



# YANKEE CHATTER



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WINTER 1999

No. 99-1

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

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## "Ride 'Em, Don't Hide 'Em"

These Yankees enjoyed a beautiful December day's ride to the Chapter's Christmas Party held at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Oxford, MA on December 6, 1998.



# Officers



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Jessie Aikman

Assistant Director  
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Vice Director  
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Thomas Marston

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Frederick D. Hirsch

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**Congratulations**  
to  
**Dan and Elaine Vine**  
who were married on  
**October 17, 1998**




<http://home1.gte.net/yankee>

Tom Woodward has dedicated his personal web site to promoting the Yankee Chapter and the AMCA. Check out this site for a refreshing perspective on buying and restoring an antique motorcycle. You may find yourself saying, "Oh, I've done that."



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 or when information warrants. The YANKEE Chapter of the AMC of A was established April 8, 1973. Dues for the 1999 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 send membership applications to the Chapter Membership Chairperson at any time, and memberships received after October 31st of any year will be held over for the next membership year.

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

Here it is April already, with the motorcycling season nearly upon us once again. It seems like a lifetime ago that we were in Oxford for our annual Christmas Party. Thank you, all who came and brought your favorite dish. It was a great time, so if you missed it you should check it out next year! You won't leave hungry.

Your Yankee Officers have been busy over the winter months. At our annual business meeting in January, plans were made for this year and next year, as well as addressing some important issues.

Plans for this year include our National meet in Hebron on August 13-15. I hope these dates are marked on your calendar. Our autumn meet in Sturbridge, MA is scheduled for September 11 & 12, so mark these dates as well. With our "Ride 'Em, Don't Hide 'Em" motto in mind, road runs are planned for Saturday at both meets in conjunction with vending all days and judging on Sunday.

As we move into the new millenium, Yankee will be hosting a National Road Run on June 17-21, 2000 in New Hampshire. This should be an excellent time in NH, with lots to see and do. I'll keep you posted as things develop. If you have any ideas, give me a call.

Some of the important business at hand concerns the AMC of A and the American Heritage Museum in Ohio. Many rumors have been flying around. Hopefully, the most recent issue of "The Antique Motorcycle" put some of these rumors to rest. My latest information on the subject tells me that all AMC of A members will be getting a letter from the National fairly soon, outlining all the details concerning our

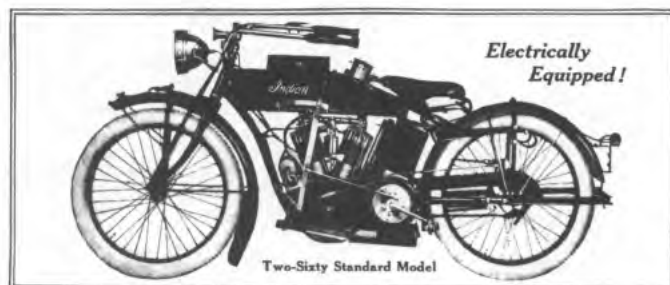
potential involvement with this organization. They are looking for feedback, so let them know how you feel and what you think. You may contact them directly or go through me.

As always, we are looking for volunteers to help with our upcoming National meet. As most of you know, there are an assortment of jobs that need to be done. If you have never volunteered before, this is your golden opportunity. It's not only a good way to help out your chapter, but it is also a good way to bond with some of your fellow Yankees. You can let me or any of your Yankee officers know if and when you are available to help.

I hope to see many of you in Oley along with some of those new winter projects out on the "Arrowhead Run".

Until then . . . .

Jessie



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1914

# Indian Motorcycle

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← THE SILENT INDIAN →

# Once Upon A Time...

not very long ago, I dragged my Harley riding husband to the Pioneer Valley Indian Rally. We had never attended this meet before; there was always some reason why we couldn't spare a weekend for play. . .Fools! Many of our (much wiser) Indian riding friends had been enjoying this gathering for years.



Jim Seidell shows his winning form as he whips his 1937 Indian Four through the Slalom Run course.

We dodged the raindrops riding in. A well timed dinner stop helped to keep us pretty dry. We arrived, past sunset, in our perfectly ridiculous yellow rainsuits. Though neither of us was riding an Indian, we were not summarily thrown off the grounds. In fact, we were welcomed with some cheer. Open minded folks, these Indian riders.

When we awakened, we were struck by the beauty of our surroundings. The Westfield River runs through the property. Across the river, the banks rise dramatically, heavily wooded. We are in a lovely valley. By mid-afternoon, as the temperature soared, I was

especially grateful for the river. I spent a few hours simply sitting in it, deep in conversation with some enjoyably goofy Indian riders. Our greatest concern was keeping the river water out of our beers. (Remember the years when you feared you would literally roast alive at Indian Day ?)

The meet was very low-key. It reminded me of AMCA meets of bygone years, small and personable. Located on private property, facilities are limited, but adequate and well kept. Nicely designed outdoor showers were a treat.

Everyone seemed exceptionally friendly. This is a let-your-hair-down weekend, not big business. However, business is conducted. Most notably, Yank Tom Woodward purchased his first antique bike, "Baby", a maroon 1930 Harley-Davidson V. We look forward to seeing lots more of it this season.

Charlie loved the games. Yes, Charlie always loves the games. True to the spirit of open-mindedness, motorcycle games were for everyone confident enough to display their skills (not me!), regardless of mount. Yankees ruled, a clean sweep! The Seidells ruled, with Jim and Jamie nearly winning them all. Charlie was able to narrowly edge Jim out in the



Tom Woodward takes his first ride on his 1930 Harley-Davidson V.



Jamie Seidell starts his winning run in the Tire Toss game.



**Fast Start Race.** Imagine the '29 JD's version of a hole shot (yuk,yuk!) with tall, gangly Charlie folded into a Daytona tuck. Yep, pretty silly.

The judging brought out some very unusual machines. Though Indians were featured, judging was all-inclusive, even offering an award for the oldest Harley (guess who?). Everyone who entered a bike got a ballot to vote on the awards. A jury of appreciative peers. (I really liked that idea.)

Saturday evening was enlivened by a rock band and a burn-out board. Jim Seidell showed

us what his 1947 Chief could do. Quite the smoke show. He was the only Indian rider to light up his tire.

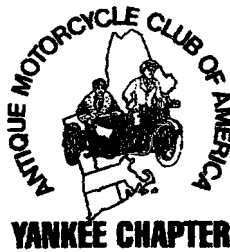
Sunday morning, Indian riders left early for the Indian Day festivities in Springfield, but I felt that the best of the weekend was behind them. If you are as foolish as I was and have not yet discovered the Pioneer Valley Indian Rally, I recommend it. This is a great meet for Indian riders and their friends.

(1999 dates: July 16-18, Chester, MA)

*Sandy Gallo*



Marty Hansen finished his Slow Race run on his 1939 Indian Chief with a spectacular donut.



## Secretary's Report

Minutes of the Yankee Chapter business meeting, held at the North End Pub, Oxford, MA on Sunday, January 24, 1999.

Director Jessie Aikman called the meeting to order at 12:20 PM. In attendance were: Jessie Aikman, Joan Kadulis, Randy Walker, Jennifer Schedin, Tom Marston, Jim Darby, Jim Friedlander, Bill Campbell, Charlie Gallo and Mike Lingley.

A proposed agenda for the meeting was put forth by Jessie and any other suggestions or additional business requested. Items to be discussed include the Joe Barber award, the National meet and related items as well as proposals for the year 2000.

A letter from the Viking Chapter to the National Board was passed around. It concerned the use of large amounts of AMCA funds outside of the organization. The board members discussed this letter concerning the National policy of funds usage, and it was unanimously agreed upon that the Yankee Chapter should draft a letter of disapproval and that all of the Yankee board members would sign it, and that said letter would then be sent off to the AMCA National board.

Randy Walker brought up the question of an autumn chapter meet in Sturbridge, MA. It will be the weekend after Labor Day. Events to be vending, a Saturday afternoon road run, with those participating to receive free banquet tickets. Sunday morning would include judging and awards presentation. Tim Gottier had previously agreed to be the designer and layout person for both the Hebron and Sturbridge road runs.

The Joe Barber Trophy was brought up. It will be brought to Hebron and judging will take place just before the banquet as last year. The trophy will be presented after the banquet.

At the Hebron meet, the Yankee Chapter will be hosting the 101 Scout Association's 1999 National meet. The theme for this year's meet will again be "Ride 'Em, Don't Hide 'Em" and the artwork will feature an Indian Scout, a 101 Scout if possible. Scout judging will be 11 AM on Saturday, with a road run starting at noon. Panheads competing for the Joe Barber Trophy will be judged just prior to the banquet. AMCA National judging will be Sunday morning. All awards other than nationals will be awarded at the banquet on Saturday evening. Meet duties will be as per last year as all seemed to work smoothly. Charlie Gallo will check on reciprocal advertising with the Empire Chapter, as our meet and the Empire National Road Run will be in sequence. Other advertising venues were discussed and will be followed up on.

The year 2000, and preliminary planning was the final area of discussion. The idea of a National Road Run, rather than a National Meet was presented. Jessie will submit the dates of June 13-17, 2000 (Tuesday thru Saturday) to the National Board for approval. This should sandwich it between the Wauseon and Empire Meets. The Road Run would take place in the North Conway, NH area. Jessie and Mike Lingley have done some extensive research in the area. The Red Jacket Inn in North Conway, NH seemed, to them, to be the most accomodating and most interested in meeting the needs of a National Road Run. Also discussed was the idea of a meet in Hebron on the same dates as usual so that we preserve the availability of the Hebron grounds for the future. This meet would basically be a Chapter meet, replacing our Autumn Sturbridge Meet.

A pizza lunch was shared as discussion continued on the merits of the North Conway, NH area as the site for the 2000 Road Run. Finances for this Road Run were brought up including charges and National AMCA allowances. The meeting adjourned at 1:53 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Marston  
Secretary

Put your old machine on the road for the

# YANKEE CHAPTER NATIONAL MEET

## August 13-15, 1999

Hebron Fairgrounds  
Hebron, CT

Join us on a Saturday road run through scenic Eastern Connecticut, approximately 50 miles long. Bring your bikes and ride 'em.

The Yankee Chapter welcomes the 101 Club as they hold their 1999 National Meet at Hebron. Judging for 101 Club awards at 11:00, Saturday.

Enter your Panhead in the judging for the "Joe Barber Trophy" before Saturday's banquet.

Camping on grounds for A.M.C.A. members and guests. Must show valid A.M.C.A. card to camp or vend.

On site Saturday night banquet  
Food on grounds  
Friday noon - Sunday noon

Motorcycles, parts and related items for sale MUST be 35 years old or older.

"Ride 'Em, Don't Hide 'Em"



#### Vendor Pre-registration:

Bill Campbell  
PO Box 204  
Nutting Lake, MA., 01865  
(978) 670-2378  
after 6 PM

#### General information:

Jessie Aikman  
(603) 749-0450  
Judging Pre-registration:  
Randy Walker  
(508) 867-8097

#### Area Motels

Willow Motor Inn, Rte. 66, Hebron, CT (860) 228-6936  
Best Western Regent Inn, Rte. 195, Mansfield, CT (860) 423-8451  
Quality Inn, Rte. 83, Vernon, CT (860) 646-5700  
White House Motel, Rte. 66, Marlborough, CT (860) 267-6213



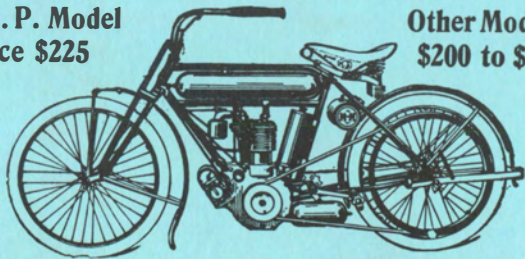
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