

SUNFLOWER CHAPTER

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Antique Motorcycle Club of America ®

May, 2019



SUNFLOWER CHAPTER
of the
Antique Motorcycle Club of America

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SUNFLOWER CHAPTER MEETINGS

Monthly meetings of the Sunflower Chapter are held at 6:30 PM on the last Wednesday of each month. The meeting site is Spears Restaurant at 4323 West Maple Street, Wichita, Kansas.

SUNFLOWER CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

The Sunflower Chapter Newsletter is published quarterly and distributed to Sunflower Chapter members, AMCA Chapters, AMCA Officers, Sunflower Sponsors, and Sunflower commercial advertisers.

SUNFLOWER CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the Antique Motorcycle Club of America is required to be eligible for membership in the Sunflower Chapter of the AMCA. Dues are \$20.00 per calendar year, and membership is open to any member of the AMCA. Members of the Sunflower Chapter will receive four issues of the club newsletter, and a membership card,

SUNFLOWER SPONSORS

Sponsors will receive four issues of the Sunflower Chapter Newsletter in return for a \$20.00 annual donation.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

2019 is off to a great start. The Sunflower members have already gathered for several outings.

The annual Sunflower Garage Tour visited a couple of non-motorcycle garages, the Lawrence Smith Collection and “Doc’s” B-29 hanger. Both were big hits with our members. My list of new places to visit on our Garage Tours is getting very thin. I know there are many more “man caves” out there, so keep an eye out or your ear to the ground. If you know of motorcycle enthusiasts who have collections they would like to share, please let me know.

Here’s a rundown of other Chapter activity. Several members got together in March in my garage to work on our Raffle Bike. The bike has now been refreshed and is on display at Twisted Oz, and will be taken to various events, like our Vintage Bike Night. Members of the Club gathered in Texas for the Cherokee Chapter Road Run. There were four or five Club bikes that showed up at the Autos for Autism Car and Bike Show. There was not much emphasis on bikes, but this was a big show for its first year and a very worthy benefit. By the time this issue hits your mail box the first of our two Vintage Bike Nights will be about to happen or just occurred.

The rest of the riding season will have more opportunities for the Chapter to socialize. Robbie and I are planning at least a couple more national Road Runs, possibly covering coast to coast in our motor home. Be safe if you are on the road

See ya on the road, Jim Wellemeyer

Cherokee Chapter Road Run

The Cherokee Chapter Road Runs have been a favorite of the Sunflower members for a long time. In 2014 we had the most members in attendance and won an award which turned into a traveling trophy, now in possession of the Yerba Buena Chapter. This year we had 21 Chapter members travel to see the blue bonnets but were bested by the Badger Chapter who had 24. Everything is bigger in Texas, and this Road Run was no exception with almost 300 registered, which made it a record.

The rain showers that were in the area Saturday were clearing by Sunday afternoon when Robbie, I, and the dogs arrived in Kerrville. After settling into our room and registering for the event we attended the opening banquet and riders meeting. A preview of the routes and a few cautions about cattle guards and low water crossings were given. The routes were almost identical to their previous Road Run, which was very good. With that out of the way everyone was ready for the riding to begin.

Bright sunny skies and cool temps greeted us in the morning. After the bagpiper called everyone to order and a group photo, we were released to start the ride. The start did not get off with out incident. Almost everyone of us admits to leaving our kick stand down at least once. For Paul Belt this was his day, and



Cherokee Chapter Road Run



Bart Grelinger gives Kelly a break from kicking his Chief



The weather forecast was poor but that didn't stop a great bunch from showing up for a cold ride.

Cherokee Chapter Road Run

as he turned to get in line to leave, his kickstand planted in the asphalt and launched him and his 46 Chief into the side of Michael Breeding's 1928 JD. Damages were minor and both bikes made the days ride. The route for the day wandered through open range country, crossing many cattle guards and low water crossings. Most of the water hazards were dry and not of any concern. One however had shallow water and green moss which was slick. That one put Jeff Roth and a couple of others riders down, there was more damage to egos than the bikes.

We gassed up and regrouped in Fredericksburg, then headed for the Willow City Loop. This area is well known for Texas wild flowers, the most notable are the Texas Blue Bonnet and the orange Indian Paint Brush. This years crop was supposed to be the best in 30 years. The 15 mile loop was spectacular, with blue, orange, white, and pink wild flowers. After lunch in Fredericksburg it was on to Luckenbach, a popular stop for bikers. The town consists of a post office, general store/bar and a dance hall. The dance hall regularly hosts country western acts from



Vickie and Paul gassing up.

Cherokee Chapter Road Run



Award Winning Low Water Surfers, Jeff & Cyndi

local and big name entertainers. The day finished with a twisty curvy ride back to Kerrville.

Tuesdays ride took us to the heart of Texas Hill country for 175 miles of prime riding. A series of three highways known as the Twisted Sisters was the highlight of the ride. These roads had lots of steep elevation changes, curves and dips, it was great riding.



Great form Neil!

Cherokee Chapter Road Run



Lunch was provided at the Frio Canyon Motorcycle Stop, after a very good smoked brisket sandwich, we continued Twisting the Sisters. The ride back to Kerrville ended with relaxing stretch that switched back and forth across the Guadeloupe River. That evening our Chapter members walked to a nearby restaurant on the River and had wonderful meal with the sun setting across the river. After dinner we walked back and gathered at the hotel bar for drinks. Live entertainment, by a local band, was provided by Mike Carson. It was quite a party.



Cherokee Chapter Road Run



On the way to 90 degrees, Wednesday warmed up quickly and my jacket didn't make it out of the parking lot. We left town on the same road that we came in on the day before. We made a short photo stop at a local attraction, a scale model of Stonehenge.



Great Dinner on the Guadeloupe River at Sunset

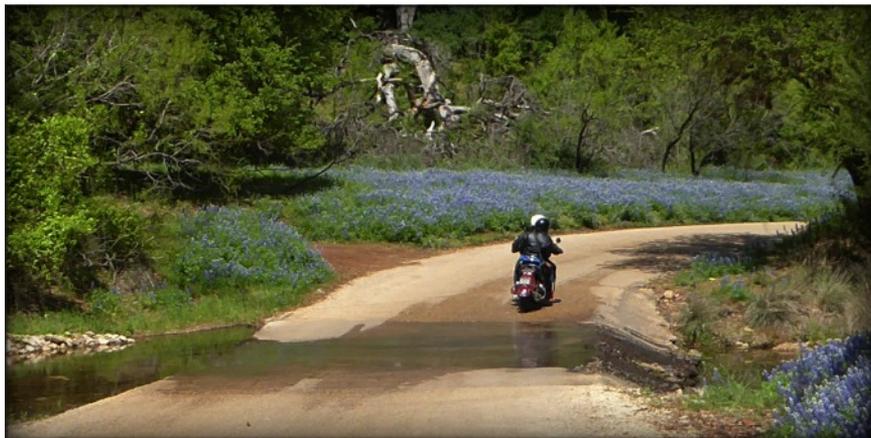
Cherokee Chapter Road Run

The Lonestar Motorcycle Museum was the next stop. Founded by Allan Johncock originally from Adelaide, South Australia, the museum has a nice collection of antique motorcycles. The collection leans towards the British and European bikes but has some nice American and Japanese too. The ride took us to Utopia for lunch, but our group decided to bypass the recommended restaurant as it looked like a long wait. We rode onto Bandera for lunch at The Old Forge Restaurant. From there it was a 30 minute ride back to Kerrville.

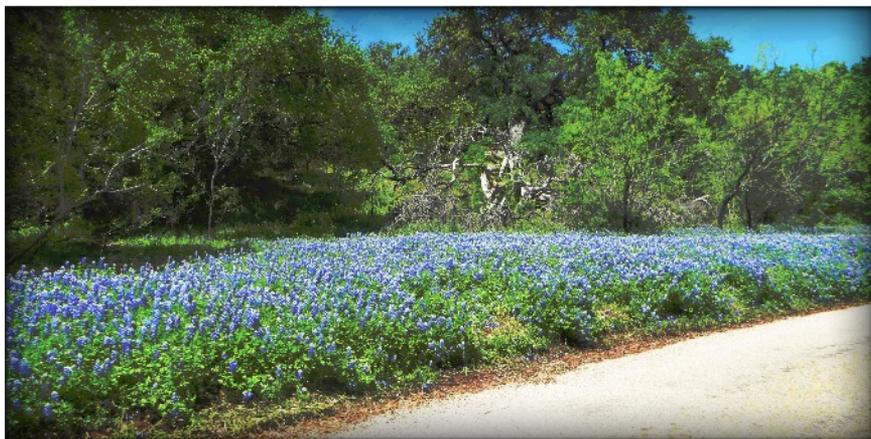


It had been a great Road Run, with nearly perfect weather, beautiful green countryside, and really wonderful wildflowers along the roads. All that was left was relaxing with some cold ones, loading up and the appreciation banquet that evening. The Cherokee Chapter says they will host another Road Run in a few years, so when it is announced you should make plans and we can take an even bigger group to Texas.

Cherokee Chapter Road Run



Cruisin the Texas Blue Bonnets



Sunflower Associate Chapter

You may not have heard of an Associate Chapter but now the Sunflower Chapter has one. An Associate Chapter is like a child group of the original organization. The Cherokee Chapter started this concept. The state of Texas is huge, and their members were scattered all over Texas and Oklahoma. By having Associates in remote areas, more members could gather for their own meetings and functions without having to travel longer distances. The AMCA has formalized the process and currently there are 28 Associate Chapters the country. You can see this depicted in The Antique Motorcycle Magazine on the “Find an AMCA Chapter” map. Associate Chapters are indicated by smaller dots of the same color at the parent Chapter.

The formation of an Associate Chapter requires the submission of a simple one-step application to the Director of Chapters with approval of the board to become an Associate Chapter. Each Associate Chapter only requires a minimum of four club members who live in a select area. There are no requirements for incorporating, Federal Employer ID number, officers, newsletters, website, etc. All those areas are already cover by the parent Chapter. What is encouraged is the regular gathering of members in that Ambassador’s area to ride and socialize while still participating in their Chapter’s activities.

An Ambassador for a designated area is assigned by the Chapter President. A few weeks ago, Joe Preston of Perry Oklahoma, contacted me about an organizing an associate Chapter. Joes father Stu is a longtime member of the Sunflower Chapter. Joe said he had the 4 members who were interested in forming the Associate. Since then we have submitted the application and the National Board has approved. A new small dot for the Sunflower Chapter will now appear in the area of Tulsa and Joe has been appointed as Ambassador.

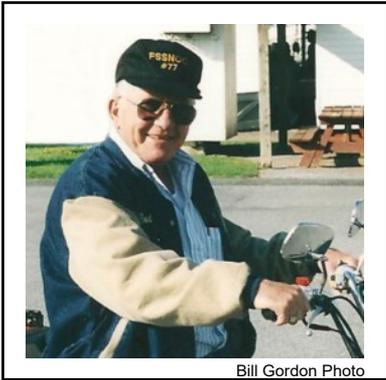


Please join me in congratulating Ambassador Joe Preston and the initial associate members Stu Preston, Kevin Hagar, Patrick Hagar, and Jack Bayles, for the formation of their Associate Chapter. When Joe plans a local function, I will let you know so we can support them. Associate Chapters are a good way to increase participation and add new members. Please let me know if you live in an area where you and other members would benefit from an Associate Chapter.



Ambassador Joe Preston and dad Stu

The Old Sage 1924-2016



Bill Gordon Photo

This saga by the Old Sage is reprinted with the kind permission of the Antique Motorcycle Club of America. We thank them for allowing us to reprint these stories, because many of our Chapter members have never had a chance to read these entertaining articles

Bud Cox was one of the founding members of the Sunflower Chapter and an Honorary Member of the AMCA. He penned the "Old Sage" articles for more than thirteen years, with the first episode appearing in the 1994 Winter issue of the AMCA magazine. This "Old Sage" episode originally appeared in the 2002 Spring issue of "The Antique Motorcycle"

the
the
Old
Sage

My friends and Herb and Bud the Blacksmith had a job to do. I guess Moe stayed home. The job was to remove a stuck piston from a badly rusted cylinder. They dutifully made sure all of the openings were sealed and connected a small high pressure hand pump to a fitting in the spark plug hole. After the cylinder was filled with water, they started pumping. Slowly but surely, the piston edged out of the cylinder, nothing broken, bent, or otherwise damaged. A successful finish to a tough job. So they thought.

The Slipper

The next step was to purge the pump of water, and thus eliminate any rusting possibilities. Bud picked up a can full of old dirty crankcase drainings to pour in the pump inlet. The can was a bit slick and a slight slip caused a big slurp of oil to squirt across the room and plop right down on a ladies slipper that was setting there. It seems that the slippers belonged to Herb's wife, and it looked like big trouble ahead. They decided that they should make an attempt to clean the slipper.

*The Bud picked up a can full of dirty
old crankcase drainings to pour in
the pump inlet.*

First they wiped it off, then used some B-12 carburetor cleaner, then some liquid soap, the slipper looking worse with each treatment. Next, they immersed it in the cleaning solvent tank and squeezed it several times, this was followed with a good workover with a hair dryer. About this time they realized that even though the slipper looked pretty good, it no longer matched its mate in color or texture. The decision was made to treat the good slipper, with the idea in mind that it would solve the problem. No way was that going to work, now they had a pair of slick slippers. So they took the only way out and hid the slippers from sight.

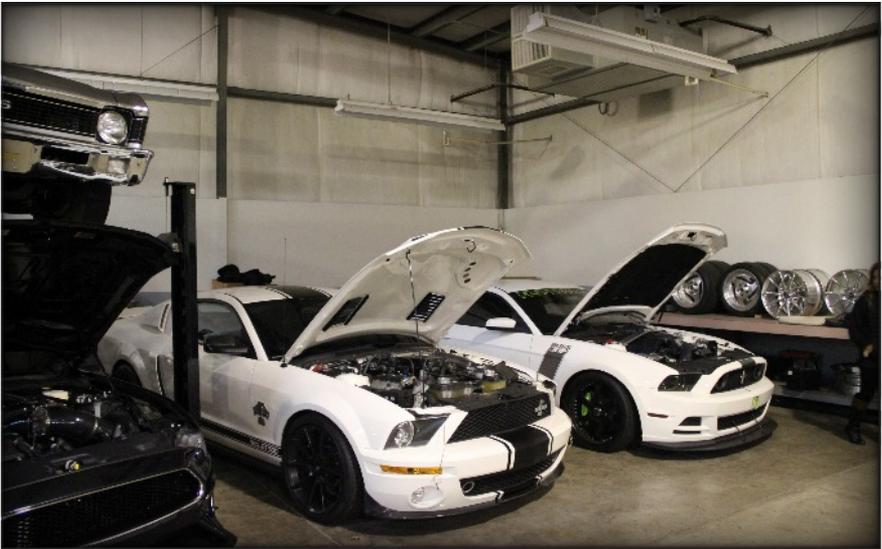
Quite frankly, when Doris learns about this incident, I will be most thankful that I live on the opposite corner of town.



Garage Tour 2019

The Lawrence Smith Collection of Cars is not a well known stop for local car enthusiasts. To see it you must have an appointment, and know some one who knows Mr. Smith.

We entered the building through a side door which put us in a room near the center of the building. This room has a typical warehouse appearance, but filled with collector cars. A number 60's, 70's, and 80's muscle cars were located here. There were a couple of special edition high performance Mustangs, a group of Corvettes stacked on lifts, an Austin Healy, two custom built Lister Grand Prix racers, a vintage Rolls Royce undergoing maintenance, a Bentley in the early stages of restoration, a couple of custom show cars, and others.



The next room toward the front of the building had a few more one of a kind cars and all the machines and equipment needed to build almost any part that could be required for a vintage restoration. At the front of the building is the main entrance show room. There were was an assortment of special cars, including a 1910 Marion, 1956 Chevy, 1952 Wood Hill, and a 1937 Ryan Aeronautical aircraft mounted on a pedestal in the center of the room.

Garage Tour 2019

I made my way back through first two rooms to the main room in back of the building. This is a show room with black and white checked tile floor, lots of memorabilia, furnished bar, display cases, and a juke box. These cars are the prizes of the collection, mostly teens, 20's and 30's Rolls Royce's and Bentleys. These cars are true museum pieces, having been restored to better than new appearance, and all are in running condition. Everyone who came seemed amazed at all the cars in the collection. We thanked Lawrence Smith for allowing us to view his collection and for being a gracious host.



Garage Tour 2019

Then we headed to the airport for the next garage. The hanger of “Doc” the B-29 bomber. Doc is a B-29 Superfortress and one of 1,644 manufactured in Wichita during World War II, it rolled off the assembly line in March 1945. In 1987 Tony Mazzolini found Doc on sitting and rotting away in the Mojave Desert.



Garage Tour 2019

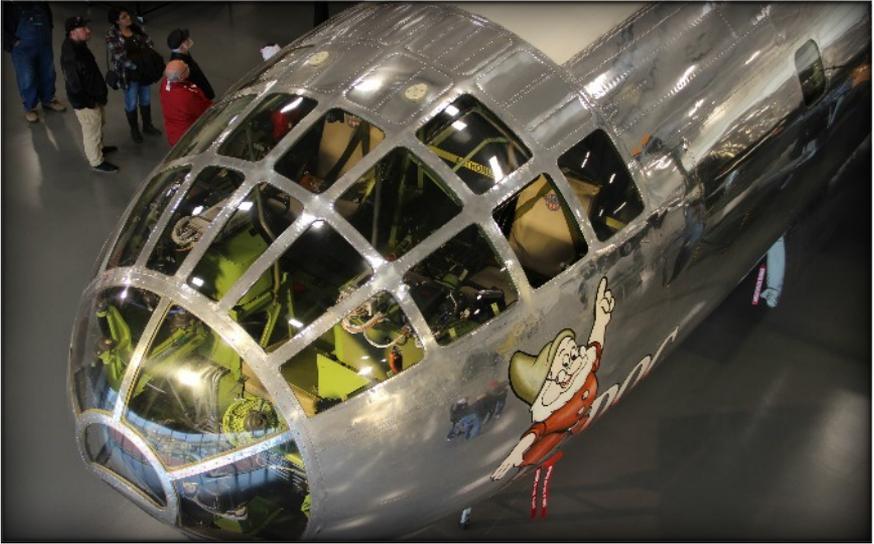
You can learn about the journey of Doc from the desert to Wichita and how it was restored to flying condition, by visiting Doc's Hanger and Visitors Center at Eisenhower Airport.



In the bomb bay of Doc

Garage Tour 2019

The main attraction is the aircraft, but on the mezzanine of the hanger is the education center which tells the story of Doc with pictorials, videos, and static displays. The Friends of Doc have done a wonderful job of bringing the B-29 back to life and building the Hanger and Visitors Center.

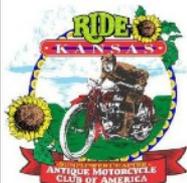


Project Bike

During the past year I had received a suggestion that the Club might sponsor a project bike. The bike would be purchased with Club funds and raffle tickets sold to recover costs. The benefits of the project bike are; a chance for members to work together on a common project, more exposure of Club to the public, the opportunity of introducing a new person to antique motorcycles and the Club, with the possibility of making a profit. This was discussed at the February and March meetings and the decision was made to move forward. A 1981 Honda CM400A was purchased from member Jason Bell. Several members got together and donated their time. There have been a couple of monetary donations also. The bike, now refreshed, is displayed at Twisted Oz and other events. The drawing for the raffle will be August 8th at the Vintage Bike Night in Delano. Raffle tickets are \$5 or 6 for \$20. If you would like tickets, to buy or sell to friends, let me know I will figure a way to get them to you.



Upcoming Events



Vintage Bike Night

Thursday May 9 &
Aug 8th



In Delano at the Clock Tower
6 pm to 8 pm

Bring out your vintage motorcycle
for a street show

Or show up and enjoy antique bikes

Presented by

Sunflower Antique Motorcycle Club



RIDE-EM DON'T HIDE-EM

Upcoming Events

JUNE 2ND
ANTIQUE MOTORCYCLE
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SUNDAY 9AM-7PM
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David Larson
Kevin Hagar
Patrick Hagar
Jack Bayles

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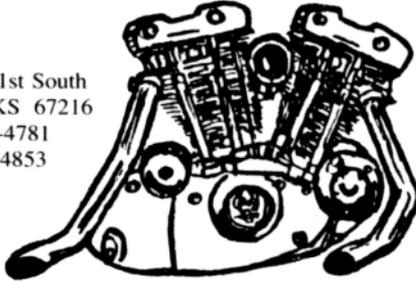


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SUNFLOWER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 24th ~ Sunflower Chapter monthly meeting at Spears Restaurant, 4323 West Maple (6:30 PM)

Thursday May 9th 6:00-8:00 PM, Vintage Bike night.
In Delano at the Clock Tower

May 29th ~ Sunflower Chapter monthly meeting at Spears Restaurant, 4323 West Maple (6:30 PM)

June 26th ~ Sunflower Chapter monthly meeting at Spears Restaurant, 4323 West Maple (6:30 PM)

July 31st ~ Sunflower Chapter monthly meeting at Spears Restaurant, 4323 West Maple (6:30 PM)

Thursday August 8th 6:00-8:00 PM, Vintage Bike night.
In Delano at the Clock Tower

August 28th ~ Sunflower Chapter monthly meeting at Spears Restaurant, 4323 West Maple (6:30 PM)

Sept 25th ~ Sunflower Chapter monthly meeting at Spears Restaurant, 4323 West Maple (6:30 PM)

October 4,5 and 6 Sunflower Chapter Fall Ride in the Flint Hills

Sunflower Website ~www.sunfloweramca.org



The Sunflower Chapter Newsletter will be published in February, May, August, and November. The deadline date for each issue will be the last day of the month preceding the month of publication. Please send articles, tips, humor, event dates, notices, personal ads, etc. to the editor as early as possible. Material submitted after the deadline will be published if page space is available.

AMCA 2019 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

NATIONAL ROAD RUNS

April 8-10	Cherokee Chapter Road Run, Kerrville, TX
June 9-12	Allegheny Mtn Chapter Road Run, Ligonier, PA
Sept 4-6	Music City Chapter Road Run, Nashville, TN
Sept 23-25	Yerba Buena Chapter Road Run, Monterey, CA



NATIONAL MEETS

Feb 23-24	Omaha Chapter	Fremont, NE
Mar 8-9	Sunshine Chapter	New Smyrna Beach, FL
Apr 26-27	Perkiomen Chapter	Oley, PA
May 17-19	Southern National	Denton, NC
May 24-25	European Chapter	Raalte, Netherlands
June 14-15	Viking Chapter	St. Paul, MN
June 14-15	Fort Sutter Chapter	Dixon, CA
July 19-21	Wauseon Meet	Wauseon, OH
Aug 2-3	Yankee Chapter	Terryville, CT
Aug 24-25	Australia Chapter	Bulli Australia
Sept 27-28	Chesapeake Chapter	Jefferson, PA