

# Trail Gazette

May 2015

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## April 18, 2015 Meeting Minutes

At a potluck lunch with the Northwest Car and Motorcycle Museum, our OTC President Gene Walker and Treasurer Tom Ruttan each received recognition for their work with the museum.

Afterwards, President Gene Walker led us to the old gas station and called the meeting to order at 2:16 pm. The meeting was held on the campus of the Antique Powerland Museum in Brooks, OR.

### Officers in Attendance:

President Gene Walker, Vice President Bruce Reichelt, Treasurer Tom Ruttan and your faithful Secretary, Tom Krise.

### Attendees:

Jackie Colwell, Chuck Hodson, David Michael, Jim and Rosie Singhose, Woody Woodson, and our newsletter team, Tom and Jen Nielsen.

### Treasurer Report:

*Treasurer Tom Ruttan gave the current financial report, and the data from our July Road Run.*

### Old Business:

- ✿ Secretary Tom gave the correspondence/road run report, including progress in booking Spirit Mountain Casino to host our July Road Run.
- ✿ Our Saturday banquet will be hosted by Fort Hill Restaurant. Tom asked how many club members will be able to bring pop-up canopies for our July road run. And good news: Gene found the club banner!
- ✿ Regarding the issue of the web domain, Jen signed up on a four year plan well within the approved budget through Go-Daddy. Jen is working on getting the site set up. Our new site will be: [antiquemotorcycleoregon.com](http://antiquemotorcycleoregon.com)

- ✿ Jen & Tom N. reported on working with Paradise Harley in Tigard when we could have some sort of classic motorcycle day. They will work with PHD and Gene to schedule a date.

### New Business:

- ✿ After a discussion of costs and how much should we charge for the road run, Jen motioned and Rosie 2<sup>nd</sup> that we expedite the creation of a road run ad for our and other AMCA newsletters. Motion passed.
- ✿ Under announcements, Treasurer Tom informed us that on June 27, Steve and Jan Prokop will hold their annual BMW gathering (BMW's to show, all riders welcome). It will be held at the Northwest Car and Motorcycle Museum at Brooks. Perhaps we can put together a joint arrival with the OVM & OTC?
- ✿ SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT: NEXT MEETING IS OFFICER ELECTION. ALL POSITIONS ARE UP FOR GRABS. BECOMING AN OFFICER IS REWARDING, AND NOT THAT DIFFICULT!
- ✿ Tom N motioned and Jen 2<sup>nd</sup> the meeting be adjourned. Motion passed. It was 3:10 pm.

### NEXT MEETING:

**Saturday, May 30, 2015**

### Tom's Ride, Backyard BBQ

1615 Court St NE, Salem

Arrive 9am, ride leaves 10am. Return 12:30-1pm. BBQ with all the trimmings.

### Meeting and officer elections afterwards

PLEASE RSVP 503-881-1699 voice or text

Motorcycles only park in front of house  
Trailers & cars park at Church at 3<sup>rd</sup> & Chemeketa

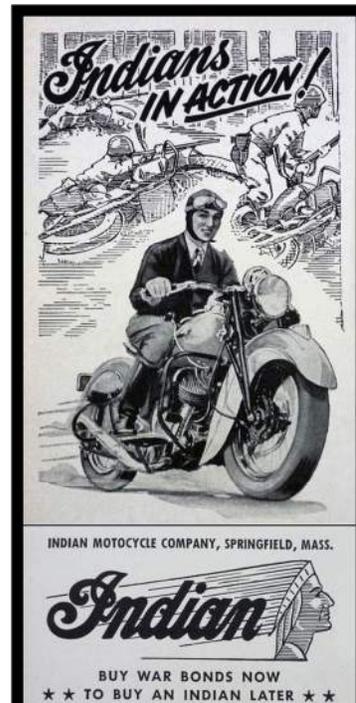
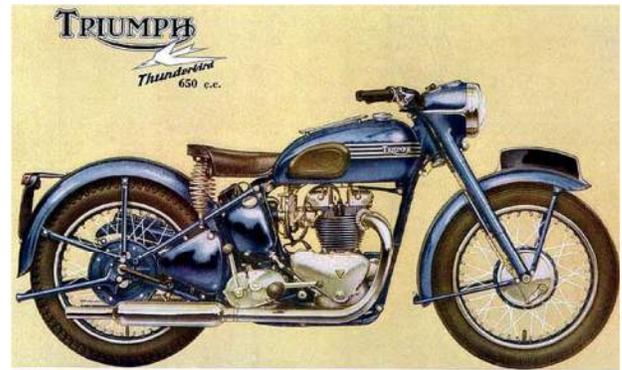


## Member Profile

This feature highlights an interview with an OTC member to share interests, information, and stories to help us get to know each other better. This month's interview is with **Tom Ruttan**, our treasurer. Tom was born and raised in Seattle, WA, and after graduating from high school, attended the University of Washington, earning a degree in electrical engineering in 1969. He worked for an electronics firm in the San Francisco Bay area, and there he enrolled part-time at Stanford and earned a Master's Degree in electrical engineering. His first memory of motorcycles was his brother-in-law's Hodaka in about 1968. He got the motorcycle bug from a friend at work who had a Triumph Bonneville, modified into a chopper. Tom's first bike was a Honda CB 175. In 1971, he bought a 1952 Triumph Thunderbird "basketcase" - he sold off many of the original parts to make it into a "cool" chopper like so many others in California at that time. By 1973, he started to look for original parts to restore the Thunderbird, but it was still a hodge-podge. In 1975, Tom bought a 1942 Indian Chief, also a "basketcase." He found the Indian in the paper; a guy had bought a wrecking yard full of old Indians in Alabama. This guy brought the collection to a warehouse in Santa Clara, CA. Tom was able to get the Indian mechanically running, but not cosmetically restored. In 1980, Tom moved to Portland and ran the Indian on club runs to sort it out before doing the cosmetic restoration. He joined the Oregon Vintage Motorcycle club and met Kenny Edmiston (who later was one of the founders of OTC). Tom credits Kenny with helping him to finish the restoration of the Indian. Tom sold the Indian about 15 years ago and has since focused his collection on Triumphs, with a few BSAs, as well as a Matchless. Over the years, he obtained inventories of British parts and started a mail order business - he found the business was good way to ruin a perfectly good hobby and got out of the business. Tom leans towards the "pre-unit" Triumphs (those with a separate engine crankcase, primary case, and transmission case). Tom likes the styling of those old bikes. Tom got his inspiration for working on bikes from helping his dad work on their '51 and '56 Fords. He said he gets a lot of satisfaction in fixing a bike and learning about them. Over the years, the skills improve, the restorations get better, and there is great comradery among the community of people that are similarly interested.

One of his favorite memories was a bike trip from the San Francisco Bay area to Yosemite National Park on his '52 Triumph chopper with his buddy on his 350 Honda. That trip sparked his enjoyment for touring. On that trip, as they were getting into Yosemite, the lights on his bike started fading. His friend had to lead, and light, the way. Tom found that the ammeter failed. He "fixed" the problem by bypassing the ammeter so the generator could directly recharge the battery. On the way out of Yosemite, his heavy saddlebags, loosely draped over the rear fender, bounced around and derailed his chain.

Tom is currently restoring a 1949 Triumph Grand Prix factory race bike and has just finished a 1966 Triumph Bonneville TT Special factory race bike. His wife Cynthia and he have three children, son Greg 39, son Tim 36, and daughter Denise, 33.



## Two Wheels Around Town

We report on events in the area that include antique motorcycles.

### April 18<sup>th</sup> OTC Meeting

With the weather's cooperation, several members rode motorcycles to the meeting. Antique bikes in attendance included David Michael's 1947 Indian Chief (Indian Red), Tom Krise's 1953 Indian Roadmaster, and Bruce Reichelt's 1971 BMW R75/5. Non-antique bikes included three Harley Sportsters owned by Woody Woodson, Jen Nielsen, and Tom Nielsen.



*Tom Ruttan's 1949 Triumph Grand Prix Factory Racer*

### Garage "Crash"

After the OTC meeting, members Bruce Reichelt and Tom & Jen Nielsen dropped by (unannounced) at Tom Ruttan's house. Tom Ruttan graciously gave us a tour of his garage and his current project, a 1949 Triumph Grand Prix factory race bike.



*Bruce Reichel's 1971 BMW R75/5*

### SUBMISSIONS TO NEWSLETTER:

Please submit article contributions, classified advertisements, photos, trip reports, and suggestions by the second Thursday of each month. Prefer Word or Adobe PDF for text and .jpg or PDF for graphics to [nielsents@comcast.net](mailto:nielsents@comcast.net)

*Thanks, Tom and Jen*



### **BMW Open House, April 18th**

The same group that crashed Mr. Ruttans, went to Tigard to attend an Open House sponsored by BMW of Tigard. The dealership cordially provided barbeque, corn bread, miniature cupcakes, and Rusty Truck brewing. Jen wore her Harley tee shirt and was asked by a BMW owner: "You know this *is* a BMW dealer?" "Yes" Jen replied, "but isn't it OK if I like more than one brand of motorcycle?"

At the BMW Open House were a couple antique bikes, a 1979 Yamaha XS 650 and a BMW.R65.



### **Steel Stampede, May 2-3, Bend, OR**

The annual Northwest American Historic Racing Motorcycle Association (AHRMA) vintage motorcycle trials competition and motocross race was held at the Crooked River Ranch north of Bend. This event has been held since 2006. The trials competition was Saturday. A Trial event is split into sections where a competitor rides slowly through ten obstacle courses (sections), one at a time, while attempting to avoid touching the ground with the feet. Every rider follows a specific 'line' through each section, depending on their abilities and the type of

motorcycle they are riding. Trials motorcycles are distinctive in that they are extremely lightweight, lack seating (they're designed to be ridden standing up) and have a very short suspension travel.



Vintage Trials sections are made up of 3 different lines (1, 2, and 3). The 3 line is the easiest and is used by the oldest bikes and also less skilled riders. The 2 line is for intermediate riders and generally the bikes will be newer than 1960. The 1 line is for experts who typically ride "newer" (still pre-1975) bikes. Trials is a very old sport, in 2011 it celebrated the 100th Anniversary of the Scottish Six Days, which were held in Edinburgh, Scotland and which is still run today.

In every section, the competitor is scored by an observer (hence the sport's full name of "Observed Trials") who counts how many times the competitor touches the ground with the foot (or any other part of the body). Each time a competitor touches the ground with a foot, the penalty is one point. Possible scores in each section are 0 through 5. If a rider falls, they get a score of 5. There were 70 competitors in the trials, including OTC member Chuck Hodson on his 1968 Honda.



### **Steel Stampede, May 2-3, Bend, OR (cont'd)**

On Sunday were the motocross races. There are numerous classes, divided *generally* by age of riders (open, 40 50 60, and 70+), skill level (novice, intermediate, and expert), and size of the motorcycle (100, 125, 250, and 500 cc).

Motocross started life as Scrambles events begun as a British form of motorsport in the mid 1920's. Run on a mainly natural terrain course with some man-made obstacles like jumps, these events were very popular and were 'imported' to the United States, where they became known as Motocross. Riders participate in two "motos" for their class (morning and afternoon), competing head-to-head against their peers. Scoring for



Motocross is simpler than trials, first to the finish line wins! The two Moto scores are combined, and the class winner is the rider with the best combined scores from both Motos. (descriptions courtesy of Steel Stampede WordPress).





# RENDEZVOUS



**2015** The Fourth Annual

**Saturday, June 27<sup>th</sup>, 8:00am to 4:00pm**

For Car & Motorcycle Clubs & All-comers to display their Vehicles

**Just to:**

***“Get Together, Talk Cars & Bikes, Have Fun”***

Admission is \$5.00 Per Person No Cost to Register your Vintage Vehicle  
Vehicles will be parked on the Chandler Show Field behind the Museum  
Registrations can be found on the Museum's Web Site [nwcaraandcycle.com](http://nwcaraandcycle.com), or  
by email at [office@nwcaraandcycle.com](mailto:office@nwcaraandcycle.com) or  
call Don Petersen in Portland at 503-246-6939  
or Doug Nelson in Salem at 503-399-0647

Preregistration is encouraged, Mail to: PO Box 15, Salem Or. 97308-0015  
There will be food, a raffle, a look at the Museum



Visiting Public: \$5.00 at main entrance

See the Museums newest headliner a 1909 Cadillac  
that has been in Oregon since 1909



Hosted By:

**NW Vintage Car & Motorcycle Museum**

Back at the Texaco Station in

Antique Powerland Museums

3995 Brooklake Rd, Brooks, OR

(I-5 exit #263, ¼ mile west)





**35<sup>th</sup> Annual Vintage Motorcycle Ride, Show, and Swap Meet** was held May 16-17<sup>th</sup> at the Benton County Fairgrounds in Corvallis. The ride was on Saturday and show on Sunday. Peoples Choice Awards competition was held for American, British, Asian, European, and Scooter motorcycle categories. Photo highlights are on this page with more on our website. Owners are listed when provided at the display.



*Nils Olson's 1939 Harley-Davidson 61 ci EL*



*M. Tillson's 1951 Ariel 46 MKI, 1,000 cc*



*Arne Ostraat's 1955 Matchless G80S, 500 cc*



*1947 Indian*



### **Oregon Trail Chapter, AMCA Rally July 16 – 19<sup>th</sup>**

**Headquarters:** Spirit Mountain Casino, Grand Ronde, OR, Purple Lot

**Thursday,** July 16<sup>th</sup>: Registration, Social Hour

**Friday,** July 17<sup>th</sup>, Ride  
Dinner hosted by OTC at the Casino

**Saturday,** July 18<sup>th</sup>, Ride  
Dinner at the Fort Hill Restaurant, Willamina, OR

**Sunday,** July 19<sup>th</sup> Depart

**Lodging:** Spirit Mountain Casino, **800-760-7977**  
Special Rates Available until June 16<sup>th</sup> at 5 P.M.  
Group "AMCA"

**More Details to come: to be emailed  
to members and on our website**

### **National AMCA Rules on Alcohol**

The National Board of AMCA ruled that no AMCA chapter may purchase alcohol for AMCA national or chapter events. Individuals may still purchase alcohol from licensed establishments.



## Joke of the Month

Not all of the members are engineers. But there are enough of them to warrant some good natured ribbing. Especially at one of the editors: "How do you tell an introverted engineer from an extroverted engineer?"

"The extroverted engineer looks at your shoes when they talk to you."

## Classified

Harley ¾ Helmet with tinted shield, size XL, reg \$160, sale \$100. Worn once.

[nielsents@comcast.net](mailto:nielsents@comcast.net)

## Help Needed:

### **Subject: 1962 XLCH Sportster**

Someone on AMCA Facebook recommended contacting you to help me find a mechanic to work on my 1962 XLCH Sportster. It was running last year, but I haven't been able to get it started since. They suggested I put a different carb on it (currently has a Bendix) and have the points on the magneto changed out. I really want to get bike to where I can start it myself, but I'm having difficulty finding someone that I can trust to do the work. I also have other antique motos that need some work. I live in Portland. (photo below). Beth :

[betherfly22@gmail.com](mailto:betherfly22@gmail.com)



## Ride Invite:

Subject: June ride

Name: Tom Deem

Email: [tomdeem49@gmail.com](mailto:tomdeem49@gmail.com)

Message: John Stanley is hosting a ride June 25th - 27th. This is a great chance for more of our members to get to know each other. John does all the route planning work but we could call it a combination Evergreen & Oregon Trails event. Accommodations run short in Hood River so planning ahead is prudent. ,

Tom Deem, President, Evergreen Chapter, AMCA

## Upcoming Events

Date	Event
May 19	Rose City Motorcycle Club "500" Tour Rally Many awards including oldest motorcycle <a href="http://www.rose-city-mc.org/RCEventfliers/500.html">http://www.rose-city-mc.org/RCEventfliers/500.html</a>
May 24	Ishi Chapter AMCA Show & Swap Meet Chico, California <a href="http://www.ishiamca.org">www.ishiamca.org</a>
May 29-30	20 <sup>th</sup> Annual CJMC Classic Japanese Show & Swap Auburn, California <a href="http://www.cjmc.org">www.cjmc.org</a>
May 30	AMCA Oregon Trail Chapter Ride and BBQ Tom Krise Residence See "Next Meeting" on page 1 for details
June 6	The Friends of Steve McQueen Show Chino Hills, California <a href="http://www.stevemcqueencarshow.com">www.stevemcqueencarshow.com</a>
June 13	Cruisin Sherwood, Sherwood, Oregon <a href="http://cruisinsherwood.org">cruisinsherwood.org</a>
June 15-21	Marymount Motorcycle Week LeMay Collection Tacoma, Washington <a href="http://www.lemaymarymount.org/marymount-motorcycle-week/">http://www.lemaymarymount.org/marymount-motorcycle-week/</a>
June 19-20	Fort Sutter National Meet Dixon Fairgrounds, Dixon, California <a href="http://amcafortsutter.org">amcafortsutter.org</a>
June 20	Powroll/Redwood Engineering Regional Trials Event <a href="http://www.ahrmanw.org">www.ahrmanw.org</a> Tacoma, Washington
June 26-28	Regional Trials & Motocross Oakland Vintage Weekend <a href="http://www.ahrmanw.org">www.ahrmanw.org</a> Oakland, Oregon
June 27-28	7th Annual Born Free Vintage Chopper and Classic Cycle Show Silverado, California <a href="http://www.bornfreeshow.com">http://www.bornfreeshow.com</a>
July 11-12	Regional Trials & Motocross Hannegan Speedway Bellingham, Washington <a href="http://www.ahrmanw.org">www.ahrmanw.org</a>
July 16-19	<b>Oregon Trail Chapter, AMCA Rally</b> Spirit Mountain Casino, Grand Ronde, Oregon <a href="http://antiquemotorcycleoregon.com">antiquemotorcycleoregon.com</a>

## More photos from the OVM Show and Swap Meet



1969 BSA Starfire, 250 cc



1965 BMW R60/2, 600 cc



1935 Morgan Super Sport, Water Cooled 990 cc Matchless Motor, 3 speed with reverse, chain drive. Two seater.



Hodaka  
1975 100cc Road Toad  
Restored 2008 by  
Kolby McAdams  
High School senior  
project



John Adsmont's 1974 Kawasaki H2, 750 cc

Oregon Trail Chapter, AMCA

