



AMCA EUROPEAN CHAPTER NEWSLETTER
"Having fun with old motorcycles"

September 2023

Hello AMCA Europe Members,

This time we have reports on the Wauseon Meet in the USA, the West Kent Run in England, and motorcycle get-togethers in Norway and Germany.

Wauseon Meet 13-15 July 2023

I flew in Wednesday and was at the Fulton County fairgrounds bright and early on Thursday morning. This was set-up day, and I was there to supervise the judging, held for the first time on a Saturday rather than the Sunday. I was lucky to ride around the show in a golf cart with Carl Olson, inevitably looking for knucklehead sheet metal parts, but drawing a blank while I was with him. I hadn't been at Wauseon for some years, and every few yards we would stop to say hello to another acquaintance that I hadn't seen for a while. Matt and Brittney Olsen were also with Carl, plus a grandchild, and with Brittney later organising the Saturday field games and bicycle events.

Thursday afternoon I retired to the Arts and Crafts building where Joe McGarry, Dr Denise Rich-Gross and I started checking in the pre-registered bikes to make sure they ran and that the paperwork was in order. It was a nice dry day, so I encouraged owners to line up their bikes on the main field on Friday to integrate judging with the show.

We had a good turnout of all makes, both restored and unrestored, with many visitors admiring the machines.



My latest book is on the 1919-23 Harley-Davidson Sport model, and Tom Wilcock brought his 1920 model down from Canada to Wauseon to demonstrate.



Here he is balancing a coin on edge on the tank with the engine running. So that 'vibrationless' 37 cubic inch/600 cc fore-and-aft flat twin still works like it did over 100 years ago.

Talking of technical history, Bob Chantland showed me this Cyclone cylinder head:



What a jewel! As Bob said, Cyclone went out of business in 1916, and this remains the first, last, and only motorcycle engine ever manufactured in the USA with bevel driven overhead cam and hemi heads.

Friday night it was the flat track racing, with this XR750 outside to tease us.



The main event for me was a 'grudge match' on Harley KR750s between Joe Roeder's two sons, with a carefully staged four lap race with much overtaking

ending with a win by a head and the whole crowd in the grandstand on their feet yelling. I also enjoyed the board track and hand shift racing, with some of the heats having up to 18 starters, so this is a race event for both spectators and competitors.

Saturday it rained most of the day, so we were back in the building for the judging. After hot breakfast rolls (those were good) and some introductory remarks, a team of experienced judges fell on the bikes and we were finished and with the 44 awards handed out by noon. I spent the afternoon shopping and saying goodbyes, and that was another enjoyable AMCA Meet over until next time.

International West Kent Run

This is a well established British VMCC event in South East England which attracts entries from the near continent. The age limit is set at the FIVA 30 years old, half way between the VMCC 25 and the AMCA 35. There were 319 entries but it poured with rain on 05 August so I attended the show on the following day. Examining the 1927 motorcycle registration numbers, it looks like Britain had 18 times more bikes per capita than the US, so we see many surviving marques. Here is the Vincent Club showing:



And the Scott Club with their water-cooled two strokes:



The German military motorcycles put on this line-up, with a Zundapp sidecar outfit at the front:



There were similar display from the Velocette Club, Ariel, BSA, Japanese, Indian Clubs and so on, plus a swap meet. I saw again the 1897 Leon-Bollee from the Pioneer Run, plus these two unusual items:



This is a PV from this London-based company operating 1910-25. They fitted various bought-in engines into their sprung frame, and this looks like a 247 cc Villiers in an early 1920s machine.



And here is a once-common 1950s Norman, with this 1937-61 company making many similar autocycles equipped with a 98 cc Villiers engine.

International Indian Rally

This was held in the Telemark region of central southern Norway 03-06 August. Here are some of the entrants on a ferry across a Norwegian lake. The group includes riders from Portugal, Sweden and England, some of them having driven five days through rain to get to the rally:



It also rained during the ride-out as we can see:



But great scenery of trees and lakes, with winding roads for these old bikes to negotiate.

German pre-1966 Rally

Claudia Krause reports:

This year we really had great weather 11-13 August at our Pre-66 Meet. The new location in the area of 'National Park Hunsrück' is close to Trier and allows nice ride-outs along the Mosel valley. The hotel offered also a small camping area and a great beer garden, where we could line up our motorcycles.

During the weekend we had around 50 bikes, mostly Harleys and Indians. Participants came from all over Germany and also from the Netherlands. Heinz came in on his 1945 Indian Chief, 1200 cc, Original Army edition with radio, siren and other nice features:



Romo Beach Racing

Claudia also reports that the Romo Motor Festival in Denmark took place over the weekend of 18-20 August. Among many other participants with vintage cars and bikes also our members Norbert Mattis and Andreas Roehrs raced their Knuckleheads.



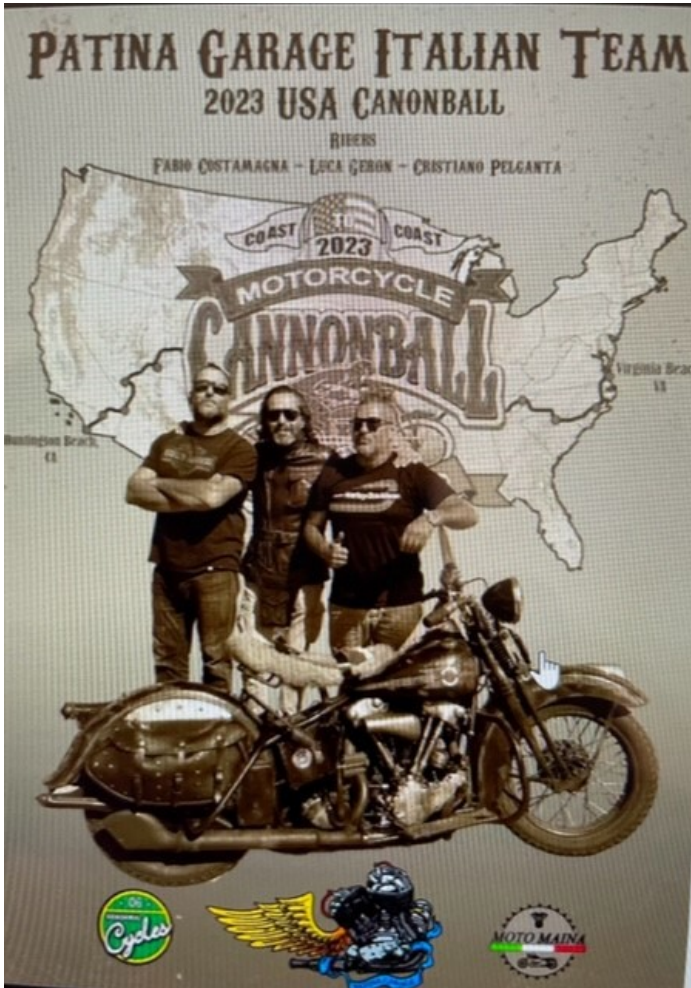
For more information visit

<http://www.romomotorfestival.dk>

https://www.instagram.com/romo_motor_festival/

Cannonball Run

Three of our Italian members - from Langhe Hills Chapter Italy - will participate in the Motorcycle Cannonball this year. The poster shows (from left to right): Fabio Costamagna, Luca Geron and Cristiano Pelganta.



The bikes they will be riding are:

- # 107 - Cristiano on a 1929 JD
- # 112 - Luca on a 1926 JD
- # 118 - Fabio on a 1930 V

The Motorcycle Cannonball is a coast-to-coast endurance run, this year on pre-1933 bikes only. It starts in Virginia Beach, VA on Sep. 7th and will lead to Oceanside, CA where the Grand Final will be on Sep. 24th.

You can follow the run and the riders every day on different social media channels, for example https://www.instagram.com/mc_cannonball/ or <https://www.youtube.com/c/MotorcycleCannonball>

Good luck to our Italian riders!

2023 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.

2023 AMCA National Meets

- February 24-25, Omaha Chapter, Fremont, NE
- March 02-04, Sunshine Meet, Daytona Beach, FL
- April 28-29, Perkiomen Chapter, Oley, PA
- May 19-20, European Meet, Raalte, NL
- June 02-04, Empire Chapter, Waddington, NY
- June 09-10, Viking Chapter, St Paul, MN
- June 16-17, Fort Sutter Chapter, Dixon, CA
- July 14-16, Wauseon Meet, Wauseon, OH
- July 28-30, Yankee Chapter, Greenfield, MA
- August 12-13, Australian Chapter, Bulli, AUS
- September 08-10, Colonial Chapter, Harmony, NJ
- September 29-30, Chesapeake Chapter, Upperco, MD
- October 13-15, Southern National, Denton, NC

2023 AMCA National Road Runs

- June 12-14, Allegheny Chapter, Wellsboro, PA
- July 31-August 02 Yankee Chapter, S Deerfield, MA
- September 5-7, Black Hills Chapter, Deadwood, SD
- September 11-13 Sunflower Chapter, El Dorado, KS

European 2023 Events

Austria

May 11-14 Tourist Trophy run 350 km. Brunn am Gebirge. www.fiva.org

September 05-10 European Bike Week, Faaker See www.europeanbikeweek.com

Belgium

August 20 Oude Klepper Parade, De Haan

Denmark

May 18-20, Skagen Run, this time Skagen to Copenhagen, for pre-1935 bikes. Details from elleham07@gmail.com

Aug 19-21 Laholm Beach Jutland, pre-1947 beach racing and partying www.romomotorfestival.dk

Finland

January 14 Swap (Rompepäivä) in Jyväskylä 250km north from Helsinki. Mostly Japanese and Eastern Europe bike parts, but some vendors of vintage American and British.

February 03-05 in Helsinki: MP 23 is said to be the largest motorcycle exhibition in Northern Europe. More info in English <https://mp.messukeskus.com/?lang=en>

March A medium size swap "Maalissaalis" in Tuulos 80 km north of Helsinki.

April Vintage bike swap "Rompe" in Tampere

May 06-07 Classic Motor Show, emphasis on vintage cars, but also some old bikes.

July 15-16 Flathead Rally, Lieto, near Turku in SW.

July 28-30 Veteraaniralli a big vintage m/c meeting in Raasepori, southern Finland, some 120 km west of Helsinki.

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

November big Vintage bike swap in Forssa 130 km NW from Helsinki and the "Walkka Swap" in Helsinki, mostly chopper and later model Harley parts, but occasionally also old rust.

France

Linkert Attacks – *cancelled for 2023**

22-24 September, beach racing pre-1947 cars and bikes in Ouistreham, Normandy www.normandybeachrace.com

Germany

January 15 Winter Classic Bike, Ruesselheim

February 23-26 Retro Classics Stuttgart www.retro-classics.de

March 25/26 Technorama Kassel www.technorama.de

April 22/23 Technorama Ulm www.technorama.de

April 14-16 Veterama Hockenheim www.veterama.de

April 23, 120 years of Harley-Davidson exhibition. Central Garage, Bad Homburg www.central-garage.de

May 13/14 Technorama Hildesheim www.technorama.de

June 08-12 Magic Bike Week, Ruedesheim magic-bike-ruedesheim.com

July 01 Velodrom Racetrack Darmstadt, board track racing www.vollgas-rennspass.de

August 11-13 Pre-66 Meet Mosel/Hunsrueck
amca-europe@aol.de

08-09 September Hindenburg Dirt Track racing
hindenbergdirttrack.com

Oct 13-15 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

May 24-28. Harley-Davidson Super Rally, Igoumenitsa www.superrally.com

Italy

Jan 27-29 Motor Bike Expo Verona, custom bikes
www.motorbikeexpo.it

May 28-02 June Langhe Hills Chapter Road Run

cristiano@patina-garage.com/
fabio@patina-garage.com/amca.europe@aol.de

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

Netherlands

May 19/20 AMCA European Meet – see you there

June 09-11 Silent Gray Fellows Meet, Oosterhout.
18th meet for pre-1966 American bikes.
www.silentgrayfellows.nl

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

05 November Silent Gray Fellows swap meet

Norway

Poland

June 18-20. HD Wolsztyn 2023

Sweden

Switzerland

April 30 GP Mutschellen www.gpmutschellen.ch

May 05-07 Goudron Bike Days, Brig VS
<https://www.goudron.ch>

May 07 Love Ride Switzerland Dübendorf ZH
<https://loveride.ch>

May 07 US Cars & Bikes Meet AP café Aadorf TG
<https://www.apcafe.ch>

May 21 The Distinguished Gentleman's Ride (in different cities in Switzerland)
<https://www.gentlemansride.com>

June 02-04 Swiss Classic World Luzern
<https://www.swissclassicworld.ch>

June 02-04 Motor Classics Lenzerheide
<https://www.lenzerheidemotorclassics.ch>

June 16-18 Harley Davidson Mountain 4StarWeekend Arosa
<https://www.waldhotel.ch/de/harley-davidson-mountain-weekend>

June 30-July 01 Hangar Rocking in St. Stephan
<https://www.hangarrockin.com>

United Kingdom

April 22-23 Stafford classic bike show and auction
www.staffordclassicbikeshows.com

June 18 Banbury Run, Gaydon, 250 pre-1931 bikes
www.vmcc.net

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

Aug 04-07 International West Kent Run, 250 runners at The Friars, Aylesford, ME20 7BX www.vmcc.net

September 01-03 Beaulieu International Autojumble/Netley Marsh motorcycle jumble

Oct 01. Pioneer Run, 350 pre-1915 bikes, Epsom Downs to Brighton.

Oct 14-15 Stafford classic bike show and auction
www.staffordclassicbikeshows.com

European Chapter Directors 2023

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Country Ambassadors

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

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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 November, 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

