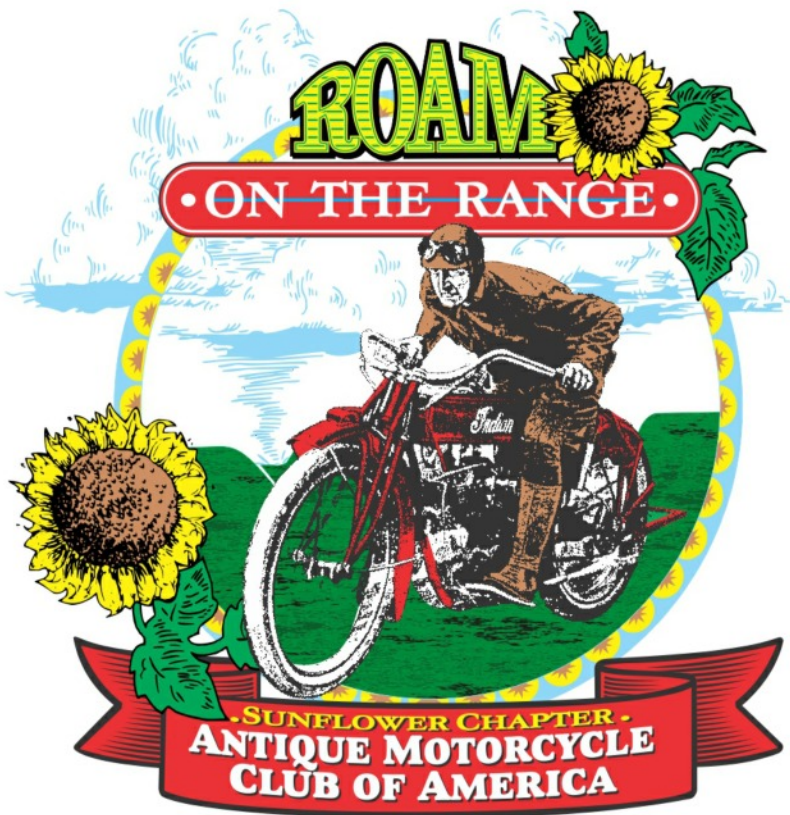


SUNFLOWER CHAPTER

SUNFLOWER CHAPTER

Antique Motorcycle Club of America ®

November 2022



SUNFLOWER CHAPTER

of the

Antique Motorcycle Club of America

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Editor Jim Wellemeyer

SUNFLOWER CHAPTER MEETINGS

Monthly meetings of the Sunflower Chapter are held at 6:00 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

The Sunflower Chapter has been thriving 2022. A new Associate Chapter was added in Hays Kansas and the Chapter sponsored a new event, the Fort Hays Veterans Vintage Bike Show. The Twisted Oz Swap Meet and Bike show attracted more vendors and was well attended. We had well attended Spring and Fall Chapter rides. There were a few local rides and a couple that members traveled out of state to ride as a group. Several new members were added during the year and our membership remains stable.

The Board of Directors nominations and elections were completed at the October meeting as scheduled. Two-year terms for Kelly Wardell, John Wiley, and Jim Wellemeyer will expire the end of December. All three members were renominated and elected for 2023-2025.

Next year will bring more of the same activities. The big event that everyone should be looking forward to, will be the Sunflower National Road Run, September 10-13. Planning for the event continues with a preview meeting on November 16th. The location of the meeting is the offices of CGP Group, 740 w. 2nd street. This is across the street from the City Library. Thank you, Ellen Hittle, for arranging the location. Meeting starts at 6 PM. Everyone should attend and see what is planned and how you can participate.

Within this mailing of this November issue please find your 2023 Sunflower Renewal form. Simply remove it, fill it out, yes fill in all the blanks, and return it with your dues to treasurer, Kelly Wardell. We thank you for your prompt attention.

There are still more activities coming as this year closes. You can check them out on the Calendar of Events on the last page of the newsletter.

Have a safe holiday season and
I will see you in 2023!

Jim Wellemeyer



Driftless Chapter Road Run

September is usually great weather and apparently that is why there were four Road Runs during the month. Early this year I was thinking that we would attend two events in the west, the Evergreen Chapter and Fort Sutter Road Runs. With the price of diesel fuel rising above \$5 a gallon, a 4000 mile plus trip was making me consider something closer to home. The Driftless Chapter Road Run in La Crosse Wisconsin would take us back to meet with friends from four years earlier.

The event started immediately after Labor Day. Robbie and I left home the week before and took a leisurely route through Missouri, Iowa, and Illinois before arriving in La Crosse. During check-in at the hotel, we received unexpected notice that they did not accept pets, unless they were service animals. This was totally unexpected since we had stayed at the hotel for the same event four years prior, with the same dog Cosmo, and our deceased dog Tux. I told them I was at fault for not asking about the pet policy and assuming it would be unchanged, so I would have to cancel our 5-night stay. After calling and checking with the owner, they said Cosmo could stay if we paid a sizable cash deposit, refunded at checkout. Cosmo said that was ok with him.

We got checked in and made our way outside to a Moxies Tiki bar and patio area which was very relaxing place to hang out. Later we were joined by Sunflower members Greg Porter, Gram and Mitz Pankratz, Gary and Mary Lewis, and Kelly Wardell and Ellen Hittle.



Driftless Chapter Road Run



Brownsville Overlook

The weather was great, much to the relief of the Driftless members. Their last Road Run was preceded by torrential rains and they spent the night before each ride rerouting around closed roads and making new maps. The first days ride was across the Mississippi River and down the Minnesota side of the valley through beautiful farmlands. We had gone about 30 miles and pulled over with the group at Brownsville Overlook. After a short stop, the first bike to balk was Kelly's Harley. It diagnosed as a weak battery and



Driftless Chapter Road Run

would not start. After contact with the chase truck the rest of the group rode on to New Albin, stopping for gas. It was there that the second bike was in need of help. Gary's Gold Wing would not idle, requiring 2000 rpm or more to keep running. Another call to the chase truck found that Kelly and Ellen were still stranded at the overlook. Seems the truck had battery problems too. Eventually the truck showed up to pick up Gary and Mary, they then found out there was no room on the trailer. They ended up getting taken back to La Crosse and Gary retrieved his bike with his own trailer. The three remaining bikes in our group made the rest of the day without incident.

Previous Driftless president Paul Wuensch had asked if Robbie would like to ride around with his wife Michelle. So the first two days Robbie rode around with Michelle in her white 1965 Impala convertible, they had gotten acquainted at the previous Road Run. They were quickly tagged as **Thelma and Louise**.



Driftless Chapter Road Run

Day 2 started with a ride up Granddads Bluff and a fantastic view of La Crosse and the Mississippi River Valley. Then more great roads winding through the Wisconsin hills, followed by lunch at the Hillsboro Brewery. This beautiful facility is a restored canned milk factory. Great lunch and cold brews. The return ride to the hotel was more sunny farm country.



A crowded parking lot at Granddads Bluff

Driftless Chapter Road Run

Day 3 ride was north through more farmland and great roads. Lunch was out in the middle of nowhere at Suncrest Gardens Pizza Farm. They don't actually grow pizzas, but they do grow everything that it takes to make their pizzas including the grain they mill for the crust, it was delicious. It was a beautiful day and we sat outside at one of the picnic table to eat our pizza.

The group we had been following that morning was having a leisurely lunch and we were ready leave. I lead us on the way back and got confused when the road I planned to take had road maintenance blocking us. We made it back to the main highway and after changing my mind and turning around three times, we were off in the right direction. The rest of the ride back to the hotel was an uneventful cruise along the Mississippi.

The event closed with a banquet dinner that night, after three days of beautiful weather and great rides.



Are we lost yet?



Photos by Cathy Drexler

**Opposite page: Kelly and Ellen, Gram and Mitzi,
and Greg Porter**



Driftless Chapter Road Run

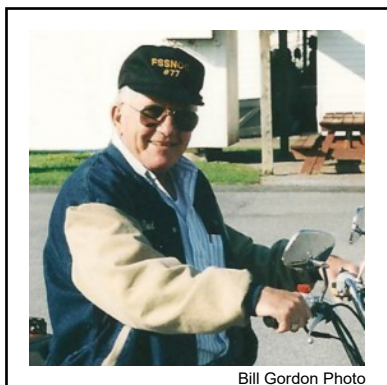


Lunch at the Pizza Farm



Wrapped up a good time at the banquet.

The Old Sage 1924-2016



Bill Gordon Photo

The Old Sage

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 2005 Winter issue of "The Antique Motorcycle"

Several years back, the Wichita bunch attended the Midwinter meet at Underwood, Iowa. It was always a nice meet, friendly, indoors, and the women of the chapter always supplied us with good, hearty, tasty meals. The only problem was the weather. As a rule, there was adequate snow for everyone. The streets, walks, drives, and everything, was covered with a generous coating of snow. And the entrance to the skating rink, where the meet was held, was a very heavy door.

We were always looking for something to use as a doorstep for this door. This time, I purposely took a very rusty oil pump casting for a 741 Indian just to use as a doorstep.

The Pump

Thinking of the fun that might be created later, I wrote in bold chalk on the rusty pump body “See Junior.” I was not aware that Jeff H., at that time a new member of our chapter, had recently purchased a 741, and this motorcycle needed an oil pump.

=====

*Thinking of the fun that might be
created later, I wrote in bold chalk on the
rusty pump body “See Junior.”*

=====

When Jeff walked in, he noticed that old oil pump that was holding the door open and he was amazed that he had actually found an oil pump so easily. Now if he could only find the owner, and make a deal! So poor Jeff carried that heavy old oil pump for most of the day, looking for “Junior.” When he finally approached me, and asked if I might know anyone called “Junior,” I had to confess, and presented him with the pump. I don’t suppose that he ever used it, but it did supply a lot of enjoyment for those who knew who “Junior” really was.



2023 Membership Dues

Remove this page and
mail them now.

Your prompt attention is
appreciated.

Please complete the form with
your current info.

Membership Renewal for 2023
in the
Sunflower Chapter
of the
Antique Motorcycle Club of America

Please update changes to your information.

Your Sunflower Chapter membership card will be mailed with the first issue of the Sunflower Chapter Newsletter following acceptance of your application, or you can pick up your card at the first Monthly Meeting you attend.

We greatly appreciate your prompt renewal.

Name _____ AMCA # _____

Street _____ CHAPTER # _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Spouse Name _____

Home Phone # _____
Cell Phone # _____
E-mail _____

Sunflower Chapter membership dues are \$20.00 per year, based on the calendar year of January 1 through December 31. Please make your check or money order payable to **Sunflower Chapter AMCA** and send to:

**Kelly Wardell
157 SW 200th Street
Douglass, KS 67039**

For Sunflower Secretary's use only

Application Recvd. On _____
Check Number _____
Check Amount _____

2023 Membership Dues

Remove this page and
mail them now.

Your prompt attention is
appreciated.

Please complete the form with
your current info.

2022 Fall Regional Ride

Planning the Fall Ride started a several months ago when I ran across a map of a ride from 2014 when the Cannonball came through Kansas and stopped in Junction City. Members of the Chapter met in Junction City to greet the Sunflower riders when they arrived on that Friday afternoon. Then on Saturday we took a ride through the Flint Hills. I liked that route and planned on following it exactly as we did in 2014. After making some phone calls to verify hotel and restaurant reservations, I took a ride about one month prior to verify the roads.

I left Wichita early one beautiful morning and headed to Junction City. My first mission was to check out the roads for a Friday evening supper ride. This ride followed roads we used in our 2016 National Road Run. The ride starts with the J Hill Road which takes you along the high bluff that looks down at Junction City and the Smoky Hill River Valley. J Hill continues on as Lyons Creek Road and then on to Wolf Road, this is one of my favorite stretches in the Flint Hills. From there I road west and north on county highways and arrived in Chapman. In Chapman I went to the La Hacienda Taqueria restaurant that I had contacted about supper. Unfortunately the restaurant was closed for a week, but it looked like it would be fine for our supper ride.

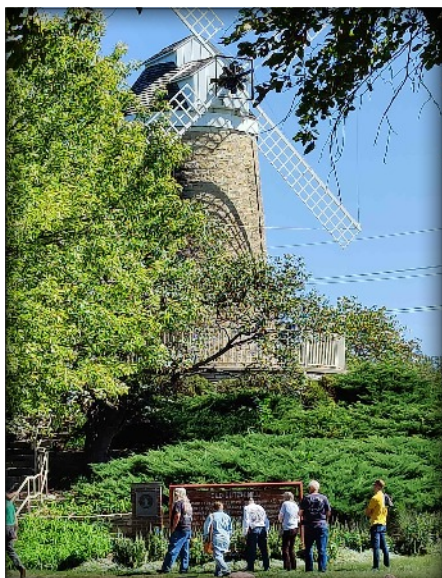
I made my way back to Junction City and started the Saturday route on highway KS 57 towards Dwight. This is where I encountered first signs of trouble, detour signs for highways KS 77 and KS 4 as I turned onto KS57. I continued as planned, thinking I could find a way around whatever the issue was. It was not long before I came to the reason for the detour. There is a major project improving KS 77 with a huge traffic circle excavation in the middle where I wanted to go. I ended up taking 3 miles of gravel road to get around and back onto my planned route. The rest of the route into Manhattan and then onto Wamego did not have any issues. I doubled back looking for an alternative that did not involve gravel roads. I spent the afternoon riding around looking for something that would work and decided to work on it at home. It was a long day by the time I got home, my planned check ride of about 300 miles had turned into 420.

2022 Fall Regional Ride

The Sunflower Fall Ride this year had a regional flavor to it. The Sunflower members welcomed the Omaha Chapter, and Santa Fe Chapter. All total there were 26 people from Kansas, Oklahoma, Missouri, Nebraska, Iowa, and even New Mexico. Folks started arriving Friday afternoon, September 23rd, and by 5pm we had 13 bikes riding to dinner at La Hacienda Taqueria. It was a beautiful evening ride at sunset, with good Mexican food, and special friends including Caroline Kline from Santa Fe New Mexico, who had ridden all the way on her Harley trike. In 2018 Caroline had ridden all the way to Clinton Missouri for a Sunflower weekend. The ride back to the hotel was cool and while we were gone the Omaha Chapter had arrived.



Stu Preston and Caroline



The Old Dutch Mill



2022 Fall Regional Ride

Saturday morning started off foggy, but the sun burned that off quickly. The work around for the construction detour took us east out of Junction City on I70 for 3 miles to Humboldt Creek Road, a nice rolling curvy farm road. We had been riding about 30 minutes when I heard my phone ring, but by the time we stopped I couldn't connect with Robbie who had call and was driving the



Saturday morning

2022 Fall Regional Ride

trouble truck. Cell coverage in the Flint Hills is spotty and finally a voice message came through, someone was having trouble. I left the group and headed back about 4 miles to find Robbie and three riders on the side of the road. It was Gram and Mitzi Pankratz who were having trouble. When I got to the bike, they had the seat and side cover off and there was a wad of spaghetti hanging out the side. Apparently something shorted out and the wires started leaking smoke, then everything went dead. This was Mitzi's bike



“saddle tramp” on the trailer



Gas stop in Manhattan

2022 Fall Regional Ride

according to Gram, and “saddle tramp” (the bike) was the first and only casualty of the day. With bike loaded we returned to the rest of the group and continued on McDowell Creek Road and on to Manhattan. After a short gas stop, Old Military Trail Road took us into Wamego for lunch at the Friendship House.

Lunch was a cozy setting in the upstairs dining/bedrooms of the old 2 story home. Bierocks were the special of the day with



Stu and Joe Preston

homemade pie and cookies to finish. After lunch we took a walk across the street to the park to see an original Ottaway steam train display and the huge old Dutch windmill.

The afternoon ride took us down a short section of the Native Stone Byway into Alma, then on Skyline Mill Creek Drive. At Alta Vista there was a short delay so John Wiley could secure his muffler which was trying to fall off. Outside Alta Vista we had to navigate some construction before returning to Junction City via Humboldt Creek Road. It had been a beautiful day on some of the best roads in the Flint Hills. We wrapped up with dinner at Tyme Out steak house on the outskirts of town.

Sunday morning several people wanted to get in a short ride before calling it quits. The rest of us said our goodbyes and headed home. Thanks to all who came and made it a memorable weekend.

Upcoming Events

SUNFLOWER CHRISTMAS PARTY

Saturday December 3rd
5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

CGP Group Offices
740 W. 2nd Wichita, 67203
Across the Street from the City Library

Social Hour starts at 5 pm
Dinner at 6 pm

Dinner and Setups Provided
by the Chapter
BYOB

R.S.V.P. by November 25th

Jim Wellemeyer
jwellemeyer@cox.net
(316) 461-1778



Chapter News

These Certificates of Charter were recently received and forwarded to our Associates Chapters.



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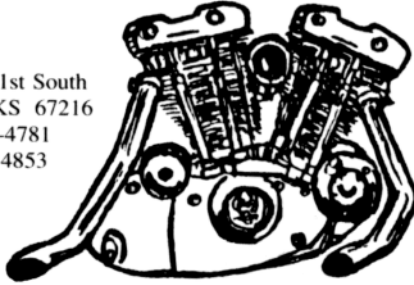


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SUNFLOWER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Oct 26th ~ Sunflower Chapter monthly meeting at Spears Restaurant, 4323 West Maple (6:00 PM)

Nov 16th ~ **Planning meeting for the 2023 Road Run. Meeting at CGP Group offices, 740 w. 2nd Street, across the street from the City Library. Meeting starts at 6 PM.**

No regular Chapter meeting in November or December.

December 3rd Club Christmas Party, Details page 21.

Dec 31st ~ Bill Page hosts his midnight ride into the New Year.

Jan 1st ~ Sunflower Chapter “finning party” Twisted Oz Museum, 10 AM - 2 PM. Bring your favorite appetizers and snacks.

Jan 25th ~ Sunflower Chapter monthly meeting at Spears Restaurant, 4323 West Maple (6:00 PM)

Feb 22nd ~ Sunflower Chapter monthly meeting at Spears Restaurant, 4323 West Maple (6:00 PM)

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 2023 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

NATIONAL ROAD RUNS

June 12-14	Wellsboro PA. Allegheny Chapter
July 31 -Aug 2	South Deerfield, MA Yankee Chapter
September 5-7	Deadwood, SD Black Hills Chapter
September 10-13	El Dorado, KS. Sunflower Chapter



NATIONAL MEETS

February 24-25	Fremont, NE. Omaha Chapter
March 2-4	New Smyrna Beach, FL. Sunshine Chapter
April 28-29	Oley, PA. Perkiomen Chapter Meet
May 19-20	Raalte, Netherlands. European Chapter
June 2-4	Trumansburg NY, Empire Chapter
June 9-10	St. Paul, MN. Viking Chapter
June 16-17	Dixon, CA. Fort Sutter Chapter
June 23-24	Harmony, NJ. Colonial Chapter
July 14-16	Wauseon, OH. Wauseon National Meet
July 28-30	Greenfield MA. Yankee Chapter
August 12-13	Bulli, Au, Australia Chapter Bulli Show Grnd
Sept 29-30	Upperco, MD. Chesapeake Chapter
October 13-15	Denton, NC. Southern National Meet