

President's note for January

Well, it's always interesting to get a rise out of the editor. As those who have been in the editors shoes realize, an editors job is never easy. Perhaps a song would cheer up our editor. A song such as the following, sung to a tune of "For he's a jolly good fellow", perhaps done to a nice Tuba arrangement.

Poor Jim's Lament

Oh I forgot to open a meeting, I forgot to open a meeting,
I forgot to open a meeting, my sorrow I can't deny,

My sorrow I can't deny, my sorrow I can't deny,
I forgot to open the August meeting, disgrace and regret are
forever mine!

Jim (something has snapped!) Harrison.

(Editors note: I write them as I get them....except for the
"something has snapped" bit).

Something unusual came in the mail, it's a letter from a member, written to the club! John Guntner decided to write to show his support for the club. Thanks for the letter John.

On another note, John Woodmore, a Kawasaki enthusiast, has written us for leads on Kawasaki parts and literature. John White, our esteemed secretary, is going to let him know we received his letter. I am passing on J. Woodmore's letter to our editor. Perhaps we could send J. Woodmore a copy of our newsletter bearing his letter. (At this rate Randy may need an extra printer!)

I have booked Woodhaven community club for the last Tuesday of each month. This means our next meeting will be on January 31st. This will avoid problems with meetings when a Monday is on a long weekend. I hope this arrangement proves suitable. With my shift work I can't even suit myself all of the time.

On the subject of club names, any input is welcome. Another one that's occurred to me:

Flat Earth restorers and Riders of Motorcycles
(F.E.R.R.M)

Prairie = Flat Earth, get it?

I will end this note with a resolution to try and gather some interesting local material for our newsletter. Regarding our motorcycle history in this region. I will avoid dust and mould by using microfilm and similar sources as much as possible.

Happy New Year to All!

Jim Harrison

And, now the moment you've all been waiting for....The letter!

December 13, 1994

Dear Friends;

I trust you all had a safe and enjoyable holiday season. It's time to consider this year's activities as you'll want to squeeze as much as possible into the limited time you have before Summer comes and goes. I joined the AMCM and have always been honoured to have been associated with it. The newsletters suggest the possibility of yet another attempt at a name change. I for one do not believe your problems lie in the name in as much as a lack of spreading the existing name. Take some of that \$1800 and spread the word about this wonderful association you have and the good it does. You don't get enough appreciation for the things you do for each other. The founding members, some of which are still members, had a vision and it still holds true today. Call it what, brotherhood, friendship, biker buddies dedicated to the preservation of old motorcycles. We keep the dream alive, not only for the motorcycle but also for their previous owners. The club has been passed down over time into your capable hands. If you want a good club, you've got to do things right. Decide on just what's wrong and make it right. Do you suppose all my problems would disappear if I changed my name to Donald Trump? Just kidding. Enough said on that topic.

I took my Chief for a run this Sunday. I don't know what the temperature was but I found it most enjoyable. I want to take advantage of the time I have for riding as you never know when I'll end up back in Winnipeg. I find myself once again putting parts into little piles, one for cad plating, one for chrome and one for machining. I'm trying to put a civilian 45" together with NOS parts. If anyone has a 50ties style rear fender that could be had, I would be happy to hear from you. I have various parts in for painting but it will be a long time before it's finished as I haven't put the motor or tranny together yet.

I'm still waiting for one of you to show up and come for a visit. I could always put a plate on a second bike if required. I really wish you and the club a prosperous New year. A special hello to Randy. Welcome back to the 'Peg. Bye for now.

John

P.S. I like getting the Rust and Pieces!!!!

Editors note.

Well, thanks for the note John. It was nice to have you drop in on me in Nova Scotia, I'll have to see if I can reciprocate by dropping in to see you! Hope it's not too cold out there by the coast!

I read John's letter carefully and found it contained some well thought out points. His comment about the name change were

very valid and a change will certainly not result ⁱⁿ improvement of club fortunes.

We'll have to make a very conscious effort to appeal to people and give them a good reason to be involved with the club. It is not for me to define just what those efforts should be, but some well organized runs and events, a newsletter with some amusing write-ups of club events etc. may be the right direction. Change the name if you want, but only if you want. Barry Seib seems to one of the prime instigators of changing the name, but I can guarantee that Barry will not come pounding at our door to renew his membership simply because we do change the name. His interests have drifted towards later model Japanese and other motorcycles and I for one would not want this to be our main theme in a reorganized club. The effort should be (in my opinion...) to try and accommodate differing interests in the club, in spite of the fact that the majority opinion will rule the day. We can never satisfy everyone, but we should make an effort to appeal to all.

There has been some talk from time to time regarding the AMCM joining the CVMG. This would provide a regular newsletter and a wider source of want ads and parts. It would mean a certain loss of independence, since the club dues would be sent elsewhere, however you should also consider that the dues we collect cover the cost of producing and mailing the newsletter and not much more, so that's not necessarily a big loss. There is also talk of club funds in the bank. Control of these funds could always be lost if there was a large influx of new members who then decide to allocate funds to one activity or another, so that is also a bit of a non-issue. What it does require is a logical discussion without shouting or emotion. Is it good for the club or not, that is the one and only question. Would we be better off with fewer clubs and more members, yes, but not for those who were dissatisfied by the new direction the club takes. If it is an option, then rather than the AMCM joining the present CVMG chapter here, perhaps we could join as an independent group and try to encourage local fellow CVMG members to join our group. This would allow us to continue to set our own agenda without sacrificing control to an existing CVMG chapter group.

Talk about it (rationally!) make a decision and let's get this thing behind us so we can concentrate on more important issue, the future of this group of individuals!

On a further note...As I sit and type (on my birthday as well!) this we are in the middle of moving to our new place on Rosewarne avenue (the next street). There's a lot of work there to be done, and I don't want to be sitting here typing newsletters while there are so many other things pending. So the club will have to find a relief editor for the next three or four months while I get this work cleared up. Ed Pauch would be an ideal candidate, he is prompt, aware of deadlines and he is verbally enabled!

Your humble editor...

Randy

③ - Antagonism between Jim H. & Editor Randy?
or friendly reporter?

② - Endless discussion on Name Change - Mike & Milton
and publish suggestions at Reg Meet.

④ - Will Ed P. fill in as temp. Editor ~~NO~~
- Glad Randy is moving - (Still love the Volvo?)

① - What is State of Affairs? -

⑤ - list of New names? - Vintage m/c Club of MAN -
V m c m

Mon. Vintage & Classic m/c Club - m v c m c
Historical Motorcycle Society of Man - H m S m
Prairie Hist Society of Man - P H S m

Manitoba Vintage Motor Cycle Club - m v m c
Manitoba Vintage Motor Cycle Society - m v m s

5A. Incorporated? - Parker Filmore mails to Jim
was there a Christmas Party? Before March.

⑦ writing from ^{Diary from} ~~holiday in~~ Turkey Very Interesting
please continue