



AMCA EUROPEAN CHAPTER NEWSLETTER
"Having fun with old motorcycles"

January 2024

Hello AMCA Europe Members,

Happy New Year everybody and I hope it's a good one for all of us. The equinox is passed, the New Year has started, the days are getting longer, and we are heading towards another great season of motorcycle enjoyment. This time our main feature is the European program of motorcycle meets, thanks to our Country Ambassadors, plus some musing from me about last year and a couple of bike photos.

Wheels Through Time 15/16 October

Did everyone see my cameo appearance on the WTT video?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c847FsWIOCA>

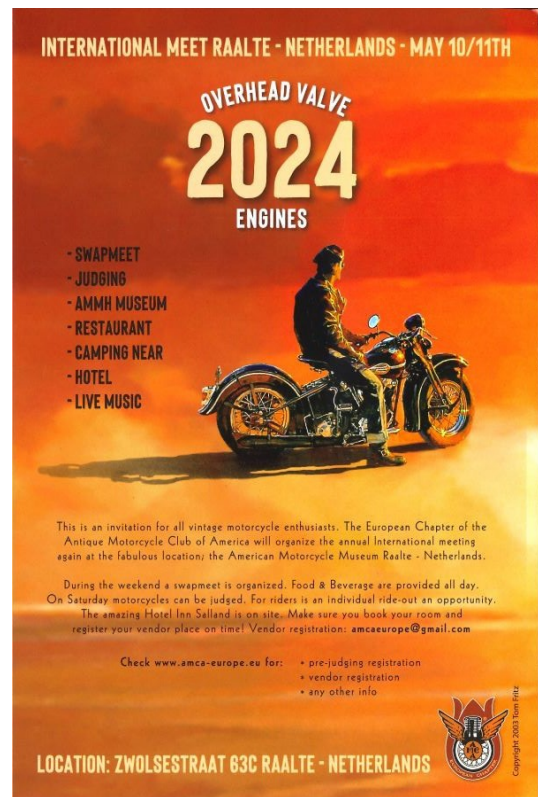
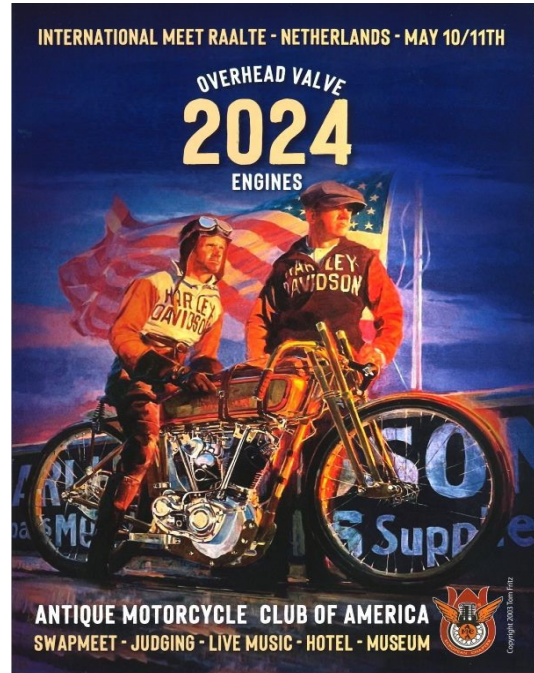
Matt Walksler sure knows how to make those now, and that 1939 Harley flathead is now up and running again.

Raalte Meet

Last year I managed to get to three National Meets at Raalte, Wauseon and Denton, plus the Italy/France and Black Hills Road Runs, but missed the Polish Road Run and the UK Pioneer Run carried over to this year. Cees Visser took two great pictures at Raalte 2023 from the museum balcony which were not used in the magazine article, but are now shown in the Club News section of the AMCA Website. It's worth checking them out.

For this year our theme is Overhead Valves, surely a passing phase, but many of our members own these new-fangled machines, so please bring them along next May 10/11. Here is our flyer:

Don't forget to pre-register if you are planning to bring a bike for judging!



Membership

I see all the Club Express notices about members renewing, and so far we seem to be 100% - thank you. We have a new member in Poland, Jarek Roslik, and here he is with his first American bike:



Jarek says "Currently, I spend all my free time in repairing motorcycles. Especially since I am also repairing my BMW R100RT 1980 travel motorcycle. I am still hoping go somewhere in next year. In this year I have been in Black sea. Long tank repair process in VL - four places where it leaks need to be soldered."

Eightieth D-Day Anniversary

Yes, the military guys are lining up for the celebrations next June, so get your bike fettled and accommodation booked in good time. Here's something I saw locally:



It's a 1942 Welbike, designed in secret at Welwyn in Hertfordshire, and intended to be dropped in a

parachute container. The commandos are then supposed to unfold and pin the handlebars and seat in about 15 seconds so it looks like this:



With a push start it is then ridden to the front line on the 98 cc two stroke engine, with about a quart/litre of fuel and then abandoned. About 3,000 were built, with many surplused as pit bikes or farm transport as there is no front brake. If that is not to your taste, how about this 1940 Matchless G80 in original paint?



The Panhead Years

After the VL Years and the Knucklehead years, it was inevitable that my next project would be the Panhead Years. This is another non-commercial book series to

make period literature available to the next generation. With 18 years of Harley-Davidson Panheads (1948-65) this will be six nearly 500 page volumes covering three years each, and containing every dealer announcement, sales brochure, and Enthusiast magazine, with some technical commentary and pictures of good bikes. If you have a first paint or accurately restored Panhead you would like to see immortalised in print, please contact me at vlheaven@aol.com. Pictures will be full page and all will be credited.

2024 Events

Below is our latest timetable for the year. The AMCA events are firm, but some of the others are provisional, and will be updated as more information is received. Please advise me of any corrections, or additional events you would like to see included. Any events cancelled or postponed are marked with an asterisk (*). Please check with the organisers before travelling any distance.

2024 AMCA National Meets

Feb 02-03 Music City Chapter, Lebanon TN
Feb 29-Mar 02 Sunshine Meet, Daytona FL
Mar 23-24 Omaha Meet, Fremont NE
Apr 26-27 Perkiomen Chapter, Oley PA
May 10-11 European Chapter, Raalte NL
June 14-15 Viking Chapter, St. Paul MN
June 14-15 Fort Sutter Meet, Dixon CA
June 21-23 Can-Am River, Waddington NY
July 19-20 Wauseon Coalition, Wauseon OH
July 26-28 Yankee Meet, Greenfield MA
Aug 24-25 Australian Meet, Bulli NSW
Sep 06-08 Colonial Meet, Harmony NJ
Oct 04-06 Chesapeake Meet, Upperco MD
Oct 11-12 Southern National, Denton NC

2024 National Road Runs

Feb 29-Mar 02 SoCal Chapter, Borrego Springs CA
May 21-23 Cherokee/Diamond, Eureka Springs AR
Aug 13-15 Badger Chapter, Eagle River WI
Sep 23-25 Yerba Buena Chapter, Napa Valley CA
Oct 07-09 Seaboard Chapter, Hamilton NJ

European 2024 Events

Austria

September 03-08 European Bike Week, Faaker See
www.europeanbikeweek.com

Belgium

August 25 Oude Klepper Parade, De Haan

Czech Republic

May 15-19 Harley-Davidson Super Rally, Pasohlavky
www.superrally.com

Denmark

May 09-11, Skagen Run, this time Copenhagen to Skagen, for pre-1935 bikes. Details from
elleham07@gmail.com

Check. Aug tba Laholm Beach Jutland, pre-1947 beach racing and partying www.romomotorfestival.dk

Finland

January 06 Swap (Rompepäivä) in Jyväskylä 250km north from Helsinki. Mostly Japanese and Eastern Europe bike parts, but some vendors of vintage American and British.

February 02-04 in Helsinki: MP 24 is said to be the largest motorcycle exhibition in Northern Europe. More info in English <https://mp.messukeskus.com/?lang=en>

30 March "Walkka Swap" in Helsinki, mostly chopper and later model Harley parts, but occasionally also old rust.

April, date tba. Vintage bike swap "Rompe" in Tampere 180km north of Helsinki

May 04-05 Classic Motor Show, emphasis on vintage cars, but also some old bikes.

mid-July Flathead Rally, Lieto, near Turku in SW. Location and date to be confirmed

July 13-14 (preliminary date) Dirt race for old bikes in Ramsö near Tampere

August 02-04 28-30 Veteraaniralli a big vintage m/c meeting in Keuruu, southern Finland, some 270 km north of Helsinki.

August is the "Pannuralli" meet for Panheads. 60+ km NW of Helsinki. Mostly customized bikes, but some restored, too.

02 November "Walkka Swap" in Helsinki, mostly chopper and later model Harley parts, but occasionally also old rust.

France

Linkert Attacks – *is no more*

Beach racing pre-1947 cars and bikes in Ouistreham, Normandy. Next one is 2025.

www.normandybeachrace.com

Germany

January 14 Winter Classic Bike, Ruesselheim
www.diewerkhalle.de

March 23-24 Technorama Kassel
www.technorama.de

April 12-14 Veterama Hockenheim www.veterama.de

April 27-28 Technorama Ulm www.technorama.de

April 25-28 Retro Classics Stuttgart www.retro-classics.de

May 13/14 Technorama Hildesheim
www.technorama.de

May 30-June 02 Magic Bike Week, Ruedesheim

magic-bike-ruedesheim.com

July tba Velodrom Racetrack Darmstadt, board track racing www.vollgas-rennspass.de

September 13-14 Hindenburg Dirt Track racing
hindenburg-dirt-track.com

Oct 11-13 Veterama, Mannheim. Biggest European swap meet. www.veterama.de Our AMCA stand is open to all members who want to sell their own parts.

Greece

Italy

Jan 19-21 Motor Bike Expo Verona, custom bikes
www.motorbikeexpo.it

June 06-09 European HOG Rally, Senigallia
www.harley-davidson.com

June 13-16 FIVA Italian Rally, Manfredonia
www.fiva.org

October ASI Vintage Vehicle Day, to be announced
www.asifed.it

Netherlands

May 10/11 AMCA European Meet – see you there

June 07-09 Silent Gray Fellows Meet, Oosterhout.
19th meet for pre-1966 American bikes.
www.silentgrayfellows.nl

August. No Old Timers Club International Rally this year.*

tba November Silent Gray Fellows swap meet

Norway

June 08-11 Trondheim rally, from Oslo, 1200 km on pre-1945 bikes www.fiva.org

June 22 Norgsloepet, Bodoe www.fiva.org

August 15-18 Indian Summer Rally, Hunderfossen

www.indianklubb.no

Poland

Here are the proposed dates for Oldtime Club Poland (OCP) events in 2024.

April 26-28 opening of the season. Brzeg (Brodziakówka)

May 23-26 Moto Rally -Kościelisko (Szyna)

July 15-21 Bałkans Tur -Szyna

September 04-08 FIVA Polish rally, Mikolajki 400 km www.fiva.org

September 6-8 Indian Days -Kazimierz Dolny

October 18-20. End of the season OCP

Sweden

Switzerland

March 23 Auction Oldtimer Galerie Toffen <https://www.oldtimergalerie.ch>

April 21 American Bike Meet Ace Cafe Luzern <https://www.acecafeluzern.ch>

April 27-28 Swiss Retro Mecanika Palexpo Geneve <https://retromecanika.ch>

May 03-05 Goudron Bike Days, Brig VS <http://www.goudron.ch>

May 05 Love Ride Switzerland, Dübendorf ZH <https://loveride.ch>

May 19 Harley Davidson Meet, Ace Cafe Luzern <https://www.acecafeluzern.ch> and monthly classic meets <https://www.acecafeluzern.ch/events>

May 19 The Distinguished Gentleman's Ride (in different cities in Switzerland) <https://www.gentlemansride.com>

May 25-26 Arbon Classics <https://arbon-classics.ch/arbon-classics/ac2024/programm2024>

May 31-June 02 Swiss Classic World, Luzern <https://www.swissclassicworld.ch>

June 7-9 Lenzerheide Motor Classics <https://www.lenzerheidemotorclassics.ch>

June 14-16 Race Kerenzerbergrennen <https://www.kerenzerbergrennen.ch>

June 14-16 Harley Davidson Mountain 4StarWeekend Arosa <https://www.waldhotel.ch/de/harley-davidson-mountain-weekend>

June 28-29 Hangar Rocking in St. Stephan <https://www.hangarrockin.com>

June 30 Oldtimertreff Schwägälp <https://www.oldtimertreff-schwaegalp.ch/index.htm>

July 5-7 Swiss Harley Days, Lugano <https://swissharleydays.ch>

August 11-12 Motorfestival by Gasoline Friends, Elgg ZH <https://motorfestival.ch>

August 24-25 Töffmäss by motorworld, Kempthal ZH <https://www.töffmäss.ch>

September 7-8 Memorial Bergrennen "Kleiner Klausen", Opfertshofen SH <https://kleinerklausen.ch>

October 27 Oldtimermesse St. Gallen <http://www.oldtimermesse-ch.com>

United Kingdom

April 20-21 Stafford classic bike show and auction www.staffordclassicbikeshows.com

June 16 Banbury Run, Gaydon, 250 pre-1931 bikes www.vmcc.net

July 08-09 Festival of 1000 bikes, Mallory Park www.vmcc.net

Aug 01-04 International West Kent Run, 250 runners at The Friars, Aylesford, ME20 7BX www.vmcc.net

September 13-15 Beaulieu International
Autojumble/Netley Marsh motorcycle jumble

Oct 06. Pioneer Run, 350 pre-1915 bikes, Epsom
Downs to Brighton.

Oct 12-13 Stafford classic bike show and auction
www.staffordclassicbikeshows.com

European Chapter Directors 2024

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Country Ambassadors

In addition to those Directors marked with asterisks
(*) above, we also have the following country
ambassadors:

Denmark. Michael Pedersen, elleham07@gmail.com

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Spain. Open

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Switzerland. Sandra Froehlich, sandra@mcsands.ch

Bobbers. Paul Jung, pjung@wwag.com

Please volunteer if you would like to be
representative for a country not mentioned. You just
need to know what bike-related events take place in
your country, and answer occasional Email questions.

Don't forget to renew your subscriptions at
www.antiquemotorcycle.org

And keep me up to date if you change Email address.

The next newsletter will probably be in May, so
please keep sending me articles and photos on bike
related items, and safe riding until then.

Stay safe, wishing you happy riding, and best regards,

Steve Slocombe,
President AMCA European Chapter

