

Yankee Chatter

July 2007

Yankee Chapter AMCA

Rhinebeck 2007 is in the (saddle) bag

Hebron August 4-6

You've got you be there. An important chapter discussion will be held regarding Rhinebeck and our own meets.

Several Board of Director positions are due to change this December. If you would like to help shape the future of the club, contact Will Paley for more information and to let him know you are interested. 860-672-0130

Do you like to use the WWW? Are you interested in Harley JDs? Try my Yahoo user group at: Harleyjd@yahogroups.com

81 members from around the world.

If you have a favorite antique site to share, send it along to me and I'll include it next issue!

This is YOUR newsletter—send me a story, parts ads, meet info, photos, weddings, obituary, rude remarks, etc.

Happy Birthday George Yarocki!

The long anticipated event occurred as planned, and by all accounts was a great success.

Six Northeast area chapters combined efforts to host a large meet using the calendar slot of the Harmony meet, and the field of the Empire meet. Yankees were involved in the setting up, measuring, and handling vendors under the guidance of Steve Cicalone. Let's all thank Steve for the time and effort he puts into this function! It takes a lot more time and work than people realize.

There was a lot of concerns about the draw of vendors and participants, the quality of the site, and the ability to coordinate such a meet. Dan Henke, the President of the Hudson Valley chapter had been hosting coalition meetings where participants from the six chapter met to develop the meet plan, determine the strategy and divide up the work. Those planning meetings were held in the V-



A view of the timeline of bikes

Twin factory in Newburgh New York with the support of Ted and his father.

I'd never been to the Rhinebeck meets in my 16 years of club involvement, and found the field to be excellent. The shade trees made for some nice vending spots, the wide roads made for some good riding of very old bikes, the restrooms and support buildings such as museums were well kept.

We had 275 vendor space sold. There was no lack of parts of all types and brands.

One of the highlights of the event was the time line of cycles brainstormed by Steve Barber. He had machines from a 1900 3 wheeler to '72 FL's and imports.

We also had a large number of non-AMCA spectators from the local area. Each of these is a potential new club member. A high quality meet can

help others get involved.

2008 planning is underway— please send me your thoughts. **YOU ARE IMPORTANT!!**

Yankee National Meet at Hebron, CT. August 3-5

Of course the Rhinebeck meet has created a lot of consternation among Yankee members wondering what is going to happen to our wonderful meet? Along with Will and Steve I have been representing the Yankees on the coalition board. It is very important to get this club's energy and ideas into the planning and running of Rhinebeck and Hebron in 2008. On Saturday afternoon (4th) I'm going to host a round table discussion at Hebron to

go over the current '08 plans and to get YOUR input and feedback for the coalition. **It is also not too early to sign up to help promote the event in ways that are special to you. Call me 603-458-5013 evenings.**

Rhinebeck 2008

Does it seem like everyone is talking about the Rhinebeck National? Well, I think they are. I have had the honor of representing the Yankee Chapter at the coalition meetings and would like to use this section of the newsletter to update the membership as to the planning for 2008.

First, it will help to understand the mission statement of the coalition: "Create an event that will draw in non AMCA spectators. Excite those spectators to become members and join their respective chapters. Encourage younger membership in the club. "

Keeping that mission in mind will clarify the thought process behind some of the plans for '08.

One of the issues that came up in 07 was the Timeline drew a lot of locals through word of mouth to come on Sunday, but the timeline was gone. For '08 the plan is to provide two full days of antique motorcycle shows. It has not been decided whether it will be 2 days of timeline, or some other event, but the goal is to provide something special for the spectator to see, no matter when they arrive.

Also along those lines will be a vendor policy designed to keep the show from drying up. Although the specific times are not set yet, the model for this can be found in hot rod, antique, and other motorcycle shows. Vendors will have entrance and exit times each day. This will preclude vendors from leaving at 3pm on Saturday, or noon on Sunday. Vendors will be expected to stay for the full Saturday period before leaving, and if they stay for Sunday will stay till the end of that day as well.

We have been trying to plan either a concourse D'elégance or an auction, however neither is firmed up, and needs some sponsor, promotion and a lot of work to put in place and may not happen in 08.

Another point to be made is that of the National's involvement. It has been clarified by Dennis Craig, our National Treasurer and also a coalition member, that the National is not trying to run the meet or design the meet. The National does want a great meet in the Northeast, and they do want the chapters to succeed and prosper. They are happy with what we accomplished in 07, and do not plan to interfere. The meet is our meet.

For '08 we plan to have meet maps to show where vendors are on the field along with other field elements.

The antique machinery club was very happy with the draw of people to the field and want to continue on the field during 08, and the coalition did agree to have them.

There will not be any new parts vendors, jackets, etc., as previously thought. We've got enough going on to use up the field without it. We will allow restoration supplies and tools, along with certain approved non-profits, such as a blood drive— if those non-profits apply for participation.

There will be a lot more of the food and drink vending open on the fairgrounds. The banquet is being redone under a committee chaired by Don Spence.

A lot more promotion is planned for the event, and this is where the Yankees can play an *important* role. Each chapter will find ways to promote the meet through advertising, flyers, booths and tables at shows, and other creative ways to get the word out. If you would like to be part of promotions for the Yankees please let me know right away. **It is not too early to start.**

There will be daily fees for attendees: AMCA members, \$10 day or \$15 for the weekend; non AMCA is \$15 and \$25.

The charge for the meet site, which is in the \$30,000 range, has been waived in lieu of 70% of the gate fees. The Rhinebeck site management will man the gates and collect the fees. The remaining 30% goes to the chapters after other types of expenses are deducted.

There will be additional high level meet shirts designed and sold by a 3rd party.

There will not be the goat show going on and that will allow additional vending spaces as well as a better exit road for vendors.

The meet will be on the "same weekend", that is the 2nd weekend in June.

There is work being done to define what the 2 days of shows should be. One idea being explored is maintaining the Timeline of bikes over both days. Security will be used overnight, and/or the bikes may be moved into the glass buildings. So many bikes got added at the show, for 08 it will be pre-registration only in order to manage the planning and space requirements.

Wall of Death may be on site.

There may be an opportunity for bikes to take to the race track, but this is totally undecided at this time.

What's in it for us? For one thing, we can be part of a great meet. We can help an event succeed. We can share in the benefits— money, pride, satisfaction. We can use the money as we see fit— perhaps expand our charitable donations, or defray the cost of Hebron, etc. As a chapter we may grow with new members. As a chapter, we are ensuring future viability: if the Rhinebeck meet takes its toll on Hebron as some have predicted, we can use the opportunity to think of new ways for the club to interact, and we won't be so dependant upon the Hebron cash flow for chapter survival.



Another view of the Timeline machines



A nice array of Big Twins and others from the 60s



Hey honey— let's go for a ride! How they did it in the old days!!



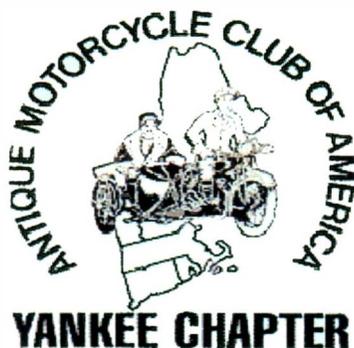
A 108 year old bicycle with helper motor.

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Ride Em'



Don't Hide Em'
Established 1973

www.yankeechapter.org thanks
to Jim Casey



Do you like competition bikes or veterans? Both were in the Timeline

Director's Message

I went to Oley with Jim Fenn again; this must make 10 years in a row. Somehow Oley is always terrific-not just because its big, but because its first. Everybody is really pumped to see their friends and smell the fumes from some OLD BIKES. I was busy looking for a bike to take to MOTOGIRO, and although I didn't buy any, several people offered to lend me a small displacement European bike for a weekend in September.

I spent most of the time there with Yankee and Empire Chapter members. Both of us have busy seasons planned: us with Rhinebeck and Hebron (last hurrah?), and they with Rhinebeck and a road-run. Elaine and I have moved into our new home, and it is great. Our new address is: 15 Poughkeepsie Turnpike, Cornwall, CT 06796. PH 860-610-0130

Regard, Will

(Due to the lateness of this newsletter, some of Will's message is no longer applicable- he was looking for folks to help at Rhinebeck. I owe the club an apology for getting off on the wrong foot and not getting a newsletter out prior to Rhinebeck. Dan)

Here's Nancy and Larry Cook (in the background) anxiously watching the judging of their fine, rare, 1945E civilian. Talk about scrutiny!

They achieved 93 points, just missing a Senior. Check it out at Hebron.

