

# Wolverine Tales

VOL. 12

JULY 2020

NO. 3

## Remembering Wolverine Greg Reed The 2020 Memorial Ride

Thanks to the planning of Wolverines Pat Reed and Lynn Steimsma, 17 Wolverine bikes and 20 participants gathered at the Galesburg Shell Station on the chilly morning of June 14 in anticipation of the first organized ride of the 2020 season.

As the clock struck 10am, it was kickstands up and the sun began to warm the air to comfort the riders as they began to snake their way south. The ride wandered it's way through the sleepy towns of Scotts, Fulton, and Leonidas with a stop at Rawsons King Mill Park. From the park the group moved on to the Mendon Township Cemetery for a visit to Greg's gravesite. On viewing Greg's remarkable headstone, participants offered stories in Greg's memory.

From the cemetery Lynn lead the group to the legendary Langley Covered Bridge near Centreville for the Wolverine traditional "Ride Thru Time" and on to Pat Reeds residence. Pat had prepared a beautiful spread of sandwiches, snacks, and softdrinks for a relaxing center of conversation before the ride home. Then it was kick stands up again, motors roaring and the group dispersed for the ride home. A truly great day in remembrance of Wolverine Greg Reed.



Meeting at Galesburg Shell with bull sessions and preparations for a ride through the morning countryside.



AMCA MOTTO: **RIDE'EM - DON'T HIDE'EM**

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## MISSION STATEMENT

Our hopes are to make our forefathers of two wheels proud, to truly maintain the tradition, spirit, and integrity of the vintage motorcycle riding experience. Promote the preservation and share our restorations of the vintage motorcycle and it's social culture.

Chapter Website: <http://www.wolverineamca.com>

Chapter email: [wolverineamca@yahoo.com](mailto:wolverineamca@yahoo.com)

Newsletter editors: Barb & El Engelter ([engelter80@gmail.com](mailto:engelter80@gmail.com))

## CHAPTER NEWS

Since large gatherings are temporarily prohibited Wolverine Chapter meetings are naturally on hold. If any Wolverine member has pertinent news that they would like disseminated Barb will put out an all chapter e-mail with that information. NOTE: E mail change of address: [engelter80@gmail.com](mailto:engelter80@gmail.com)

**Stay safe and this will all be over soon.**

## JOIN US

The AMCA Wolverine Chapter meets monthly on the third Wednesday at the Club Car Grille located at 6225 West D Avenue, 1 mile west of US131. Meet & greet at 6 PM and the gavel falls at 7 PM sharp. All welcome. **See Presidents message this issue.**

## NATIONAL NEWS

The following AMCA National Meets have been cancelled for 2020 as of this printing. Empire national, Phoenix Road Run, Viking National, Fort Sumpter National, Colonial National, and Wauseon National, The Yankee National is rescheduled to September 10-12, 2020. Consult <https://antiquemotorcycle.org> prior to making plans for others listed in The Antique Motorcycle magazine.

## MEMBER NEWS

1 new member has joined the Wolverine Chapter AMCA since January. Our new friend is Scott Zylstra of Galesburg. New members bring new ideas to the chapter and your editors look forward to fresh "Tech and Travel" submissions to the Wolverine Tales newsletter. Classified ads are also free to all Wolverine Chapter members. We encourage all our members to become active in Chapter programs and attend membership meetings when possible. It's fun to trade stories.

## President's Message

Well, another month has passed and put another month of dodging the dreaded Covid 19 behind us. I hope all is well with the Wolverine family. In keeping with social separation, the Greg Reed Memorial Ride was a complete success in that riding motorcycles together supports the movement.

In other news, we had an outside patio Wolverine Board of Directors meeting at your Presidents residence last week to discuss the possibilities of resuming Wolverine Chapter membership business. After tossing around several ideas, Wolverine Vice President Scott Denny has arranged for the use of the Delton VFW picnic shelter for a couple of summer Wolverine Chapter Meetings. The meetings are scheduled for 2 PM on Saturdays July 18 and August 15. This venue supports social separation and allows those Wolverines that feel comfortable with the idea to resume Wolverine Chapter business. Put those dates on your calendar and plan to meet with us. More info coming on this issue as we near the dates set.

Be safe and enjoy your summer.

El Engelter, President

## Leah's Tracks of Wolverine

"Dad can I PLEASE have a ride before you go to work? Just down to the first phone pole and back? Please??  
"Leah, your Father has to leave for work. He doesn't have time to give you a ride."

Get on Runt: one quick ride down the East Road and back. Then I have to go to work."

Proud Dad, exasperated Mom and exuberant punk kid. Much like my Dad, I don't care to be told what I can and can't do; not always a great trait to possess. Dad pulled her up on the sidewalk to the front porch where in less than a flash my bare-footed, long hair flying free self was behind him, holding tight around his waist. My tip toes barely reached the foot pegs. He had already taught me everything I needed-balance on you rear, mouth closed for bug patrol, keep you eyes out so as not to miss anything, be ready to abandon ship if needed but otherwise, DON'T LET GO- basic life survival skills. "Twas quite a bit to put on the rear suspension of a little ol 350. Don't get me wrong: I do love those big bikes, but if she runs with two wheels and has something to say, I am in love--no matter the size or make!

This story did start with my Dad, but much earlier. One of the most cherished pictures I possess is of Dad's Cushman, us holding hands, the other hand holding the bike, me bending over with my foot outstretched in attempt to touch the giant turtle he had found--cats watching it all. This was my life in picture--family, animals, nature and bikes. Did I mention I was ten months old and in a dress? (Please don't share the dress part with anyone!)

(continued on page 4)

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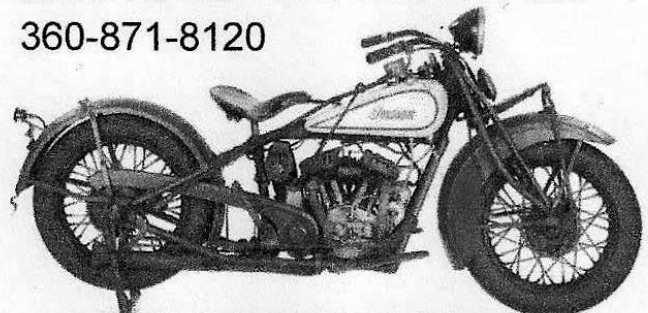
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## Leah's Tracks of Wolverine (CONTINUED)

My oldest brother then became the next ride provider. I was in love with his loud Harley chopper, thinking I had the coolest ride around. I often had to help push her down the road while he popped the clutch to get her to start-which left me standing with no ride at that moment because he was off down the road-no looking back. That worked perfectly until he and a buddy rode their big, loud choppers to New Orleans and Texas looking for work. I still remember my small self standing in the middle of the road-waving them off in a full gale of tears, wondering if I'd ever see them again. (Later in life, my man and I would own a Sportster like her and realize those thoughts once again. She also was a rough kick start-we recently sold her due to the two-week price tag attached for his back! Let's just say I was one upset camper, though I couldn't start her either. In my loving thoughts, all of our bikes-past, present and to come-should be able to live in our garage just because I get attached and believe I should be able to keep them all -forever.)

My next oldest brother loved his Kawasaki 175 dirt bike. I got rides on her out in the hay field-quite bumpy and rough but a great place to learn great skills. I can hear Mom fresh as yesterday crying out "Mark's alive!" upon returning home from an overnight with a friend. Bro had been dirt bikin' over an old railroad track system (maybe a tad bit fast and wildish), hit a rail at the wrong angle, derailed and did a "pay to see" circus flip followed by a nice wipeout. Fortunately, someone driving down the road saw the flip, exit stage left and crash. They got him some help. Once home from the ER, I got to see the leg and knee injury-pretty darn gross but cool lookin', if you know what I mean!! That has to be one of the best ways to learn about the inside workings of the body--lots of oozing goop!!!

When I met my man, the first question was "Do you ride motorcycles?" Insisting on honesty from the get-go he assumed the answer of "yes" would be the end of me. Instead, I spouted off "Great! You're a keeper!!". We love to collect, resurrect and free those old bikes who were laid by the wayside. You can tell when their spirits aren't quite done. They come back mouthier than before and we reap a new love: ready to rock and roll, humming right on down the road-sleek, mouthy and old enough to prove it. (Talking about the bike, not the man...) After he finished our 1963 Triumph chopper with a 8' length and a sweet looking rake out front, he was told by someone that we would not be selling her for along time-no confessions forthcoming.

Lowell and I am torqued to be a part of your group. We ride BSA, Honda, Harley, Kawasaki, Triumph and more. Each and every one of our bikes has a name. Many of us do this, don't we? Thanks for letting me tell some stories--hope you all enjoy this new section to your newsletter. I must, though, ask you all a question before signing off for the quarter:

You remember her, don't you--your first motorcycle? her style, color, shape, feel, sound and smell--and the first time you went out together? That wind in your hair, holdin' on for dear life-whether front or back of the seat? Your rear end vibrating...your heart swelling out of its space...and your mind knowing this was going to be a life-long commitment if you had anything to do with it!!!

**Safe journeys, friends. May the Wind always be touching you. Until next time, sincerely yours,**

Leah Lichtenberger

# More pics from the Greg Reed Memorial Ride



And we're off down the beautiful country roads on a chilly morning.



Good separation and moderate speeds make for a sane and sensible ride.



We stop for a break and more bull session at the Rawsons King Mill Park.



Centerpiece in the park is the well preserved original Kings Mill.



The sun has come out and starting to warm things up at the Kings Mill break.



Group hug before moving on from the park.




The ride arrives at the Mendon Township Cemetary.



A look of admiration at the remarkable presentation in memory of Wolverine Greg Reed.



And a relaxing conclusion at Pats home before a cross country ride home.



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How to “Like”  
The Wolverine  
Facebook Page

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Google “Facebook”. Prompt will be Sign-in or sign-up. If you are a member-sign in, if not sign-up. Hit “enter” and put “wolverine chapter amca” in “find friends” box at top of page, Wolverine facebook page will pop up and you can now scroll down over the good stuff that Wolverines have submitted. Click on some things meant to expand.



The Wolverine Chapter AMCA meets on the 3rd Wednesday of every month at the Club Car Grille at 6225 West D Avenue, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

## The Club Car Grill

Ph. 269-775-1267  
 Serving Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner  
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 Tuesday - Saturday 7am - 9pm  
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- Free subscription to six yearly issues of our full-color magazine
- Participate in our annual calendar of 16 National Meets and Road Runs, plus dozens of local Chapter events
- Connect with experts through our online forum & download documents from our Virtual Library
- Place free classified ads online or in our magazine
- Enter your bike in judging and earn awards
- Meet others who share your passion for old bikes nationally or through membership in a local chapter!

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Wolverine Tales



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