

Trail Gazette

July - August 2015

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June 27, 2015 Meeting Minutes

Gathered amidst a classic auto and motorcycle drive/ride in, President Gene Walker called the meeting to order at 12:15 pm at the Old Gas Station at Brooks Powerland.

Officers in Attendance:

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

Attendees:

Jackie Colwell, Chuck Hodson, Norlene Wolbert, Nils Olsen, and our Newsletter team, Tom and Jen Nielsen.

Treasurer Report:

The treasurer report was given by Treasurer Tom.

Old Business:

Discussion of next month's road run dominated. We tallied available tables and pop-up canopies. Tom K. said he'd check on chair rental. Tom K and Gene briefly discussed the routes. Tom N. offered to assist with map making.

Tom K. motioned and Jen 2nd that Jackie's \$35 passenger road run fee be waived, as she's operating the sag wagon. Motion passed.

New Business:

- Secretary Tom asked members to like the Oregon Trail Chapter, AMCA on FACEBOOK.
- The meeting for July 25th was scheduled at the meeting (was subsequently cancelled because of a conflict with the Steam-Up at Antique Powerland. For a view of the Steam-Up, see:

http://antiquepowerland.com/html/steam-up_memories.html

- Jen motioned and Secretary Tom 2nd that the meeting be adjourned. Motion passed. It was 12:54 pm.

NEXT MEETING: Saturday, August 29, 2015

High Noon, The Old Texaco Gas Station, Antique Powerland, 3995 Brooklake Road NE, Brooks, Oregon. **It will be a Potluck.**



Dues are Due

Please submit your dues. Dues are \$15 per year (expire June each year). Note you must also be a member of the National AMCA.

Make check out to OTC AMCA and mail to Tom Ruttan, 3761 SW Olson Court, Lake Oswego, OR 97034. Questions? Call Tom at 503-621-8943 or tgruttan@gmail.com

For **national membership**, go to link below:

<http://www.antiquemotorcycle.org/index.php?page=join-the-club>

or call: **763-420-7829**



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 Krise**, our club secretary. Tom was born in Kalamazoo, MI and in the second grade his family moved to Wildrose, ND to take over the family farm. Tom excelled in high school, graduating in the top ten in his class (there were nine students in his graduating class). Tom's interest in motorized machines started young. He soloed a John Deere tractor at age seven. His unauthorized training sortie ended when he put the tractor into the side of a building.

Tom's father had an Indian, circa 1937. The bike's previous owner had removed the fenders and chain guard to reduce weight - he got his foot caught in the chain drive and lost three toes. That prompted him to sell the Indian. The seller parked the bike on his lawn and was sitting in a chair with his bandaged foot propped up. Tom's dad and seller agreed to a price of \$50. Seeing the bandaged foot, Tom's dad learned the story behind it and asked for and received the missing chain guard, which he reinstalled before riding home.

Tom's first motorcycle was a 1967 Honda Scrambler with a 90 cc engine - it is now on display in his garage. Tom attended Minot State College in North Dakota where he bought a 1969 Yamaha 250 cc twin from a friend. Tom's brother Dave had a 305 Honda Scrambler and in the summer of 1972, they did their first adventure tour in the Black Hills of South Dakota. They made their way to Boulder and Denver, Colorado, taking in 2 track dirt roads to Denver city streets. On that trip, his brother Dave wanted to adjust his carburetor to account for the altitude. On Saturday evening, he whipped out his repair manual and removed the carb. As he was removing a small, yet essential, spring clip, it sprung straight up in the air. Dave's eyes grew to saucer size as he foresaw losing the essential part and not being able to replace it until he found a replacement part at a shop on Monday, somehow convenient to the Blackhills of SD. Good Karma however, came into play as the spring clip landed square on the paper holding the carb - the part did not bounce, sticking a gymnasts worthy landing.

The boys were camping light, using a plastic sheet suspended on a rope between the bikes. One night, Tom heard a squeaky animal sound. He turned on his light and rolled over to come face to face with a skunk! He turned off the light and whispered to

Dave: "Skunk, don't move." Luckily, the skunk moved on.

Since that first trip, Tom has done many adventure trips. The longest was in 2006 from Salem to Prudhoe Bay, Alaska (a distance of almost 3,000 miles) on his 1993 BMW R1000/GSPD with his brother Dave and nephew Matt, on BMWs as well. Tom is planning a trip next summer to Labrador, Newfoundland, in eastern Canada.



Tom became interested in older bikes watching his neighbor John Moe work on his 1947 Harley Knucklehead. John found the 1953 Indian Chief that Tom eventually purchased. The seller wanted \$5,000 for the bike; Tom only had

\$4,000. Tom's girlfriend Stephanie told him not to worry about the extra \$1,000, she would give it to him. Stephanie was obviously a keeper and Tom married her and got the Indian too! Tom restored the 1953 Indian, with a lot of help from John, Ed Lobb, and the late Kenny Edmiston.

Tom was proud to be a friend to Ken Edmiston. Ken was extremely helpful and generous with his time to newbie Indian riders. Tom told of the Indian's brass carburetor, which with age, was a dirty brown color. Tom took it apart and polished it to a high sheen. When he put it back together, the bike would start, then stop, and gas poured out of the air cleaner. Talking with some OTC members, they suggested replacing the float. Tom installed a new float, tried again, same result: flooding carb. He took the carb to see Ken, who used a fine wire to clear a vent that was plugged with brass polish. Tom reassembled the carb and the Indian ran fine. Some years later, Tom and Ken were at an Oregon Vintage Motorcycle show and conversed with a mutual friend from Bend. He had an old Indian Scout with a problem: "Ken, I took off the carb and polished it, but the thing won't run and the carb floods." Ken, with twinkle in his eye, said: "Tom, you want to handle this question?"

Tom is currently resurrecting a 1947 Indian, one of Kenny Edmiston's bikes. Tom is married to, Stephanie Schmidt, and they have two children, daughter Rebekka, and son Philip.



Chuck Hodson won Best of Show Motorcycle at the 28th Annual Sunshine Cruz on June 19th

Two Wheels Around Town

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

Rendezvous - Northwest Vintage Car & Motorcycle Museum, June 27th

Concurrent with the OTC June meeting, the Powerland Museum held their annual Rendezvous. It featured displays of antique cars and motorcycles. Additionally, the BMW Riders of Oregon held a bike show in parking lot outside of the museum. Below are OTC member motorcycles as well as others that were on display.

Special Thanks

To the following for helping make our OTC Old Spirits Rally a success

Gene Walker and Tom Krise: for laying out and planning some great rides.

Norlene Wolbert: for all the wonderful food

Pat & Carol Smith: for use of their trailer for our chase truck.

Jackie Colwell: for driving the chase truck three days!

Tom Krise: for preparing great maps.

Jen Nielsen: for making coffee, early every morning.

Tom and Jen Nielsen: for preparing the Rally flyer.



BMW Riders Club member's 1000 cc BMW



Nils Olson's 1939 Harley-Davidson Model EL



Gene Walker's 1922 Harley-Davidson Model J, 61 ci



Don Woodward's 1937 Harley-Davidson Model UL, 74 ci



Mr. Tanner's Harley-Davidson 1942 Model WLC



Gene Walker's 1915 Harley-Davidson Model 11B



Joe Doherty's 1961 Harley-Davidson Model FLH



Gene Walker's 1971 Harley-Davidson Model FX Superglide, "Sparkling America"





July 18-20 OTC Rally at Spirit Mountain Casino, Grande Ronde, Oregon

Folks came from Oregon, California, and Washington. Each days ride was about 100 miles and featured twisty, lonesome back roads through the coast range. Destinations included Sheridan Peak, Oceanside, Mount Hebo, and the Pelican Pub in Pacific City. Pictures of attendee's antique motorcycles will be divided between this and next month's newsletter.

See our website for more photos and videos.



Chuck Hodson's 1977 Triumph TR7 750 cc

A Question from the Web

A gentleman posed the following. Anyone with an answer, please forward to Tom Krise:

Subject: Matchless 500cc 1953 ?

Hello, and good morning. I live in Vancouver WA. I'm pretty sure you get tired of people sending you pic's and requests for info, but you're the expert and so here is another one. Got this outa my dads garage - any info is appreciated.

thanks for your time. Greg



OTC Rally Dinner Awards:

These folks won in the categories shown and got first dibs on the door prizes.

Oldest Rider: Don Gabbert

Youngest Rider: Phil Battaglia

Furthest Bike Ride: Rosie Singhose

Furthest Trailered Ride: Stan Randall, Sacramento, CA

After dinner, there was a raffle and all attendees went home with oodles.



Scott Henderson of Tacoma, 1973 Honda CB 350



Don Gabbert's 1976 BMW R90//6 900 cc



Two Wheels Around Town

July 18-20 OTC Rally Photos (cont'd)



Jim Singhose's 1942 Harley-Davidson WLA 45 ci.



Ron Saunder's 1967 BSA Spitfire, Mk III



Gale Saxton of Tacoma, 1971 Triumph Daytona 500 cc



How many OTC members to start a motorcycle ?
(OK, they're being helpful)



DUCE REIGHEL'S 1971 BMW R75/S, 750 CC



Nils Olson's 1966 Harley-Davidson FLH with Sidecar

Two Wheels Around Town

July 18-20 OTC Rally Photos (cont'd)



Red Robinson's 1946 Indian Chief 74 ci



Scott Nelson's 1947 Indian Chief 74 ci



Burt Munro, left, set the 1967 World Land Speed Record for motorcycles under 1,000 cc at 183.58 mph on a 1920 Indian Scout. His qualifying run at 190.07 mph was the fastest speed ever officially recorded on an Indian.



Phillip Battaglia's 1948 Indian Chief, 74 ci

Joke of the Month

An engineer was crossing a road one day, when a frog called out to him and said, 'If you kiss me, I'll turn into a beautiful princess.'
He bent over, picked up the frog and put it in his pocket. The frog spoke up again and said, 'If you kiss me and turn me back into a beautiful princess, I will stay with you for one week.'
The engineer took the frog out of his pocket, smiled at it and returned it to the pocket.
The frog then cried out, 'If you kiss me and turn me back into a Princess, I'll stay with you for one week and do ANYTHING you want.'
Again, the engineer took the frog out, smiled at it and put it back into his pocket.
Finally, the frog asked, 'What is the matter? I've told you I'm a beautiful princess and that I'll stay with you for one week and do anything you want. Why won't you kiss me?'
The engineer said, 'Look, I'm an engineer. I don't have time for a girlfriend, but a talking frog, now that's cool.'



Tom Krise's 1953 Indian Chief Roadmaster 80 ci



Classified

Harley ¾ Helmet with tinted shield, size XL, regular price: \$160, for sale at \$80. Worn once.
nielsents@comcast.net

1956 Triumph Tiger 100 500cc The Pre-Unit Triumphs are a much desired and collectable. The classic design with the large gas tank, distinctive tank badges, parcel grid and nacelle set the standard for classic English motorcycle design in the 1950's. Includes innovative alloy, close finned 500cc parallel twin motor and all the 50's Triumph twin styling you could ask for. Originally exported to Malaysia, the bike was later brought to the US by an airline pilot. It was restored by a friend of mine who passed away two years ago - so I am selling it for the family. It is a previous award winner in the Oregon Vintage Motorcyclist club annual spring meet and show. It starts easily and runs well. The only functional issue is the horn is not working, although the correct horn is in place and the switch and wiring work correctly up to the horn. As will any older restoration that has been ridden occasionally there are a few signs of use (a couple of paint chips, etc.) but this is a great bike that would be a wonderful addition to any collection with the added benefit that it will show well at any bike show but can also be ridden. The bike was recently serviced and detailed in my shop which included an engine oil change, battery service and general check over. Valid Oregon title. Asking \$12,000 and the family will listen to reasonable offers. The bike is located in Lake Oswego, Oregon. Additional photos and details upon request. Tom Ruttan (503) 621-8943, tgruttan@gmail.com



For Sale: 1956 Triumph Tiger 100 500cc

1964 Norton Atlas 750cc

This 750cc parallel twin Norton Atlas is a very nice example of the pre-Commando Norton big twin. It was restored to a high quality by a friend of mine who passed away two years ago so I am selling it for the family. It is a previous award winner in the Oregon Vintage Motorcyclist club annual spring meet and show. It starts easily and runs well. As will any older restoration that has been ridden occasionally there are a few signs of use (a couple of paint chips, etc.) but this is a great bike that would be a wonderful addition to any collection with the added benefit that it will show well at any bike show but can also be ridden. The seat is custom made by the restorer that fit the style he was looking for but could easily be changed back to stock with the correct seat. The bike has a new battery and comes with a valid Oregon title. Asking price is \$10,000; the family will listen to reasonable offers. The bike is located in Lake Oswego, Oregon and I can provide additional photos and details upon request. Tom Ruttan, (503) 621-8943, truttan@gmail.com



For Sale: 1964 Norton Atlas 750 cc

Membership Drive – September 19th Paradise Harley-Davidson, Tigard

To help increase membership and advertise the club, the OTC will have a booth at Paradise Harley Davidson (PHD) in Tigard. PHD has a live band and a food vendor each Saturday. This venue allows us to introduce ourselves to other motorcycle enthusiasts and recruit new members. We will have tables with club literature, the club banner, and multiple antique motorcycles. Members are encouraged to bring their bikes for display and be available to chat with prospective members. Arrive at 9:30 AM. The event will run from 10 AM to 4 PM.

If you would like more information, contact Tom Nielsen at nielsents@comcast.net or call 503-522-3163. All bike brands are welcome



Best Handling Motorcycles

At the OTC Rally dinner, attendees completed a questionnaire on opinions of the best handling motorcycles for different eras. Not surprisingly, there was a variety of responses:

1950s

Norton Manx (2 votes- winner)
Norton Dominator
1947 Indian
BSA and Triumph
Harley-Davidson 45 ci
British
1957 Triumph
G80 Matchless
1959 B33 BSA

1960s

Triumph Bonneville
BMW R69S
Honda
BSA and Triumph
British
Triumph TT Special/Norton N15
1961 G12 Matchless
G15 Norton
Triumph TR7 Sidewinder

1970s

BMW R90S
Suzuki 750 GS
BSA
BSA-Triumph
British
Ducati
Too New
CB 750 [Honda] (Dick Mann)
TR6 Redline Flat Tracker

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

Thanks, Tom and Jen

Upcoming Events

Date	Event
August 14-15	29th Annual Willows Car and Bike Show Willows, California http://willowscarandbikeshow.org/
August 15	Motorcycle Rodeo & Swap Meet Clayton Fairgrounds Clayton, Washington http://www.nwclassicmotorcycleclub.com/
August 15-16	Cruising For The Cause - Bike & Car Show Long Beach, California http://www.thejohnnyo.org/
August 16	Pacific Beach Hot Rod & Bike Show San Diego, California http://www.cyclefish.com/event/31845/
August 22	Vinatage Motorcycle Festival LeMay Museum https://www.americascarmuseum.org/event/vintage-motorcycle-festival/ Tacoma, Washington
August 30	Motoespaña Motorcycle Show and Swap Meet Watsonville, California http://www.motoespanausa.com/
September 3-5	44th Davenport Fall International Meet The Mississippi Valley Fairgrounds Davenport, IA http://www.chiefblackhawk.org/
September 11-13	VJMC West Coast Rally Flagstaff, AZ www.vjmc.org
September 19	OTC Member Recruiting Showcase Paradise Harley-Davidson, Tigard OR Tom Nielsen, nielsents@comcast.net , 503-522-3163
September 18-20	Cool September Days Show Lake Tahoe, Nevada http://www.goodsamsaferide.com/
September 21-23	Yerba National Road Run Yosemite, California http://www.yerbabuenaamca.org/
October 23-25	American Heat Motorcycle Rally Palm Springs, California http://www.roadshowsreno.com/american_heat.php
October 30	Beatty Days Bike Show Beatty Cottonwood Park, Nevada http://www.beattynevada.org/

Oregon Trail Chapter, AMCA

