

Yankee Chatter

RIDE 'EM, DON'T HIDE 'EM!



HAPPY 2021 TO ALL YANKEE CHAPTER MEMBERS

Yankee Spirit Award

The Yankees have spoken
and the winner is...

Ken Herschfield!

-Congratulations Ken!

Chapter Membership

2021

As a reminder, the Yankee Chapter board voted to extend chapter membership by one year for all current Yankees as of 2020. That means all memberships are now good through 2021. Here's to a season where we can get together!



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JANUARY 2021 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

For a change, I think we're seeing some light at the end of the tunnel. And it's not an oncoming train! Doctor Fauci tells us we should be able to return to our new normal by late spring or early summer. Today January 01-12-2021 the state of CT started scheduling Covid 19 vaccinations for people 75 or older. Hopefully, the rest of New England will follow suit. That means more Camp & Rides, local events, and best yet a return of National Meets including Terryville.

David Block has volunteered to become our new Newsletter Editor. David and his father, Howard, are well known to many of us. They have been active members of our club for many years. I'm told David and his father have an eclectic collection of over 20 old bikes. David is presently studying Law at UCONN. Let's all welcome him. Please make his job easy by sending him your pictures and anecdotes from our events or better yet stories about your adventures.

While the pandemic forced us to cancel our traditional Christmas Party / Annual meeting, we held our annual meeting via zoom. The highlights of that meeting were:

****One of our most important traditions is to make financial contributions to worthwhile charities and/or to help our members. Our budget for these donations is capped at \$1,500 a year. 2020 has been a difficult year for many of us so this year we decided to overlook this budgetary cap and make four contributions of \$500 each to four of our members that had a rough go of things last year. Andy Bagas, one of the recipients thanked us and asked we hold onto the money and use it to help someone in the future. Now, that's a great example of 'The Yankee Spirit' that keeps us Chapter #1!**

****Three Yankees were nominated to receive this year's Yankee spirit award. I'm pleased to announce that Ken Hershfield was selected to receive the award for 2020. Congratulations, Ken.**

****Unanimously, the Board of Directors recommended we extend everyone's membership for one year for free. When your membership comes up for renewal, we will automatically extend your membership for one year.**

****Each BoD director's term will be extended by one year and we will try to forget 2020 ever happened. New BoD elections will be held at our 2021 annual meeting/Christmas party. The three 2022 open BoD positions will be:**

- President: That's me
- Director #1: That's Peter MacMurray
- Director #2: That's TomTom Covill

Please give some thought to who you would like to serve on the 2022 BoD. You can make your recommendations to Diane, or any member of the BoD, any time before the Christmas Party. You can recommend members to serve in the open Directors' positions and members to join the BoD as Associate Directors. Have you considered nominating yourself? You should. We can use all the help we can get.

JANUARY 2021 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

****To celebrate our 50th anniversary, in 2023, we are planning to hold a National Road Run. This Road Run will be in addition to our traditional events. Tentatively, this Road run will take place in New Hampshire or Vermont. Peter Grace and Dan Margolien are spearheading the project. This type of project takes a lot of legwork. Please help out. Dan and Peter shouldn't have to do all the heavy lifting. Please help. Lend a hand. Do you know of a hotel that can accommodate 100 to 125 of us? How about restaurants? Good roads? Great views?**

****The Terryville Lions have made a few improvements to the Fairgrounds. So far, they've made more room for vending by removing the fenced-in area that was behind our hospitality tent and they've dug a drainage ditch through the Leper Colony. Sorry, Lepers. No more floods. No more free baths. Plan accordingly.**

2019 brought a new National Meet in Trumansburg New York. For a new meet it was a spectacularly good time. As I was leaving, I was asked to buy a souvenir coffee mug for a member. When I got home, I stashed the mug in a safe place then promptly forgot where the safe place was. Now, I can't remember who the member is. If this is your mug, please let me know before I put it another safe place.



JANUARY 2021 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We are living in desperate times. We're mostly stuck at home or at work. By now, most of us have serviced all our bikes. Completed most of our honey-do lists. I know I have. I'm becoming desperate to get my hands greasy. I was so desperate four weeks ago I bought a blown up 50cc Honda Urban Express. Now after only four weeks I'm looking for another project. Last week, I found a 1942 Knuckle Head that really got me excited.



The excitement abruptly ended when I discovered the engine number was '42 WLA ****. Oh well, I guess I'll spend the rest of the winter polishing the little Honda and rebuilding a friend's Columbia Commuter moped



Regardless of how you decide to wait out this pandemic, please be safe and stay healthy. There is light at the end of the tunnel.

-Ted

EDITOR'S PAGE

When I was a kid, I wanted to be a writer. Life has a funny way of providing us with the opportunities to revisit our pasts. I noticed in the last newsletter that the Chatter's editor position was still unfilled, and took it as a sign. There's no harm in chasing once-forgotten dreams, after-all.

Some of you may recognize me (or my bikes) from the few Yankee events I've been able to participate in, but now's the time for an official introduction. I'm 26, young in the eyes of most of us. I started out riding in the sidecar of my dad's Indian as a kid. My free time was dedicated to video games, dirt bikes, quads, snowmobiles and drag races for most of my pre-college days. My first road bike was a 2001 Indian Chief— an awful handling, cantankerous, heavy machine. Since then, I've had a bit of everything I could get my hands on. As of today, we've got 26 bikes in the garage ranging from a 1928 JD to a 2018 CB1000R.

As the Chatter's editor I would like to provide articles on local events & rides, "wrenching" projects, and personal pieces. We all know that there's not a lot of youth in the antique motorcycle scene. I hope to help bridge the generational gap with my efforts as well.

I look forward to meeting fellow members and producing this newsletter. If there is anything you'd like to see, or if you'd like to submit an idea or article, or if you have any feedback, please feel free to contact me at either my personal email address (lockrui@icloud.com) or to the editor's email address (editor@yankeechapter.org). Here's to a healthy year of riding! – David Block



8:15:1

No, that's not some strange paint-mixing ratio, it's a breakdown of last Monday. Eight hours, fifteen pages, one exam.

I'm a full-time law student at UConn Law, with a current focus in Environmental and Intellectual Property Law.

It all started a few years back, when I got the better end of a deal with a lawyer with a vintage car collection at Corvette Carlisle. Dinner at a place of my choosing.

A good deal of conversation happens over a four-course meal, and sometimes we reach epiphanies w/ a mouth full of roasted duck. *Being an attorney doesn't seem all that bad if it means I can afford that collection...*

...and now I'm halfway done. My favorite part? My bikes look great in on-campus pictures.

INTRODUCTIONS



Life on Two Wheels

I was in the staging lanes at Lebanon Valley Dragway. I was twelve. One of the guys ran off, leaving me his pit bike to return to his trailer. I knew how to ride a pit bike, I just didn't know how to ride a pit bike with a manual clutch.

I understood the basic concepts, and I needed to get moving. The cars were starting up in my lanes. I kicked. It fired, I pulled in the clutch, and I let it out— *way too fast*.

Ever seen a kid do a wheelie down a line of race cars in the staging lanes? Ever seen one almost hit the lady with a stroller at the end? Well, I got the POV experience. Somehow, I made it back to the trailer without incident.

That's when I decided I needed to learn. A few weeks later, I had a dirt bike with a manual clutch and I knew how to ride it. I loved it. The rest, is history.

EDITOR'S PAGE CONT'D

Beyond Two Wheels

There's something to be said about motorcycles that can't be captured in a car. Pirsig's written about it, as have countless motorcycle enthusiasts before: There's a certain *feeling* that comes from a two-wheeled machine— a union between Earth, man, and machine.

That being said, there's a *feeling* that I get from my classic cars that isn't quite so strong in bikes. Love? Sentimentality? Nostalgia? I'm a GM guy, with 2 GTO's & a Trans Am. My father's been doing classic car restoration for 50 years, and I inherited something that ties me to the four-wheeled world.

Fair Warning: I'll write about cars on occasion. I promise to keep it to a minimum.

More importantly, I welcome stories about the world beyond two wheels. Whether you're into old tractors or planes, pedal cars, or machinery, it's the collection of all of our interests that makes us.

Lastly, a big hand to Greg, Ken, Chris, & Ted for their help in smoothing out the transition for me.



THIS TIME LAST YEAR : THE 2020 OSEG SHOW @ THE BIG "E"



Last January those of us with cabin fever found a place to go at the 2020 OSEG Motorcycle Show at the Big "E" in Springfield. This year, the show—like many others—has been cancelled.

To those with the itch, keep working on those projects, gather what parts you can, and keep in touch with friends & family. As the President said, there seems to be light at the end of the tunnel. Let's hope that our next newsletter features some 2021 memories. — Dave

AMCA MEEET CIRCA 1960

Antique Motorcyclists Meet At Charlemont

by Ted Hodgdon

TWENTY ONE antique motorcycles of all sizes and types were proudly displayed and ridden by their enthusiastic owners at the Antique Motorcycle Club of America meet, on June 25th and 26th.

The meet was held on the attractive grounds of Goddard's Antique Auto Museum located on the historic and scenic Mohawk Trail at Charlemont in western Massachusetts, and full cooperation was freely and capably rendered to the club by Mr. Stuart Goddard, owner of the museum.

On Saturday afternoon, June 25th, members began arriving, bringing their precious and sparkling old motorcycles by trailer, truck or car. By nightfall, twenty one of the interesting and unusual old-time machines were on the grounds. We were happy to see numerous new members, as well as many newly restored machines, some of them making their "first appearance." Among the motorcycles shown and ridden were a 1903 Kerry made in Bel-

gium, and brought from Toronto, Canada by its enthusiastic owner, a 1905 British Riley also from Canada, a 1928 British Scott, a 1919 British ABC, a 1914 BSA, a 1910 Pierce single belt drive, two early Pierce 4's both having shaft drive, a 1922 Neracar with friction drive, a 1909 Yale with belt drive, a 1909 Indian, a 1903 Indian, a 1914 Henderson, a 1919 Harley-Davidson Sport Model, a 1914 Harley-Davidson Twin, two 1924 Harley-Davidsons, and numerous other unbelievably and beautifully restored old motorcycles.

When darkness came, the group of 34 club members retired to a nearby inn for a delicious dinner and get-together where a color film of early motoring and 60 color slides of antique motorcycles were shown. Members stayed over night at nearby motels.

Early the next morning members were again on the museum grounds running and showing and talking about their prized possessions — these rare old machines representing many hours of painstaking restoration work. A parade was held around the large field in back of the museum, much to the delight of the members as well as the hundreds of spectators who came to see the meet.

The judging was then held and results were as follows:

MOTORCYCLE BROUGHT LONGEST DISTANCE: A 1905 Riley, Charles Emmons of Shutesville, Ont.

BEST RESTORED MOTORCYCLE: A 1909 Pierce 4, Henry C. Wing, Sr., Brier, Mass.

MOST UNIQUE MOTORCYCLE: A 1924 Scott, Henry Wing, Jr., Greenfield, Mass.

BEST RUNNING ANTIQUE MOTORCYCLE RESTORED: A 1910 Pierce, Ted Hodgdon, Nutley, N. J.

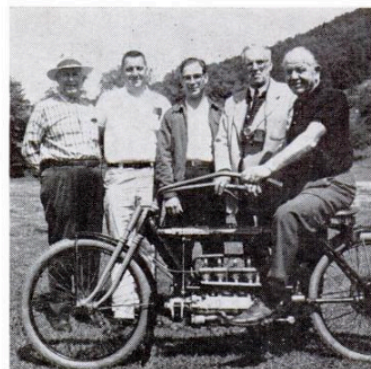
BEST RUNNER UNRESTORED: A 1914 Henderson 4, Kenneth Jones, East Hampton, Conn.

OLDEST MOTORCYCLE AT MEET: A 1903 Kerry, owned by Peter C. Emmons of Toronto, Canada, tied with a 1903 Indian owned by Donnie Wing of Greenfield, Mass.

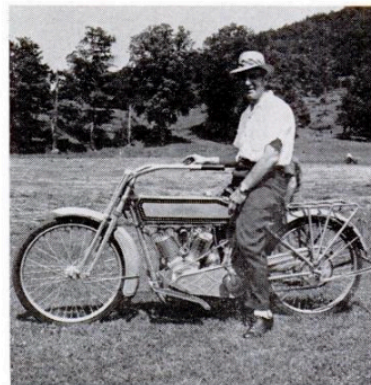
THE TEAM AWARD went to **Leon Landry** and his sons for their three beautiful Harley-Davidsons, a 1924, 1919, and a 1914.

The judges were Thomas Brady, Greenfield, Mass., Jean B. Coutu, Greenfield, Mass., and Gerald Brandt, Queens, Long Island.

The judging and awarding of prizes and trophies did not end the meet, for various members were anxious to chat with each other and to swap rides. The writer was fortunate enough to ride, during the



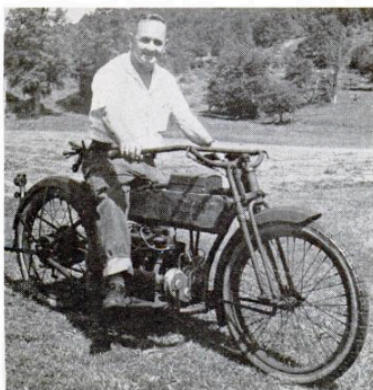
Officers of Antique Motorcycle Club of America with 1913 Pierce Arrow four. Left to right: Ted Hodgdon, Henry Wing, Jr., Earl Chalfont, Henry Wing, Sr., and Mike Steffan. Not shown is Louis Lichva.



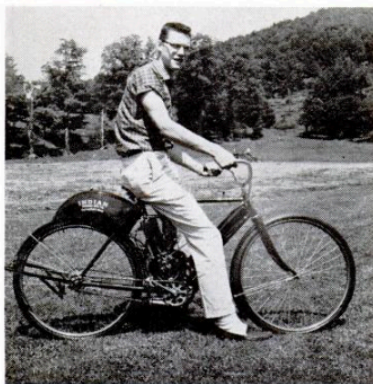
Leon Landry on 1914 single speed twin Harley-Davidson.



Father and son with their prize winners. Peter Emmons, left, with 1903 Kerry and Charles Emmons with 1905 Riley.



Kenneth Jones of East Hampton, Conn., on his 1914 four cylinder Henderson, winner for best runner in unrestored class.



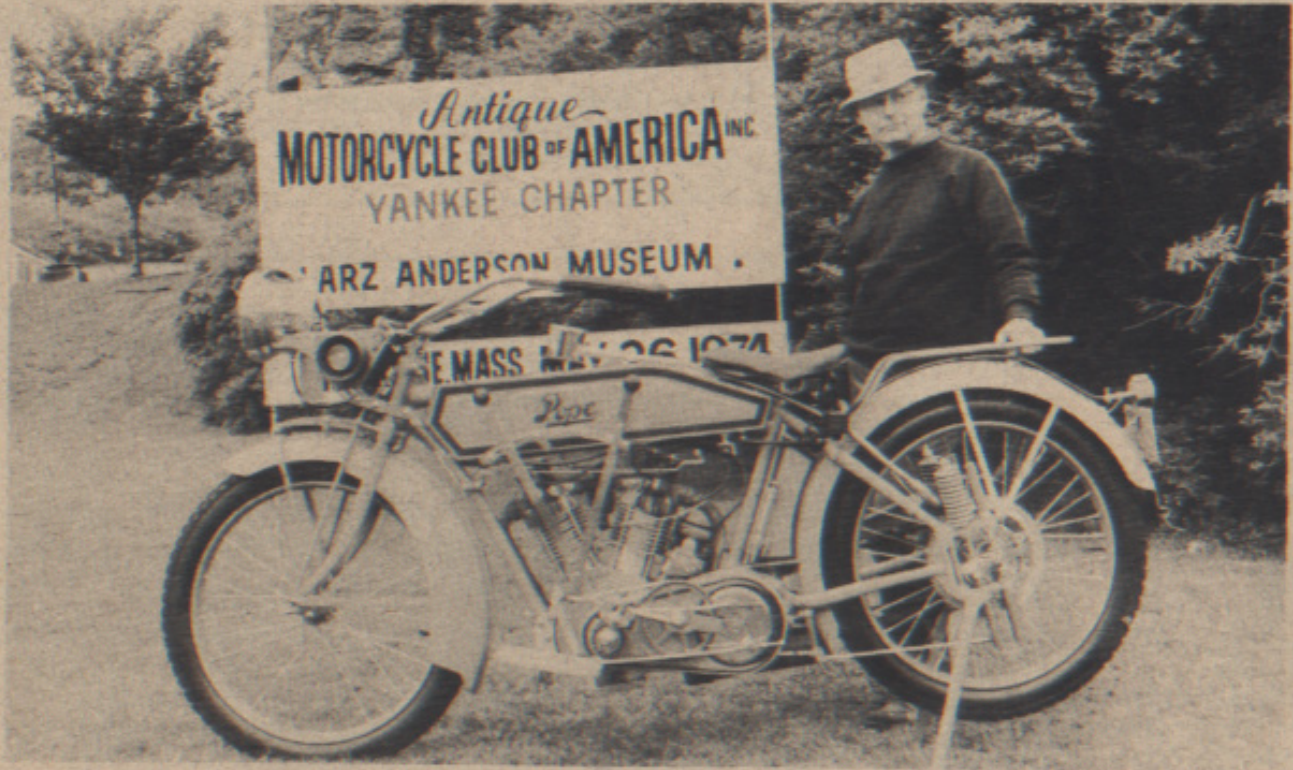
Donnie Wing on prize winning 1903 Indian.

BITSA

Submitted by Chris Lenox

AUGUST, 1974

MOTORCYCLIST'S POST



Al Johnson of Boylston, Ma. with his 1915 POPE. He won the Best Restored.



ANTIQUE MOTORCYCLE BUFFS MEET AT BROOKLINE, MA.

From left, Frank E. Johnson, Henry Wing and Leon J. Landry.

BITS A

Submitted by Chris Lenox

ANTIQUE CYCLISTS MEET AT BROOKLINE

BROOKLINE, MA. — The annual Spring meet of the Antique Motorcycle Assn. was held at the Larz Anderson Museum, May 26th, bringing together scores of antique motorcycle buffs from the Northeast.

Hardy New Englanders complained of the cool, rain showers, mixed with the New England winds. Despite this, a good gathering was on hand for a successful meet, with a few new members joining up.

Mr. and Mrs. Edgar L. Roy were honored at the buffet that was held that evening and were presented an electric clock motorcycle mounted on a decorative mantel base that was made by members of the club. He was also presented a framed photo of himself and his 1904 Fin cycle.

ANTIQUE CLASS

Best Restored: Albert Johnson, Boylston, Ma. - 1915 Pope

2nd Best Restored: Gene Baron, Bayshore, L.I., N.Y. - 1923 H-D

Best Runner Restored: George Jones, W. Bridgewater, Ma. - 1929 Ind 4

Best Runner Unstrd: Giles Adams, N. Weymouth, Ma. - 1924 H-D

Oldest motorcycle: Herb Johnson, Boylston, Ma. - 1918 EXCEL

Brt Longest Dist: Bill Pratt, Reading, Pa. - 1929 Ind Set

Most Unique: Gene Baron, Bayshore, L.I., N.Y. - 1925 H.D. 2CM

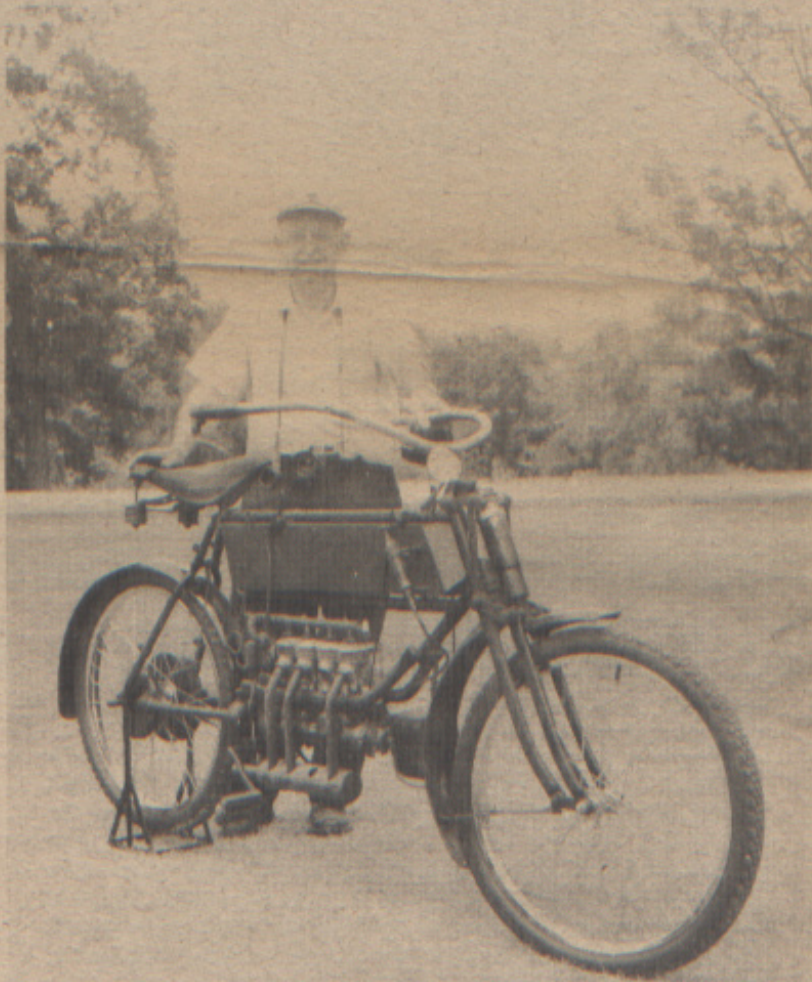
Most Original: Andy Anderson, Cromwell, Conn. - 1929 Henderson

Special Award: Ken Williams, Brockton, Ma. - 1885 Daimler (repl)

POST ANTIQUE CLASS

Most Original: Pat White, Portsmouth, N.H. - 1942 XA H-D

Most Original: Mike Hashem, Dover, N.H. - 1939 H-D & SC



ED ROY & HIS 1904 Fin 4-cylinder

Edgar L. Roy of West Roxbury, Ma. is shown with his 1904 Fin 4-cylinder, shaft-driven Belgium machine.

Antique Motorcycles

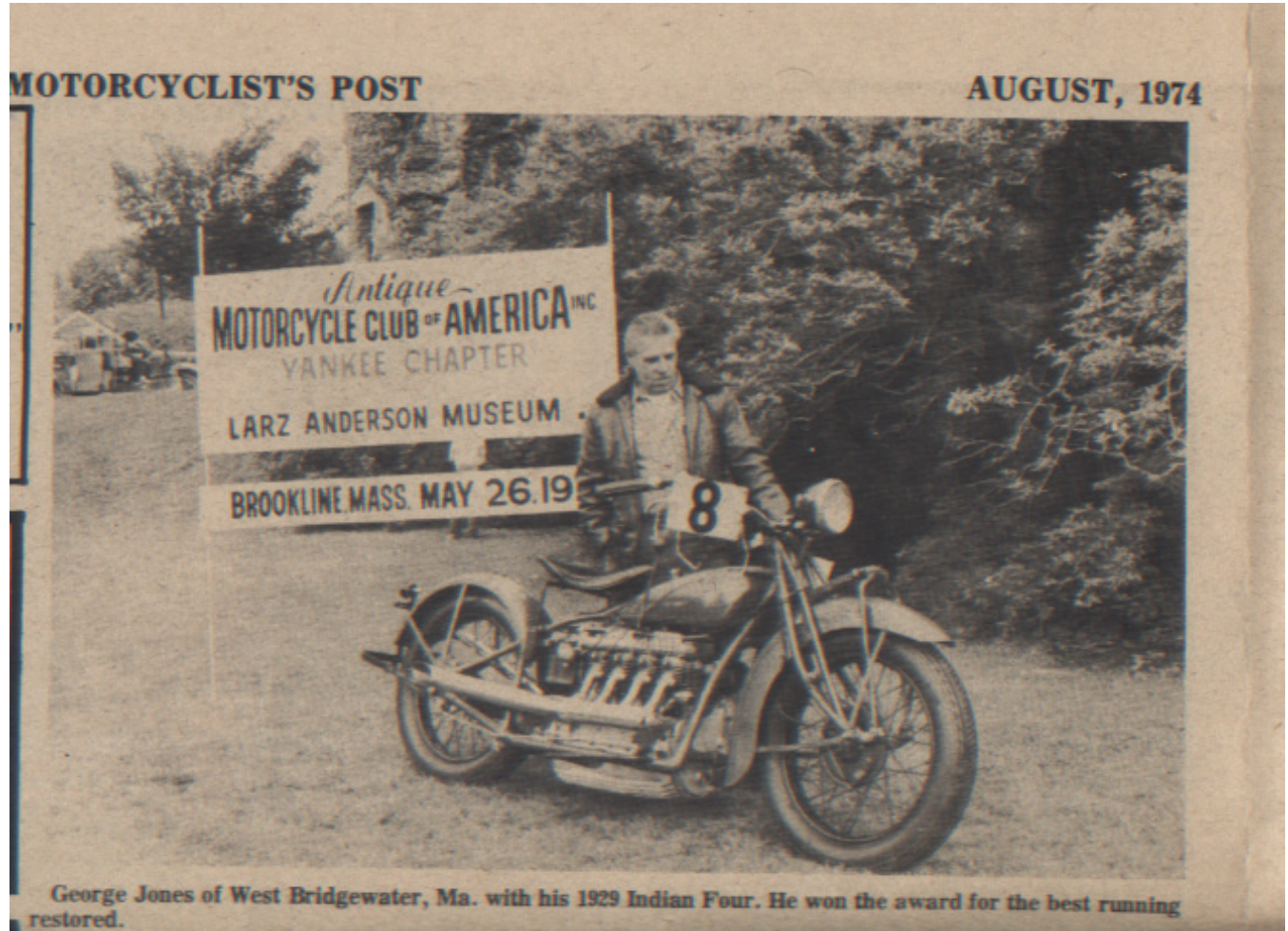
Bought - Sold - Traded

Parts and Complete Cycles



BITSA

Submitted by Chris Lenox



EVENTS & OTHER STUFF

2021 Events

Oley, PA – Perkiomen Chapter National Meet

April 23-24, 2021

Terryville, CT – Yankee Chapter National Meet

August 06-07, 2021

Spencer, MA – Rice-O-Rama

September 12, 2021

Wildwood, NJ – The Race of Gentlemen (TROG)

October 02-03, 2021

Anywhere, USA – Distinguished Gentleman's Ride

May 23, 2021

Laconia, NH – Laconia Bike Week

June 12-20, 2021

East Hartford, CT – UConn Car Club "UC3" Car Show

April 18, 2021

Lake George, NY – Americade Motorcycle Touring Rally

September 21-25, 2021 ***Moved from Usual Date in Early June***

Please send your contributions for :

For Sale, Wanted, or Trades, Other Event Notices, Stories, Articles, Ideas, or Pictures

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