



RUST 'N PIECES

Newsletter of Antique Motorcycle Club of Manitoba Inc.

NOV-DEC 2010

Volume 33 NO 6



President's Message

.....Our annual Rally is confirmed, the town of Niverville wants us. July 1-3 will be the scene of our 11th rally. After ten years at John Thompson's, the Rally heads south of Winnipeg. Not far, only 10 minutes and all on pavement. We owe John a huge debt of thanks and to the many who have helped over the years. Especially the likes of Dave P and Jim R who took up the cooking duties and other things of the last years. The CVMG is on board to help and support and their new President, Bob Collings is busy spreading the news throughout our brother club on how to get involved. I think it should be a great weekend so keep those dates open. \$40 registration until the May meeting then \$50. If you can only make it for a day, no problem,

there will be daily rates as well. I'm working on trying to get a Vincent display of one of every road model for the Saturday Show and Shine, which by the way the town will close off the street. Maybe we can have four Indian Chiefs as well. Do one of you want to co-ordinate a Guzzi or Norton run. The core committee is looking for volunteers and many stepped up last meeting. That was most gratifying. The other issue was looking for paying vendors like Griffin trikes to come and join our show and shine to help defray costs. Do YOU have any ideas along this way of thinking. As well John and company always had tremendous door prizes. We can't lower the level of the bar John set here, so start early and hound folks for a donation. We will be working on a donation letter and we hope to have that out soon. Stay tuned and don't forget the Christmas dinner at D Jays and Movie night at my house on the last Tuesday of January.

Cheers for now Ross





**ANTIQUE MOTORCYCLE CLUB OF
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ANNUAL DINNER MEETING

7pm Tuesday, December 14, 2010

Cocktails 6:30pm

Members and guests welcome

D-Jays Restaurant & Ichabods Lounge

3260 PORTAGE AVE, WINNIPEG, MB R3K 0Z1

in between Vimy & Westwood

(Cross Street: Portage AVE

and Westwood DR)

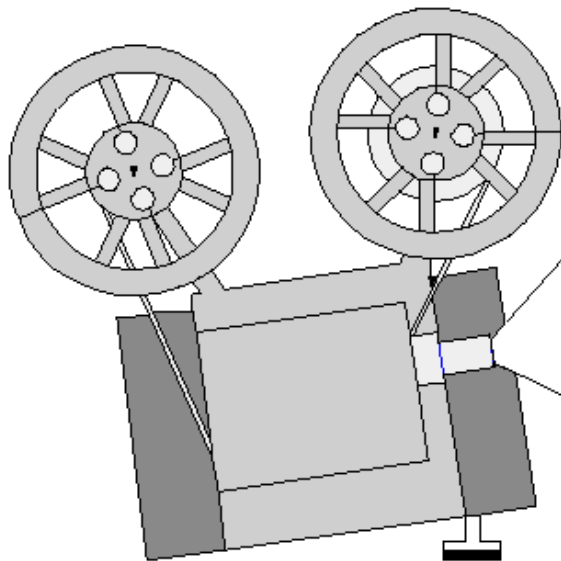
Phone: 204-888-3361



Tom Hesom

BMW





11th Annual Metcalf Movie Night

WHEN: Tuesday, January 25TH, 2011
7:00 p.m.

WHERE: Ross Metcalfe's house
8729 Roblin Blvd. (on river side of street)
South Headingley
831-8165

(1.8 km west past the Headingley bridge on Roblin)

THIS YEAR'S FEATURE FILM IS A GOOD ONE (BERNIE NICHOLSON DVD)
AND WE WILL FEATURE ALL THE USUAL FAVOURITES.
BE SURE TO BRING YOUR FAVOURITE ALONG WITH YOU.

BYOB

MINUTES OF OCTOBER MEETING 26 /10/2010

High winds and rain saw only one hardy soul in the parking lot in the form of Crafty Craig on his Harley. So with no other tires to kick President Ross called the meeting to order with **20 members present** and one guest viz; Mark Stevens.

The President **welcomed** back “Lobster Eater” Tom from a sojourn in the Maritimes, and the “Sherpa Guides” from an Indian-Enfield- mounted trip to Nepal and the Himalayas.

Treasurer Siggy reported a bank balance up to Oct 26th of \$2067-97.

Librarian Mike brought out a box of regalia and stuff for sale and said there would be the usual 50/50 draw at the conclusion of business.

Jim R confirmed that DJ,s Restaurant had been booked for the **Christmas Party** to take place from 6.30pm on Tuesday 14th December 2010.

Perimeteritis 2011 date was confirmed as Saturday June 4, 2011.

President Ross announced that **Elections for 2011** year would take place at the November meeting. Ross M, Tom H, and Siggy K all agreed if nominated, to stand in their respective capacities again.

Further to previous discussions the **100th Anniversary of the MMC Celebration** was touched on. Ross would talk to Dave and bring some suggestions to the next meeting on a celebration to happen on or around September 11, 2011 ; the date when the MMC has been in existence for 100 years.

The **Viking Chapter of the AMCA** annual Swap Meet and Show “n Shine will take place in Minneapolis/St Paul on June 10, 11 and 12.

Bison Rally 2011 dates were set for July long weekend viz; Friday 1st, Saturday 2nd, and Sunday 3rd. Much discussion ensued with Greg Kendal suggesting Springhills Park on the perimeter as a possible venue. No further details were available without further investigation.

Chas and Tom presented specific details on the Niverville location and after much discussion a proposal was made and seconded to settle on this location, and a show of hands showed unanimous support . Chas, Ross and Tom would investigate the availability of the Hockey Arena for secure bike storage and parking, and whether the catering group would consider giving a price per head. Chas stressed the need for a Rally Committee to be formed.

A site visit would be planned sooner than later with a report back to the next meeting

John T and Dave P then entertained the meeting with a humorous and interesting report of their “Sherpa Trip” to the Himalayas. It was evident that they had a great adventure apart from rather questionable accommodations and one of their party finding a rat eyeing him on his sleeping bag in the middle of the night!

Bob Collings had brought a “**Mystery Part**” which despite being inside the usual black bag, was correctly identified by John T as an idler gear and clutch springs from (who would have guessed!) a Vincent.



MINUTES of NOVEMBER MEETING 30/11/2010

For an Election of Office Bearers meeting a turn-out of **17 members** and one guest was reasonable. Only three stalwarts from the Southern Contingent made it out with excuses ranging from "I have to shovel snow", to, "I have the trots and need to stay close to a toilet!" ; this from the one who's turn it was to supply the transport!

No **Treasurers Report** due to the absence of Siggy

o **Librarian Report** due to the absence of Mike

Some date reminders for events on the horizon - - -

Our membership of the **Manitoba Association of Auto Clubs** (MAAC) was discussed. Advantages would include insurance cover and opportunities to advertise in their widely-distributed publication. (Bison Rally?) Cost would be approx \$2 odd per member according to our roster. A proposal was made and seconded and carried that we join MAAC.

The **Bison Rally** was again discussed in detail and a very accommodating and encouraging e-mail from the Nieverville Director of Entertainment was read. They are willing to include the adjacent curling club building and hot showers in addition to their original offer of free camping, secure fenced-off grounds and East End of Arena recreation and dining hall, all for \$150 per day. We have been booked for the three day July long weekend with contract to be sent for payment soon.

President Ross called for **nominations** for the three elected positions.

There being no further nominations the following were elected to serve another term ; - - -

President- - - Ross Metcalf

Secretary- - - Tom Hesom

Treasurer- - - Siggy Klann

Other non-elected positions such as Property

Manager, Regalia, Librarian etc, would be decided later.

No less than three **Mystery Parts** were passed around but none were correctly identified this time

The meeting then closed with a number of interested parties staying to discuss more details of the rally. Many issues were covered : too many to list here, but many important topics like Vendors, Security, Advertising, Swap meet tables, Friday registration and forms for this, etc. Bob Collings again reiterated the support of the CVMG and their willingness to be involved. It was agreed that the posters should portray this as a joint venture of the AMC of M and the Keystone Section of the CVMG



1903 FIRST YEAR FOR HARLEY DAVIDSON?? MYTH OR REALITY by Ross Metcalfe

There have been many stories associated with Harley Davidson's first year of production. If you visit their new museum in Milwaukee, you can see #1 which many call the 1903 model. Or is it a 1903 model? Through researching my own 1911 "Double" 49 ci Harley project, I have met some of the world's leading authorities on early Harley Davidsons. Herbert Wagner is the most prolific writer and researcher on this subject. His latest book *At the Creation* does a lot to answer the origins of the company. Wagner says there was a prototype on a bicycle in 1903 which never went anywhere but there was one 1904 built and even seen in public. However it was in 1905 that the first handful of Harleys were produced for public purchase. Research seems to indicate that there were five built. Today, miraculously, there are three left. One being the #1 in the factory museum, one is located in Sturgis and the other is owned by Bruce Lindsay of Ohio who has a running model that he rode to the 100th anniversary in Milwaukee in 2003 without any recognition from the factory (wouldn't be good for public relations to discuss 1905 as the first year). When Harley restored #1, the engine flywheels were stamped #1, thus creating the story of the first Harley.

Now let's go back in time about 105 years when the four founders, with not much money, were trying to start a motorcycle company. A fifth individual, forgotten in time, was instrumental in helping Harley as we know it. C.H. Lang loaned the brothers a sum of money for the start up costs and with that, he became Harley Davidson's first dealer. It has been stated that he took three of the original five machines to Chicago to sell. For many years, C.H. Lang kept one of the original machines and by the post WW2 era, C.H.'s 1905 HD was long forgotten. After the war, C.H. Lang was rumored to have bought a winter home in Florida where he took an early Harley. Was it one of the original five?



In the 1970s, Lonnie of Competition Distributing was racing in the south when a man approached him saying he had the first Harley Davidson. Not giving it a lot of thought, Lonnie paid the man a reasonable amount of money at the time and he was quite pleased to get an early strap-tank Harley- a 1907 or 08 (so he thought).

Now push ahead some 35 years- Lonnie Jr begins to do some research and takes the old strap-tank Harley apart. The flywheels were also stamped #1. Lonnie Sr remembered that an old toolbox came with the bike and he had given it to one of his pit crew at the time. Three and a half decades later, Lonnie phoned the old pit crew member to ask if he still had the toolbox. Surprisingly, he said yes and even had the tools untouched, and he sent it to Lonnie. Turns out the tools were stamped C.H. Lang and that the house in Florida (where the man

who sold it to Lonnie bought the old strap-tank) was C.H. Lang's summer house. This was confirmed by Lonnie hiring a private detective. So... if C.H. Lang had the first three Harleys and he kept the first one for himself... Lonnie now believes he has the oldest Harley in the world from the first dealer who loaned the Davidsons and Harley the money to get started.

This story is from the horse's mouth – Lonnie Sr – told to me when I visited his shop in Sturgis last August. In short, the first Harley is probably 1905. The first Harley is probably in South Dakota, not Milwaukee. What do you think a bike e this is worth today to the right person?



UPCOMING EVENTS

December 14, 2010	Christmas Dinner meeting at DJ's restaurant
January 6, 7 & 8, 2011	Las Vegas Motorcycle Auction
January 25, 2011	Movie Night at Ross Metcalfe's
June 4, 2011	Perimeteritis
July 1, 2, 3, 2011	11th Annual Bison rally
September 1, 2, 3, 4, 2011	AMCA Swap Meet Davenport, IA



WANTED: Toy motorcycles, any age or condition. Tin, lead, cast iron, plastic or rubber, windup, friction, battery operated, etc. Craig 669-6047 or kraftycraig@hotmail.com

WANTED: Old oil cans, tins, advertising, etc. Harley, Indian, Triumph, etc. Craig 669-6047 or kraftycraig@hotmail.com

FOR SALE: 1971 BSA frame and fender...price..... a box of schloss laderheim wine for my wife. **WANTED** 1917,1919,1922,1927 to complete the only Manitoba motorcycle license plate run. Ross Metcalfe email moose102@escape.ca

Next Meeting 7:30pm. LAST Tuesday of the month at:

(Except Dec. & Jan.)

HARLEY-DAVIDSON WINNIPEG

1377 Niakwa Rd. East
Winnipeg MB 254-3974



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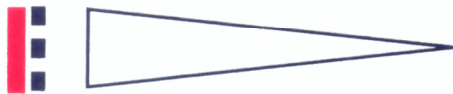
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