

# YANKEE CHATTER – WINTER 2026

Here is our Board of Directors



Left to right. Chris Lenox board member. Grant Cunningham - national meet vendor coordinator. Deb Faucher - treasurer. Diane Stoyanovich- secretary. Peter Grace - president. Ken Herschfield - former board member. Cindy Mesmer - board member. Sue Chiccarelli - board member. Dick Thompson - board member. Tom Covill - board member. Missing from picture – George Kyller.



*Yankee Chapter – Est – 1973*

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## **Rocky Mountain Motorcycle Museum**

By Ken Herschfield

My first rule of travelling for work is never sit in the hotel any longer than I have to. I always try to find something to do or a new place to explore. I had the better part of a day to burn while out in Denver this past October, so I took a drive down to Colorado Springs to check out The Rocky Mountain Motorcycle Museum.

Formerly located at Pike's Peak Harley Davidson, the museum moved to its new home about 5 years ago, currently on the second floor of a building on North Tejon St. The museum is a little AMCA heavy - the President is Jim Wear, who is one of the moderators on the AMCA Facebook page, and board members include a couple of familiar names - Rob Nussbaum from RetroCycle, Anthony Rutledge, and Dennis D'Angelo. I thought I was just going to a motorcycle museum in the Rocky Mountains, so I was pleasantly surprised by the focus on the history of motorcycling in the Rocky Mountains. A good number of the over 80 bikes on display were from the area, and there were extensive photos from the 30's to the '50's of famous racers and enthusiasts and clubs who played a big part in the local scene. There were also photo albums of important motorcyclists from the Colorado Springs area with detailed biographical info, as well as a locals Hall of Fame. Lots of Indian and Harley collectibles were on display, as well as signs, banners, jackets, helmets, and even a few old club cuts.

And the bikes! Ariel, Panther, Triumph, BMW, Honda, etc., plus a lot of our favorite classic American models filled the room. Restored, original paint, modified, stock, mini-bikes, trail bikes, even a drag bike - there was something for everyone. I was admiring an original paint 1935 Chief when I looked at the sign on it that said "Donated by the Ciccalone Family" - what a surprise! There were several beautiful pre-Depression bikes restored by now-deceased Colorado AMCA member Ross Van Etten, including a 1924 Henderson that was so stunning that I forgot to take a picture of it. And to top it off, John D's Cherry Pepper 1956 Harley Davidson FLH, as seen on the cover of a recent AMCA magazine, was in its own room along with some of the owner's spare parts, records, photos and riding gear. Super clean and super impressive!

I wound up spending about two hours in the museum and could have spent even more time there, but I had to get back to business. On the way out, the guy at the front desk asked me where I was headed. I told him Boulder, and he said "Do you know about the Shelby Museum there??" Next trip!

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## Cycles Classic Cafe Museum at Cycles 128!

By Maurice Donini

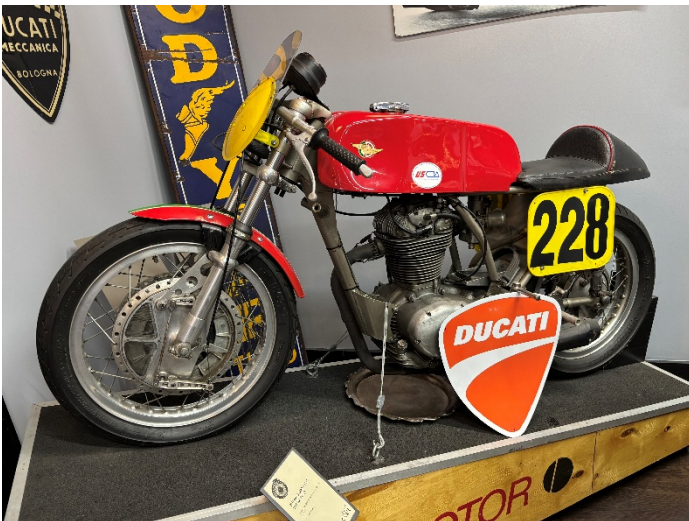
Cycles 128! is a powersports dealership located in Beverly MA. The second floor of the building is the Cycles Classic Café Museum. It's packed with motorcycles, road art and more! The best part – it's free. Pay close attention to the drip pans – sorry Mom.



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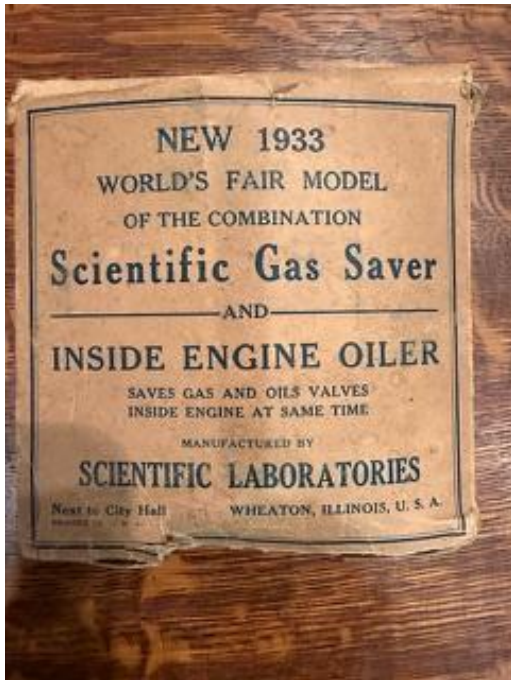
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## Parts from the past - Snake Oil

By Darryl Cutter

In this installation we'll look at a few things that make some great claims. More power, better gas mileage, longer lasting engines, etc.

The Scientific Gas Saver. Save 10% to 50% of gas consumption and oils your valves at the same time! Check out the whirlwind graphic. The downside to this gem is you have to keep buying the bottles of "Inside Engine Oil" at .50 cents a pop.



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“Speedler” - Gives you more power and cools your engine at the same time. I’m not sure how it cools the engine but it must be true...



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## Racing Flyers from the past

By Darryl Cutter



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## A Yankee Chapter member gets a rare treat for helping a friend

By Maurice Donini

Yankee Chapter member Todd Weed received a call from his friend Ben about a rare motorcycle he had purchased in the Netherlands - a 1924 BMW R32. This is BMW's first motorcycle. This 1924 BMW had been part of a family collection for decades and when the family decided to sell, Ben bought it.

But there was some logistics to overcome. Ben lives and works in West Virginia. Although the BMW was pristine cosmetic condition, it hadn't run in a while and needed to be brought back to life. There aren't too many experts on BMW R32's with an estimated 60 remaining. MaxBMW in Connecticut has worked on R32's and has one.

Ben arranged to have the R32 shipped from the Netherlands to Logan airport. This is where Todd comes in. Todd picked up the bike and brought it to MaxBMW in Connecticut. After MaxBMW had completed the recommission and detailed the R32, Todd and his wife Tracey had the pleasure(?) of driving the motorcycle to Las Vegas for the Mecum motorcycle auction.

And for Todd's efforts? He got to take this very rare 102-year-old BMW out for a ten minute ride in the 60 degree weather of Las Vegas. A ride down the strip was contemplated but better judgement prevailed.

Oh, and at auction - this 1924 BMW R32 sold for \$190,000 (\$209,000 with the buyer's premium).



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2026 Mecum motorcycle auction – rare and unusual

By Maurice Donini



Pulse Autocycle



What to do with all that silverware you inherit



The English have an interesting take on sidecars



Early Arlen Ness custom

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Who is ready to set a world record?



Harley FL with sidecar and factory motorcycle trailer



Ducati inline twin – this didn't work out well



The Honda CB750 prototype - one of one

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Two CB125's still in the crate



A Crocker single cylinder Speedway



An Indian Four with automatic transmission



Swiss built Condor A580

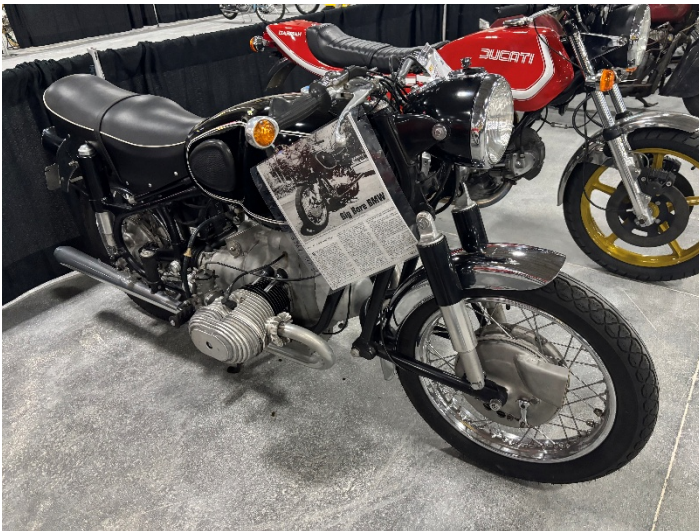
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Ready to go across the country!



Van Veen double rotary engine – 1 of 38



Bored and stroked BMW R69S



Another rare manufacturer - Train