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612-559-9595/Doug.Nelson@gmail.com

## Schedule of Events

**NOTE:** Board of Directors (B.O.D.) meetings are open to all members. When held at a chapter members home, please notify the host ahead of time.

**June 1 (Fri) – Kennedy High School Chopper Class Open House 3:00 to 5:00 pm**  
9701 Nicollet Ave So Bloomington, MN

**June 6 (Wed) – B.O.D. Meeting 7:00 pm**  
Sean O'Neil's 5528 13th Ave So Mpls, MN  
612-870-0766

**June 15-17 (Fri-Sun) - Viking Chapter AMCA National Meet** Minnesota State Fair Grounds Friday 8am-6pm, Saturday 8am-8pm, Sunday (judging only) 8am-1pm Sean O'Neil 612-870-0766

**June 16 (Sat) - Vintage Japanese Motorcycle Club (VJMC) Show** Minnesota State Fair Grounds Friday 10am-3pm Chip Miller - mpond2@qwestoffice.net

**June 21 (Thurs) - Garage-Get-Together**  
Paul Davidson's 9330 Overlook Trail Eden Prairie, MN 952-941-4997

**July 11 (Wed) - General Meeting & Ice Cream Social 7:00 pm** Veterans Home 5101 Minnehaha Ave. So. Mpls, MN

**July 15 (Sun) - Viking Chapter President's Ride** Ron Spargo - 952-443-2020

*continued on page 2*

# RE-CYCLE

JUNE

Newsletter of the Viking Chapter  
Antique Motorcycle Club of America Inc  
Published Quarterly

2012

March, June, September, December

vikingamca@yahoo.com

http://www.vikingmc.org

## SPARKY'S PLUG

by Ron Spargo

After an April-like March and a March-like April, May is upon us as well as some (hopefully) good riding weather. The spring rains have washed the roads clean and the mild winter means there aren't quite as many pot holes to dodge. We can enjoy the ride without too much concern for road conditions but still need to be very aware of traffic – especially those drivers who may be otherwise occupied with their cell phones, GPS and all the other distractions that take their attention from the real task of driving. Regardless of what bike we may be riding, we need to be aware that it is our responsibility to ride as safely as possible. Before you just jump on your bike and head out, take a few minutes to make sure it is as ready to ride as you are. Check the air pressure in the tires. Even a few psi can make a big difference in how your bike handles – and don't forget that old tires get hard and have diminished traction, especially in wet conditions. Is it time for new shocks? Do the fork seals need replacing? Do all the lights, signals and other electrical equipment function properly? Lube the cables and check that the brakes are at their best – when did you last change the brake fluid in your modern bike? In addition to all the things to check on your bike – this is just a partial list – also remember to check your riding gear. Make sure it is up to par and will perform properly if called upon to do so. That old helmet may look cool but will it really protect you if needed. There's a reason all helmets have a date in them and racers are required to replace their helmet on a regular basis. A little attention to the details will help make every ride more enjoyable. I want everyone to have a good time riding and to get home safely.

By the time you read this we will be getting ready for another great AMCA National Meet at the State Fairgrounds in St. Paul. A lot of dedicated folks have put a great deal of time and effort into the planning of this event and it promises to be the best yet. It is not to be missed! The addition of the VJMC show on Saturday will help make this the largest and best antique and vintage motorcycle event in the Midwest. It is my hope that we continue to partner with the VJMC for future events. I believe it will help insure the continued success of both the Viking Chapter and the VJMC. Be sure to spread the word about this event to all that will stand still long enough to listen to you. Check out the Meet flyer on the club web site and forward it to anyone you think would enjoy seeing old motorcycles (and a few old motorcyclists). If you would like to help out at the Meet please call Stan Mewhorter at 763-561-3922. There are still plenty of opportunities for you to be directly involved and have a great time, all at the same time.

That's about it for now. I hope to see you at as many meetings and events as you can attend.

## Editors Note

Summers here!!! After drying out from our trip to the Sunshine Chapter Natl. Meet in Florida (see below) I'm busy finishing up the last of my 2 wheeled projects for riding this season and already making plans for next Winters work. God I Love Minnesota! Hope to see you all at the many great club events throughout the next few months.



Screwing around after yet another storm at the "Sunshine" Chapter Natl. Meet.

## CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

by Viking Chapter AMCA Planning Committee

We are in need of volunteers for the Viking Chapter AMCA June 15-16 National Meet! We need gate people to take admission fees, people to work the registration/T-shirt table and people to assist with decorating the State Fair Building . Here are the schedules:

Wed/Thurs (June 13-14) **Decorating** - contact Sean O'Neil at 612-508-4855 or moneil2@comcast.net

Fri/Sat (June 15-16) **Gate** - contact Stan Mewhorter at 763-561-3922 or britm20@aol.com. Shifts will be 8:00-10:30, 10:30-1:00, 1:00-3:30, 3:30-6:00

Fri/Sat (June 15-16) **Merchandise & Registration Table** - contact Kathi Rimnac at 612-825-2550 or motokat2@yahoo.com. Shifts are 8:00-10:30, 10:30-1:00, 1:00-3:30, 3:30-6:00

Remember that this year we have combined our event with the Vintage Japanese Motorcycle Club so it should be bigger and better than ever before.

**YOU MAKE IT HAPPEN!**

## 16th Annual Richards Sturgis Get-Together and Chili Feed

From the Host Jerry Richards & Hostess Trudi Johnson-Richards



We'll be having our annual Sturgis Get-Together again this year at the cabin. This is always a good turnout for Viking Chapter and other AMCA members that are in the area for the Black Hills Motor Classic. This year's date is Monday, August 6 from 12:00 noon until 6:00 p.m. Chili and beverages provided. So motor over to 21432 U.S. Highway 85 South near Lead, SD (605-584-9082). The cabin is .09 of a mile southwest of Cheyenne Crossing Restaurant (intersection of U.S. Highway 85 South in Spearfish Canyon). Look for the slow moving triangle sign at Fire Marker 21432.

## Schedule of Events (continued)

**July 18 (Wed) - B.O.D. Meeting 7:00 pm**

Doug Nelson's 9715 Mill Creek Dr Eden Prairie, MN 612-559-9595

**Aug 4 (Sat) - Viking Chapter Ride to Sturgis 8:00 am** Hilltop Restaurant 727 Water St, Excelsior MN (come earlier for breakfast)

**Aug 15 (Wed) - B.O.D. Meeting 7:00 pm** Andy Decker's 7604 Red Fox Trail Rockford, MN 651-324-0971

**Aug 26 (Sun) - BBQ & August General Meeting**

**12:00 noon** Firemans Park 100 West 6th St. Chaska, MN

**Aug 29 (Wed) - Ride to Davenport #1 8:00 am** Little Oscar's Restaurant 23470 Emery Ave. Hampton, MN (come earlier for breakfast)

**Sept 31 (Fri) - Ride to Davenport #2 6:00 am** Downtown Gas Station Prescott, WI Tom 763-533-9163

**Sept 8 (Sat) - Viking Chapter Ride to Wings & Wheels 8:00 am**

Leaves from Kerry & Sue Rasmussen's 9282 Stonebridge Trail N. Stillwater, MN 651-492-0735

**Sept 12 (Wed) - B.O.D. Meeting 7:00 pm** Tom & Judy Jones' 6516 Ronald Place Brooklyn Center, MN 763-533-9163

Check out the **NEW Events Calendar** at [vikingmc.org](http://vikingmc.org)

## 2012 Donnie Smith Show Report

by Ron Spargo

The 2012 Donnie Smith Custom Motorcycle Show and swap meet held at the St. Paul River Center in March was another great opportunity for the Viking Chapter to show off a few of our best bikes. Our display space was large enough to hold 10 bikes with plenty of room for folks to get up close to see the details and take a lot of photos. This year we had three new members showing three bikes that not been seen before. Greg Helmer brought his '71 Harley Super Glide chopper. I'm not sure how long Greg has owned this bike but the picture board he brought had photos of him on the bike and he looked a lot different in the photos than he does now. Scott Brown brought his outstanding '71 Norton Commando. This restoration is so fresh that we were able to see the bike before it was started. I'm sure we will be seeing a lot more of both Scott and his Norton.

When new member Kim Hochstein call me he said he would like to show his newly restored '34 Harley. I thought it would look good next to Byron Nesheim's barn find '34 Harley. What Kim didn't tell me was that his '34 Harley is a rare 500cc single cylinder model CB. It is very well done and I'm anxious to see and hear it run. Byron also brought his Harley Topper and his 90cc Harley "shortster". The little bike was a huge hit with the kids. Stan Mewhorter brought his '41 BSA M20 done up in military paint as it would have been when it left the factory. Andy Decker brought his '65 Yamaha YD2. John and Kim Arth brought their original paint '22 Harley. This bike draws a crowd wherever it is. And to round out the display, Craig Kotval brought his '48 Indian. Unless you have seen this bike you won't believe the work that Craig has put into it to replicate an old finish. The swap meet seemed to be pretty good as a lot of the show goers were seen walking the show with their arms full of parts.

I managed to score a few Triumph parts. I think they may have been the only ones there. One special event happened on Saturday night. The Hampsters threw a birthday party for Donnie Smith to celebrate his 70th birthday! How could that be? The last I looked none of us were getting, or acting, any older. I think the key must be to just keep on riding.



## MidAmerica Spring Auction

by Jerry Richards & Trudi Johnson-Richards

Viking Chapter members volunteered at the 26th Annual Twin Cities Classic Motorcycle/Car Auction on Saturday, April 28, 2012, at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds Grandstand in St. Paul, Minnesota. Members handled vintage motorcycles for sale: Tom Broich, Steve Clough, Dave Glennen, Tom Kenny and grandsons, Tommy Knack and Colin Knack, Doug Nelson, Sean O'Neil, Jim Petsch, Kerry Rasmussen, Jerry Richards, Roger Rimnac, Dick Snyder, Ron Spargo and Stan Mewhorter. Kathi Rimac, Membership Chair signed up new memberships; Trudi Johnson-Richards assisted.

The Viking Chapter receives a contribution for assisting at the auction. Thank you to all the volunteers who made this auction a success.

## Club Spring Ride Report

by Ron Spargo

If you didn't make the Spring Ride you are excused. The weather for the weekend of our Spring Ride could have been worse but at least we avoided the blizzard and swarm of locusts. As it was, it stormed almost right up to Sunday morning and even then it was a crap shoot if it was going to be wet (some more). I didn't decide to go until one hour before it was time to leave the house. I rode my '73 Triumph over to Doug Nelson's house. Doug was the Ride Captain for this ride and rode his '67 Guzzi.

After a gas stop, we headed out to the jump off point in Prescott, WI. The plan was to ride some of the 2-lane alphabet roads next to the river. Stan Mewhorter arrived on his '71 Triumph and at 11:30 we decided to head out. These small 2-lane roads are great for just enjoying the scenery and the ride. This area also saw some very heavy rain and the streams and creeks along the route were full and fast moving. There had been some wash over in a few low areas so we needed to be watchful of sand and gravel on the road.

We stopped in Stockholm for lunch at the Bogus Creek Café and Bakery. When we went into the café Doug seemed to know almost everyone working there. It seems that our ride Captain, besides being a computer guy and the club Webmaster, is also an accomplished chef and has been the "guest chef" at the Bogus Café several times. Colleen, the owner and Anna, the kitchen manager were both eager for us to try their new appetizer that featured fresh picked Morel mushrooms from their secret plot and homemade pesto sauce with fresh herbs. Simply outstanding! If you are ever in Stockholm and are even a little bit hungry be sure to stop at the Bogus Café. You won't be disappointed!

After a delicious lunch we meandered about for a while more before arriving back at Prescott. About a 125 mile ride on some great roads through some beautiful countryside and no rain. The sun even came out for about 30 seconds on the way home. My thanks to Doug for leading this ride and to Stan for making the trip as well. It turned out to be a great, albeit grey, day after all. I will be riding these roads again.

## Viking Chapter National Meet "You Make It Happen!"

The big event is only weeks away and it's looking like it's going to be the best show ever! Teaming up with the VJMC has gotten a lot of people fired up and we're looking forward to seeing a lot of bikes at the show. There's not specific theme this year, so if it's got two wheels and is sweet to look at, bring it to St Paul! Our display bikes have dwindled the last two years, so let's show everyone this year what a great club we are by making it the biggest and best display ever!

This year we're doing everything we can to GET NEW PEOPLE INTO OLD BIKES. We're going to have informational seminars and panel discussions to break down any fears that newbies have. I'm also looking for volunteers to staff an information booth. No special experience required. I'm confident that ANY Viking member that has ever restored a bike can help the next generation get started. Just writing down their question and contact information will be all the skills required. We also want everyone that has a shop or performs any type of service for old bikes to participate in the information booth. And make sure you've gotten your business registered in our Vintage Motorcycle Resource Registry. Ask Sean O'Neil for details.

If you already know what bike you're bringing to the show, get your information to Sean so that we can have your sign waiting for you. Although it's not required, it makes the drop off process the easiest on everyone. Email mo-neil2@comcast.net or antique mail at 5528 13th Ave S, Mpls, MN 55417.

Owners Name (optional), Year, Manufacturer, Model, Displacement, Transmission (speeds), Country of origin, Description (what's special about this bike).

Bike setup times are: Thursday, June 14, 8:00 am to 8:00 pm. Or Friday morning, June 15, starting at 8:00 am. We would like bikes to be on display until Saturday evening, June 11, 6:00 pm

Bikes can be picked up Sunday June 17th from 8:00 am - 2:00 pm.



## Bicycles - The Gateway Drug

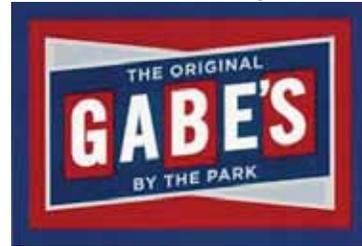
How many of us got our start fixing old stuff by wrenching on bicycles?

That first experience bringing an old treasure back to life, or even our first experience with tools was with often at the expense of some helpless bicycle. Many of us also took our first spin at customizing the heck out of a machine by affixing motors to a bicycle, chopping its frame and swapping forks. No one knows this more than Brittney Wuertz, AMCA Youth Coordinator. You may have seen her description of the Bicycle Field game she ran at Davenport and Wauseon (with the help of a couple other Viking Club members). Brittney is planning to run Bicycle Field games at our meet right after the grown up field games.

**PARTICIPANTS WANTED!!** Bring your kids, grandkids, friend's kids and neighbors kids. Anyone that you want to get hooked on fixing old stuff. Brittney will be donating an old bike as the prize, and is looking for any other old, cool bike that anyone wants to donate for a prize. The older the better, and it doesn't need to be running. We want to hook the next generation on fixing old stuff! Contact Brittney at 605-290-2367



Join us at the Saturday Night Banquet  
after the Antique Motorcycle Show  
at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds  
catering by:



June 16, 2012  
The big tent in front of the  
Progress Center

Cash Bar opens 5:00 pm  
Dinner starts 6:30 pm  
\$15 Adult  
\$9 Child (12 and under)

Rain or  
shine, we're  
under the big  
tent!



**LIMITED SEATING!! GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY!!**

Presale tickets contact Craig Kotval @ 651-269-1755 aquila1975@comcast.net

Purchase tickets during the  
show June 15, 16 @  
registration desk - Progress  
Center



vikingmc.org



vjmc-mn.com



## THE NEW STUDEBAKER MOTORCYCLE

by Colin Fort (reprinted from Turn Wheels July 1993)

I am just as surprised as you are. In February I was approached by an individual who claimed to have a set of blueprints for a motorcycle that Studebaker planned to build in 1941. I requested proof, and I was shown the legend on one of the blueprints "The Studebaker Corporation - Detroit MI". Of course this heightened my curiosity. I began calling several members in the club (Studebaker Drivers Club) who might be able to shed some light. No one had heard anything about the project.

I asked Carl Thompson in South Bend IN if he could help, and he called former employees. It was news to them! He finally got in touch with a retired electrical engineer, Charles Parker, who had heard a few rumors. I called Charles and he was helpful in putting together a few pieces of the puzzle. I talked at length with Mr. Parker, then 93 years old, and he had a number of interesting stories about his experiences at Studebaker. Others who were also interested in the motorcycle asked me to find out the name of the primary engineer involved in the project. I called my contact, and when I heard the name John Bond I decided to purchase the blueprints. John Bond, as you may know, was the founder of Road and Track Magazine. Before entering into the publication business, he was an engineer for several companies, including General Motors, White Motor Car Company, The Studebaker Corporation, Harley-Davidson, and McCulloch. He was educated at the General Motors Institute in Flint MI. From what I can determine, Mr. Bond was employed by Studebaker from 1940 through 1942.

Why Detroit? The last car built by Studebaker in Detroit was the Rockne in 1932. It was difficult to determine if Studebaker still owned any buildings in the Detroit area. It was Mr. Parker's feeling that the government was handling out secret projects right and left in hopes of coming up with any item that might prove useful in the military or on the home front in World War II, which was certainly inevitable from an American perspective at this point.

As you will note, the blueprints are all dated September 1941. Officially, the war was declared a global struggle when the Germans invaded Poland on September 1, 1939. We entered the picture on December 8, 1941. Mr. Parker remembered rumors about an eight-cylinder outboard motor that Studebaker was supposed to be involved in as well as a small auxiliary power

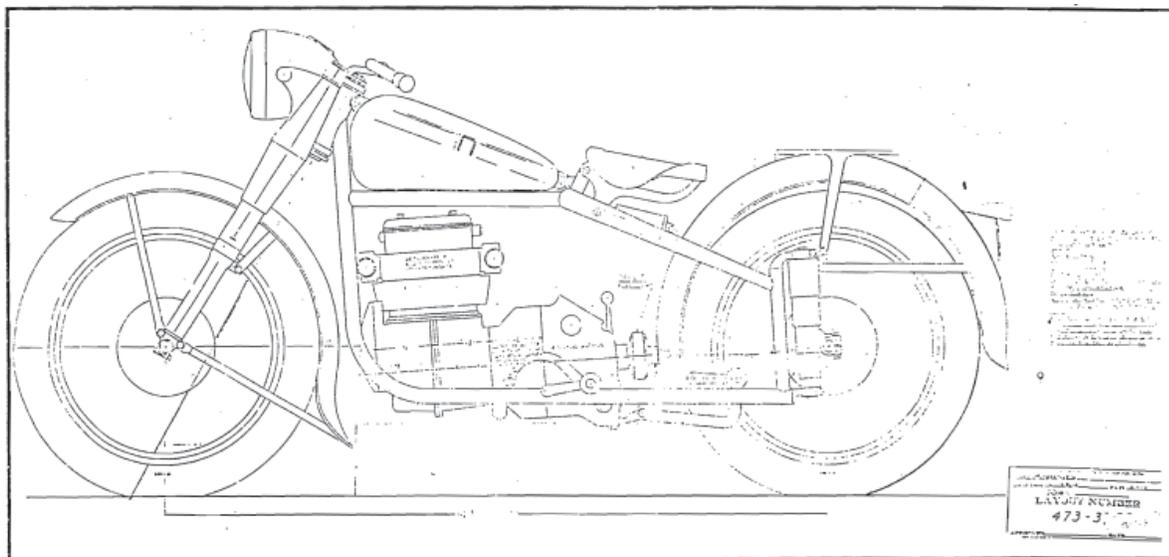
unit - APU - to be used to start military engines in extreme cold climates. Trucks were being used in large numbers in Alaska, and it was not long before the Japanese were knocking at our door in the Aleutian chain. So why not a motorcycle? It may have had a special purpose.

Although he was involved in everything of an electrical nature at the time, many engineers, including senior personnel, were not permitted in the experimental assembly area of the main plant. It was also not unusual for companies to rent both factory space and office facilities away from the main production line to handle secret projects. Although he never saw the Studebaker motorcycle, he did see three motorcycles that were purchased for "testing purposes". This helps substantiate the story, especially since one of the motorcycles was an Ariel of British manufacture.

As Mr. Bond relayed to my source, there was only one prototype built. It was destroyed after the war started in December 1941, and the project was never resumed. Basically, the frame was to be of a new design by Studebaker using an Ariel engine and a BMW transmission.

Mr. Bond worked on a lot of motorcycles, but engines were his primary interest and, in particular, thermal technology and balance which was the main reason for choosing the Ariel Square-4 engine for the experiment. It was a little complicated and certainly more expensive, but it fit his desires and temperament for the perfect motorcycle.

Does anyone else know more about the project? Was the prototype really destroyed (that was usually the company line) and we know there are times when experimental models find their way into the hands of a private party. It is exciting to think of the possibilities. Wouldn't it be nice to see a line of motorcycles at a SDC meet? The name Land Cruiser certainly would be appropriate (and what about leather jackets with the Studebaker logo across the back).



## "FAST FORWARD FROM THE PAST"

The British Biker Cooperative  
Celebrates the

### 32nd Annual Motorcycle Rally & Show

The British Biker Cooperative (BBC) has enthusiastically and very successfully promoted the rich heritage of the British motorcycle in the United States for over three decades. Their membership enjoy all facets of British motorcycling past and present through their active participation in motorcycle events throughout the United States and beyond. The BBC is most recognized for their annual Rally that has drawn thousands of motorcyclists over the years into the unique experience of British motorcycling in the United States.

On July 20-22, 2012, the BBC will celebrate their 32nd Annual British Biker Cooperative - Motorcycle Rally and Show at Eagle Cave Natural Campground in Blue River, Wisconsin. The event offers a weekend of activities including group rides and bike games, a Motorcycle Show, music both nights, comfortable shaded camping with dedicated quiet areas, and refreshments. An assortment of on-site amenities include a restaurant, camp store, showers, and cave tours through Wisconsin's largest commercial cave. The event formally kick-starts on Friday, but the BBC encourages riders to arrive early to avoid the rush. The BBC Rally location is 60 miles due west of Madison, Wisconsin near the Wisconsin River and features many area attractions including rides along the majestic Mississippi River, Frank Lloyd Wright's Spring Green, and The House on the Rock.

This event offers a great opportunity to see both rare vintage and late model British motorcycles in action on some of the best riding roads in the Midwest. All motorcycle enthusiasts are welcome.

For additional Rally information visit our BBC web site at [www.britishbiker.net](http://www.britishbiker.net) or contact Peggy Kasper email: [kasper.peggy@gmail.com](mailto:kasper.peggy@gmail.com)

## BRITISH NUTS

### Are You One? Or Do You Need Some?

If you are rebuilding old British motorcycles and you're in need of British Standard or Whitworth nuts, bolts, screws or tools, then British Tools & Fasteners in Lyons New York is the place to go. Tools available include open end wrenches, sockets, taps, dies, and Helicoil thread repair kits. They also carry engine crankcase fastener kits for Triumph, BSA, and Norton. Their 40 page catalog is free and contain their full line of products including 9 drilling and tapping charts for Metric, UNC, UNF, BA, BSF, BSW, and British Standard Cycle threads. The charts have a load of information in them. You can download them at [www.britishfasteners.com](http://www.britishfasteners.com) or contact them directly at 315-946-9400.



## NATIONAL VINTAGE MOTORCYCLE DRAG RACING ASSC. RACES



### JUNE 23-24 & AUGUST 24-25

Steel Valley Dragway, Smithfield, OH: June 23-24 and Ed-  
dyville Raceway Park Oskaloosa, Iowa August 24-25

All motorcycle drag meet with an 1/8 mile track. Pro Bike Class, Street Bike Class and other classes TBA. Late model bikes welcome. All bikes are welcome!

ACCOMMODATIONS: Primitive Camping available at Smithfield, OH track, as well as hotels in Steubenville, St. Clairsville, OH and Weirton WV.

The track site states that they are still working on details such as times, entry fees, classes, and payouts. Contact Information: Wayne Skinner: 740-827-0492.

### For Sale:

**1977 Honda Gold Wing:** Custom paint, tons of extras and updates. \$3000 OBO Bob 651-731-6832.

**1980 Kawasaki 1000 LTD:** 13,853 miles, Super Clean! Super Complete! \$3500 OBO Bob 651-731-6832.

**2005 HD Road King Classic**

**2003 HD Sportster XL883R 100 Yr Anniversary**

**1971 HD/Aermacchi Sprint 350SX Stock**

**1967 HD/Aermacchi Sprint 250SX Modified**

**1947 HD U**

**1942 HD WLA**

**2012 Aluma MC210 Trailer** with 2 HD Cruiser Cradle Wheel Chocks. Tim 563-579-1656

**2009 Yamaha Stratoliner S:** Bright Metallic Galaxy Blue, 6200 miles, extended warranty. \$19K firm Bob 651-731-6832.

**1951 Studebaker Commander "Old Skool" Hot Rod:** 400 ci smallblock Chev 509, turbo 400 auto trans, 9" Ford Possi read end. lots of other goodies - Lots of Fun - Bob 651-731-6832.

*continued on next page*



JUNE 2012

# RE-CYCLE

Viking Chapter AMCA, Inc.  
Antique Motorcycle Club of America, Inc  
7314 Chicago Avenue South, Richfield, MN 55423



## Wanted:



**Parts for this 1966 Wards Riverside 125cc**  
Handlebars, Gas Cap, Kickstand, Tail light lens, Steering dampener and/or knob, Tires, Battery strap(?) assembly, Cables, Carb parts, Rings, and probably..., Piston, Gasket Set, Plus???

**Basket Case:** Do you have a basket case motorcycle or scooter project that due to lack of time or money you just are not going to get to it ? I am trying to figure out what my next project should be. I am putting the word out to see what might be available for me to I fall in love with. Open to any brand.

Craig 651-269-1755 aquila1975@comcast.net

**Indian Side Car Frame or Parts** to fit post WWII Chief. Kerry 651-492-0735

Roger L. Glodowski      James Solberg      Chris Glodowski  
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