

## **Diamond Chapter October 2012 Newsletter**

**The next meeting is October 28 at Perkin's, 3630 Central Ave., Hot Springs, AR. Be there around 2:00pm for lunch. The meeting will start at 2:30. Ride your bike weather permitting. Please try to make the meeting and bring a friend who has an interest in old motorcycles.**

**North Texas Norton Owners Association Rallye or Better known as the NTNOA Lake O the Pines Rallye.**

**This was the 28th year for this event and maybe one of the best weather wise. Two beautiful days of warm sunshine then the cold front came in on Saturday. Light jacket weather, but no rain and good riding all four days.**

**Susie and I went Thursday so we could get a good camping spot close to my friends Randy and Cathy Bauer who like to cook. We got a great site close to the lake. The event is held at the Big Cyprus Marina on the lake.**

**I'm glad we went early, more and more people are going early just to relax and ride. Thursday is a do what you want day, so we got together with old friends. That we may only see at this event.**

**We did a little visiting with the guys from Ozark vintage motorcycle club, out of northwest Arkansas. We keep trying to get them to come to our show in Hot Spring.**

**We took a ride into Jefferson to do some looking around at the shops and have a beer at Annie Skinner's Bar. The only bar in town, great place.**

**Thursday and Friday the weather was just beautiful at around 85 during the day and great sleeping weather at night around 55.**

**Friday was a steady stream of people and motorcycles coming into camp, unloading bikes and setting up a few items for sell. Lots of bull s###in with old friends and meeting new ones. A few of us went on the catfish restaurant ride about 25 miles on back roads around the lake. The food was excellent and we all are too much.**

**We went around 4:30 so we could be back before dark. There are lots of deer in the area, so not a good idea to ride at night. One rider hit a deer at 3:00 in the afternoon and was life flighted to Longview. We hope he will be OK.**

**The rest of the night was spent around the camp fires with friends and a few beers. Saturday was the big day with the bike show on the grass next to the lake. What a great setting for the show.**

**We took the 1974 BMW R90S to ride, the 1934 BSA and the club project bike. All bikes were put in the show.**

The voting is by popular vote. You drop a valet in a box for each class, to be counted later. You never know what will show up, like a 1936 Brough Superior with side car. What a beauty.

Also a 1924 Beardmore Precision, which I had never heard of. There were close to 100 bikes on display.

Awards were given out around 5:00pm along with lots of door prizes. I got first place with the 1934 BSA in the side car class and the club bike got second in its class.

**My 1934 BSA with side car**



They also raffled off a club bike. A 1974 Norton Commando.

**Jim Hemsworth on the right, the Winner of the Raffle Bike with Rallye Chairman Richard Asprey**



**Hot dogs and meatballs were served for all Saturday after the awards ceremony. Then the party ran on into Saturday night - Sunday morning actually.**

**Sunday morning was the Concours ride of about 25 miles on old bikes. If you don't break down you get a medallion. I took the BMW R90S on this fun ride, and then we loaded up and headed home with great memories.**



**Keep this rallye in mind; it is close and not too costly. For pictures go to the Norton web site. ([ntnoa.org](http://ntnoa.org)) Lots of pictures of Barber's vintage festival are also on the NTNOA web site.**

**Thanks to the NTNOA, their president Chris Parry and rallye chairman Richard Asprey for a great rallye and all their hard work.**

### **Barber's Vintage Festival**

**Well what can I say; this event just gets bigger and better every year. This year broke attendance records at over 57,000 people from all over the world.**

**Perry and I left early Thursday for the 500 mile drive to Birmingham, Al. We got there around 4:00 pm., and found our camping spot in section D. Good thing I made reservations as camping sold out in a few days. First things first, unload bikes and check everything out. It was Perry's first trip and he was like a kid in a candy store.**

**We got back and set up camp and checked out the schedule of events for the weekend. There was so much to do and see.**

**Friday I got with the confederate chapter to put my triumph Hurricane in their show. This year the show was Friday and Saturday. I got the Hurricane to the show, and then took the club bike to my friend Doug Fox's swap meet spot to sell. Thanks, Doug.**

**Now with the work out of the way, time to have fun. I got my Yamaha TW200 up and going. This is a perfect bike to get around on.**

**Perry and I checked out the many vendors and the swap meet. This can take all day. Then off to the museum for a few hours. The museum can take all day also. It is 5 stories tall with over 1000 bikes and race cars on display. Barber's museum is one of the best museums in the world, if not the best. It is a must see at any time.**

**Vintage motorcycle racing was going all day, so when you got tired you just found a good spot And watched the races for a while.**

**Saturday is the big day. Motorcycle classic magazine and the Confederate Chapter had vintage Motorcycle shows side by side. The VJMC had a big Japanese show on top of the hill.**

**The century race started at 11:30. All eleven bikes, over 100 years old, were to do one lap around the track. Dale Walkser, from the Wheels Though Time Museum, won the race on a 1912 Indian. All the bikes made 1 lap but a few of the riders were having so much fun, they did a second lap. This is really something to see.**

**The Air Show came next. It was a great show with three Russian made planes doing acrobatics, barrel rolls, and stunts with smoke trails. What a show. Every year the air show is different.**

**Perry went back to the swap meet and I spent time at the Confederate show talking to people like Buddy and Chris Muirhead, Greg Dingler, Marcy, Frank Templeton and more. Stanley Miller was there. He was the same old Stanley. You would not have known he hit a deer last year and was in such bad shape.**

**Awards were handed out at 4:30. Buddy Muirhead won his class with his 1924 Ner A Car and I got second place with the Hurricane. There were close to 100 bikes in the show and the competition was stiff in all classes.**

**The auction was held Saturday. Results will be on the Barber's web site. Buy it now prices on restored Triumph is \$7,000 to \$20,000.**

**So much to and see in three days, Wall of death, vintage fire truck were on display, and so much more. Please put this event on your must do list. Oh yea, the weather was perfect all weekend.**

Barber's website is ([www.barbermotorsports.com](http://www.barbermotorsports.com) )

For great pictures:

[Click here for Randy Bauer's photos.](#)

[Click here for Corey Levenson's photos posted on the Norton Owners Group Forum](#)

Let me know way in advance if you want to go.

Michael Thomson

## **Diamond Chapter September Minutes 2012**

The regular meeting was called to order by Mike Thomson with 10 members attending and one guest, Justin Harp. Justin has agreed to help with the newsletter.

Thanks to Mike and Susie for a great spread. We all had a great time at Mike's for the meeting. Several members also had a great time riding the project bike.

The minutes were accepted as presented in the newsletter.

The treasurer's report was also accepted as presented.

Trivia was presented by Mike Parker. As always, we appreciate Mike putting forth the effort to challenge us.

Greg Bright was the winner and Mike Thomson was second.

In Richard Rivera's absence, Mike Parker was assigned to the board in his place.

**Arlington report:**

We had 97 bikes in the show at Hill Weatley Plaza. The loading and unloading was much easier and it was very visible to the convention center area. A profit was made from entries and posters sales. There were suggestions for covering the parking meters next year and putting a banner on Central Ave.

Any other suggestions on making a better show are welcome.

Thanks to all for your hard work and attendance.

Our next meeting will be Oct. 28. T B A (Perkin's)

We will discuss our Christmas party.

The November meeting will be before the toy run on the 25th.

Respectfully submitted.

Linda Bright

NOTE: Oct 28th meeting will be at Perkin's, 2:00 to eat and meeting at 2:30

**Things my motorcycle has taught me:**

1. Respect the person who has seen the dark side of motorcycling and lived, and still rides.
2. There are two types of people in this world, people who ride motorcycles and people who wish they could ride.
3. The best modifications cannot be seen from the outside.

**Work shop tools explained:**

1. Pliers: used to round of bolt heads. Sometimes used in creation of blood -blisters.

**2. Vice-grips: Generally used after pliers to completely round off bolt heads. If nothing else is available. They can also be used to transfer intense welding heat to the palm of your hand.**

**I would like to share an experience with you about drinking and driving. As you well know, some of us have been lucky not to have had brushes with the authorities on our way home from various sessions over the years.**

**A couple of nights ago, I was out for a few drinks with some friends and had a few too many beers and then topped it off with a margarita. Not a good idea. Knowing full well I was at least slightly over the limit, I did something I've never done before: I took a taxi home. Sure enough I passed a police road block but because it was a taxi, they waved it past. I arrived home safely without incident, which was a real surprise. I have never driven a taxi before and am not sure where I got it.**

**Birthdays:**

**Linda Bright, Frank Templeton, Debra Hundley, & S.P.**

**EVENTS:**

**Nov 2 -4 - 33rd BMW Hot Springs Ramble at Gulpha Gorge Campground**

**Nov 9 - 11 [International Motorcycle Show](#) at the Dallas Convention Center**

**Nov 10 - ABATE 14 Rally at the VFW, Fund raiser for kids, 10:00 am**

**Nov 25 - ABATE TOY RUN meets at convention center, registration at 1:00; Parade departs at 2:00. Bring a \$10.00 unwrapped gift or donate \$10.00. Contact Rosa 501-767-6373.**

**[Click here for a copy of their flyer.](#)**

**Nov 25 - Diamond Chapter meeting and toy run, Meeting place TBA**

**Classified adds:**

**For Sale - 1970 Triumph TR6 Tiger, Rebuilt motor and trans, new paint, new carb, and more. Only 85 miles. Restored by the Diamond Chapter. Contact Mike 501-525-9833**



**For Sale - 2002 BMW 1150RT, new clutch slave cylinder, Battery not included, some minor assembly required. Contact Mike at 501-525-9833**





**Keep the paint side up and the rubber side down.**

**Michael Thomson  
President, Diamond Chapter - AMCA**