



From the Chapter President

Hello and welcome to riding season! At least here in South Texas the weather is starting to get cooler, and it is pleasant to ride, especially on older air-cooled

bikes. It's also that time of the year when it seems that every weekend there is a motorcycle event or multiple events that overlap. It is time to start planning your calendar for the rest of the year if you have not already. I have started working on my calendar which will include Born Free Texas, the East Texas road run, Pistons and Paint, and the Cherokee Christmas party/members meeting. AMCA has judging going on in Galveston, TX, at the Antique Automobile Club of America's (AACA) Fall Nationals on October 25th. This event marks the

first opportunity for members of the AMCA to have their bikes AMCA judged in Texas. Hopefully, this event will become an annual event, and we will ensure its date does not overlap with other Cherokee events. There are several other events I am hoping to squeeze in between but primarily I am just excited to get out and ride.

I have always enjoyed riding motorcycles for as long as I can remember. Because of this love of riding, I have never been selective about make and model. Availability is always the first factor in bike selection for me. What is available to ride? This could range from a moped to a new Ducati. A good example of this which comes to mind (since this column should be called "Random Thoughts with Vic"), in 2016 Billy Page showed up to watch his dad and other riders leave the start of the Cannonball in Atlantic City, NJ. He then decided he would ride a couple of days in the crew truck to see more of the race. On one of the stops, Billy went into an import motorcycle shop and asked for the most inexpensive motorcycle they had that could do 50 mph.

Billy left with a Chinese scooter and ended up riding it across America following the Cannonball. Billy pulled up to me several times while I was broken down on my 1913 Harley Davidson 9B single to offer his assistance or support and each time all I could think of was, I wish I was on that scooter and not broke down on my bike. The point is Billy loves to ride and if he could not be out on a vintage bike competing in Cannonball, he made do with the bike that was available and had a fun time all the way to California. Billy would later go on to compete in multiple cannonballs with his father Bill Page on early Harley Davidsons.

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From the President, continued...

Now that the weather is getting cooler, look around and see what is available to ride. Clean that carb and gas tank out and fire up that motorcycle no matter what the make and model is and go for a ride. Invite others to go ride with you on an afternoon ride to eat or just to enjoy the view. If you would like to host a ride, just let me know and Cherokee can help cover any expenses you may incur. A Saturday ride to a local restaurant or a shop tour to eat burgers and hot dogs while enjoying another member's home shop. Big or small it does not matter, just that you have fun and get the chance to ride with friends. I hope to see you soon and get the chance to share the road.

~ Vic

Tom Roland's 1941 Indian

This is my 1941 project that was a basket case. This is my first motorcycle to restore, it has been all cars in the past.

~Tom Roland



**Do you have a project
you are working on or
have completed?
Send your pictures
and project details to:
cherokeeamcanews@gmail.com**



Wisconsin in July is GREAT! I received a call last Monday from a well-known instigator named Graeme Ford, and I fell for it right away. The bait was a flathead run in Central Wisconsin that was billed as a “Crawl”, or something like that.

My bike and gear were loaded in the van that day, and I drove up there (1,100+ miles) on Tuesday, and arrived just in time for the first day's ride early Wednesday. I was half asleep for most of the day. The roads are beautiful there, and we had twenty or more units on the ride.

It turned out that this run was called a “Crawl” due to the fact that the featured machine is the Servi-Car. Some of you may recall that Meter Maids used these as a vehicle to issue parking tickets. Many were often used for the delivery of vehicles that had been serviced mechanically. Many in attendance featured the towing hitch on the fork, allowing the unit to be towed after being hitched to the bumper of an automobile.

I counted fourteen of these three-wheeled contraptions together on our run at one time. We, on two-wheeled bikes (mostly 45-cubic-inch solos), followed behind the trikes, which crawl quite slowly, making them easy to count and to keep up with.

At the end of the first day's ride, the schedule called for a visit to the local brewery in Stevens Point, Wisconsin, where Point Beer is brewed. Beer is a huge part of the culture here, and since I was almost dead tired, I retreated to the host hotel and slept for about fourteen hours.



Personally, I can recommend Wisconsin as a first-class place to enjoy our favorite pastime, so don't miss it. ~Stanley



TEXAS VINTAGE MOTORCYCLE Fandango®

AMCA SWAP MEET WITH
OVER 300 VENDOR
SPACES

MARCH 27-29 2026

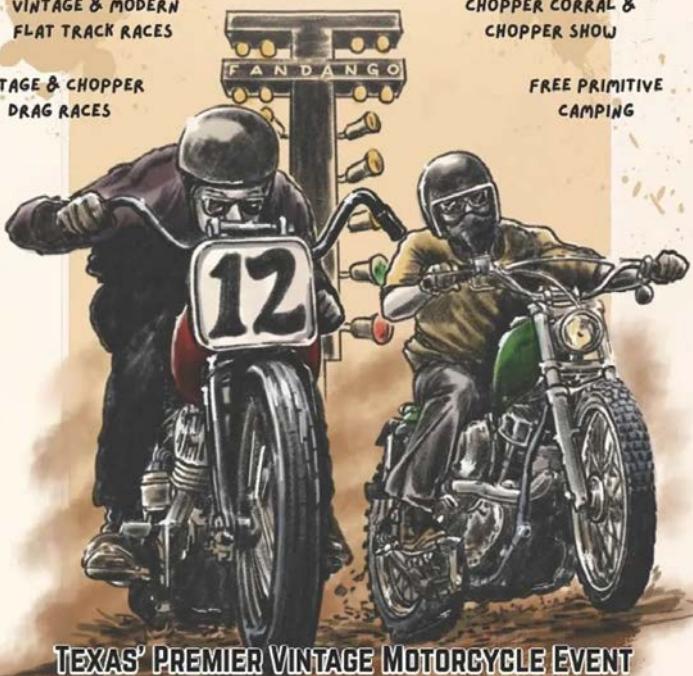
INDOOR VINTAGE &
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VINTAGE & CHOPPER
DRAG RACES



TEXAS' PREMIER VINTAGE MOTORCYCLE EVENT

MARCH 27-29, 2026,

FOLLOWED BY A 3-DAY AMCA NATIONAL ROAD RUN

FREDERICKSBURG, TX

Cherokee Chapter of the AMCA

thetexasfandango.com



Save
the Date
& Reserve
Your Room
NOW!



Host Hotel: Moody Gardens Resort and Spa

One Hope Boulevard, Galveston, Texas 77554

Call 409-683-1299 Monday-Friday between 7AM-8PM to make reservation for the Antique Car Club room block. Group rate is \$182. **Hotel Reservation Deadline: September 30**

Texas Rangers Presentation • Welcoming Day Party Activities
Technical Session on Chrome Plating • Driving Tour to the Galveston Ferry Ride to Port Boliver Peninsula • Judging School • Membership Roundtable • Island Banquet with Band & Silent Auction • Judges Breakfast • CJE • Owners Briefing • Southern Hospitality & Award's Presentation

Chairman:

Jim Johnston
telcopressure@att.net
832-693-4008

Registration:

Sandra Johnston & Thomas Kidd
Sandra-jim@att.net
tak@citizenkidd.com
713-542-9481

Cherokee Chapter AMCA National Road Run
Cherokee Chapter of the AMCA will be hosting a AMCA National Road Run in Kerrville, Texas, March 31, 2026, through April 2, 2026. Check in day will be Monday, March 30th, following Texas Fandango 2026. Three days of riding, meals and banquet. Don't miss your spot on what is going to be a Road Run to remember through some of the best riding in Texas. Space is limited for this event, and you must be registered so watch for updates on the AMCA website and social media to make sure you reserve your spot!

(Left) Cherokee Chapter Board Member and Houston Area Ambassador Graeme Ford with an early Hog he got in 1977.

Thanks to Steve Klein for sharing many entertaining Cherokee member pictures & information!



The deadline for the Winter 2025 Issue is December 15th - please send all articles, pictures, and information on or before that date!

“UNITED” 2025 Quilt Drawing

“UNITED” is an all-cotton 86" x 103" quilt, soft and machine washable, ready for the couch or bed. All cotton makes it light in the summer and warm in the winter.

We have tickets available for anyone interested throughout the rest of the year at a few events and through the AMCA website as well.

Thank you for all your support!

Rosie

The quilt drawing will be held at the Cherokee Chapter Christmas party December 20, 2025. You do not need to be present to win.

Tickets stubs/numbers will be mailed or texted to you if requested.

All proceeds go to trade school scholarships at Texas State Technical College. All quilts are perfect for display or snuggling on the couch.

[Buy Tickets Online HERE](#)



*Merry
Christmas*

PLEASE JOIN US!

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2025 – 11 AM TO 4PM

**WAXAHACHIE CIVIC CENTER – CRAPE MYRTLE ROOM
2000 CIVIC CENTER LN.
WAXAHACHIE, TX**

2025 Cherokee Christmas Party

The 2025 Cherokee Members' Christmas Party will be held at the beautiful Crepe Myrtle Room at the Waxahachie Civic Center. Please make your plans and RSVP, we have limited capacity.

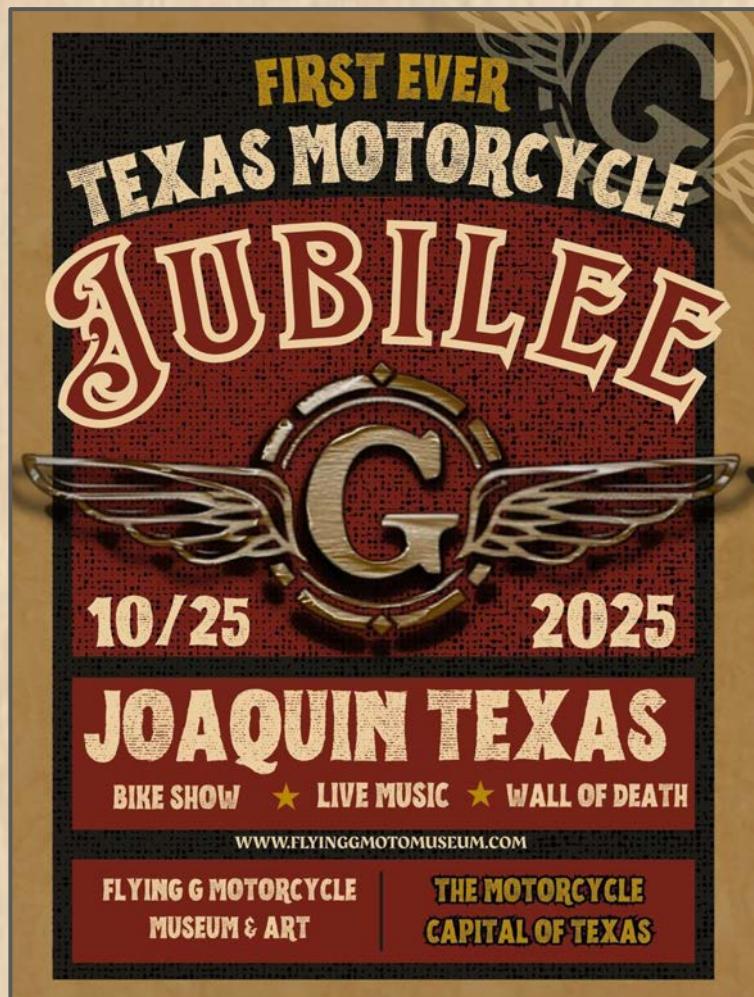
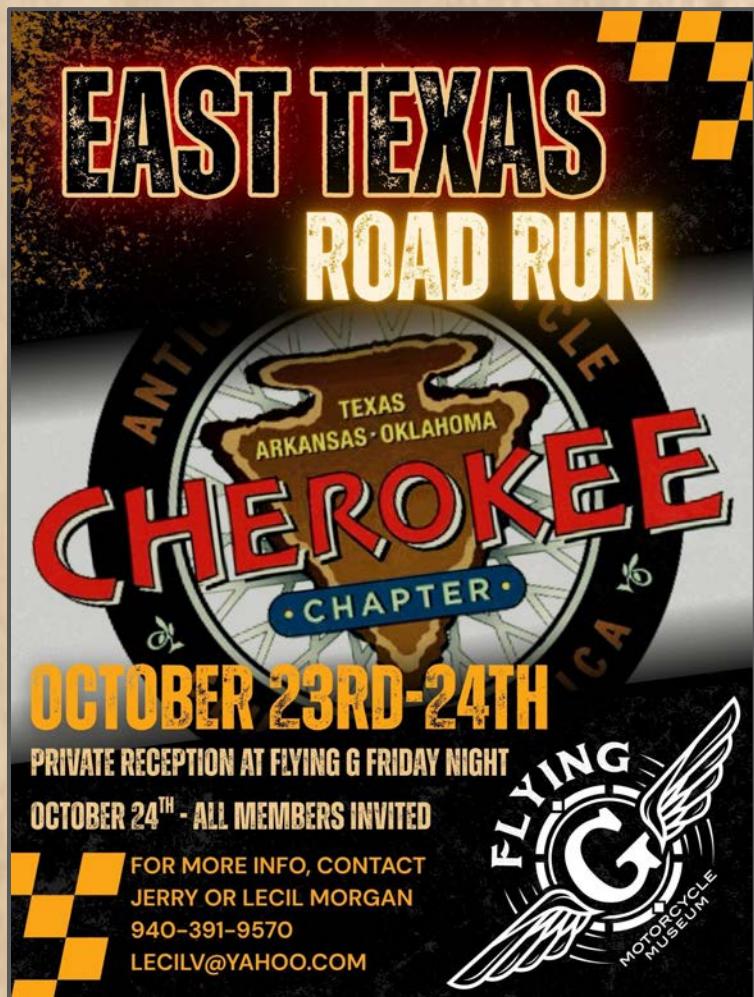
Please feel free to bring a dessert of choice to enjoy after our catered lunch.

The Cherokee Chapter is privileged to be holding another National Road Run in the Hill Country in 2026. We humbly ask for a donated item for our Silent Auction to be held at the National Road Run, benefiting our Scholarship Program. As always, a gift of choice is also welcome for the door prizes.

Thank you so much,
Rosie Sterling



2025 East Texas Fall Road Run and the First Ever Texas Motorcycle Jubilee



It's only days away, and I hope you've made plans to attend the 2025 East Texas Fall Road Run and the First Ever Texas Motorcycle Jubilee. The feedback that we received last year from our local community is that the Cherokee Chapter made an incredible impact on the event by displaying and riding some of the most amazing antique motorcycles ever made and we want to bring back that experience in a big way! Also, just like last year, we're inviting all members to a private reception at the Flying G museum on Friday evening. We look forward to seeing you.

- Luke



All is well at the Finish Line!!!

The Motorcycle TransAm motorcycle endurance race, took place this past September 4th through the 19th, consisting of 4,000 miles across our beautiful country. The qualified competitors, some seasoned in the customary daily drill of such an event and some new to the test, set off from Jennette's Pier at Nags Head, North Carolina, at 7 am on Thursday, September 4th, heading west after a pre-party and a welcome banquet.

Recreating the water ritual of Avis and Effie Hotchkiss, the mother and daughter duo, back in 1915, the riders carried water from the Atlantic to the West coast on their trip. After the welcome banquet, all the riders collected a bit of water and prepared for the journey to the Pacific.

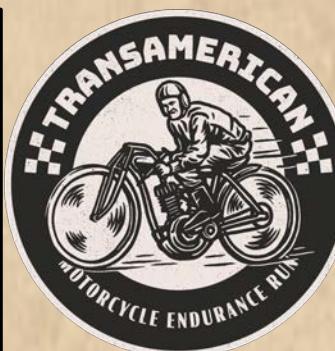
Thirty-three enthusiasts commenced on the inaugural TransAm, and within that group, Cherokee members Rodney Sterling riding a 1919 J, Bill Page riding his 1925 J sidecar with his daughter Amy, and Pat Olson on his 1921 J. With their team was AMCA member Dr. Bart, riding a 1925 JD.

Day after day, all participants were wrenching on the bikes and getting them ready for the next leg, sometimes skipping dinner. The century-old machines received regular attention to detail and regular maintenance. Riders were taken through hills, curves, desert, and mountains. They enjoyed and endured the curves at Tail of the Dragon as well as hills of Tennessee, the plains of Kansas, and the Mountain passes of the West, reaching close to 11,000 feet in elevation. They were welcomed to towns, treated to wonderful meals, and helped by unsuspecting passersby with welding abilities and equipment. They surprised patrons at fuel stations, bringing back memories to many along the way. Museums and shop owners alike opened their doors to riders and crews, treating everyone to their work areas, where they used their equipment and sometimes their personnel.

Rodney lost a motor sprocket nut, causing him to lose 27 miles on stage one and having to ride the 'loser cruiser', the sweep van, so sweetly named by the participants. He replaced it in the pits and was ready to roll the next morning. Discovered two broken rear intake valve springs at two different stages and had a failed kick start at the last stage, but a push start was the remedy, and it didn't keep him from crossing the line and bringing him to 12th place at the final score.

Bill's heart, determination, love of family, and endurance also got him to the finish line. Bill and his daughter Amy endured six broken spokes in the rear wheel, sheared all rear sprocket bolts, and replaced the rear tire 3 times. Multiple electrical issues, six replaced batteries, and vapor locking didn't deter his will. In the company of his determined daughter Amy, who became his strongest and most helpful support, both emotionally and physically, he finished and won the well-deserved Spirit of the TransAm award.

Pat completed the race with all miles, coming in at 6th place, overcoming losing a motor sprocket nut, a fallen chain just before entering the Tail of the Dragon, and the replacement of an intake valve.



Nags Head, NC
to
Florence, OR



Trans-American, contd...

Dr. Bart's hard work and determination earned him one of two True Grit awards. Electrical issues, a leaky tank giving him issues at different times, a bad generator, and multiple batteries, which caused him to have a late start were no issue or obstacle for Dr. Bart. In these toughest moments is where you see the riders come together and help each other with spare parts and welding talents, among others, to get each other going and reach that rewarding finish line.

Most of the competitors are in this for the camaraderie, to accomplish the obstacles encountered, and gain a multitude of friends along the way. Great friendships and even business partnerships are created.

Luca and Samuele, participants from Italy, had an exceptional experience. Happy couple, Kat and Mitsuhiro Kiyonaga from California, were an inspiration with their determination. Danger Dan was having such a great time; his positivity was infectious. Bob Jesernik's calm demeanor seemed to make everything ok. George Banks, Matthew Miller, and Erik Bahl just make challenges seem like a breeze. It was also great to see many past events' riders become the support drivers and pit crews for this event.

Congratulations to the First Annual TransAm winners. 1st place Mike Butts, 2nd Frank Westfall and 3rd place Erik Bahl.

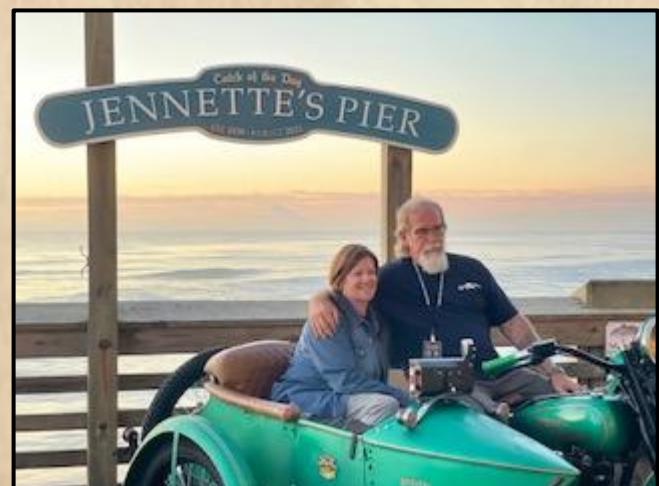
If you have not had the chance, will, or desire to participate in a similar event, ask multiple guys or gals who have. Their experience will vary, but you will find the vast majority will highly recommend an experience so entangled with emotions, disappointments, satisfactions, and accomplishments.

Kudos to all who made this event happen. Kelsey and Sean Jackson, Tom Banks, the sponsors, the medics, the lead rider, photographers, and staff. Much appreciation to the cities, museums, and businesses that opened their doors to these die-hard enthusiasts.

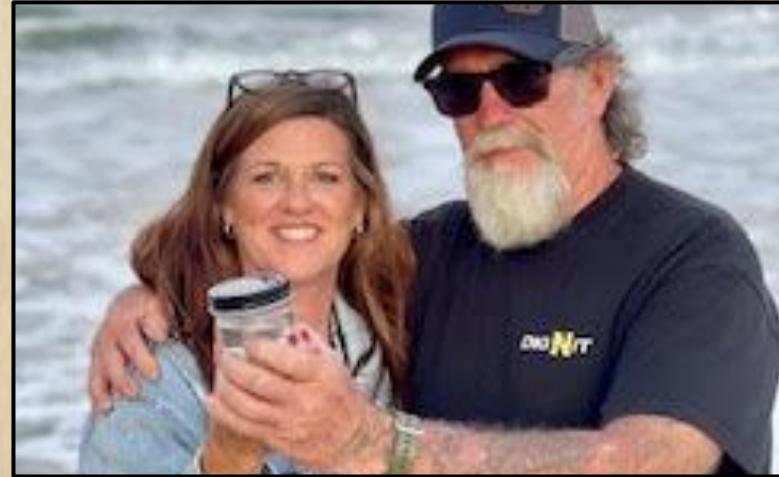
Until the next event..

-Rosie Sterling

The Motorcycle TransAm is a one-of-a-kind endurance race featuring antique motorcycles that are at least a century old, traveling 4,000 miles across the United States. Starting in Nags Head, NC, and ending at the iconic Heceta Head Lighthouse on the Oregon Coast, this epic journey challenges riders and their vintage machines to push limits and celebrate the spirit of adventure in September of 2025.

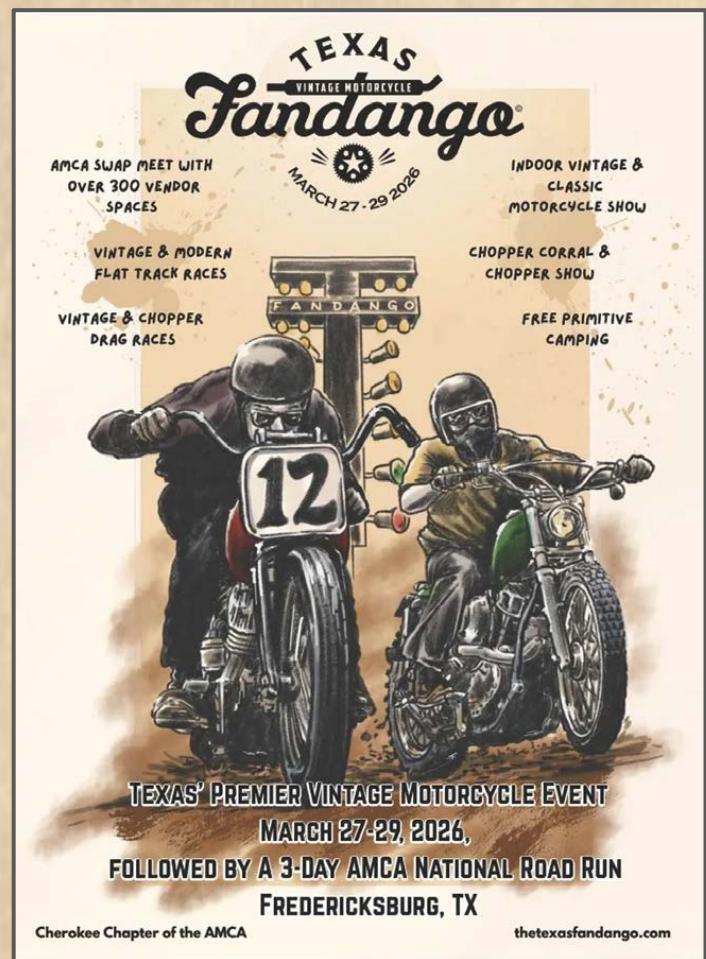








In June of 2025 Greg completed his goal of visiting all 254 Texas Courthouses on his 2013 Ultra Limited Anniversary model Harley. What's next? It's possible that all the Texas State Parks are the next goal. Greg Seago - Clyde, Texas



Do you have a project that you are willing to share in an upcoming edition of the Cherokee Chapter Newsletter? Do you need help writing an article to showcase your build? Send your pictures and project details to Kim Unruh at cherokeeamcanews@gmail.com and we'll work together to create an article to share! You can submit completed projects, or we can showcase your project each quarter as a "work in progress".

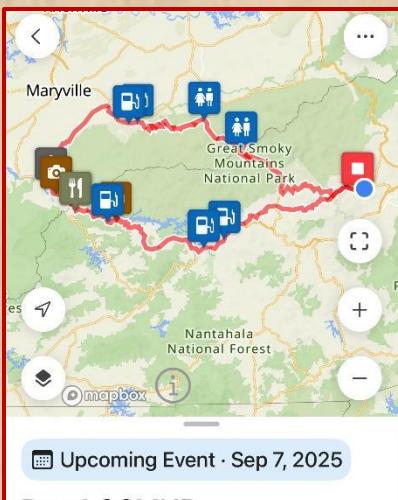
Fabiola Fuentes and I arrived Sunday, September 14th got unloaded and set up the RV. Weather was great so we rode a little around town as it was late. We had spent the previous week at Ed and Brenda Hazzard's place, in Kentucky, being shown around where they had grown up. Monday, we went to meet up with Ed at the hotel they were staying at and saw Brenda sitting at the gazebo in front of the hotel. Ed and Jim Joyce had gone out to get something at an auto parts store so we sat and had fun talking with Brenda until they returned. It was nice to see Jim again since he and Lori had moved to Tennessee, catching up on how they had been doing since moving. We then got both their bikes unloaded and took a ride to Cherokee Harley Davidson to get some souvenir shirts and then had lunch. Rode back through the Blue Ridge Parkway to Dale's Wheels Through Time Museum to get our registration packets and walked through the museum. Saw Mike Bell's #41 Cannonball bike he had donated to WTT Museum. Ran into Stanley Miller and Vickie and many other friends from past runs having a great time and excited to ride the Blue Ridge mountains.



- Blue National Road Run – Day 1

We (Stewart, Fabi, Ed, Jim) rode through the Blue Ridge Parkway again but backwards and Great Smoky Mountains National Park from North Carolina to Tennessee. Saw two bull elks rutting until one ran off towards us. I had to speed up to keep us from getting hit by the elk. Came out at the entrance of Gatlinburg, fueled up and back into Great Smoky Mountains National Park, through Foothills Parkway, along Fontana Dam, and Tail of the Dragon (11 miles with 318 curves) to Deals Gap Motorcycle Resort for provided lunch stop and picture op at the Tree of Shame.

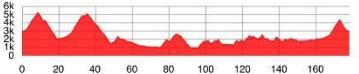




Upcoming Event · Sep 7, 2025

Day 1 GSMNP

✓ Route created Sep 12, 2025 at 6:...
178.5 mi 18,035 ft
— 100% paved

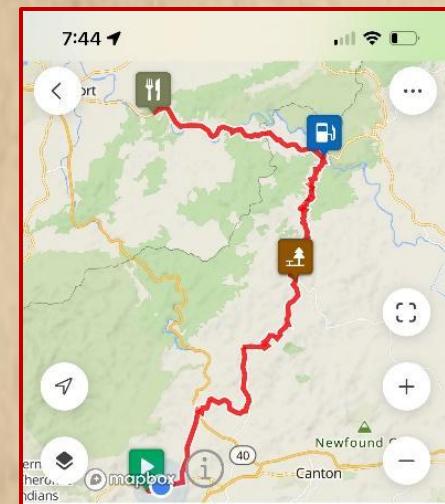




- **Blue National Road Run – Day 2**

The day started out very foggy and cold

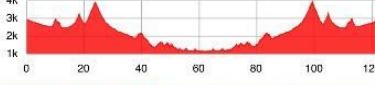
but cleared up to a beautiful sunny semi warm day. We (Stewart, Fabi, Jim) rode to Bobarosa Saloon in Del Rio, Tennessee for our lunch stop. It is a semi-famous biker bar and hot spot on the river and was completely washed away during hurricane Helene but they rebuilt. Ed and Brenda went on their own sightseeing and shopping drive.



Upcoming Event · Sep 7, 2025

Day 2 Bobarosa Round Trip

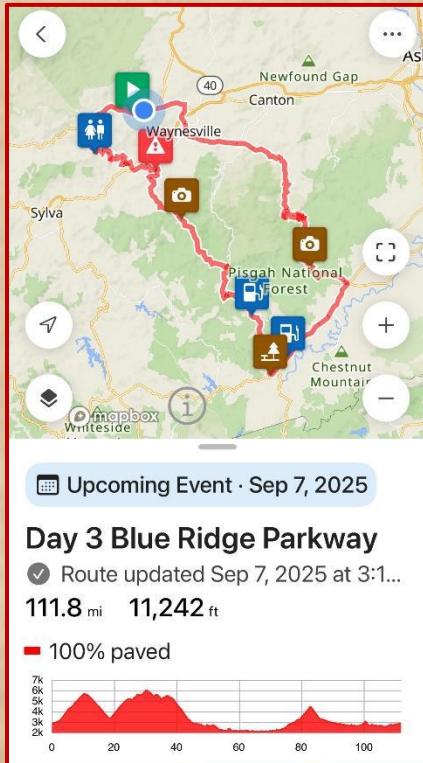
✓ Route updated Sep 7, 2025 at 3:0...
123.1 mi 9,650 ft
— 100% paved





- **Blue National Road Run – Day 3**

We (Stewart, Fabi, Ed, Jim) rode the Blue Ridge Parkway to Brevard, NC and stopped at Big Mike's to eat lunch. Rode back to Maggie Valley through the Pisgah National Forest. Attended the banquet held at the Wheels Through Time Museum grounds.

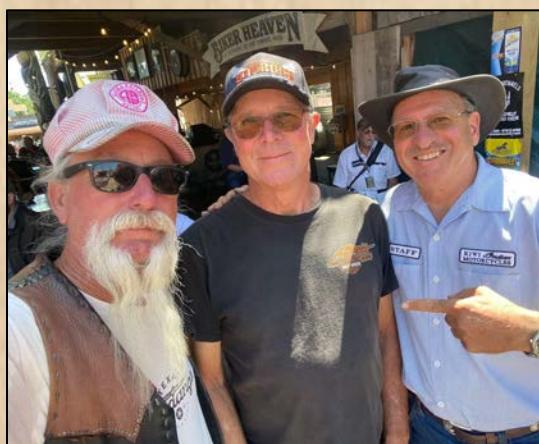


Start making plans now to attend an AMCA National Road Run. Check out the [National Event and Road Run Schedule](#) for more information!

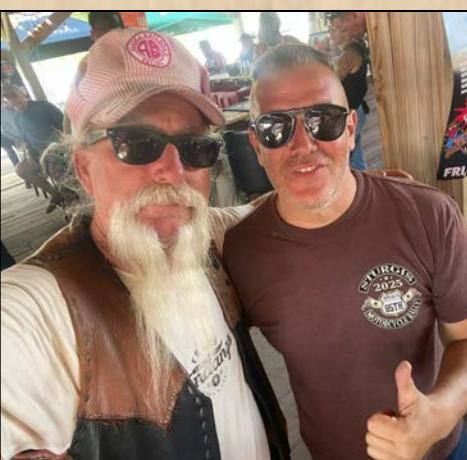
3 Generations at Sturgis

Randy Neal

I took my mother and my granddaughter to Sturgis this year for the 85th. We went to the Black Hills chapter meet at the Iron Horse saloon - saw many friends and had a good time. Did a lot of riding and enjoyed beautiful weather. Everyone had a great time. ~Randy Neal



Sturgis Adventures, continued...



*"Hey, do
I know
you?"
~ R.N.*



Cherokee Chapter 2025-26 Event Calendar



CHEROKEE CHAPTER OF THE A.M.C.A.

Hey kids!

Well, the temps are finally getting down to fossil fuel burning levels as there are lots of events coming up for you to take advantage of! As a matter of fact, there's 2 events in the same weekend for you to enjoy. So, put a little ethanol eater in those gas tanks and come ride with us! If you know of an event coming up in the winter or spring of '26, just let me or Graeme Ford know so we can get it in the calendar. Jason Smith (254)652-4014, Graeme Ford (281)734-6165

Thanks!

| | | |
|------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| October 23-24 | East Texas Road Run | Joaquin, TX |
| October 25 | Texas Motorcycle Jubilee @ Flyin' G Museum | Joaquin, TX |
| October 23-25 | AACA/AMCA Car and Bike show (AMCA Judging) | Moody Garden Complex Galveston, TX |
| November 8 | Pistons and Paint | Denton, TX |
| December 20 2026 | Cherokee Christmas Party | Waxahachie, TX |
| February 17 | My birthday just in case y'all were wondering! | Ft. Worth, TX |
| March 7 | Lone Star Swap Meet | Grapeland, TX |
| March 21 | Nitty Gritty Chopper City | Fredericksburg, TX |
| March 27-29 | Fandango!! | Kerrville, TX |
| March 30-April 2 | Spring AMCA National Road Run | |

Gulf Coast Region - Antique Automobile Club of America - 2025 Central Division Fall National

Date: Thursday, October 23 - Saturday, October 25, 2025 - **AMCA Judging Saturday Morning at 9:30 am**

Antique Motorcycle Club of America

2026 AMCA National Meets

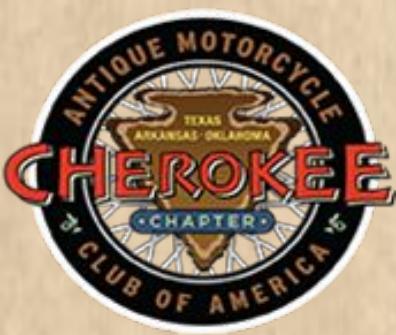
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| February 26-28 | Daytona Beach, FL | Sunshine Chapter |
| March 21-22 | Fremont, NE | Omaha Chapter |
| April 24-25 | Oley, PA | Perkiomen Chapter Meet |
| May 15-16 | Raalte, Netherlands | European Chapter |
| June 12-13 | St. Paul, MN | Viking Chapter |
| June 19-20 | Dixon, CA | Fort Sutter Chapter |
| July 16-18 | Wauseon, OH | Wauseon National Meet |
| July 24-25 | Greenfield, MA | Yankee Chapter |
| August 28-29 | Bulli, AUSTRALIA | Australia Chapter |
| October 2-3 | Upperco, MD | Chesapeake Chapter |
| October 9-10 | Denton, NC | Southern National Meet |

2026 AMCA National Road Runs

| | | |
|--------------------|---------------|---------------------|
| March 31 - April 2 | Kerrville, TX | Cherokee Chapter |
| September 8-10 | Deadwood, SD | Black Hills Chapter |
| September 15-17 | Dickson, TN | Music City Chapter |
| September 21-23 | Jackson, CA | Fort Sutter Chapter |



Don't miss out on the fun, excitement, and adventures to be had when you attend an AMCA National Meet or Road Run. Start making your plans now and get prepared to register for events on the AMCA website. If you attend a National Meet or a National Road Run, we would love to feature your experience in a future Cherokee Newsletter! Send event pictures and information to Kim Unruh, editor, @ cherokeeamcanews@gmail.com.



Cherokee Chapter AMCA Honorary Members

*For outstanding contributions, dedication, and service to
the Cherokee Chapter of the AMCA.*

2022



Jon Neuman

Jon was an integral part of the Cherokee Chapter National Road Runs, which in 2019 set the record for the AMCA's largest attended road run. Jon was well known for his efforts in research, preservation, promotion, and restoration of antique motorcycles.

2023



John Nixon

John served as the Cherokee Chapter President for 14 years. John was instrumental in starting and keeping the Cherokee Chapter alive and was later open to the idea of expanding the club.

2023



Shelby Withrow

Shelby Withrow served as the Cherokee Chapter Membership Director at a time when membership consisted of 20 to 30 members. Shelby's efforts reinvigorated the chapter and ultimately resulted in over 300 members in Cherokee Chapter during his time as Membership Director.

Cherokee Chapter AMCA National Road Run

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March 31, 2026 through April 2, 2026



Membership Renewals

To renew your Cherokee membership online, visit Cherokeeamca.org

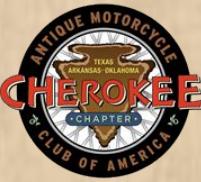
To renew **both** AMCA and Cherokee memberships online, please go to
[AMCA Renewal](#)

Contact Lecil Morgan for any membership questions:

Email: lecelv@yahoo.com Call or Text: 940-391-9570



Save the Date for Fandango - March 27 - 29, 2026 - Fredericksburg, TX



Please send
newsletter
information to
cherokeeamcanews@gmail.com

President - Victor Hugas
Vice President - Steve Klein
Secretary - Rosie Sterling
Treasurer - Veronica Kilpatrick
Board Member - Jason Smith
Board Member - Lecil Morgan
Board Member - David Miller
Board Member - Graeme Ford
Scholarship Program - Rosie Sterling

Deadline for the Winter 2025 Issue is December 15th - please send all articles, pictures, and information on or before that date!

Merchandise Director - Tawny Tully
Membership Director - Lecil Morgan
Newsletter Editor - Kim Unruh
Calendar of Events & Ambassador Program Director - Jason Smith
Calendar of Events & Ambassador Program Director - Graeme Ford
Volunteer Coordinator - Rosie Sterling
Christmas Committee Chair - Rosie Sterling

EDITOR'S NOTE

Kim Unruh

An idea I've been kicking around for future newsletter articles is a member feature that includes their motorcycle "story". For me, motorcycles weren't a part of my childhood - in fact, my parents prohibited me from even thinking about getting on a motorcycle because they were too dangerous. Fast-forward to the late 90's and this guy named George waltzed into my life - and brought along his passion for motorcycles. He borrowed a friend's beautiful 1992 Heritage Softail and talked me into taking a ride to Hays, Kansas. I quickly learned that he doesn't take driving "suggestions" well. One little traffic ticket and a proposal later and we rode off into the sunset. I realized that, even though I think I trusted George's riding skills, I had a hard time giving up control as a passenger. I decided to learn how to ride by taking a Motorcycle Training Course, and listening to George's many words of wisdom. We had acquired a 1968 Electra Glide, and I ended up locating a 1984 bright red Sportster that I learned on. I progressed to a 2003 Heritage Softail, a Road King, and now, following some shoulder issues, I enjoy cruising on the "Flying Couch", my Tri Glide.

My favorite part of riding is the instant stress relief, riding with family and friends, and encountering a lot of fun and interesting people along the way. One of my favorite rides was a trip to Maggie Valley to ride in the Kickstart Classic. George and Joe Skaggs took off a couple of days before I could get away from school. I rode alone and ended up beating George and Joe to our motel by about an hour. Another favorite memory was getting to ride the Softail through the halls of school after my class all scored well on their State Assessments. I still have former students reminding me of that little escapade! I also really enjoy riding with our daughter Amy, who is now working her way towards her motorcycle endorsement. Her first riding experience was on the ServiCar! I look forward to riding with her in the future.

So that's my story - I hope you'll think about sharing yours to feature in an upcoming issue! See you at the Christmas party in December! ~Kim Unruh



Kickstart Classic family fun - George and I with the Unruh siblings. Sister Susan and husband Donald Ellis (fellow Cherokee members), and older brothers Jim and Bill who drove to Maggie Valley to pick up Tillie, the 1924 HD JDCA that George rode in the 2018, 2021, and 2023 Motorcycle Cannonball.