with Terry's assistance and consultation. I re-laced the front hub to a 21" rim and machined adaptors for the neck stem bearings to install them in the JD frame. I machined the rear axle and made spacers to mount the rear wheel into the JD frame. As the winter progressed, we installed empty engine and tranny cases as part of the mock-up. A set of rusty, lacey JD gas tanks were mounted to add to the illusion. Sitting on milk crates and consuming numerous barley pops, we continued the design process. Leftover chopper fenders were fitted. Numerous handlebar combinations were tried. A seat resting on a couple of 2X4s and some chopper footpegs allowed us to try various seating positions.

As winter came to a close, the mock-up was complete, and it was time for the real construction to start. The project was broken down and the parts were put into boxes on shelves. Engine cases would require some welding. The timing gearcase had a huge hole in the back that would require considerable work. Almost everything else would require major massaging before being used. However, things were progressing smoothly and we were optimistic.

Then, in April of 1994, Terry was killed in a motorcycle accident. We were devastated. The project lost all of its energy... I couldn't bring myself to work on the bike without Terry. The boxes of parts began to gather dust. Twenty years passed. Terry's daughter, Siobhan, graduated from St. Joseph's College and we were invited to her graduation ceremony. During the post graduation gathering with her family, I was asked what had become of the bike that Terry and I had been working on together. This was the stimulus that I needed. The time had come to complete the work. It seemed that it would be a quick process, after all, most of the design work was done. Anyone who has ever undertaken a project like this knows that the design work is the simple part. The time consuming effort is realizing all the construction work. After a couple of years of slow progress, the project was done. A number of changes to the original design were implemented, taking advantage of numerous parts that had migrated onto the shelves over the years. A magneto ignition and Mikuni carb with a custom updraft intake manifold were part of the original design, as were the shotgun exhaust pipes.

A battery box was constructed from flat stock and mounted. Dual headlights yielded to a distressed automobile fog lamp, reconditioned and fitted with a halogen bulb. The original seat was replaced with a classic Bates solo seat. The front and rear fenders evolved from swap meet chopper parts into custom fenders made from a Model T Ford spare tire carrier that was donated to the project by a friend. A Sparto tail light and bullet marker lights fitted with LED bulbs completed the redesign. With a candy apple red paint job the final result is true to the vision that Terry and I had all those years ago. I present this to you as my tribute to a lost friend. I think he would have liked it.

Charles Gallo



October Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

October 5, 2018

In attendance: Ted Smith, Charlie Gallo, Critter, Tom Covil, Darryl Cutter, Diane Stoyanovich, Chris Lennox, Jim Gorman, Peter Grace, Ken Hershfield

BOD met in the fall to review our first National meet held at the Terryville fairgrounds. Over all the meet went well due to a lot of pre-planning, volunteer assistance, coordination with the volunteers (Lion's Club) from the Terryville Fairgrounds and community. Friday was well attended, though it was pretty much rained out on Saturday. But Yankees persevered and could be found gathered at the far sheep barn during the National Judging. Unfortunately, due to the weather, other plans for the bike show, field games and poker run, fund raiser for Children's Hospital were canceled. The main discussions at this meeting was to take action on things that didn't go as planned, several snafu's, opinions and suggestions on how to make the meet better. These items will be shared with the Yankee members at the upcoming business meeting on December 2, 2018 to be held at the Oxford VFW at 11 am.

The BOD reviewed a rather long list of issues, either observed or reported by attendees that need to be addressed. Our to do list is as follows:

- The PA system was not working- suggestion for the club to purchase a PA
- Camping, parking and vending areas need to be mowed prior to the event
- The outside of the gate camping area (though not originally planned for use as tent camping), but due to need became the swamp)- needs to be mown and storm drains cleared (camper area was severely flooded this past year)
- Fill pot holes in driveway
- Improve the Banquet -discussion with members planned to take place at the Business meeting
- Add coffee and juice to Judges breakfast
- Better quality firewood for individual campfires
- Select artwork for tee shirts and marketing before annual Christmas meeting
 - Charlie will take care of artwork
 - He had several ideas with him today and members chose the "the girl on the Indian"
 - The cost for the screen is \$120
 - Will ask Dan about getting more of the generic T's, most of the inventory is sold 😊
 - Increase quantity of T shirts and reassess sizes needed to reduce waste and disappointment
 - Once again sell T shirts at National judging site (aka- Sheep Shed) on Saturday
 - Print 1000 flyers before the Springfield OSEG show in January.
 - Charlie will create a flyer for the general public (Show, time, date etc.) and a more inclusive one for AMCA members.
 - Flyer's will be 1/2 page size so as to get 2 for 1 per page.
 - Ted will have flyers and posters (10) printed

Recommendation to have 1000 meet programs printed with a map that displays vendor sites, camping sites, event locations and time

Better signage on site re: locations, event time, etc. To be at the Yankee Tent and throughout the fairgrounds Use of white board for events and volunteer duties.

-Sign for the parking area Re: modern bike parking, antique parking, camping, etc.

- Signs for direction to vendor field locations

Prepare ad for the 2019 issues of The Antique Motorcycle Magazine- Charlie

Improve advertising and promotions- Ken suggested an ad in the Boston Biker. Other newspapers, radio etc. Recruit sponsors for fund raisers (Ted)

Discussion on renting several PortaJons– one for the outside the gate camping area and one for Vendor area C

Decision made to move some of the picnic tables by the food vendor and across from the Yankee tent to make room for Vintage Parking – it was a good gathering area especially prior to road run. And bikes are displayed for general public – win, win

Set up separate bike parking for AMCA and visitors' antique bikes inside the gates.

Modern bike designated bike parking just outside gate.

No assigned camping

For AMCA judging bring oil mats- Darryl's on it!!!

Discussion re: Renting the "Sheep Shed" for the remaining 4 yrs. of contract. We used this building for the National Judging and would like to continue with this location. Signage to be posted to direct people to the area. Last year it was difficult to find.

Discussion in regards to the VFW hall rental for the annual Christmas meeting and we are all set for December 2,2018, 10am-3pm

We discussed the needed action plans and volunteer schedules. Board will share this info with members and ask for volunteers.

An idea was presented in regards to encourage vendors to stay on Saturday. What about a vendor only drawing worth? \$\$\$\$? Given out at the 4p award ceremony, though the catch is you must be still set up to win. Other ideas- a guaranteed spot. Ideas, input? Last year was lousy weather but there always people that show on Saturday and expect vendors to be available.

Ted left the meeting with a to do list in regards to requests to the Lion's club. He is the liaison between them and the club. Any issues the members may have please contact any board member. We would be happy to help.

The Board would like to get a list of team actions – a team leader and volunteers to assist with these actions prior to the meet. Peter Mac has put together a list and some members have already stepped up to volunteer. Team Leaders will coordinate with a group of volunteers to meet these needs. (* Team Leader).

1. Publicity prior to the meet

2. Early vendor parking and Camping

*Darryl

3. Field layout

*Darryl

4. Yankee Chapter Registration and Membership Booth
 - *Ken and Diane
 - Sound system and announcer needed
 - Diane with ask Stu to assist with obtaining a PA system
5. Guest Organizations and Volunteers
 - *Ted
6. AMCA National judging registration and Membership booth
 - *Peter Mac
7. On Site camping
 - *Peter G
8. Entry gate (parking, camping)
 - *Peter G
 - Tom, Critter
9. Antique and Vintage Motorcycle Exhibit, Saturday
 - *Peter Mac
10. Mystery Ride on Friday
 - *Charlie Gallo
 - *Eric Nelson
11. Yankee Fun Judging on Friday
 - Tom
 - Jim Seidle
 - Gris

Note- unused awards from 2018 are available, new engraving is required- Peter Mac

12. Tech Session
 - Dan Margolien
 13. Banquet on Friday
 - *Ted
 - * Note – let's keep the cost down \$20-\$25
 - *open for discussion with members regarding menu
 14. Bonfire
 - *Ted
 15. National Judging on Saturday
 - Peter Mac
- Note – Including cost/coordination of Judges breakfast and National recognition Awards, Fun judging awards*
16. Charity Poker Run on Saturday (TBD)
 - Ted

Net proceeds to local charity: TBD

17. Yankee Field Games on Saturday afternoon

Critter

18. Vintage and Classic Motorcycle Judging on Saturday

Peter Mac, CMRA

21. Cash Management and Accounting

Peter G

Note- we need several new cash boxes.

22. Third Party and outside services, misc. (food, firewood, trailer, ice etc.)

Ted

23. Clean up and Close on Sunday

Quick Summary

Team Leaders in need of volunteers for the 2019 Terryville National Meet are:

Vending field, layout – Darryl Cutter

Bike show, national judging- Peter Mac

Field Games- Critter

Yankee merchandise, info, hospitality tent- Diane Stoyanovich

Front Gate, financial – Peter Grace

Mystery Ride- Charlie Gallo and Eric Nelson

Yankee Fun Awards- TomTom

Pre registration, on line info- Chris Lennox

Membership- Ken Herschfield

Terryville issues- Ted

Terryville National year 1 done! Thanks to all! Thank you to Darryl and Courtney for hosting our meeting.

Diane Stoyanovich (Yankee Chapter Secretary)



From Loom to Vroom

Die-hard motorcyclist Ken Kaplan had been in the computer industry for 25 years before purchasing the 205 year old Hockanum Mill; a former textile mill that had been neglected for decades.

Open 7 days, It now holds one of the largest collection of vintage and custom motorcycles on the Northeast. With over 25 different brands of motorcycles, extensive motorcycling magazine archive, and memorabilia from the most iconic events and superstars in the industry's history, there is something for every motorcycle enthusiast.

A 12,000 square foot motorcycle themed restaurant, bar, and microbrewery is coming by 2020 and will be held in the first floor of the Museum building.

We are holding several large events in 2019 including the 'Cafe Fever' and 'Rocktober' shows, the Hockanum Brew Fest, and bike nights! A full event list can be found on our website; newenglandmotorcyclemuseum.org

All AMCA members are invited to join the fun. If you would like to bring a motorcycle to display or get involved with the project, call president Ken Kaplan at (860) 916-9784!



Upcoming Events

FUTURE CLUB EVENTS

- January 19-20 2019

Springfield Motorcycle show. Springfield Mass. The Yankees will again be setting up our display at the show.

Please contact Chris Lenox to bring bike(s) and/or help out for the weekend. Set up is Friday the 18th.



Yankee Chapter
Antique Motorcycle Show
And
Swap Meet

Terryville Lions
Fairgrounds
Terryville, CT

General Info:
www.yankeechapter.org
Still Have Questions:
Ted Smith
(203) 675-4894
oldbmws@yahoo.com

Admission Price:
\$5.00 per person
Children under 12 free

Meet open to the public
8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Friday, August 2, 2019
Saturday, August 3, 2019

"Ride 'Em, Don't Hide 'Em"
Visit www.yankeechapter.org for further details

Other Stuff

FOR SALE OR SWAP/WANTED, OTHER EVENT NOTICES, STORIES, ARTICLES OR PICS

Please send your requests and/or content to me

SNAIL-MAIL:

Greg Ravizza
34 Patterson Lane
Durham, CT 06522

CALL OR TEXT ME:

860.729.3143

EMAIL:

azzivar@gmail.com
editor@yankeechapter.org