



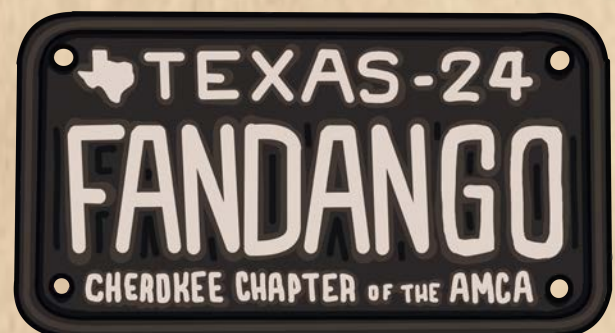
From the Chapter President

Well, another year has passed within the blink of an eye. It's been a year full of great events and good times. Meeting new friends and unfortunately having to say goodbye to others we loved dearly. What this year has taught me is to plan, be present, and do the things you want to do now. Take some time this January to plan out your year. A great place to start your planning is on the AMCA website under the Events tab which has both National and Chapter events listed there. We have been updating the Cherokee website with upcoming events and photos albums from previous events and will continue to do so throughout the year. Cherokee Board members Jason Smith and Graeme Ford are working to put together a calendar of events for 2024. If you would like to host a weekend road run or event, please reach out to them so we can get it scheduled and put it on the calendar. I do enjoy the road runs, both the national and the weekend ones we put on. It does not matter if there are four people on the ride or forty. I enjoy being able to ride, socialize and relax at these events. After all, isn't that what this is all supposed to be about, experiencing the camaraderie with others who share their common interest in classic motorcycles and riding them. To all of you that I had the pleasure of riding with, talking to, eating and drinking with and most of all sharing your precious time with last year, thank you! As I plan my calendar for this year, I'm excited for the opportunity to show up, ride and be among friends new and old. I look forward to seeing you there!

Sincerely Vic

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Cherokee Chapter Annual Christmas Party



The Antique Motorcycle Club of America (A.M.C.A) is a passionate community of motorcycle enthusiasts dedicated to the preservation and celebration of vintage motorcycles. On December 2nd, the A.M.C.A Cherokee Member Christmas Party was hosted at The New Braunfels' Landa Haus, a beautiful venue located at 360 Aquatic Circle. This annual celebration has garnered tremendous success over the years, and this year was no exception. The event has thrived to the extent that it has outgrown the Conservation Society's Folk Store, which was the venue for the past two years.

The festive event drew a crowd of over 100 guests who gathered to revel in the spirit of camaraderie and share their love for vintage motorcycles. The morning of the event kicked off with an exhilarating run, starting at Gruene Harley-Davidson and culminating at the Landa Haus where the main celebration took place. This run not only provided an opportunity for the participants to showcase their prized antique motorcycles but also set the tone for an exciting day filled with shared experiences and cherished memories.

Members brought numerous items for door prizes. Partygoers were each given two tickets to enter in the door prize drawing for a chance to win a wide array of items, including framed vintage photographs, copies of the recently released "Tour de Windmills" photography collection books, and entry tickets to the 2024 Motorcycle Fandango.

In addition to the silent auction, the party also featured the annual quilt raffle, with the proceeds contributing to the scholarship fund. This tradition not only adds an element of anticipation and delight to the gathering but also underscores the A.M.C.A's dedication to giving back to the community and supporting future generations of motorcycle enthusiasts.

The success of the event would not have been possible without the dedication and hard work of Vic Hugas, the president of A.M.C.A, and Rosie Encinia-Sterling, who played integral roles in orchestrating a memorable and seamless celebration. Their commitment to the A.M.C.A community and their tireless efforts in organizing this event deserve our sincere appreciation and gratitude.



Cherokee Chapter Annual Christmas Party



As the year draws to a close, it is a time for us to come together, to celebrate our shared passions, and to reflect on the cherished memories and experiences we have created throughout the year. The A.M.C.A Cherokee Member Christmas Party served as a testament to the enduring spirit of camaraderie and the unyielding passion that unites us as members of this esteemed club. It is a time to express our heartfelt appreciation for the friendships, the memories, and the timeless joy that vintage motorcycles bring into our lives.

As we bid farewell to this year, let us look forward to the promise of a new year filled with exciting adventures, new friendships, and the continued celebration of our shared love for antique motorcycles. May the coming year bring us all prosperity, joy, and an abundance of unforgettable moments. Here's to a happy and prosperous new year for all members of the A.M.C.A community.

~ AJ Bengoa









2023 Cherokee Chapter AMCA Honorary Member Inductions

Please join me in congratulating Cherokee member and Past President, John Nixon and Cherokee member and Past Membership Director, Shelby Withrow on their induction as Cherokee Chapter AMCA Honorary Members for the year 2023.



John Nixon served as the 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 which ultimately led to where we are today. It was an honor and pleasure to be able to meet and present John and Susan Nixon with the award on behalf of Cherokee Chapter AMCA at this year's Christmas party.

This year marks the second year of Cherokee Chapter AMCA Honorary Member inductions. John and Shelby join last year's inductee Jon Neuman as Cherokee Chapter AMCA's three Honorary members.



Shelby Withrow served as the Cherokee Chapter Membership Director at a time when Cherokee Chapter membership consisted of 20 to 30 members. Shelby and his wife Gloria traveled throughout the country to various National AMCA and local events representing Cherokee Chapter and recreating new members. Shelby's efforts reinvigorated the chapter and ultimately resulted in over 300 members in Cherokee Chapter during his time as Membership Director. It is an honor and pleasure to award Shelby Withrow the title of Cherokee Chapter Honorary Member for his contributions to the Cherokee Chapter. Congratulations Shelby!



Born Free, Texas Edition

I travelled to Born Free 17 to 22 October, 2023 from Needville Texas to set up as a vendor at the AMCA section. Our area was in a beautiful swale off to the right of the racetrack on a grassy hillside and valley. Vendors set up around the perimeter then filled in the center rows. There was room for more if you are considering next year. Thanks to Vic Hugas the grass was freshly mowed and easy to navigate. I would guess there were close to fifty swap meet vendors throughout the weekend and by the time the show got fully underway. There was everything from early teens motorcycle parts to antique bicycles available. I observed most every make and model of American, European and Asian motorcycle being ridden, rollers or parts. The area that encompassed the other vendors accommodated around a hundred occupied spots.

There were folks from all over Texas set up, but also a good number from surrounding states, even as far as Arizona and California. I didn't ask everyone where they travelled, however noticed some distant license plates. With over a hundred acres on the facility there is room for everyone. The camping area is huge and the RV sites are plentiful. Everything from primitive sites to hookups for any type RV. I roamed around a bit and watched a massive social event unfold with small and moderate sized groups cooking, congregating and swapping lies (I may have partaken in the latter). I know I put about 60 pounds of ribs, chicken and sausages through my smoker before I left, and none came home. The bar was very busy the whole time and the live music was pretty good.

I set up my meager collection of 45 parts and 2 motorcycles and immediately scanned the area for who to start shopping first. I crossed the aisle and worked my way up the hill on the north perimeter. It was difficult to concentrate as you were running into friends and acquaintances every few feet. It was good to see faces from previous meets and events. I was able to score some smalls and a few hard to find parts for the 45s I build and some parts for friends wish lists. I worked my way around the edges and then the interior aisles. I noted where new arrivals were filling in and kept going back around when I could to see what new treasures were revealed as vendors unloaded more or picked up from another seller. Not unlike others, I bought several choice finds only to have someone that needed it more than I. I believe the 45 Solo frame I sold changed hands twice before the end of the show. I know the parts I found generally changed hands quickly.

I was able to score some very hard to find parts at great prices and move a bunch of parts others needed for their projects. My favorite transmission builder was there for me to drop off more units for rebuild and pick up jobs completed. There were races to watch, the Wall of Death, lots of vendors and attendees. The most fun and entertaining was meeting new friends and spending time with people I know. Lots of food was shared, along with laughs and adventures.

Born Free 2024 is definitely on the schedule and I am looking forward to another great year.

Terry Deeds





For more information about Born-Free 2024, visit their website:
<https://bornfreeshow.com/>

This event will be held at Yellow Rose Canyon, Mt. Enterprise, TX. Visit their website here:
<https://www.yellowrosecanyon.com/>

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



Tour de Windmills 3, Sweetwater, TX

Vicki and I arrived Friday afternoon at the Sweetwater City Park for the Tour de Windmills event. Many friends from near and far were already there and we jumped right into the action. Soon it was time for a good West Texas cafe in town, so we all went.

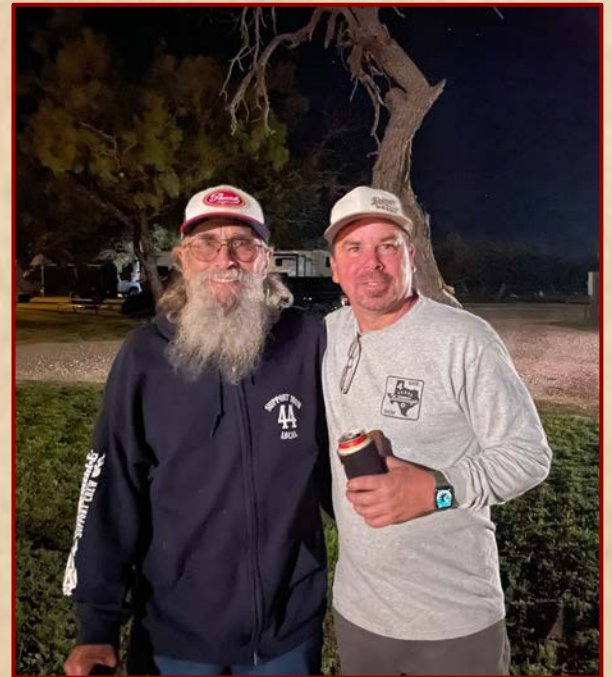
Saturday morning the run took off through Sweetwater and arrived North of town, just in time for a train to block our road. After a while, we turned around and made a detour.

Roscoe was our first gas stop, then we headed Southbound toward the big attraction, Fort Chadbourne. This fort was set up by the US Army to provide their style of protection to settlers pushing West into the new frontier after Texas joined the Union. A fine guided tour was provided, and also a good lunch I enjoyed.

From the fort, we headed Northeast towards Abilene with a stop in Buffalo Gap. After a rest stop, we headed West back to the city park where the big dinner party was held. The dinner was great, and the choice of pies was first rate.

Sunday, we rode out for lunch on the interstate at a really good truck stop barbecue restaurant. Vicki and I headed home from there. These small runs staged in rural areas are the ones I like the best. The next time we have another one, count me in.

Stanley Miller





Welcome New Cherokee Board Member, Jason Smith



Howdy!

My name is JASON SMITH. I'm excited to become part of the Cherokee Chapter Board of Directors. My hope is that I can be of some assistance to whoever and whatever needs to be accomplished within the chapter and beyond. I have been a member of the AMCA since 2004 and the Cherokee Chapter since '05 or '06. Currently, I am in the real estate business, but I have definitely spent the majority of my life in the motorcycle business. Starting with my mom bringing me in my baby bucket to my dad's shop on Main St. in Arlington, Smith Cycle in 1970. To starting and selling 3 dealerships of my own in Waco from 1991-2014. Shannon, my wife of 29 years and I have 2 grown daughters and still live in the Waco area. "We" currently own a '56 FL Panhead, '78 FLH 75th Anniversary Shovelhead (that I've owned since '89), '03 100th Anniversary road king w/ matching sidecar, '04 Triumph Bonneville, '23 Ducati V4 Multistrada and my very first bike, a '74 Honda MR50. Again, thank y'all for allowing me to be a part of the Cherokee Chapter's leadership team. We will definitely see y'all on the road, killing bugs!!

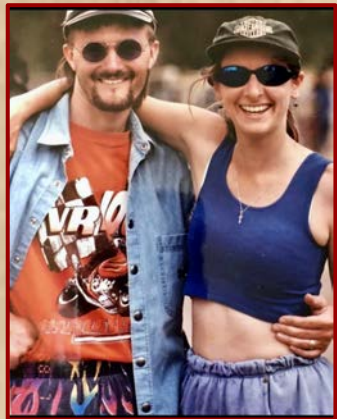
Thanks again!

Jason

254-652-4014



The '07 Big Bend National Road Run On my '65 Panhead.

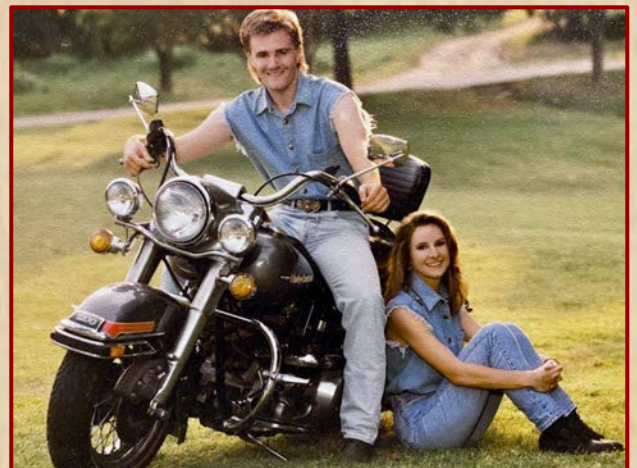


Shannon and I at some biker party in '96 in West Texas. Don't ask anything else!.



Me and the kids on the '78 FLH probably '04 or '05.

Me and dad at the '13 Rocky Mountain Road Run with my '42 EL and his '47 Chief.



Shannon and I in the summer of '95 for our engagement photos with my '78 FLH.



Shannon and I when we were still dating in the spring of '94.



"Solidarity" Quilt Raffle Update

Rosie Sterling

Sincere thanks to everyone who've supported Solidarity's raffle, it was a great year. This year marked four years of working on this program, a vision that started in 2015 and became reality until 2019 at the 1st Fandango and in conjunction with the silent auction at our chapter's National Road Run in Kerrville. Some of you might have taken a little time to see the display of winners and the program's history file with TSTC, (Texas State Technical College), and testimony from a few recipients, at the Christmas Party. It has been a success.

The 1st quilt, 2019's "Icon Huddle" went to Arkansas. 2021's "Family Outing" went to Kansas. 2022's "Kickstart My Heart" went to Colorado and this year, 2023's "Solidarity" is going to California.

Thank you all again for the support you've showed the program.



Rosie Sterling, Cherokee Board Member

Hello Cherokee Family!

I'm Rosie Sterling, board member.

Rodney and I have been Cherokee members since 2014. I came into the chapter, recruited as Membership Director by then President Steve Klein, following Shelby Withrow's amazing work. I've also served as Secretary attending National Presidents meetings and now Board member.

In all the events and activities, I have volunteered as t-shirt and merchandise sales back in the Pate days, Christmas Party organizer for 3 years under President Victor Hugas, vendor liaison two past years and volunteer coordinator the immediate past two of Fandango, scheduling the program for flag honors and some entertainment at Fandango. I'm assistant admin for Fandango and Cherokee social media. When available, I assist in any events Cherokee participates in.

2019 marked the start of our Scholarship Program. Cherokee's National Road Run 2019 was the debut year of the Quilt Raffle for Scholarships. 100% of the proceeds go to funding those students that have had life happen and are returning to complete their programs, those that need certifications to ascend in their jobs and those students that need assistance for specialized equipment or tools. We have a great relationship with Texas State Technical College and I'm happy to be the Scholarship Director for the program.

I'm currently assisting Rodney with our National Road Run coming up in May 2024 and learning so much. These past 9 years have been great for Rodney and I, meeting so many of the amazing people, motorcycles bring together. Looking forward to many more.

You may contact me at 956-369-5775

Rosie Sterling, Cherokee Board



Cherokee Chapter 2024 Event Calendar

Hey Gang!

Here is our tentative calendar of events for 2024! As you can see, we have a lot of cool activities and reasons for you to get your old iron down the road. There is a pretty good gap between June-September, so if you have a good idea to put something together for a ride or gathering that would be great. Breakfast run, dinner run, dinner get together, party at your place, etc. Feel free to reach out to me, Jason Smith (254) 652-4014 or Graeme Ford (281)734-6165, if you have an idea to add to the calendar. We would be glad to help you put it together. We will see you on the road!

March	3	Pie Run!	Lofers Bend Day Use Parking Lot, Lake Whitney, TX
March	22-24	Nitty Gritty Chopper City	Salmon Lake Park, Graceland, TX
April	12-14	Fandango!	Fredericksburg, TX
May	21-23	AMCA/Cherokee National Road Run	Eureka Springs, AR
May	24-26	Southern Throwdown	Yellow Rose Canyon, Mt. Enterprise, TX
October	5	Land O' the Pines Rally (NTNOA)	Yellow Rose, Enterprise, TX
October	18-20	Born Free Texas	Yellow Rose Canyon, Mt. Enterprise, TX
November	1-3	Shiner Run	Shiner/Columbus, TX
November	9	Pistons & Paint Car & Bike Show	Denton, TX
December	TBA	Cherokee Christmas Party	TBA

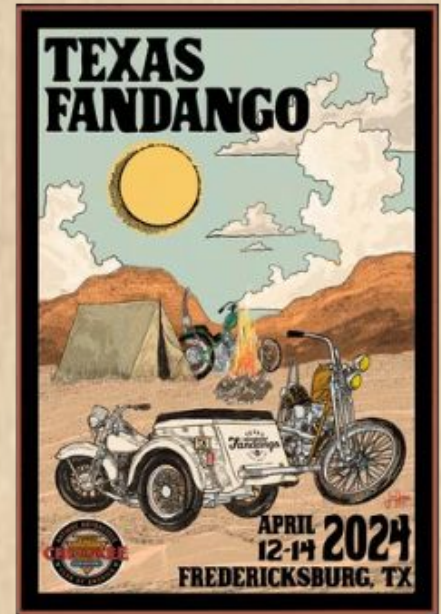
AMCA 2024 National Events Schedule

February	2-3	Music City Meet	Lebanon, TN
Feb 29 - March	2	Sunshine Meet	Daytona Beach, FL
Feb 29 - March	2	SoCal Road Run	Borrego Springs, CA
March	23-24	Omaha Meet	Fremont, NE
April	26-27	Perkiomen Meet	Oley, PA
May	10-11	European Meet	Raalte, Netherlands
May	21-23	Cherokee/Diamond Road Run	Eureka Springs, AR
June	7-8	Viking Meet	St. Paul, MN
June	14-5	Fort Sutter Meet	Dixon, CA
June	21-23	Can-Am River Meet	Waddington, NY
July	19-20	Wauseon Meet	Wauseon, OH
July	26-28	Yankee Meet	Greenfield, MA
August	13-15	Badger Heritage Road Run	Eagle River, WI
August	24-25	Australia Meet	Bulli, Australia
September	6-8	Colonial Meet	Harmony, NJ
September	23-25	Yerba Buena Road Run	Napa Valley, CA
October	4-5	Chesapeake Meet	Upperco, MD
October	7-9	Seaboard Road Run	Hamilton, NJ
October	11-12	Southern National Meet	Denton, NC

Register
For AMCA
Events
[HERE](#)



The [Cherokee Chapter of the AMCA](#) proudly presents The Texas Fandango. The Texas Fandango is a **vintage swap meet, vintage bike show, and vintage races** all rolled into one fun-packed weekend, April 12-14, 2024. The Fandango is located in the beautiful Texas Hill Country at the Gillespie County Fairground in historic Fredericksburg. The premier event in Texas for any vintage motorcycle enthusiast. A portion of every ticket sold benefits the [Optimist Club Of Fredericksburg, Texas](#). Please follow us on [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#) for community photos and updates.



Planning to attend Fandango? Contact Rosie Sterling at 956-369-5775 or rsterling@satx.rr.com if you would like to volunteer at the event!

Cherokee Chapter National Road Run

**40th Anniversary AMCA Road Run
Eureka Springs, AR**



EVENT SCHEDULE

Monday, May 20th - Registration 1 pm to 6 pm at the Inn of the Ozarks Convention Center with a rider's meeting, cash bar and snacks to follow, 6 pm to 8 pm.

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday - Maps and information at Rider's Meetings, 8:30 am daily.

This is an AMCA sanctioned event and all AMCA event rules apply. All participating motorcycles must be registered. Motorcycles and riders must meet minimum Arkansas liability insurance and safety requirements. Proof of insurance must be provided at check in.

Guests that will not be riding may meet riders at the lunch spots or stay in town. Eureka Springs has a trolley with 4 routes that'll take passengers around town from 10 am to 6 pm, Sunday through Friday. At a low rate of \$6 for a day or \$10 for two days, you'll be able to hop on and off at any and all the 130 stops of the 4 routes combined. There are galleries and shopping, outdoor activities and nightlife, spas, caves and wildlife, and museums and castles to choose from. There is plenty of restaurants and bars and shopping spots along the routes.

Contact Rodney Sterling at (956) 330-7474 or rodneysterling@yahoo.com if you have questions or would like to volunteer at the event.

REMINDERS:

No RV Parking or Camping on hotel premises.

Please follow parking directions upon arrival.

There will be designated parking areas for trailers and bikes ONLY.

Canopies for sitting and shade allowed in front of a trailer - NOT NEXT TO IT

RV & Camping available - contact information as follows:

Wanderlust RV Park, 468 Passion Play Rd. (479) 253-7385

KOA, 15020 AR-187, (800) 562-0536

Cherokee Members - Do you have throwback pictures you'd like to share? A project bike that you're working on or have completed? Have you attended an AMCA event or gone on an adventure and are willing to share a recap and/or pictures with your fellow Cherokee members? **Please send newsletter information and pictures to Kim Unruh at cherokeeamcanews@gmail.com**

Newsletter Deadlines



Issue	Published	Deadline
Winter Issue	January	December 20th
Spring Issue	April	March 20th
Summer Issue	June	May 20th
Fall Issue	September	August 20th

Editor's Corner



As I put the finishing touches on this winter newsletter, the world outside our window reflects the season. It's cold and snowy in central Kansas - we received around 8" of snow last night in blizzard conditions. All State highways and County blacktop roads were closed to travelers. I'm looking forward to spring and counting the days 'til we travel South to Fandango! The best part about a blizzard - considering I'm a teacher, it's the Snow Days!

It looks as though 2024 will continue to be a busy one - I can't wait for Fandango, The Twisted Oz/Sunflower AMCA Swap Meet in Augusta, the Cherokee/AMCA Road Run in Eureka Springs, and hopefully the opportunity ride a little more in 2024. I'm needing to figure out a way to take our pup Daisy May along with me on rides - she has "Doggles" (that she's not crazy about) and loves to go - I think I can sure figure out a way to modify my tour pack so she can ride along.



George and I truly enjoyed seeing everyone at the annual Christmas Party! I enjoy meeting new members each year and having the opportunity to catch up with friends! I am so appreciative of the time and effort that Rosie puts forth to make the weekend a special and memorable event. She is a true example of tireless and gracious hostess!

Here's wishing you all a happy & healthy New Year! Kim Unruh



George's annual New Year's ride - a balmy 28 degrees. He had the '56 sidecar rig ready so I could join in on the fun - I decided it was warmer in the house and volunteered to document his chilly ride.