



Calvin,
Elizabeth
and Charlie
Burnett at
Super Cycle
on a 1962
Topper with
side car .

Ron Elliott at the Vicksburg, MS
Civil War battlefield.



Our feature club member of this quarter is Billy Tidwell. Billy wrote his own article, and I thank you very much for that!

I am Billy J. Tidwell, born May 16, 1941 in Wadley, AL. My dad was a farmer and I have spent many childhood hours in a tractor seat. We later moved to Alexander City, home of Russell athletics, where I luckily finished high school and Benjamin Russell H.S. That is where I met my wife to be, Jean Satterfield. Jean would stop by the service station where I worked part time after school, wearing short shorts, buy \$.50 worth of gas and want her windshield cleaned. That was back in 1957.

I entered the Navy in 1958 and was assigned to the aircraft carrier U.S.S. Lexington where I first got involved as an Air Traffic Controller. The tour on the Lexington was very interesting, we were home ported in San Diego and visited Japan, the Philippines, and Hong Kong. I left the Navy in 1962 and was later employed with the FAA as an Air Traffic Controller. With the FAA, we lived in Atlanta, Springfield, VA., Atlantic City, NJ., Alexandria, VA., and Memphis, TN. While in Atlantic City, I attended Stockton College with a degree in computer science. I retired in 2000 and we have now moved to beautiful Lake Martin in Jacksons Gap, AL.

I first became interested in motorcycles during high school while working part time at a service station and the owners son always had a Harley. It was 1957 and I had talked my folks into letting me buy a 1953 Harley 74. But before I was able to buy it, a friend wrecked on his Harley and was killed thus ending all hopes of me buying a motorcycle.

The urge for a motorcycle lingered on over the years while busy raising a family and keeping the career on tract. It was in 1973 when I saw an ad in the paper about this mint 1970 Triumph Bonneville. I carefully explained to Jean all the advantages of owning a motorcycle. We went over and took a look at it, sat on it, and bought it. The deal was, since this was my first motorcycle and I had never driven one, the owner would deliver to our house. I wish that I had kept the '70 Bonneville but it was replaced with a Norton.

In 1985 while living in the Memphis area, we saw an article in the newspaper about the Confederate Chapter hosting a Road Run from the Holiday Inn. So we rode the Norton over late one afternoon hoping to see some of the old motorcycle. We were amazed when we saw all the old bikes and everyone seemed to be having such a good time. We didn't realize it at the time, but you know the story, we were hooked. We were accepted by the Confederate Chapter and also joined the AMCA. Now we had stumbled into a problem, we didn't have a motorcycle that was 35 years old.

But you know how motorcycle buddies are; they want to help you out when they can. Fleming and Mary, Peter and Dossie, Lee, Calvin, Clark and Robert suggested that we might find something at the Davenport meet. We thought, what kind of motorcycle could you possibly find in Davenport, IA. Can you tell by now that we were rookies? Jean stashed all of our money and we were off to Davenport. You can imagine some of our thoughts as we strolled around the fairgrounds on Friday and Saturday. Anyway Jean bought herself a '46 Triumph so now I still didn't have an antique bike, but now I have an antique bike, but now I had some leverage.

Over the years, we managed to pick up a few old bikes, mostly British and have attended the Eustis and Davenport meets and have especially enjoyed attending many National Road Run. We enjoy riding the 1958 Ariel on them because it is so easy to manage. Our pride and joy are the two old Indians which we purchased from Fleming and Mary. We haven't entered many bikes for judging, they all leak, but we did manage a "Most Unique" and "Junior First" one year in Davenport. We still have the 1975 Norton which we bought new and considerate it our late model. I would like to have a late Harley Knucklehead for our next bike. I like the 35 year rule for AMCA eligibility, I certainly wouldn't want it to change to 25 years. Could you imagine going to a National Road Run and everyone showing up on 25 year old bike!?

Jeanie and I have not been on the antique scene much for the last couple of years, but we are looking forward to getting back into it and seeing all you folks again that ride those old motorcycles.

CONFEDERATE CHAPTER ROAD RUN PHOTO ALBUM

I wasn't there, so I couldn't write an article, but Shack and Lew took some good pictures.



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Contact Tina 901-725-0066 or TinaDolores@AOL.com



Above:
Cissie Bonner, Jerry Carpenter and Wayne Bonner.

Ed Dacus on his 1946 Chief





Punky, Inga, Bruce, Ronnie, with his smiley face umbrella, Ron, and Hanna

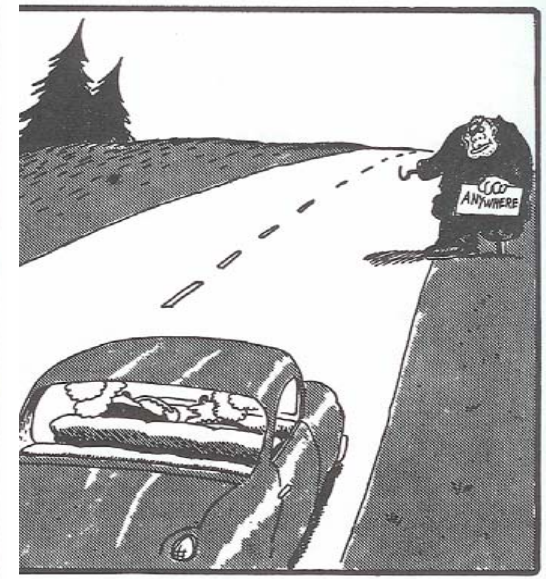
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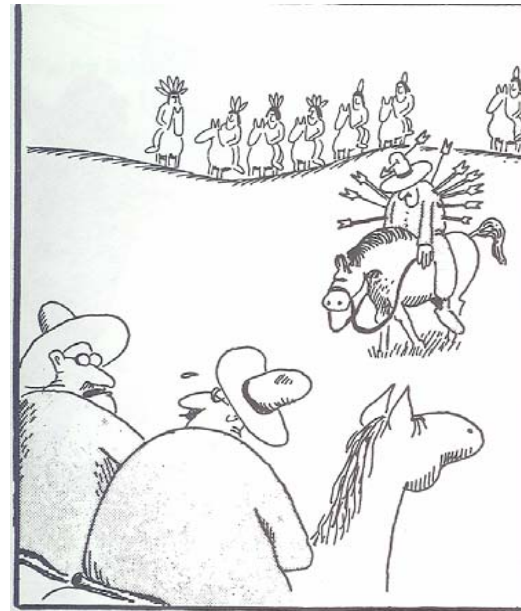
Bruce Linsday with his 1904 Columbia



"This ain't gonna look good on our report, Leroy."



"C'mon, Sylvia . . . where's your spirit of adventure?"



"Now stay calm . . . Let's hear what they said to Bill."



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