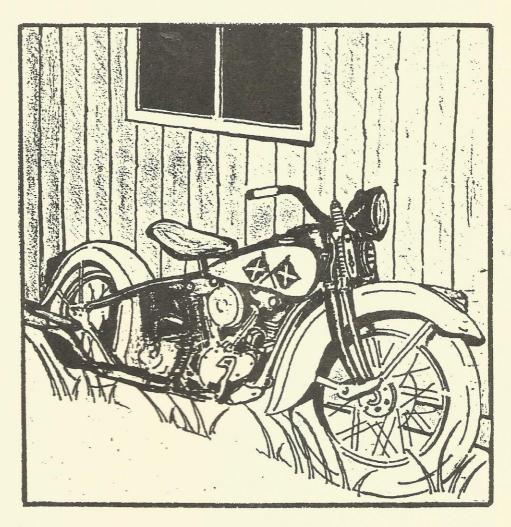
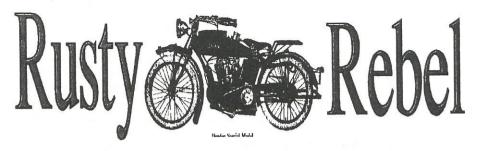
Winter 1996

# THE RUSTY REBEL



A PUBLICATION OF THE CONFEDERATE CHAPTER OF THE ANTIQUE MOTORCYCLE CLUB OF AMERICA



Rusty Rebel Newsletter

WINTER 1996

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#### THE COLONEL SPEAKS

The antique world lost one of it's great treasures this fall. George Isbell passed away just before Thanksgiving. George loved his old motorcycles and his Packards. But most of all George loved people. I never remember him ever saying anything bad about anyone.

George was a wealth of knowledge and he loved to share it. Had he been a coach I'm sure his team could have won the Superbowl. Regardless of the task you faced. George instilled the confidence you needed to overcome any challenge. I know Margaret and his family will miss him . I certainly will.

The 1997 National Roadrun will be here before we know it. We've got lots of work to do before it gets here. Our next few meetings will be very busy finalizing the details of the Roadrun. This is an official draft notice for all members. Just remember, you don't have to be present to get drafted into a job, so be smart and join up.

There is one very important job that we need a volunteer for. This is for the Chase Vehicle. I've done this several times in the past and it's a lot of fun. It's also very rewarding to rescue one of our visitors and get them back on road. For any of you that might not have a road worthy bike and want to know how you can contribute ... this is it. I would hope to have more than one volunteer so we could rotate responsibilities.

Thanks for everyone's efforts on the Roadrun that have gotten us this far, but there is still plenty of work left to do. We look forward to the challenge. It should be a very exciting 1997.

I would like to offer a special thanks to Tina and the Elliots for hosting another great Christmas party. We appreciate all of the hard work.

Regards,

Calvin Burnett

#### THE GRAPEVINE --

Our yearly election of officers was held in October. All current officers will remain in office with the exception of Kaye Ragan as our secretary. Kaye's attending the University of Memphis and her classes will conflict with our meetings. Tina Schmalshof will fill the secretarial position for 1997. Thanks Kaye for a job well done.

The club meetings have been filled making arrangements for our Hot Springs roadrun. For those members who have been unable to attend our meetings lately, please try to keep in touch with our other members so that you will know what is planned for the upcoming June event. We hope all our members will be able to attend the roadrun and make it one of our best.

I'm sad to say that we lost one of our long standing members of the Confederate Chapter on November 21, 1996. George Isbell lost his battle with cancer and we lost a fine gentleman and a true friend.

It looks like our club is going to the Indians. Three of our members (Gilbert, Doug and Peter G.) have recently purchased Indians. Congratulations guys. Hope you all have them ready for Hot Springs.

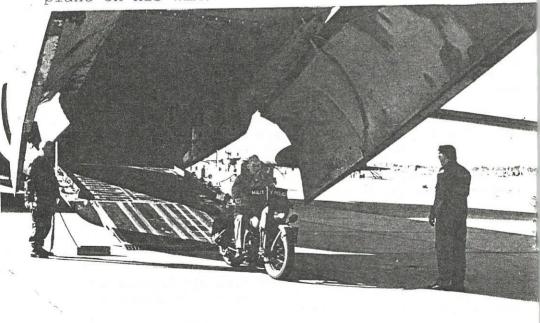
I just acquired a 1950 BMW R50/2 with a Kali chair. Not that I know anything at all about BMW's!! I admired the bike on our roadrun in Vicksburg several years ago, but missed a chance to purchase it. When it was offered for sale again in September, Billy agreed to let me get it. No more bikes for me — two's enough, especially when they are so different with gears on the opposite sides and one with a chair. Needless to say, riding with a chair is quite different from riding a bike alone.

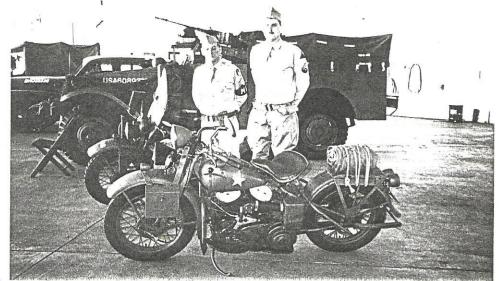
John Munoz has bounced back from his illness and is doing just fine (see photo). We are so glad you're back to your ole self John!!!!!

Our annual Christmas party was hosted by Ron Lew and Tina and was a great get-together as always. Thanks for your hospitality. Several of our out of town members attended the party and it was great seeing them again.

On October 22, 1996, Steve Brown, Lee Rudd and Robert Scott participated in the Tennessee Air National Guard 50th Anniversary Celebration held in Memphis. In addition to being members of our club, they are also members of the Military Vehicle Preservation Assoc. as is another one of our members, Clark Bennett. The anniversary celebration included World War II vehicles, reenactments and displays. Dressed in WWII attire, Steve and Robert displayed their WLA's and Lee displayed his weapons carrier. The bikes and other military vehicles were loaded onto a C130 transport plane. The guys really had an enjoyable day.

Below: Robert Scott exiting a C130 transport plane on his WLA.





Above: Steve Brown and Robert Scott in World

War II attire with their WLA's.

Below: Jeanie T & John M. on his little Corgi paratrooper bike at a British car/cycle meet.



IT IS WITH REGRET THAT I REPORT THE DEATH OF A GOOD FRIEND AND LONG TIME AMC MEMBER, GEORGE ISBELL. GEORGE WAS A CHARTER MEMBER OF THE CONFEDERATE CHAPTER. I MET GEORGE SHORTLY AFTER PURCHASING MY FIRST INDIAN, A 1946 CHIEF, IN 1976. OVER THE PAST 20 YEARS HE HAS HELPED ME, ALONG WITH MANY OTHERS, COUNTLESS TIMES WITH HIS EXPERTISE, TIME AND CRAFTSMANSHIP IN MAKING THESE OLD MACHINES COME TO LIFE. GEORGE'S MOTTO WAS "IF WE CAN'T FIND THE PART, WE'LL MAKE IT."

GEORGE, WITH HIS WIFE MARGARET, MADE MANY MEMORABLE TRIPS ON HIS INDIAN CHIEF IN THE 30'S and 40's. ONE OF MY FAVORITE WAS THEIR TRIP TO THE NEW YORK WORLD'S FAIR IN 1939. ALTHOUGH THAT WOULD BE QUITE A TRIP EVEN TODAY, YOU MUST KEEP IN MIND THAT THERE WERE NO EXPRESSWAYS OR MOTEL CHAINS IN '39. THEY TRAVELED A TWO LANE HIGHWAY, AT BEST, THAT WOUND AROUND EVERY COURTHOUSE IN EVERY TOWN THEY PASSED THROUGH. WHILE ON THIS TRIP THEY VISITED THE INDIAN FACTORY IN SPRINGFIELD, MASS. THEY HAD CLOSED OFF CERTAIN SECTIONS OF THE FACTORY BECAUSE THEY WERE TOOLING UP FOR THE 1940 MODELS AND THEY WANTED TO KEEP IT SECRET. THEY TOLD GEORGE THERE WOULD BE SOME BIG CHANGES MADE IN 1940. AFTER GEORGE RETURNED HOME, HE FOUND OUT THAT IN 1940 THEY WOULD INTRODUCE THE SKIRTED FENDERS AND SPRING FRAME THAT THEY ARE SO FAMOUS FOR NOW.

I THINK MANY OF US RIDE THE OLD INDIANS, BSA'S AND YES EVEN THE HARLEY'S TO RECAPTURE THE STYLE AND GRACE OF A PAST ERA. IT IS AS CLOSE AS WE CAN COME TO OWNING A TIME MACHINE. I BELIEVE GEORGE EXEMPLIFIED THE BEST OF THAT ERA, WHEN HONESTY, INTEGRITY AND A MAN'S HANDSHAKE MEANT MORE THAN JUST WORDS. GEORGE AND MARGARET CELEBRATED THEIR 60TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY THE SUNDAY PRIOR TO HIS DEATH. GOD BLESS YOU GEORGE, YOU SURE BLESSED THOSE OF US THAT KNEW YOU.

CLARK BENNETT

Byrl Fleming with his #57 cycle that won second place in his class in the Davenport antique races this year. It might have been a first place win if the engine on his other bike, which was faster, hadn't seized during the first heat race.



ZINNIE'S EAST RESTAURANT 1718 MADISON AVENUE MEMPHIS, TN

7:30 P.M. 2ND THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH

1997 MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE IN JANUARY, 1997. PLEASE MAIL YOUR CHECK TO LEE SO THAT YOU WON'T MISS OUT ON ANY OF OUR GREAT NEWSLETTERS.

### FOR SALE:

1958 HD 74" PANHEAD DUOGLIDE. RED, MINT CONDITION, 90% ORIGINAL. NEW RIMS, SPOKES AND TIRES. FRESH ENGINE/TRANSMISSION. CONTACT JACK @ (901)757-1152. \$15,000 O.B.O.

## HAPPY NEW YEAR