



AMCA EUROPEAN CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

"Having fun with old motorcycles"

March 2023

Hello AMCA Europe Members,

There were no shows for me to attend over the winter, but perhaps some of you were working on restoration projects. Please send me your stories for next time. Meanwhile, we look at the results of the big Las Vegas auction, review judging developments, welcome new members, and again remind you of our May meeting in Raalte.

Auction Results

The Mecum auction in late January in Las Vegas gives a snapshot of what is happening in the old bike world. The top ten results will already be known, but the star was \$935k for a 1908 Harley-Davidson. Values include the 10% buyers premium. A 1938 Vincent Series A twin fetched \$330k, with two 1925 BMWs making \$220k each. After that it was four cylinder motorcycles, with two ACEs, two Hendersons, a Zundapp K800 and an Indian 402 fetching from \$214k to \$159k.

Even at these rarefied levels there were unsold machines with six figure bids on them, and I sensed a certain optimism in setting reserve values. There were also fifteen collections included in the sale, as the older guys take the money while there are still younger guys out there to buy. In a 5-day sale of over 1500 motorcycles, some prices were hard to explain and a keen buyer with plenty of money, transport, and storage space could have filled a barn with well priced motorcycles.

There were plenty of smaller bikes under \$2000 if you need a starter antique. Several small Hondas went cheaply and a couple of 1960s Benlys could have made more. Bikes that caught my eye were a 1928 ohv Harley peashooter at \$50k, a 1923 Indian Powerplus at \$40k, two 1973 Triumph Hurricane triples at \$20k and \$22k, a nice military 42WLA at \$35k, and a Weslake speedway mount at under \$4k.

Custom bikes were out of favour, with a 2005 Arlen Ness chopper at \$15k and several others unsold. My constant tip for a budget four cylinder antique still works, with a 1950s Ariel Square 4 fetching \$12k. If you want speed on a budget, a Suzuki Hayabusa fetched \$7k and one of those monstrous 3 cylinder Triumphs the same amount.

There were plenty of Harleys sold, with Hummers, Scats, Pacers, M-90s and Toppers all present among the V-twins.

Nostalgia was in the air, as two bidders took a 1954 Allstate 175 up to \$16k, while there must have been a similar tussle for a Yamaha FS1E to make \$13k. Commonsense seems to have returned to the Harley knuckleheads, with six sold under \$50k each, four of them '47s. There were 1937, '38 and '39 ULs sold for reasonable prices, possibly to reappear as early knuckleheads next time.

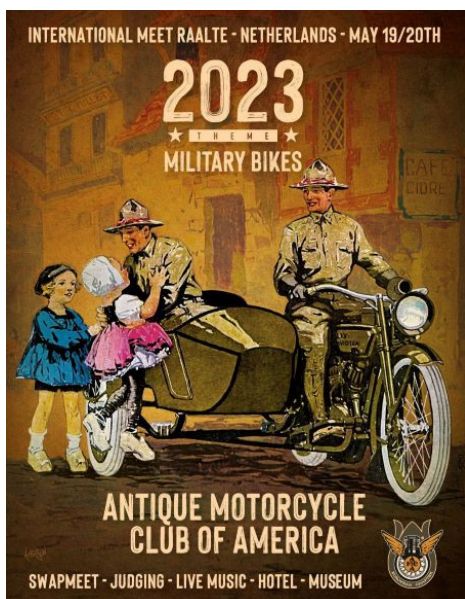
You can log on to the Mecum website and spend time on might-have-beens with 61 pages of auction results, but at this event it seems to me as if buyers and sellers were pretty evenly matched.

Judging News

On 19 January, Club President Ross Metcalfe asked me to stand in as Chief Judge for the next season or so, and that gave me plenty to do. The new Judging Handbook has been approved by our Board and posted on the Website, and is worth a read for all those interested in factory correct motorcycles. Pete Reeves and I will be bringing hard copies to Raalte for our judges' back pockets. We've redrafted the guidance to Event Chief Judges, Chapter Deputy Judges and Judging Administrators and circulated them to all concerned. We have now completed judging at the Nebraska and Florida Meets, with x bikes successfully judged.

European Chapter Meet

Our Meet this year is a week earlier at May 19-20 so put this in your diary now! Here is the flyer.



The theme is Military Bikes, and I know we have plenty in our Chapter, so please bring them out. I've found my WW1 dispatch rider uniform, so will be posing for pictures with my 1914 Douglas. All motorcycles more than 35 years old are of course welcome. If you want to enter a bike for judging, **please note that all machines should be pre-registered with a 21 day lead time.**

Check at www.antiquemotorcycle.org for details. Our Club President is visiting for the first time, so let's try to put on our usual excellent show.

New Members

We welcome

- Troels Madsen from Lenvig, Denmark
- Philippe Blot from Saint Malo, France
- Franck Bucelloni from Saint Macaire, France
- Frédéric Lasserre from Baix, France

Thanks for joining our great Club, and hope to see you at Raalte in May.

1919-23 Harley Sport Model

Few of you will have heard of this 600 cc fore-and-aft flat twin model, no doubt inspired by the British Douglas. Nearly 10,000 were built, but the bike was overshadowed by the Indian Scout in its home market and few survive today. I'm writing a 55 page book on the model, so that all Harleys up to 1965 are documented by AMCA members. If you have information or a bike, please contact me at vlheaven@aol.com. Here's a picture of a 1920 Sport in case you haven't seen one before.



Fire Extinguishers

Do you remember that recent article in the AMCA magazine about miniature fire extinguishers for your motorcycle? Mark Oterdoom will be bringing a couple to Raalte if you'd like to see what they look like and where to buy them. He will not be demonstrating them.

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.

April 23 in Germany, Central Garage are having a free exhibition of 120 years of Harley-Davidson, and trying to show examples from each year. Here is the flyer:



120 JAHRE HARLEY-DAVIDSON!

Harley-Davidson – das ist amerikanischer Lebensstil zum Fahren. Und das seit mittlerweile 120 Jahren! Für uns ein würdiger Anlass, um die älteste Motorradmarke der Welt mit einer Ausstellung zu ehren.

Die startet von den Anfängen in einer kleinen Hütte in Milwaukee bis heute. Wir erzählen Ihnen die faszinierenden Geschichten anhand rund 60 Exponaten aus allen wichtigen Epochen und machen so die Faszination, die die Marke umgibt, für Sie greifbar und lebendig.

Diese Ausstellung startet am 23. April und dauert bis Mitte Dezember. Seien Sie gespannt auf besondere Ausstellungsstücke und begleitende Aktionen, wie Sternfahrten, Führungen und Treffen.

Schauen Sie immer mal wieder auf unsere Website und bleiben Sie informiert.

Der Eintritt ist frei.

Wir freuen uns auf Ihren Besuch!



www.central-garage.de

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
June 23-24, Colonial Chapter, Harmony, NJ
July 14-16, Wauseon Meet, Wauseon, OH
July 28-30, Yankee Chapter, Greenfield, MA
August 12-13, Australian Chapter, Bulli, AUS
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/](mailto: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

All events pending

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 08. Pioneer Run, 350 pre-1915 bikes, Epsom Downs to Brighton. (*provisional*)

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

European Chapter Directors 2023

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peter.reeves@virgin.net

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jan.vander.werff@hetnet.nl

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amca.europe@aol.de

Cees Visser, Director, ceesvisser57@hotmail.com

Dave van der Linden, Director,
davelind74@hotmail.com

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

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

Finland. Fiskis Ekman, fiskis@kolumbus.fi

France. Stuart Graham, harleyman3@wanadoo.fr

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Spain. Enrique Castells, e_castells@yahoo.es

Sweden. Stefan Olovsson, stefan.indian@telia.com

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 June, so please keep sending me articles and photos on bike related items, and safe riding until then.