



Editor's Corner

The Holidays are over and Life is back to its normal pace and grind. As the temperatures have been somewhat crazy going up and down and have been – and will be – hovering around the 60°-mark, some have been riding in January! That usually does not happen in our latitudes.

One of my resolutions for 2017 is, to get three bikes that have been parked in various stages of disrepair back on the road for this riding season.

Our fellow club member Ed Vanaman, who , among other things, offers a “Vapor Blasting” service, did a cylinder head for one of these bikes. I am thrilled how this turned out. It looks like a brand new part. If you want to spend some money on cool stuff for a rebuild or restoration, this is it. See for yourself:



The great thing is, this is a really non-abrasive process and leaves a smooth finish surface. Any aluminum or other alloy or steel part will come out thoroughly cleaned and refreshed. The only bad thing is, once you start with one part, you want to keep going and do as many as you can. Not good for the budget!

On this particular project, I am a little in a pickle. Originally, I had planned to restore the 1976 Honda CB750 SOHC to its original configuration. But as building Café racers seems to be the general hype lately, I am torn between the great original look and something I could do with all the spare parts I have accumulated.



We will see what the year brings and where this goes. Stay tuned!

Mike

We had our first Club Meeting of the New Year. The weather was not cooperating and this may have caused some not to risk the drive to Mogadore. It still yielded some good discussions and even decisions regarding important issues. See the separately attached minutes for details.

We still need to fill the position of **Club Secretary**. Main duties would include taking and distributing the Meeting Minutes, updating and maintaining the Membership List/Roster and maintaining/updating the Bylaws as needed. Please step forward if you are interested to help the club out.

We will also need a **Club Liaison** person for interface with the MoA and RA. This, preferably, will be a passionate Rally attendee, who will take part in the activities of both organisations and can represent our club as necessary.

It is never too early to start planning for our Poker Run. The date has been picked, Dana McMahan will be the main Coordinator. He will attend the GAMC calendar meeting on Sunday, January 15 and he will need all the help he can get down the road. Talk to Dana if you want to chip in and dedicate some time and effort.

We are thinking about a club activity (visit) to the Motorcycle Show at the IX-Center at the end of January. (27th to 29th) It would be nice, if we find enough interest to combine the visit with a social activity, e.g.: dinner or lunch. Again, stay tuned and in the meantime, make your interest to participate known.

Some more details about BMWs 2017 new and changed models have emerged after the European shows in Cologne and Milan. The K1600s are getting a “Reverse Assist” option, which similar to that of the Honda Goldwing uses the starter to propel the bike backward.

Also, one more bike each in the R nineT and the R1200GS lineups will be added: the **R nineT Urban G/S** and the **R1200GS Rallye**. Most likely, these will make it to the U.S. and we will see them at the show in Cleveland.



In Industry news it was reported that **Polaris** announced they will close the **Victory** brand and discontinue the line. Not a very surprising move after the introduction and initial success of the Indian marque. Polaris is said to plan to concentrate on the Slingshot and the Indian lineup.

Also, **Mahindra Group**, an Indian conglomerate, producing a variety of vehicles and mostly known as the world’s largest agricultural tractor manufacturer, has acquired the rights to the BSA marque. After signing a brand license agreement with the Czech marque Jawa and previously buying 51% of Peugeot Motorcycles from PSA, this will signal Mahindra’s targeting of premium sectors of the motorcycle business.



BMW Motorcycle Club of Akron

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