



Yankee Chatter



Spring 2018

www.yankeechapter.org

Established 1973

Yankee Chapter *Antique Motorcycle Club of America* *Ride 'em, don't hide 'em!*



-CONTENTS-

DEDICATED TO "BATTERY BILL"

editorial section

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

HELLO, IT'S ME

event section

past.....	THE PERKIOMEN EXPERIENCE
present.....	RHODE ISLAND CAMP & RIDE ANNOUNCEMENTS
future.....	YANKEE CHAPTER TERRYVILLE NATIONAL MEET

Yankee Chapter Board of Directors

President

Maine (Ted) Smith
805 Reservoir Road
Cheshire, CT 06410
203.272.6605
oldbmws@yahoo.com

1st Vice President

Darryl Cutter
P.O. Box 791
S. Wellfleet, MA 02663
508.349.3080
bigchiefdc@comcast.net

Vice President

Don Salisbury
P.O. Box 182
Oneco, CT 06373
860.564.8481

Director/Secretary

Diane Stoyanovich
416 Gibson Hill Road
Sterling, CT 06377
860.564.8490
dmstoy26@sbcglobal.net

Director/Treasurer

Peter Grace
405 Main St Bldg #2
South Berwick, ME 03908
207.451.7375
phgrace@comcast.net

Director/ Membership Chair

Ken Herschfield
118 Captain Pierce Rd
Scituate, MA 02066
781.264.3245
kherschfield@hotmail.com

Director/Webmaster

Chris Lenox
13 North Street
Granby, MA 01033
413.531.3983
webmaster@yankeechapter.org



Director/

Chapter Judge/
Vermont Ambassador
Peter MacMurray
539 Marshall Street
Holliston, MA 01746
508.429.4592
pjmacmurray@gmail.com

Associate Director/

Maine Ambassador
Jim Gorman
8 Lunt Road
Freeport, ME
207.831.4183

Associate Director

Sandy Gallo
31 Atwoodville Lane
Mansfield Center, CT 06250
860.429.2821
Gallosride@sbcglobal.net

Associate Director

Charles Gallo
31 Atwoodville Lane
Mansfield Center, CT 06250
860.429.2821
Gallosride@sbcglobal.net

Associate Director/

New Hampshire Ambassador
Dan Margolien
7A Glen Road
Salem, NH 03079
603.401.8851
danmargolien@yahoo.com

Associate Director/

Newsletter Editor
Greg Ravizza
34 Patterson Lane
Durham, CT 06422
860.729.3143
azzivar@gmail.com

Associate Director

Philip Mathews
P.O. Box 62
Storrs, CT 06268
860.487.1920
pm1920@earthlink.net

INTERIM DIRECTOR

Tom Covill
433 Victory Highway
West Greenwich, RI 02817
401.397.2584
thomascovill@yahoo.com

HONORED MEMBER

Jessie Aikman
259 Sligo Road
Rollinsford, NH 03869
603.749.0450
canvascutter@gmail.com

Spring 2018 President's Message

Are you wondering why this issue of the Chatter has a new look? There is good news, bad news, and more good news. The first good news is Jen Goselin is receiving recognition from her employer in the form of new responsibilities. The bad news, Jen's successes in life are eating into her spare time so badly she has had to resign as Newsletter Editor and Director. Finding members to fill Jen's roles was a difficult task. After lengthy discussions' your Board of Directors, in complete agreement, decided to ask TomTom (Tom Coville) to become our interim Director and he accepted. Welcome TomTom. Our search for a Newsletter Editor and Associate Director led me to asking Greg Ravizza and Greg accepted. Welcome Greg. You can find Greg's biography later in the newsletter. Jen, thank you for all you have done for us. I hope to see you at our National and Camp & Rides. Greg, welcome aboard. I sincerely hope you have fun in your new position.

Spring is here. It's time to ask ourselves where would we be without volunteers? What would our club be like if Jim Gorman or TomTom (Covill) or Jim Seidell didn't put together Camp & Rides or Chris Lenox stopped maintaining our website or Peter Grace wasn't around to keep track of the club's funds or..... There is a very small core of people make things happen for all of us. For years, Jen put together The Chatter to chronicle our doings. Did anyone think to thank her for her efforts? How many of us contributed stories or pictures to help her? Has anyone taken time to thank Ken Herschfield for keeping track of our membership? I probably should go on but I'll stop here with the hope that I've made my point. I don't think our volunteers are looking for praise. Quite to the contrary, I believe this small core of members truly enjoy what they do. Let's keep it that way and help out.

Terryville is but a few short weeks away. Because of our new location and Reinbeck not holding a National Meet this year's attendance could easily overwhelm the small number of people that helped out last year. In preparation for this year's meet, Darryl Cutter has created a field layout plan. Peter Grace and Ken Herschfield have created a simplified registration plan. Peter MacMurray has volunteered to be our overall event coordinator and has created a volunteer schedule. You can help at the gate, with the field games, with the Mystery Ride, with judging etc. Please reach out to Peter. Let's get your name on the volunteer schedule. Peter's email is pjmacmurray@gmail.com .

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at Terryville.



Ted

HELLO, IT'S ME! (apologies to Todd Rundgren)

I've never been editor of anything much outside of reviewing or drafting project documents for work. I've been alleviated from that and other project-related work since the beginning of April, having been offered an incentive to leave my job, which I accepted. Given that I'm *not quite vintage enough* to qualify for Medicare, the need for health care insurance necessitates that I return to work before COBRA ends some eighteen months from now.

Fundamentally, I am looking at this opportunity as a "sabbatical" as opposed to "retirement," so sometime before we get to the autumnal equinox, my resume will have to be ready.

I've been riding since I was nineteen when my roommate offered to let me take his newly acquired '72 Yamaha RD350 for a short ride while he was at work. I kicked the bike over and with a raucous "wwhhhiinnnggg" and a puff of blue smoke, I started to try working the throttle and clutch to see how the motor hooked up to the tranny, slowly revving it and watching the tach. I slowly released the clutch, gently twisted the throttle, and then carefully engaged the clutch and clicked into second. I then pulled in the clutch and stopped successfully. After repeating this exercise a few times on the street in front of our flat, I navigated the bike around the block, and with a wide grin on my face decided to head out a bit more. That turned out to be a four hour ride down to the shore taking many back roads to avoid traffic (and the law; I had no motorcycle endorsement or permit - yet!). That one event led to a lifelong passion for all two wheeled vehicles, preferably powered by an internal combustion engine, at least for the present.

Basically, my perspective from then was that I'd rather be riding than wrenching, given the time and money available. That began to change almost 10 years ago when I bought a Moto Guzzi LeMans IV, which necessitated almost immediately understanding a bit about carburetors and adjusting them. This was followed by a mid-November misadventure on the Goose with the rear of an SUV that demanded a rebuild of the forks, among other things.

So with that brief background, as the Chatter editor I'd like to provide articles on local rides and routes that we all enjoy and, in keeping with the "wrenching" side of the motorcycling experience, more technical articles as well. I'm looking forward to meeting fellow members and producing this newsletters, and if there's anything you'd like to see, or if you want to introduce yourself, please feel free to drop me a line at either my personal email address (azzivar@gmail.com) or to the editor's email address (editor@yankeechapter.org).

Hope to meet you all soon!

Greg

I noted the Perkiomen swap meet & vintage bike show event back in March when I had some time to review the upcoming events for 2018, both ACMA sponsored and others. Being a newly recruited member of the Yankee Chapter, I booked a room on Air B&B for a couple of days in Reading, PA, having guessed the late April weather could be cold, or rainy – or both. There would be other events to arrive on two wheels with!

I left Durham early Thursday morning, and arrived around 11. At first, Google Maps brought me to Jefferson Street, which is where the Vendors and those attending on bikes checked in, so I got redirected to the attendee parking lot down the road. I did notice a line or two of bikes, mostly mid twentieth century American vee twins. In my conversations with Ted about the club, it was clear it was rooted in Harleys and Indians, but that's only because those two came out on top by the time these machines were made; they "won" on this continent. I soon found out that there was fair representation from many marques across the western hemisphere, with a heavy hint of representatives from the other side of the world. It also became evident that the real focus here is an appreciation of the ingenuity and diversity of these machines, respective of their time and place in our lives and culture, and irrespective where they all come from.

I started exploring the vendors that had arrived; some were still setting up. Motors, frames, forks and all kinds of bits were on display, including whole bikes of all kinds. Diverted by a quick lunch and a stop by the Perkiomen Chapter tee shirt folks, I noticed that the theme of this years events was "Choppers and Bobbers", so I knew I was in for a treat! I grew tired rather quickly of the early 2000's "chopper craze" shows, though I did seek out the few shows about the cafe trend that followed. Modified bikes from the fifties, sixties and seventies is what I grew up with, and while some of those bikes that came from the American Chopper era were touted as "old school", they just weren't the same!

Here's a prime example – a hardtail Indian with an extended springer front end, fishtail pipes and a sissy bar! I love the patina – it looks well worn and ridden – just as it should!



And, here we go again! Keep on Truckin' --- yeah!



I didn't see this bike in the show on Saturday morning, but the fit and finish was pretty period correct, from my limited experience. For the "Chopper and Bobber" theme, it's a great example of the era, lookin' fresh!

I arrived again Friday, around mid-morning. With the rain that started earlier now coming down harder. The parking lot, now almost full, was getting muddy and slippery, so I put the truck into four wheeled drive and found a spot. It was amazing to see so many more folks at the meet! Despite the rain, folks were shopping for parts, discussing the weather, negotiating prices and having an all around good time.

I was able to meet up with Ted at one of the vendor sites where I was introduced to a bunch of long time members and collaborators. Apparently, Friday, rather than being a washout was the best day for the vendors, so much so that some of them actually were leaving early Friday evening, or perhaps to attend other events.

The last day was Saturday, the day of the judged show. I'd say there were probably around fifty or sixty bikes there, with a fair representation of bikes from the nineteen-tens through the early eighties. Here's just a few:



Unfortunately I had to leave the show, and Oley before noon to meet my son in Philly for lunch. I had a lot a fun, met a lot of great folks – and it's just the beginning!

Greg

RHODE ISLAND CAMP & RIDE – Event in Progress

by Greg Ravizza

I tried to get this edition published prior to attending the event, but I'm still learning and basically, I couldn't get it done in time to leave for West Greenwich from my home in Durham Connecticut. I had made arrangements to get my camping gear (not oriented for bike based traveling) there so I could take my '82 Vision.

It was a rather rainy week, including severe weather on Tuesday, and the forecast was pretty bleak for the weekend. Fortunately, both Thursday and Friday proved to be clear, but Saturday was still looking like a washout. Sitting here writing this and checking the radar Saturday morning proved to be correct, so I was glad that I made the decision to head home after the ride Critter lead on Friday.

Pulling in Thursday around six, and after meeting the others who came early, I gathered my gear and set it up. I spent the evening sitting around and exchanging stories, mostly about bikes, and as the evening progressed, TomTom and others related some stories about "Battery Bill", his longtime friend and member of the Yankee Chapter. Bill had passed earlier in the year from an accident not very far from the Tavern on the Hill, which provided the venue for the camp & ride weekend.

Though I never had an opportunity to meet Bill, I could tell from the various bits of stories that I heard that night and Friday, he was well respected and highly appreciated for his character and the re pore he had with all folks he encountered. As act of appreciation for TomTom and his efforts to make this weekend in memory of Bill, I decided to dedicate this edition to "Battery Bill".

As more folks rolled in on Friday, I continued to meet those members who came for the rides and for Bill. Friday's ride was led by Critter, and after a bit of organizing and swapping out a battery on his Indian, the roar of vee twins came to a crescendo just before one, and we left, headed for a local icon called "Tomahawk Rock" - see photo below.

We winded through the western Rhode Island countryside on mostly narrow and curvy two lane roads. We had to stop for five minutes to attend to one of the Indians that had a stuck throttle, and then onto the "Rock", where we stopped for a break and photos.



After that, we stopped for lunch before heading back. I decided to head out to avoid riding in the rain on Saturday, but I'm heading back later today on four wheels. I wanted to participate in the Steamship Round, and enjoy more company with my newfound friends.

**New
Location**

Yankee Chapter National Meet August 3 - 4, 2018 Terryville Lions Fairgrounds Terryville, CT

On site Friday night banquet
Food on grounds
Friday morning thru
Saturday afternoon

Maps and Motels
Use Google Maps
Town Hill Road
Terryville, CT

Yankee Chapter Style Judging
Friday following Road Run
A.M.C.A. Judging
Saturday 10:00 AM

Camping on grounds for
A.M.C.A. members and guests
Must show valid A.M.C.A.
card to camp or vend.
Camping available
Thursday, Friday and
Saturday nights.

Show off your riding skills.
Field Games
Saturday Afternoon

Judging Information:
Peter MacMurray
(508) 429-4592
pjmacmurray@gmail.com
On-site registration closes
at 10:00 AM Saturday
Judging to follow

**No admittance to
meet before Noon
Thursday August 2**

Join us on a Friday afternoon
road run through scenic
Western Connecticut.
Bring your bikes and
RIDE 'EM.

Early arrivals
Please see

Printable National Meet Vending,
Camping information and rules at
yankeechapter.org/terryvillenationalmeet.shtml

General Info:
www.yankeechapter.org
Still Have Questions:
Ted Smith
(203) 675-4894
oldbmws@yahoo.com

"Ride 'Em, Don't Hide 'Em"

Visit www.yankeechapter.org for schedule of events

ANNOUNCEMENTS (and such)

FUTURE CLUB EVENTS

- May 18-19, 2018 - Rhode Island Camp & Ride - see previous page for details
- July 20, 2018 - Indian Day at the Springfield Museums, Springfield MA
- August 3-4, 2018 - Yankee Chapter AMCA National Meet in Terryville, CT
- September 8, 2018 - Cannonball: Portland, ME to Keene, NH Ride
- December 3, 2018 - Yankee Chapter Christmas Pot Luck/General Meeting at the Oxford, MA VFW

OTHER EVENTS

- June 4-9, 2018 - Americade
- June 10-13, 2018 - Hudson Valley Chapter National Road Run
- July 15-16, 2018 - Rhinebeck "Replacement Ride" - I still need to get details
- July 20-22, 2018 - Wauseon National Meet, Wauseon OH
- September 23, 2018 - Keene, NH Swap Meet - Cheshire Fairgrounds

FOR SALE OR SWAP/WANTED, OTHER EVENT NOTICES, STORIES, ARTICLES OR PICS

Please send your requests and/or content to me

SNAIL-MAIL:

Greg Ravizza
34 Patterson Lane
Durham, CT 06522

CALL OR TEXT ME:

860.729.3143

EMAIL:

azzivar@gmail.com