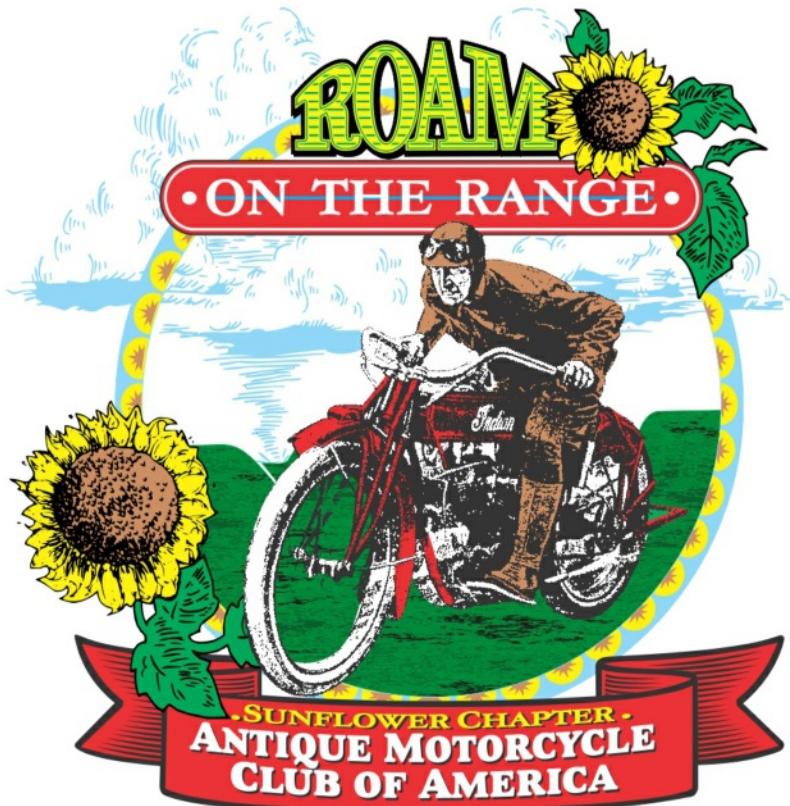


# SUNFLOWER CHAPTER

SUNFLOWER CHAPTER

Antique Motorcycle Club of America ®

August 2020



# **SUNFLOWER CHAPTER**

of the

## **Antique Motorcycle Club of America**

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Jim Wellemeyer

### **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 an advertisement in four issues of the Sunflower Chapter Newsletter in return for a \$25.00 annual donation.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Wow, its August already, or finally? January and February started off fine but since then, cancellations, postponements, quarantine, wearing masks like every day was Halloween. Hey Toto, this doesn't look like Kansas.

We hear the media talk about a new normal. The Sunflower Chapter has tried to keep things as "old" normal as possible. A couple of meetings were cancelled, but still managed to get a couple in. Various members were able to get together for local rides, however all National Road Runs to date have been cancelled. The Twisted Oz meet was successfully rescheduled, and you can read about it on following pages. To all those who attended the meet, it would be great to hear what you thought and if you have ideas for improving it. There are still Chapter events scheduled for the coming months. The Fall Ride returns to the Flint Hills, the Garage Tour has been rescheduled for September as an Oklahoma Tour, and of course the Chapter Christmas party is on the calendar. Please see details on page 18. One note to add about the fall ride, I recommend you make your reservations soon if you plan on staying overnight.

The October meeting is when we elect members to the Board of Directors. If your term is expiring, please consider recruiting your own replacement, and save having to draft someone at the last minute. If you are interested in serving on the board, please let me know. I emailed the minutes of the July meeting to all e-members, thanks to Sharon Hewitt for agreeing to act as our scribe. I felt like our distant members could use more current communication.

I hope this newsletter find everyone in good health and riding safely.

**Jim Wellemeyer**

## May Chapter Meeting

This spring was challenging for everyone who desired fellowship and still wanted to follow the social distancing guidelines. Our favorite restaurants and watering holes were closed, destinations and events were cancelled as we hunkered down in our homes for months. This was not all bad for us gearheads with shops full of projects to work on. FedEx, UPS, and the Postal Service were still delivering parts. I did not have any major projects going, but I will say everything is in good running order with fresh gas, oil, filters, and a few new tires.



**It was and overflow crowd for the May Meeting**

## May Chapter Meeting



After canceling the March and April meetings, some of the restrictions had been relaxed and the Sunflower Chapter met for the May meeting at the Presidents house. Robbie and I were glad to see a nice group of friends show up for the meeting. We discussed the upcoming Twisted Oz Meet and other tentative plans, then adjourned to the backyard for burgers and dogs. There were side dishes brought by the members, they were all delicious and each one was different. The weather cooperated and it was a beautiful evening. We consumed lots of food and had some great socializing. It was a great way to have a meeting and hopefully there will be more like this.

# May Chapter Meeting



# May Chapter Meeting



Plenty of food for all.



## May Chapter Meeting



## May Chapter Meeting



# 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 2003 Fall issue of "The Antique Motorcycle"*

## *the Old Sage*

While scrounging around in northern Oklahoma, I came across a 1914 Harley single cylinder, single speed, chain drive motorcycle. It was in a very rickety little shed that had no roof over the motorcycle. Of course, I became a good friend of the owner immediately. Quite often I would call on him, but he was not ready to dispose of the Harley. I went through all of the usual tricks that fellows do when they are after a nice machine. I sent him birthday cards, Christmas, Easter, anniversary, and everything else cards, as well as ballpoint pens, pocket knives, and once even a frozen turkey. I never scored, but I did not give up. Once he sent me a card thanking me for suggesting that he put the machine in a safer place which he did.

# That Bad

While I was still in active pursuit of this Harley, my friend Herb called me requesting my help in loading a motorcycle that he had just purchased. I agreed to help and went with Herb and Jerry to load it up. At first sight of the machine, I almost went into orbit. That is my Motorcycle! The story unfolded like this: the Harley owner suffered a severe heart attack and expired soon after reaching the hospital. Within a week, his nephew had brought the Harley to Wichita and was looking for a buyer. The local Harley

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## *That is my Motorcycle!*

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dealer sent him to Herb, and the rest is history. After a considerable amount of bellyaching and moaning on my part, all Herb could say was, "Well, Bud, this makes me feel real bad." So, I picked up on that statement and asked him, "Just how bad do you feel?" He answered, "Well, I don't feel THAT bad."



## The Great Escape

With much uncertainty and one cancelled date, the fourth Twisted Oz Swap Meet and Bike Show was held on July 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> in Augusta KS. Kelly Modlin appropriately billed it as the *Great Escape*. In the past it was a one-day event, but this year a vintage bike ride was added on Friday.

July in Kansas is typically scorching hot and humid, this year has been no different. Friday and Saturday both started off with thunder showers passing through the area. Friday's rain, delayed the start of the ride by an hour but the out flow from the storm clouds was cool and the overcast made for a great day to ride. Saturday's early morning rain was just an insult as the sun came out and raised the humidity quickly.



The vintage ride left Twisted Oz with 30 bikes split up into 2 groups. There were riders from seven states who had come to *escape* into the Kansas countryside. The ride traveled south on Thunder Road, then onto familiar blacktops to Douglass, Smileyburg, past Winfield Lake and into Winfield.

# The Great Escape



A break for gas in Winfield before continuing south then turning left on the Dexter road, which I almost missed, and across Cowley County into Dexter. This is one best stretches of country road in south central Kansas. At Dexter we stopped at Henry's Candy Company, handmade candies since 1956, this was a big hit.



## The Great Escape

After that sweet treat stop, it was on to Cambridge and then to Latham for lunch at the Latham Saloon. This small restaurant does not usually have a crowd of 35 people drop in on a Friday at noon, but we told them we were coming, and they were prepared for us. The chicken fried steak is the specialty, and they did a great job on burgers, sandwiches, and cold drinks. It's a great



## The Great Escape

place to stop when you pass through Latham. After lunch it was a straight shot back to Douglass where several bikes stopped for gas, it had been over 70 miles since gas in Winfield, the total ride was about 135 miles. From Douglass another 15 miles on the same road we started on back to Twisted Oz. By then we were all feeling like it was July.

Only one bike needed the trailer, Richard Campbell on his 1940 Zundapp, 4 miles from the finish broke something in the final drive. Trouble truck drivers Dana McCoy and Mike McHugh arrived shortly and brought Richard in. Many thanks to Kelly Wardell for laying out the ride and Dana and Mike for following us in the truck.



## The Great Escape



Saturday morning, overnight rains left the area just as setup for the Swap Meet was starting. The sun appeared almost immediately, and it got steamy. No one had any idea what kind of turn out to expect, since there were crowd restrictions in various localities across the state. Soon it was apparent that the hard-core swappers would not be deterred, and booths were getting setup.



## The Great Escape

Before long, the bikes started showing up for the Bike Show, and at one point there were over 100 bikes lined up. By 10 o'clock visitors were *escaping* the confines of home and were arriving to cruise the tables and admire the bikes. Food sales were rather slow. The heat and having to sit outside didn't boost any appetites.



The crowd had started to thin out, presumably to *escape* to a cooler location. With the bike show judging finished the trophies were presented at 2 o'clock, which was about an hour ahead of schedule. Auctioneer Kelly took over the microphone and did a great job presenting some bikes that had signed up for the auction. There were some good opportunities, and few found new owners.



# The Great Escape



I am sure that restrictions on public gatherings had some affect on attendance and cooler weather would have brought out more people, but overall, the Fourth Twisted Oz Meet was a success. It brought together a community of folks with a passion for motorcycles of all types and I didn't see anyone who wasn't having a good time. Thanks to all the volunteers who spent time preparing food, directing traffic, members who showed their bikes, helping with ride, and putting a great event. Special thanks to Kelly, Theresa, and Paul.



## Upcoming Events

### Sunflower 2020 Oklahoma Garage Tour

**Saturday September 12<sup>th</sup>**

Ride, Trailer, or Drive to Perkins OK,  
1909 W. 92<sup>nd</sup>, 74059

From Stillwater on US 177 and OK Hwy 51  
Go 7 miles South then 1.7 miles west on 92nd

Stu and Joe Preston hosting. They have some interesting stops planned including Motocross Champion Guy Cooper's collection. Plan on being at their place between 9:30 and 10 AM.

**Group departure from Twisted Oz at 7:00 AM**

### Fall Ride in the Flint Hills

**October 9,10,11**

Riding from Council Grove. Rooms available at:

Cottage House 620-767-6828

Prairie Lodge Motel 785-466-6588

**Friday:** For early arrivals, local ride, dinner on own.

**Saturday:** Breakfast at Saddle Rock Cafe.

Ride departs Prairie Lodge 9:30 AM Saturday.

Meet for Dinner at the Hays House

The Sunflower Chapter  
Welcomes new members  
**Mark and Chris Wheatley**  
**Brendan Belt**

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## **SUNFLOWER CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**July 29<sup>th</sup> ~ Sunflower Chapter monthly meeting.** Meeting will be at Twisted Oz, Saturday at 11 AM. We will start with a meeting, then lunch with hot dogs left from the swap meet. Wrap up with a ride.

**Aug 26<sup>th</sup> ~ Sunflower Chapter monthly meeting at Spears Restaurant, 4323 West Maple (6:30 PM)**

**Sept 12 ~ 2020 Garage Tour.** See details page 18.

**Sept 30<sup>th</sup> ~ Sunflower Chapter monthly meeting at Spears Restaurant, 4323 West Maple (6:30 PM)**

**October 9, 10, 11<sup>th</sup> , Chapter Ride from Council Grove.** See details page 18.

**Nov 25<sup>th</sup> ~ Sunflower Chapter monthly meeting at Spears Restaurant, 4323 West Maple (6:30 PM)**

**Dec 5<sup>th</sup> Chapter Christmas Party**

**Sunflower Website ~**[www.sunfloweramca.org](http://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 2020 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

## NATIONAL ROAD RUNS

June 2-4	Phoenix Chapter Road Run, Zion National Park
July 21-24	Yellowstone Chapter Road Run, Billings, MT
August 12-14	Badger Heritage Chapter Road Run, East Troy, WI
Sept 8-10	Roosevelt Chapter Road Run, Detroit Lakes, MN
Oct 26-28	Los Angeles Chapter Road Run, Fallbrook, CA



## NATIONAL MEETS

Feb 28-29	Omaha Chapter	Fremont, NE
Mar 6-7	Sunshine Chapter	New Smyrna Beach, FL
Apr 24-25	Perkiomen Chapter	Oley, PA
May 15-17	Southern National	Denton, NC
May 22-23	European Chapter	Raalte, Netherlands
May 29-31	Empire Chapter	Trumansburg, NY
June 12-13	Viking Chapter	St. Paul, MN
June 19-20	Fort Sutter Chapter	Dixon, CA
June 26-27	Colonial Chapter	Harmony, NJ
July 17-19	Wauseon Meet	Wauseon, OH
Jul 31- Aug 1	Yankee Chapter	Terryville, CT
Aug 29-30	Australia Chapter	Bulli Australia
Oct 2-3	Chesapeake Chapter	Jefferson, PA