



AMCA EUROPEAN CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

May 2019

Hello AMCA Europe Members,

Another short report this time, most of it covering the Oley Meet, with reminders for our own Raalte Meet later this month.

Oley Meet

Once again the Perkiomen Chapter hosted another great meet in Pennsylvania late April. I flew into Newark on Wednesday 24th and drove down the next morning with my pal John from New Jersey, arriving midday to find the show underway. In nearly 20 years attending this show the weather has been all over the place, but this time it was say 60F and rainy on Thursday afternoon and Friday, with strong winds on Saturday.

We had brought a Harley 36VLH 80 cubic inch Police bike for judging, and I was determined to take it down the eighth mile drag strip at the nearby Reading Motorcycle Club on Friday evening. In my (felt) Club jacket and jeans, I drove the bike the 2 km to the strip in steady rain and parked under the staging shelter. It was a ten minute wait in the timing shed with a couple of ladies before we were told the run was cancelled, darn! However, one of the ladies was the flag girl, so we faked up this picture a few minutes later:



Yes, I could have taken that lady on the Sportster, even with the tall 100 mph gearing which meant I probably wouldn't get out of first gear on the run!

Right after the picture was taken there was lightning in the darkened sky, a crack of thunder, and the rain started coming down like stair rods. I rode the bike back to the show with water running like a stream across to road and got soaked to the skin, with the jacket taking two days to dry out in the van. That reminded me of the last day of the Texas Road Run three back, when I rode John Nixon's borrowed 36VLH in pouring rain on the last day but still had a blast. Amazingly John and his wife were at the Oley show attending his wife's High School Reunion, so I was able to thank him again for taking the bike back muddy and soaking wet with 500 fresh miles on it.

Saturday morning I chatted with Club President Ross Metcalfe, Chief Judge Don Dzurick, retired Archivist Bruce Lindsay, did some judging, and enjoyed the show of four cylinder bikes. Here are some late skirted Indian Fours racked up outside for our enjoyment:



Even though the Perkiomen Chapter had shamelessly borrowed our four cylinder theme, I don't think we'll see any of their bikes at our Meet in the Netherlands at month end. I saw Chapter members from Sweden, Finland, Norway, Germany, Austria, Netherlands and the UK, all enjoying the early season air fares and scavenging for those hard to find parts. Great!

Raalte Reminder

Our May Meet is rushing towards us, and our Dutch directors have arranged for the hotel courtyard to be covered again this year, which will make for a convivial

setting for the evenings. Our theme is four cylinder bikes, and we are still trying for ten ACE machines from the 1920s, but you won't be turned away if you arrive with a Honda CBX or Benelli Sei six cylinder, a 1970s Kawasaki triple 'widowmaker', or one of those Megolas with a five cylinder radial engine in the wheel.

We have our Annual Chapter Meeting at Raalte, with the usual agenda of President's Report, election of Directors, date of next meeting and Any Other Business. Our Directors are braced to do another one year term, but please let me know if you'd like to help out with Chapter activities.

We have a talk on Friday evening on 'Four Cylinder Motorcycles to 1960' which I hope all will find interesting. As it is in the courtyard and many of the marques will be present, you can see them in the metal and maybe a few owners will crank them up, oh yes!

I can exclusively reveal that the Meet badges are an attractive shade of beige, and that the Tee shirt in our goody bag this year is a corker.

Contact Martin van Kuijk if you'd like a vendor spot, and Peter Reeves if you have a bike for judging.

Another Bike

You will recall that I sold two 1936 VLs to the Discovery Channel for that 'Harley and the Davidsons' mini-series. One was apparently not used and ended up as a lobby exhibit in their HQ, but the second was altered to match a '31 bike in production line shots in episodes 2 and 3, then sold, sold again at Bonhams, then ended up in a London bankruptcy sale last month. The auctioneers called me to check the history, and I drove up and started the bike for them to maximise the auction value. The only other lot was a Nimbus with no papers or ignition key which looked OK to me. I put in one bid, won the bike, and took it home:



It's a 1954 four cylinder 750 cc Sport which I'll be bringing to Raalte. A jumper lead to the ignition got it started – result!

More Stuff

The **Presidents Meetings** this year are at Dixon CA on 14 June and Wauseon OH on 20 July. I'm not going to either Meet this year - which are both very good - but if you are going and would like to report back for the Chapter, then please let me know.

The **AMCA Roster** is coming out in the third quarter priced at \$10. To get that low price they need advertising, and a business card sized ad for your business is just \$65. Contact me, any Board member, the Advertising Manager or Cornerstone Registration if you'd like to help the Club this way.

The **European Membership List** is out so we can check entries at Raalte. You can renew with cash at the Meet but easier to do it on the Website. I'm combing through for new members not on the newsletter distribution list, expired members, and changed Email addresses. Please let me know if you receive more than one copy of this newsletter or know of anyone who should get it but doesn't.

2019 Events

Below is our latest timetable for the year. The AMCA events are firm, but some of the others may be provisional. Please advise me of any corrections, or additional events you would like to see included.

2019 AMCA National Meets

- February 22-23, Omaha Chapter, Fremont, NE
- March 08-09, Sunshine Meet, New Smyrna Beach, FL
- April 26-27, Perkiomen Chapter, Oley, PA
- May 17-19, Southern Meet, Denton, NC
- May 24-25, European Meet, Raalte, NL
- June 14-15, Viking Chapter, St. Paul, MN
- June 14-15, Fort Sutter Chapter, Dixon, CA
- July 05-07, Empire Chapter, Trumansburg, NY
- July 19-21, Wauseon Meet, Wauseon, OH
- August 02-03, Yankee Chapter, Terryville, CT
- August 24-25, Australian Chapter, Sydney, AUS
- September 27-28, Chesapeake, Jefferson, PA

2019 AMCA National Road Runs

- April 08-10, Cherokee Chapter Road Run, Kerrville, TX
- June 09-12, Allegheny Chapter, Ligonier, PA

September 04-06, Music City Chapter, Nashville, TN

September 23-25, Yerba Buena Chapter, Monterey, CA

Other 2019 Events

Austria

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

Belgium

Feb 23 Ruilbeurs Oude Motoren, www.earlyriders.be

Denmark

Aug 31 Laholm Beach Jutland, pre-1947 beach racing and partying www.romomotorfestival.dk

Finland

Jan 12 Jyväskylä swap meet

June 05-09 Harley-Davidson Super Rally, Himos
www.superrally2019.fi

July 26-28 International Indian Rally, Sastamala
www.indianmotorcycle.fi

Croatia/Slovenia/Italy

June 27-30 FIVA World Motorcycle Run, www.fiva.org

Germany

Jan 20 Winter Classic Bike Show, Im Alten Opel-Werk, 65428 Rüsselheim

Jan 25-27 Motorrad Bodensee www.motorradwelt-bodensee.de

Mar 07-10 Retro Classics Stuttgart www.retro-classics.de

Mar 16-17 Technorama Kassel www.technorama.de

Apr 05-07, Veterama, Hockenheim www.veterama.de

June 20-23 Magic Bike, Rüdesheim, www.magic-bike-ruedesheim.com

Sep 07, Board Track racing at Bielefeld. Contact motoholic@web.de

Oct 11-13, Veterama, Mannheim. Biggest European swap meet. www.veterama.de.

Italy

Jan 17-20 Motorbike Expo Verona
www.motorbikeexpo.it

Jan 11-12 Harley and Snow Hillclimb, Bolzano
www.harley.bz.it/de/harley-snow

May 10-12 ASI Moto Show, Parma race track
www.asifed.it *provisional*

Sep 07 Roll'n Flat Beach Race, Caorle
www.venicebeachrace.com *provisional*

Latvia

July 10-13, Kurland Rally. A 60 bike limit this year, so book early at www.kurlandround.lv. *provisional*

Netherlands

Jan 12-13 Oldtimerbeurs Autotron, Rosmalen
www.oldtimerbeurs.net

Feb 17. Swap Meet, Hengelo, www.alemite-motoren.nl *provisional*

Feb 23 Oldtimer+Tweewielerbeurs Eurohal Zuidbroek,
www.lup25.nl

June 21-23 Silent Gray Fellows Meet, Oosterhout. 16th meet for pre-1966 American bikes,
www.silentgrayfellows.nl

Aug 09-11, Old Timers Run, Den Haag. Pre-1966 American bikes for the 41st time.
www.hdctheoldtimers.nl

Sep 06-08, Alemite Run, Beuningen. www.alemite-motoren.nl.

Poland

June 13-16 Old Timer Club summer rally, Bocheniec
www.oldtimerclub.com.pl

June 29-30 Antique motorcycle swap meet, Lodz
www.motoweteranbazar.com

Aug 21-24 75th D-Day anniversary, Hel
<https://www.facebook.com/DDAYHel>

Sweden

Jan 24 Eskiltuna swap meet, Harleys/bobbers 1940s up
provisional

Feb 07 Enköping Indianmarknaden. Indian/early Harley
provisional

Switzerland

Feb 21-24 Swiss Moto/Custom Zürich www.swiss-moto.ch

May 25-26 Swiss Classic World, Luzern
www.swissclassicworld.ch

June 22-23 Oldtimermesse, Uster *provisional*

Aug 26 Gran Prix Suisse Berne Memorial, Bern
provisional

Oct 27 Oldtimermesse, St. Gallen *provisional*

United Kingdom

March 24. Pioneer Run, 350 pre-1915 bikes, Epsom Downs to Brighton.

June 17 Banbury Run, Gaydon, 600 pre-1931 bikes

Oct 11-13 Stafford show and auction

European Chapter Directors 2019

Steve Slocombe (UK)*, President,
amcaeurope@aol.com 57 Wear Bay Road, Folkestone
CT19 6PU, England. +44.1303.256266.

Vice President, Chris Bastiaansen*, (Belgium)
chrisbastiaansen@hotmail.com

Martin van Kuijk, Treasurer, amcaeurope@gmail.com

Peter Reeves, Assistant Chief Judge,
peter.reeves@virgin.net

Jan van der Werff*, (Netherlands) Director,
jan.vander.werff@hetnet.nl

Paul Jung, Director, pjung@wwag.com

Claudia Krause* (Germany) Director,
amca.europe@aol.de

Country Ambassadors

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

Denmark. Michael Pedersen,
michael_pedersen76@hotmail.com.

Finland. Fiskis Ekman, fiskis@kolumbus.fi

France. Stuart Graham, harleyman3@wanadoo.fr

Latvia. Juris Ramba, ramoto1992@gmail.com

Norway. Sverre Gerber, sveger@online.no

Poland. Krzysztof Pedryc, indian56@wp.pl

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.

Wishing you safe and happy riding, and best regards,

Steve Slocombe,
President AMCA European Chapter

