

Let GOODFELLOWSHIP prevail in the Greatest Sport on Earth - Motorcycling™

The Spokesman

*Official Newsletter of the Badger Heritage Chapter
Antique Motorcycle Club of America*



Spring - March 15, 2023

Winter Luncheon

Harley-Davidson Founder's Grandchildren

West Bend VFW - 1/28/23

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Getting Gramps Back on the Road

Steve Strohmeier

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**BADGER HERITAGE CHAPTER
SPRING MEETING**

SATURDAY, MAY 20, 2023 AT 12 NOON

Cover Photo by Steve Peters



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Club of America®

Published Four Times A Year - March-15, June-15, September-15, and December-15 - On Time, Every Time

President's Message

Jon D. Oeflein - President



Hello Badgers!

I am always excited when the spring issue of our Spokesman is coming out, because that means the riding season in the Midwest is just around the corner! Last week I went through a shoulder overhaul and am pathetically typing this correspondence with one finger on my left hand and I

am right-handed. But, if all goes according to plan, I will be able to ride to, the much anticipated, Bild-A-Bike & Car Show. This is happening on June the 10th and then I plan on riding the full loop of the Pandemonium! My fingers are crossed as I begin down the long road of physical therapy. It is so hard sitting at home and missing this year's Florida swing (The Sunshine meet, Sons of Speed races, Rocky's party and Bike Week), but my surgery has me up on the lift.

Well, my task at hand is working with Ken 'Boz' Bosman on our Spring Meeting. He has agreed to host this year at his beautiful property in Fredonia (see poster in this issue). The date is May 20th and you are welcome to come as early as 11 am. The grill is going to be fired up, the Nescos will be spilling over and Boz is going to tap an ice cold keg of brew. So come for the food and stay for the meet! We have lots of chapter business to discuss and vote on, so if you want to have a voice in the direction of our great chapter, roll a bike out and ride it on over.

I am happy to report that the planning of all our summer activities is right on schedule. It is going to be a big year for the Badgers! There is lots of information on our upcoming events in this issue and more will be coming your way at the Spring Meeting. We will also be discussing the multiple ways YOU can help as a volunteer. Also, always check our Facebook 'Members Only' group for

member organized rides and get togethers.

The last thing I would like to do now is give out some Winter Luncheon thank yous. The first one goes out to every member that showed up! There was a storm brewing, but this didn't seem to matter at all since we packed da house! You all made my mother, my cousins and the Harley's feel so special. The day after, every single one of them called me to convey that they had a great time meeting the chapter and thanks for inviting them. I responded to all of them by simply saying, no we thank you for coming! Special memories were indeed made.

Next, I would thank Steve Peters for all his work on the posters and pennants. We are lucky to have a guy with his level of talent that is willing to put in long hours to give our merch and awards a professional flare. Now comes our DJ Uncle Richie. Thanks for lugging all your sound gear over, it made a big difference. Bridget Poetzi and Danielle Werner you also helped big time. Bridget helping shake down dough at the door and Danielle, well, you assisted all over the place! (Yes, your table lay out turned out to be far superior to mine). Danielle also brought a pickup full of H-D merch for the raffle. One more out to Eric Lund and Roger and Dave Klopfenstein. You guys tried hard to get Rog's teen to the Luncheon for pictures. It ended up not working out, but your efforts are appreciated. Cathy Drexler you were, as always, awesome with the camera and Cindy Bilda sure was a big help assisting Christopher at the membership table.

Lastly, I want to thank the other officers. You all helped make our first meeting one to remember. I hope the rest of our 2023 events go as smoothly as our first!

Well, I am going to sign off and ice my shoulder,

*Your pres,
Jono*

The 120th H-D anniversary parade is July 16th



50 passes will be available

Only one pass is required per machine

Bikes must be at least 35 years

Bikes must be made by the Harley-Davidson Motor Company

Register by sending your name, your passengers name (if applicable)

and a photo of your motorcycle to

jondavidsono@gmail.com

All the details will be sent to registered members as they come available

Register early to ensure your spot!



BADGER HERITAGE CHAPTER SPRING MEETING



SATURDAY, MAY 20, 2023 AT 12 NOON

👉 1860 👈

STONE HOUSE FARM

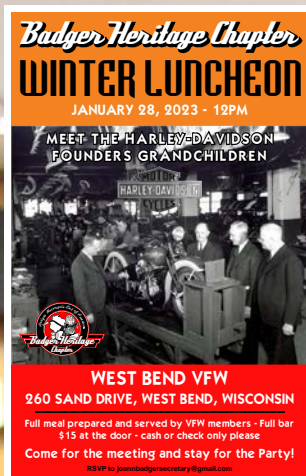
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Winter Luncheon - West Bend, WI - 1/28/23

Story and Photos by Steve Peters



The 2023 Winter Luncheon (formerly the Winter Dinner) was a huge success at the West Bend VFW! Our special guests were the Harley-Davidson Founder's Grandchildren. Originally it was only going to be two of them, then it was suggested that maybe we could get a grandchild from each of the four founder's. Eventually we had seven grandchildren planning to attend, but due to the bad winter weather that day, five were able to make it.

It was fantastic!

125 club members were there to witness this once-in-a-lifetime event. In addition to the special guests we had a

full agenda for the meeting with many topics discussed including many upcoming events.

There was also good food, good drinks, and good fellowship - as always when the Badgers get together.

To help commemorate the event a special, small felt pennant was produced for everyone to take home with them. Also one of our guests (Margo Blamkenship) gave everyone a cool H-D post card.

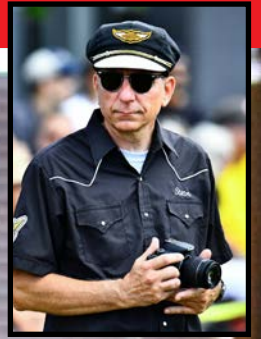
It was a very good day...

Steve Peters



Winter Luncheon - West Bend, WI - 1/28/23

Photos by Steve Peters



Many more photos on our club Facebook page

Spring 2023 Spokesman

Winter Luncheon - West Bend, WI - 1/28/23

Photos by Steve Peters



Bild-A-Bike & Car Show



Friday June 9th 12 Noon - camping at Tommy G's on Long Lake

BYO Food, Drink and Camping Equipment

N4036 Sunny Slope Ave, Cascade WI 53011

Saturday, June 10th - a.m. ride to Holy Hill (optional)

12 Noon at Bilda's Fries Lake Pub

Bike and Car Show – Live Music

Hwy 164 & Holy Hill Road (Hwy 167), Richfield WI



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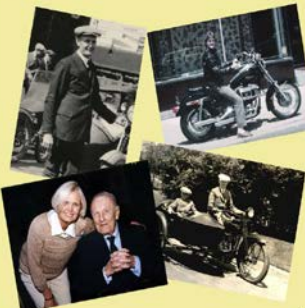


Harley-Davidson Family Memories

Davidson family members share photographs, letters and stories

Jean Davidson
 Jon Davidson Oeflein

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From the Desk of the Newsletter Editor

H-D Founder's Grandchildren



Hey Badgers!

Wow!

What a cool meeting - five of the grandchildren of the original Harley-Davidson founders!

I have never seen this before. I'm sure there may have been some

with William Davidson not represented by Peggy Heasler and another grandchild of William Harley - Mary Stocking.

This was truly the closest I as well as the other 125 members of the Badgers in attendance that we will ever get to meeting the original founders. We were in the presence of the true bloodline of the founders and it was very special.

In this year of the celebration of H-D's 120th anniversary, it is amazing that each of these grandchildren actually knew the founders as loving grandfathers.

Wow!

Take care and stay safe!

Steve Peters

family reunions with some of the grandkids, but maybe not from nearly all of the founders. Unfortunately two grandchildren that were invited to our meeting were not able to make it due to the bad winter weather.

So, we had family members from three of the founders



Arthur Davidson

Walter Davidson

William Harley

William Davidson



Mary Rotheray - Margo Blankenship - Roseanne Wright - Jean Davidson - Doug Davidson

Arthur Davidson

William Harley

**Grandchildren of
William Harley**

Walter Davidson

Walter Davidson

Motorcycle Events - 2023

Many Badgers Participate

Bike Night at Motor - Milwaukee, WI - Harley-Davidson Museum

Every Thursday from the middle of May through September. Some Badgers are usually there every Thursday.

Crusin' the Spur - Elm Grove, WI

Car and bike show every 3rd Monday - May, June, July, August, September, and October

5pm to dark behind the Silver Spur BBQ - Elm Grove

On street Car and Bike show & Bike Corral - Sunday, August 6, 2023 - 10am to 2pm.

Silver Spur - 13275 Watertown Plank Road, Elm Grove, WI

Perkiomen Chapter National Meet - Oley, PA - April 28-29, 2023

Slimey Crud Run - Pine Bluff, WI - Sunday, May 7 and Sunday, October 1, 2023

The Crud Run meanders across the scenic Wisconsin River valley from Pine Bluff in Dane county to Leland in Sauk County. The distance between the villages is less than 30 miles in a straight line, but the road mileage can vary from about 70 to, well, who knows? No specific route is prescribed, so the best way to go depends entirely on your imagination.

Club Spring Meeting - Fredonia, WI - Saturday, May 20, 2023— 12pm

Boz and Heather's Stone House Farm - N5837 Kohler Road, Fredonia, WI 53021 - (262) 391-5559 - Fun, Food and Beverages.
See the meeting poster in this newsletter.

Empire Chapter National Meet - Waddington, NY - June 2-4, 2023

Vintage Motofest - Elkhart Lake, WI - Saturday, June 2-4, 2023

The Vintage MotoFest festival includes a ride-in-show and competition, food, beer and premium motorcycle vendors from throughout the region and country.

Bild-A-Bike & Car Show - Richfield, WI - June 10, 2023

See the event flyer in this newsletter.

Viking Chapter National Meet - St. Paul, MN - June 9-10, 2023

Allegheny Chapter National Road Run - Wellsboro, PA - June 12-14, 2023

Fort Sutter Chapter National Meet - Dixon, CA - June 16-17, 2023

Panhead 75th Anniversary Ride and Party - June 17-24, 2023

See the event flyer in this newsletter.

Colonial Chapter National Meet - Harmony, NJ - June 23-24, 2023

Badger Heritage Vintage Field Games - Milwaukee, WI - The Harley-Davidson Museum - Saturday, June 24, 2023

During the 'Wild Ones Vintage Motorcycle Rally' at the museum.

The WORLD FAMOUS Badger Heritage Vintage Motorcycle Field Games and Knucklehead Reunion!
It's bigger every year - we always need volunteers to run their old bikes and help with the activities.

Harley-Davidson 120th Anniversary Parade - Milwaukee, WI - July 16, 2023

Details to follow.

Wauseon AMCA National Meet — Wauseon, OH - Fulton County Fairgrounds Friday, Saturday & Sunday, July 14–16, 2023

Celebrating "Racing Bikes" this year. Swap meet, races, show bikes and much more! Many Badgers will be there!

Yankee Chapter National Meet - Terryville, CT - July 28-30, 2023

Yankee Chapter National Road Run - South Deerfield, MA - July 31 - August 2, 2023

Brewtown Rumble - Milwaukee, WI - Sunday, June 11, 2023 - 11am to 5pm

Deer District - Downtown Milwaukee, WI

7th Annual Vintage Motorcycle Show and Street Festival. Presented by Royal Enfield.

51st Annual Davenport Fall International Meet - Davenport, IA

Mississippi Valley Fairgrounds Thursday to Sunday, August 31, to September 2, 2023

Swap meet, races, show bikes and much more! Many Badgers will be there!

Black Hills National Road Run - Deadwood, SD - September 5-7, 2023

Sunflower Chapter National Road Run - El Dorado, KS - September 11-13, 2023

Chesapeake Chapter National Meet - Upperco, MD - September 29-30, 2023

Southern National Meet - Denton, NC - October 13-15, 2023

Club Fall Meeting

Location and date to be determined. Fun, Food and Beverages.

See the meeting flyer in a future newsletter.

Panhead 75th Anniversary

2023



SAVE THESE DATES!

GO ON THE RIDE!

PANDEMONIUM CIRCUS RIDE

JUNE 18 - 21, 2023 (CHECK IN JUNE 17)

STAY FOR THE PARTY!

PANHEAD PARTY

JUNE 22 - 24, 2023 (CHECK IN JUNE 22)



WILD ONES WEEKEND
JUNE 24, 2023

MORE INFO COMING SOON!

June 17-24, 2023

Caledonia, WI

Come celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Panhead.

All attendees must register for the ride/event AND are responsible for their own accommodations, transportation and meals unless otherwise noted as part of the event registration fee.

Itinerary:

June 18-21, 2023

Sun., June 18, 2023

Mon., June 19, 2023

Tues., June 20, 2023

Wed. June 21, 2023

June 22-24, 2023

Pandemonium Circus Ride

Ride from Panhead Central to Keshena, WI

Ride to Tomahawk, WI

Ride to Baraboo, WI

Ride to Panhead Central

Thursday Bike Night @ the H-D Museum

Friday Night Panhead Party

Saturday Wild Ones Weekend

Registration Fee:

\$185.00 per rider + bike

\$165.00 per passenger/guest

Your registration fee includes:

T-shirt for each participant and special commemorative Panhead treasure

Wild One's Weekend Pre-party at Panhead Central in Caledonia, WI

Wild One's Weekend "Panhead Only" Parade to H-D Museum with police escort

Entry Fee to Wild One's Weekend Bike Show

Admission to Circus World Museum

Trouble trucks and assistance for entire ride/route

Road Captain's will lead the way for each day's ride

Hotel & Travel Information: Panhead Central - Caledonia, WI

6739 Hwy H, Caledonia, WI 53108 (Limited Space "Free Dry" camping available.

Jellystone-Caledonia.com (262) 835-2565 (Full hook-up campsites and cabins) Located 2 Miles north of Panhead Central

Cliffside Campgrounds 7320 Michna Rd. Racine, WI (262) 886-8457

Greaterracinecounty.com

Staybridge Suites, Milwaukee Airport South (414) 761-3800

American Motel Inc. (414) 761-2324

Oakwood Lodge Motel (414) 761-9169

Pandemonium Circus Ride payments and Circus Ride lodging location bookings through AMCA Club Express

Getting Gramps Back on the Road

by Steve Strohmeier



Getting Gramps Back on the Road – the Final Details and First Road Run

Over the past year, we shared our journey in finding and bringing home a 1949 Moto Guzzi GTV 500. The bike was imported to the US in 1990, but had not been made road worthy and languished as a static display. This long period of layup meant the cycle parts were in excellent condition and only careful refurbishment needed to get the bike back on the road.

In our last installment, new control cables were made up for the bike and the majority of the wiring finished. With these tasks complete, we turned our attention to the rear suspension.

The GTV uses an unusual swing arm with the springs carried in two tubes under the frame rails. This arrangement relies on the correct fitting of all the components to assure positive suspension control and avoid tail wagging.

It was clear someone had disassembled the rear before and left out several critical bronze thrust washers which locate the swingarm pivot in the frame. Looking in the box of spares included with the bike revealed the missing thrust washers. Once we had everything apart, it was clear only cleaning and regreasing were needed. Even the rubber Cush Drive blocks in the rear hub remained pliable and ready for duty. The rear went back together with zero fuss and aligned perfectly with the

front wheel.

Anticipating a challenge with the rear shock absorbers, we set aside a full day in the shop to disassemble and repair them. Generally, these vintage hydraulics suffer badly from corrosion and wear.



Slug pressed in place

We got lucky and only the main plunger rod was worn. All the internal pistons and porting were in excellent nick. The reason the shocks were not functioning turned out to be brittle, 75 year old o rings that had broken up.

A search through McMaster Car's catalog revealed the correct square sided metric o rings remain available. However, because I intend to have the plunger rods replated next winter, I opted to stack traditional o rings in the grooves. Refilling the shocks with 20wt hydraulic oil and replacing the rubber mounting bushings had them back to "almost good as new."



Boring slug for bearing race

moving in two of three axis, indicating the bearing races were not square to one another.

Continued on next page

Getting Gramps Back on the Road - Continued

by Steve Strohmeier



After some more detective work, we discovered the right side race was cocked 1/32 of an inch. The alloy was distorted heavily, making it impossible to square up. It was necessary to fully disassemble the wheel and sleeve the hub.

To do this, I first bored the hub oversize and made a slug out of 6061 aluminum. This was made a tight press fit in the hub and seated using a 20 ton press, with Loctite sleeve retaining compound used for a belt and suspenders approach to the repair.

After letting the Loctite set up for 24 hours, the slug was bored to give a .0025-.003 press fit for the bearing race. Once the race was pressed into the hub and the bearings reassembled, all traces of wobble were gone. The wheel was respoked and rolled true.

We then turned our attention to repairing the wear in all the foot controls. Over time, each part of the linkages had worn eccentric creating huge amounts of slop. To correct this, the offending parts were bored oversize and custom Teflon or bronze bushes made up to restore the original dimensions as well as custom pins to retain all the parts. I also had to face the rear pivot block for the brake linkage because it had worn angular overtime.

The most challenging repair was to shift lever. It

had worn very badly and needed a lot of work to get things back to round. I wound up using quite a bit of SAE660 bronze stock to make custom sleeves. However, with that done, both the rear brake and the shift mechanism performed much like modern



Finished sleeve and race

After a minute, we clearly had oil going in, but nothing returning.

bikes. I was particularly surprised how well the bike shifted through the gears considering it is of a prewar "crash box" design and normally quite notchy.

Our next task was to get oil flowing through the motor prior to starting the bike. I put the bike in 4th gear, took out the spark plug, and used the roller starters to turn the bike over. After



Test of bearings and overall fit

After inspection, we discovered bits of homemade gasket and decades-old sludge plugging return passages in the block, oil piping, and return pump. Clearing these had an immediate impact on the oil flow and the bike began to return a steady stream to the oil tank.

Had we just started the bike instead of testing, it's likely we would have seized the

oil pump and caused damage to the big end rollers. Roller starters really are handy to have around!

Continued on next page

Getting Gramps Back on the Road - Continued

by Steve Strohmeier

The final hurdle to overcome were leaking fuel petcocks. Like many prewar bikes, Guzzi used British-style tapered cone petcocks. Usually, these can be lapped to slow or stop leaks. Ours were badly worn and only the right side could be saved with lapping and shimming.

Therefore we soldered up the left side and installed an in-line petcock until we track down good petcocks.

We also had to repair a minor, but dripping, crack in the 75-year old carburetor's idle passage. This was done with fuel resistant epoxy pressed into the crack as the metal was too thin for hot repairs. To double up on the "fix" I used Harvey seal on the idle atomizer threads. So far, so good.

Finally, we were out of excuses. The fuel tank was filled, petcocks turned on, and the bike eased over compression. On the first kick, nothing. Second kick, a sputter. Third kick and the bike roared to life.

After a minute or so it quit smoking and after advancing the timing the bike settled down to a fast idle. A little adjusting got it running smoothly.

Despite freezing temperatures, we put about ten miles on the bike over a few shakedown rides. Nothing came as a surprise and the bike pulled very well. You could almost tell it was happy to be back in the wind.

Several times in the past, I have been disappointed in a bike once I got it out on the road. Years of dreaming and reading vin-



tage test reports have a tendency to make one assign almost mythical values to certain bikes. In the case of the GTV, it has received lavish praise over the years as being a wonderful riding bike.

I have to admit, this is the very first time a bike has lived up to the hype. The GTV is an absolute delight to ride and surprisingly good for its vintage. I am looking forward to putting a lot of miles on the bike this season and hope this series of articles inspires other Badgers to revive a long dormant bike and enjoy themselves out in the wind.

Speed Safely!

Steve Strohmeier



MOTO GUZZI

2022 Fall Meeting Minutes

JoAnn Enk - Secretary



- **Bylaws**
Voted on changed bylaws to include 2 year Officer positions with staggered elections in positions.
- **Treasurer - Christopher Bilda**
We are now a Not for Profit Organization.
- **Summer Picnic**
August 18th at the K Ranch in Eagle.
Kevin Klatt is in charge.
- **Upcoming Events**
 1. Sons of Speed in March in Daytona. See Eric Lund if you're interested.
 2. Bilda Bike Show - June 9th and 10th at Bilda's Friess Lake Pub. See Larry Bilda for details.
 3. Brewtown Rumble - June 11th at Boone and Crockett.
 4. Pandemonium - June 17th registration. See Tom Hinderholtz for details.
 5. Wild Ones - June 24th Harley Museum. Still need volunteers and new game ideas
- **Spring Meeting.** Any Volunteers?

Secretary,
JoAnn Enk

Welcome New Badger Heritage Chapter Members in 2022

Introduce yourself when you see them!

Ron Spargo - Victoria, MN
Mark Jacobs and Amie Kelly - Twin Lakes, WI
Arley Norby - Racine, WI
Todd Mitchell - East Troy, WI
Richard and Barb Jacob - Salem, WI
John Olsen - Madison, WI
Chris Gunns - Milwaukee, WI
James, Jr. & Jessica Sorensen - Burlington, WI
Steve Agg - Oak Creek, WI
Luke Van Veghel - Little Chute, WI
David and Carol Mapes - Cambellsport, WI
Steve Schwoegler and Maggie Banks - Milwaukee, WI



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Spokesman Stories

Calling All Members!

I am always looking for more content for the Spokesman newsletter.

I know many of you attend various events and take photos and have a story to tell. I see the photos on Facebook all the time and just wish you could send at least a dozen of those photos to me with a short story about the event. We would all like to see and hear what our members are doing.

I will no longer ask individuals for photos and a story as I would like to leave it up to them if they choose to send anything or not.

If you need help with your story I can help and will always do a punctuation and spell check of the stories and may edit them a little as well.

Thanks!

Newsletter Editor - Steve Peters



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