

A friendly, active and open group.

Much to our surprise, we seem to get busier every year. When we retired a number of years ago, I had so many things I wanted to do that there didn't seem to be enough time to accomplish anything, let alone everything. Then Bev retired, and she had not many things planned to do at all. Reality check time folks! It has all worked out for us over time, as we now know how to work even better together, and so we manage to get most things done in a timely manner in such a way that we are both pleased. Win-win!

Take this past weekend for instance. We were going to head off to Milton to see our daughter to help her celebrate her birthday on Thursday, then drive to Paris on Friday, as we were registered to attend the 50th anniversary celebration of the founding of the Canadian Vintage Motorcycle Group at the annual CVMG Rally on the Paris Agricultural Fairgrounds. The power outage around here on Wednesday and Thursday, coupled with the need to tend to the generator and freezers for the 24 hours which we were without power, put the visit with our daughter on hold until a future date. We had to leave pretty early in the morning on Friday to get to the Fairgrounds in Paris for the early check in, which would let us choose a prime campsite before the masses arrived. Book early and you get first choice. I chose that option, but you also have to be there early. I liked that not so much under the circumstances, but we made it by 10:00 am – despite our opportunities to enjoy the construction and detours on the way.

We did have a great time, camped with some friends, saw lots of people we have met over the years, and got to meet a new bunch of great people, and got to see some rare and fabulous bikes. Sure it was dry, dusty, extremely hot and humid, and sometimes noisy as people (me included) fired up and rode around on their treasured steeds. There was racing in the evening, music, show and shines, a huge group of parts' vendors, (me included again), and to top it all off, this year's theme was a tribute to those men, and yes, women, and machines who gave there all to the effort in the great wars as motorcycle dispatch riders and such. There was an extensive array of military motorcycles from all over the world in one of the agricultural buildings being displayed by our members. There were many others, such as Bev and I, who chose to ride around on our military bikes, in a mobile moving display of less fastidiously restored time machines from primarily the first and second world wars, but other wars as well. These rallies are interesting for motorcycle nuts like myself, but there is also much of interest to see for others who simply enjoy looking at beautifully restored machinery from another age. Unlike the movie depictions of motorcyclists as wild, out of control, law-defying "tearabouts", most of the attendees at these events are in fact older, wiser, better educated, financially secure and of retirement age, or nearly so. As a group, we are interested in encouraging younger people to join in our love of these vintage machines. We also encourage you to actually get out and use your treasures so that others can share in the joy of these

older mechanical beauties by seeing them in motion, on the roads, where they were designed to be used.

June was a good month for our little group. As I stated last month, we had planned on going to the Cody Inn in Buckhorn for our usual Chinese meal. However, a significant rise in price encouraged us to find another source for our May meal. We chose the South China Buffet in Peterborough, where for less than half the cost of the Cody Inn, we had a meal with far more choices, and from my point of view, a better tasting selection of food overall. There were 29 of us at the meal, which for the drive through construction on a weekday was a good turnout as far as I am concerned. The second meal of the month saw a return to the outdoor Bar-B-Q and picnic tables. Barry and I, with the help of many others, put together a feast for the summer food inclined people in our group. The usual fair of hamburgers, hot dogs, and the like along with salads and great deserts filled many bellies. A good meal.

July will see us outdoors once again, the food will be similar, but most likely include corn on the cob, and other tasty seasonal treats. I personally like the summer meetings as there is usually a mixture of our regulars, their families, members of their extended families, relatives, friends, and people who just join us to see what all the fun and socialization is about. Remember; we are a friendly, active, and open group, so give one of us a call and invite yourself.

RE-ELECT

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