



AMCA EUROPEAN CHAPTER NEWSLETTER  
"Having fun with old motorcycles"

March 2022

Hello AMCA Europe Members,

This month we have reports of new bikes in members garages, a membership update, a few words on the big Mecum auction, and a reminder of our May Meet in Raalte.

### What's in the Garage?

From Chris Simmons, UK

This is my 1925 Indian Scout Cut-down 37ci. I bought two basket cases from Calvin Jones at Phoenix back in 2009. A '26 Wall of Death bike and a '25 stock. I pulled the best of the two together to build this bike and put the other to the side.



I handed the bike to Benny Thomas, then of Boneshaker Choppers, now of Mutt Motorcycles based in Birmingham who worked on the overall design and fabrication- my brief was I wanted it to be inspired by the Harley JDH cut-downs – the first of the custom bobber/hotrods of the 1930s. The motor went off to Joe at Blueprint Engineering in Wolverhampton. The seat is a wooden plate racing replica from Saddleworks in the US. The magneto went to Tony Leenes' brother Theodoor in Holland and the paint and gold leaf was laid down by Keith Baker of Classic Cycleworks in Horsham. Roll on a few years of collecting parts (ebay/Walker Machine/Pelders amongst others), dealing with 'many' issues and it finally was returned to me in one piece in early 2016. But in ran like a dog's dinner so in despair I took it to Robin at RTO Engineering in Folkestone who split the cases (slagged everything off

in true Robin style) and rebuilt the engine again plus straightening the frame and forks and fixing the rockers and leaky tank. Started her and rode her properly in July 2016 with a big smile on my face. It was a long time coming but worth it.



In the parts stash was an old number plate which through the rust I guessed at the number FF2426 and with the help of Mike Worthy from Old Bike Mart I sent an enquiry to Gwynedd Council in Wales with the engine number. It was first registered in 1927 by Hugh Llewelyn Williams so I recovered and registered it on the original plate. Result!

The Wall bike was also worked on in the intervening period by John and Steve at Roadstar in Dover but by the time the '25 was built I was skint and had let the '26 go to Steve at Roadstar. Maybe one day she will get back on the wall.... [Editor: This project bike is still for sale]



And here is my (Steve's, UK) latest acquisition, a 1914 Douglas 348 cc fore-and-aft flat twin with a

Pioneer Run eligibility certificate for the run in October.



It's a belt drive machine with no clutch, but with a two speed gearbox. It is started by running alongside, or paddling from the saddle, in gear with the valve lifter up, then dropping the lifter lever. It is early enough to still have a Bosch magneto. The bike runs on the smoky side, so is now up on the bench being checked over. Douglas and Triumph were the most produced British bikes pre-WW1, with many then being used as dispatch rider mounts in France. This one has a frame number in the 16,000s, reaching 40,000 by 1918 after production mostly for the military.

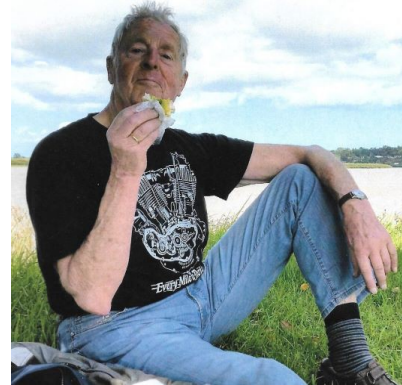
The model continued until the late 1920s, by then marketed as a utility runabout. This machine is fitted with accessory acetylene lighting, which I do not plan to recommission. You can see the bike at our Raalte Meet in May, where our theme is still 'Bikes from the Teens'.

### Membership

Our Chapter membership at the beginning of March was 324, so congratulations to all our Country Ambassadors for retaining and increasing our membership during a long dry spell. I now see a report on renewals and am gratified to see so many long term members staying with us. If you have trouble navigating the Website renewal process just let one of us know, as we have the fallback of Keith Kizer sending you a PayPal request. And don't forget

that two and three year memberships save money and potential renewal hassle.

We have gained members in Italy but lost two long term members. **Ferdy van Rijn** died aged 87 in December after a bicycle accident:



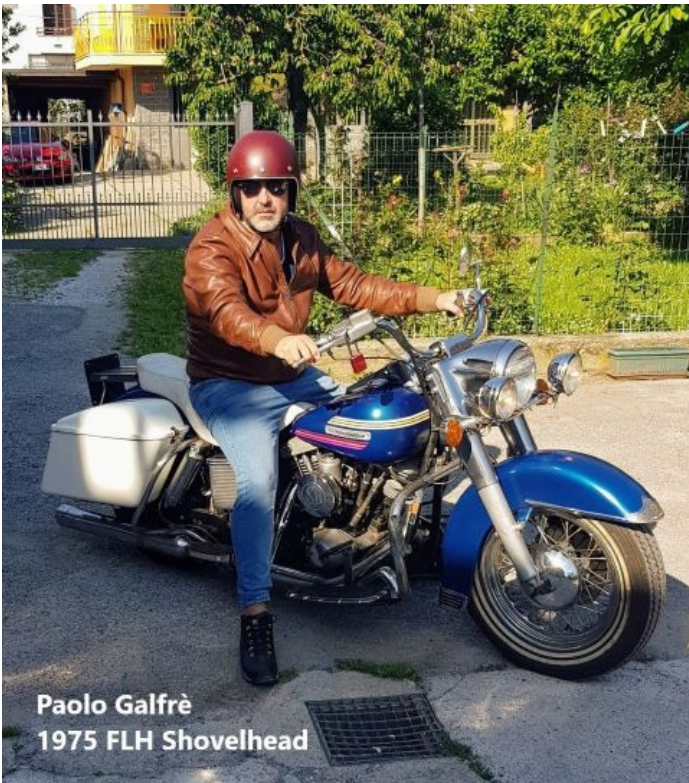
Ferdy was for 50 years the Harley marque specialist for the Dutch Veteran Bike Club, and was still riding his 1916 model 100 km at age 85. He hardly missed an AMCA Meet, and always brought interesting bikes and parts for us to see.

**Uwe Illgner** was also a fixture at our Meets:



He died in Brazil in January, setting out on a journey through Patagonia. We have reports on his long rides through South America in earlier newsletters, and his trip to Peru was a forerunner to the Enrique Pontolillo book he is seen with in the picture. That Indian sidecar outfit of his had 100,000 km of happy riding on it, so he went out doing something he loved.

However, we have gained five new members in Italy, plus two existing ones as follows:





**Fabio Costamagna**  
**1930 VL**



**Luca Geron**  
**1946 FL Knucklehead**



**Francesco Zordan**  
**1939 EL Knucklehead**

Cristiano and Fabio run [www.patina-garage.com](http://www.patina-garage.com) and are the organisers of the Oil Leakers Party in June this year, so contact them for more details.

### **Mecum Vegas Auction**

The Internet will show you the results of about 1300 motorcycles going under the hammer, with a high percentage sold of models of all years and marques. It looks like buyers had been saving up their money and were back with a vengeance. There were no more \$2000 Harley Sportsters this time, but several knuckleheads fetching over \$100k and Indian and Henderson fours more like \$125k. Even Harley two strokes and the 1926-34 B, C and D models were fetching good money. A few Topper scooters found new owners, with record breaking prices for the old JD pocket valve Harleys and the 1930s VL flatheads. I saw two Zundapp K800 flat fours sold, with the Vincent market apparently softening slightly for non-Shadows. Early racers and eight valves with no provenance were easing, but even minor makes with

no reserve will still fetch good prices if finding two buyers bidding in competition.

### **Raalte Meet**

Just a reminder that our European AMCA Meet will be held at the American Motorcycle Museum in Raalte, Netherlands on May 27/28. We have had the last two meetings cancelled, so missed our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary but should be ready to celebrate our 21<sup>st</sup>. The theme remains 'Motorcycles from the Teens' but all machines 35 years old or more are welcome. The on-site hotel is already fully booked, so try De Zwaan in town or other local hotels and camp sites.

If you need a trade stand, Email Martin van Kuijk. All stand holders must be AMCA members. Our Dutch friends are expecting good weather again, so get those old bikes prepared and get ready for more fun!

### **Wauseon Meet**

I received this invitation from Roger Smith, President of the Antique Motorcycle Foundation:

The *Antique Motorcycle Foundation* would like to invite your Chapter Members to attend the inaugural "*Women of Vintage Motorcycling Forum.*" This event is to be held during the 2022 AMCA Wauseon National - July 15 -17. This first of its kind Woman's Forum will be on Saturday, July 16 from 12 noon to 2 pm inside the Junior Fair Building on the Wauseon grounds. It will feature guest speakers, refreshments and women from across the country sharing their decades of motorcycling experiences. More details from [rsmith481@yahoo.com](mailto:rsmith481@yahoo.com).

### **1929-31 Henderson KJ Register**

I am producing a list of the known KJ Streamline bikes, starting from the 1978 AMCA survey, and am up to 150 now. If you are lucky enough to have one of these machines, please send me the engine number and the casting date on top of the gearbox to [vlheaven@aol.com](mailto:vlheaven@aol.com) and I shall send you a copy.

## **2022 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.

### **2022 AMCA National Meets**

February 25-26, Omaha Chapter, Fremont, NE  
March 3-5, Sunshine Meet, New Smyrna Beach, FL  
April 22-23, Perkiomen Chapter, Oley, PA  
May 27-28, European Meet, Raalte, NL  
June 03-05, Empire Chapter, Trumansburg, NY  
June 10-11, Viking Chapter, St Paul, MN  
June 17-18, Fort Sutter Chapter, Dixon, CA  
June 24-25, Colonial Chapter, Harmony, NJ  
July 15-17, Wauseon Meet, Wauseon, OH  
July 30-31, Yankee Chapter, Greenfield, MA  
August 27-28, Australian Chapter, Sydney, AUS  
October 01-02, Chesapeake Chapter, Upperco, MD  
October 14-16, Southern National, Denton, NC

### **2022 AMCA National Road Runs**

September 06-08 Driftless Chapter, La Crosse, WI  
September 14-16 Music City Chapter, Dickson, TN  
September 19-21 Evergreen Chapter, Colville, WA  
September 26-28 Fort Sutter Chapter, Tahoe, CA

### **European 2022 Events**

#### **Austria**

September 06-11 European Bike Week, Faaker See  
[www.europeanbikeweek.com](http://www.europeanbikeweek.com)

## Belgium

May 07. Tour for pre-1966 American Motorcycles.  
Commijn 43A , B-1547 Bever 1-5 pm  
acme.pajol@gmail.com

## Denmark

May 26-28, Skagen Run, this time Copenhagen to Skagen, for pre-1935 bikes. Details from michael\_pedersen76@hotmail.com

July 22-24 34<sup>th</sup> Windmill Rally, Hobro for pre-1941 bikes. w [www.windmillrally.eu](http://www.windmillrally.eu)

Aug 29 Laholm Beach Jutland, pre-1947 beach racing and partying [www.romomotorfestival.dk](http://www.romomotorfestival.dk) (provisional)

## Finland

April 16 Oldtimer Swapmeet, Tampere, about 180 km from Helsinki

## France

Linkert Attacks – *cancelled for 2022\**

24-26 September, beach racing pre-1947 cars and bikes in Ouistreham, Normandy\*  
[www.normandybeachrace.com](http://www.normandybeachrace.com) *moved to 2023*

## Croatia/Slovenia/Italy

to be announced FIVA World Motorcycle Run,  
[www.fiva.org](http://www.fiva.org)

## Germany

March 12/13 Technorama Kassel [www.technorama.de](http://www.technorama.de)

April 23/24 Technorama Ulm [www.technorama.de](http://www.technorama.de)

April 21-24 May Retro Classics Stuttgart  
[www.retro-classics.de](http://www.retro-classics.de)

April 29-May 01 Veterama Hockenheim  
[www.veterama.de](http://www.veterama.de)

May 21/22 Technorama Hildesheim  
[www.technorama.de](http://www.technorama.de)

June 10-12 Pre-1966 Meet Thuringia [amca-europe@aol.de](mailto:amca-europe@aol.de)

June 18 Velodrom Racetrack Darmstadt, board track racing [www.vollgas-rennspess.de](http://www.vollgas-rennspess.de)

Oct 07-09 Veterama, Mannheim. Biggest European swap meet. [www.veterama.de](http://www.veterama.de) Our AMCA stand is open to all members who want to sell their own parts.

## Greece

## Italy

March 11, Harley and Snow Hilleclimb, VALS, Ski Resort Gitschberg Jochtal  
[www.harley.bz.it/de/harley-snow](http://www.harley.bz.it/de/harley-snow)

May 06-08 ASI Motorcycle Meet, Parma

June 24-26 Oil Leakers Party, Maria delle Suria.  
[amca-europe@aol.de](mailto:amca-europe@aol.de)

Jan 26-29 2023 Motor Bike Expo Verona, custom bikes [www.motorbikeexpo.it](http://www.motorbikeexpo.it)

## Netherlands

June 10-12 Silent Gray Fellows Meet, Oosterhout.  
17<sup>th</sup> meet for pre-1966 American bikes.  
[www.silentgrayfellows.nl](http://www.silentgrayfellows.nl)

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

July 29-31 International Indian Rally, Borculo.  
[https://www.indian.nl/evenement-registratie/?action=evrplusegister&event\\_id=37](https://www.indian.nl/evenement-registratie/?action=evrplusegister&event_id=37)

## Norway

## Poland

All events pending

## Romania

July 14-18 FIVA World Motorcycle Rally, Bucharest  
[www.fiva.org](http://www.fiva.org)

## Slovenia

June 10-13, HOG International Rally, Portoroz  
[Harley-Davidson HOG Rally, Portoroz, Slovenia, 2022 | Tour1](http://Harley-Davidson HOG Rally, Portoroz, Slovenia, 2022 | Tour1)

## Sweden

June 1-5 Harley Superrally, Oland. [www.superrally.se](http://www.superrally.se)

## Switzerland

April 23/24 Swiss Historic Vehicle Days  
<https://shvf.ch/de/>

April 29 – 01 May Goudron Bike Days  
<https://www.goudron.ch>

May 01 GP Mutschellen [www.gpmutschellen.ch](http://www.gpmutschellen.ch)

May 21/22 Arbon Classics [www.arbon-classics.ch](http://www.arbon-classics.ch)  
May 27-29 Swiss Classic World  
<https://www.swissclassicworld.ch>

June 10–12 Motor Classics Lenzerheide  
[www.lenzerheide-motorclassics.ch](http://www.lenzerheide-motorclassics.ch)

June 10-12 Harley Davidson Mountain 4StarWeekend  
Arosa <https://www.waldhotel.ch/de/harley-davidson-mountain-weekend>

June 17–19 Kerenzerberg Race Mollis  
[www.kerenzerbergrennen.ch](http://www.kerenzerbergrennen.ch)

July 01/02 Hangar Rocking in St. Stephan  
[www.hangarrockin.com](http://www.hangarrockin.com)

August 06 Klausenmemorial  
<https://www.diavolomotorclassic.ch>

## United Kingdom

April 23-24 Stafford classic bike show and auction  
[www.staffordclassicbikeshows.com](http://www.staffordclassicbikeshows.com)

June 19 Banbury Run, Gaydon, 450 pre-1931 bikes  
[www.vmcc.net](http://www.vmcc.net)

July 16-17 Festival of 1000 bikes, Mallory Park  
[www.vmcc.net](http://www.vmcc.net)

Aug 04-08 International West Kent Run, 310 runners  
at The Friars, Aylesford, ME20 7BX [www.vmcc.net](http://www.vmcc.net)

September 10-11 Beaulieu International  
Autojumble/Netley Marsh motorcycle jumble

Oct 09. Pioneer Run, 350 pre-1915 bikes, Epsom  
Downs to Brighton.

Oct 15-16 Stafford classic bike show and auction  
[www.staffordclassicbikeshows.com](http://www.staffordclassicbikeshows.com)

### **European Chapter Directors 2022**

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Martin van Kuijk, Treasurer, [amcaeurope@gmail.com](mailto:amcaeurope@gmail.com)

Peter Reeves, Assistant Chief Judge,  
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Dave van der Linden, Director,  
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Steve Slocombe,  
President AMCA European Chapter

### **Country Ambassadors**

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



Denmark. Michael Pedersen, [elleham07@gmail.com](mailto:elleham07@gmail.com)

Finland. Fiskis Ekman, [fiskis@kolumbus.fi](mailto:fiskis@kolumbus.fi)

France. Stuart Graham, [harleyman3@wanadoo.fr](mailto:harleyman3@wanadoo.fr)

Latvia. Juris Ramba, [ramoto1992@gmail.com](mailto:ramoto1992@gmail.com)

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Switzerland. Sandra Froehlich, [sandra@mcsands.ch](mailto:sandra@mcsands.ch)

Bobbers. Paul Jung, [pjung@wwag.com](mailto: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](http://www.antiquemotorcycle.org)

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

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

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