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## From The President

Jim Justice

As you all know, it is now the time to be out riding!

There have been some “interesting” things happening in the AMCA world. I went to the annual swap meet and bike show in Fremont, Nebraska and it was almost a disaster. A huge storm hit them hard and power was down all over the area. The Omaha AMCA Chapter was able to pull it off even though the lights and heating in the event building did not work until late Sunday. I’ve gone to Fremont for several years under much better conditions, of course, but I admit that I was impressed that they did their very best to keep the event open this year.

The next event I attended was the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Twisted Oz Swap Meet and Bike Show put on by the Sunflower AMCA Chapter. This event gets bigger and better each year. There’s always good food, interesting and rare bikes to see and lots of people to talk with.

On May 9-11, the Sunflower Chapter hosted their annual Spring ride in Emporia, Kansas. I was pleased to see several of our SFT members also attend (Jack Larson, Dave Schneider, John Webb, myself and wife, Sharon). I spoke with lots of the attendees and everyone enjoyed the rides, meals and especially the great weather. I would encourage more of our members to check out the Sunflower Chapter’s rides as they never disappoint.

The upcoming events are as follows:

June 7<sup>th</sup>: Know Norm ride starting and ending at Worth HD. The Weasel Club always does an excellent job laying out the route and it is well marked. This is a poker run. The oldest bike that completes in the Poker Run gets a \$300.00 prize. I’ve attended several times and thanks to Dan Holman with 1912 bike I was unable to claim the big prize! Our SFT member, Jon Green won one year for his Flying Squirrel.

June 8<sup>th</sup>: The KC Invitational Bike Show hosted by VJMC will again be at Blip Roasters at 1301 Woodsweather Road, KCMO from 9:00am to 12:00PM. This is being held the same date of our June meeting, but ends 2 hours before our meeting starts.

June 8: At our monthly meeting, Tom Binger will be giving a talk about ordering special spokes for old wheels.

Tom and others have given many great talks about a wide range of topics and **I am hoping that other SFT members will share their knowledge with our group. I truly feel that these talks have increased attendance at our meetings over the last several months.**

As always, keep safe and keep the old wheels turning.

Jim Justice

President



# Meeting Minutes

recorded by Secretary Sharon Justice

**March 9, 2025**

Treasurer, Ibby Rollert, gave a report about the Club's overall financial status, including some more information about the profits from the 2025 Lawrence Show. In addition, she informed the attendees that taxes had been filed and what needs to be done for next year's taxes.

Secretary of the Club, Sharon Justice, informed attendees that everyone who wishes to be a member of SFT must also be an active member of AMCA. She went on to explain that she had information on how to join AMCA and has paper copies of AMCA's membership form if anyone would like a copy. She will be checking annually via AMCA's website for compliance from SFT members before she sends her annual report regarding the Club's membership.

President, Jim Justice, mentioned that he brought the remaining shirts, dashboard plates and stickers from the Lawrence Show. The shirts were still for sale, but the plates and stickers were free for the taking. (As an update, with the shirts purchased during this meeting, only 10 shirts remained unsold!).

The license plate and insurance for the Club's trailer have been purchased.

Upcoming Rides and Shows sponsored by the Sunflower Chapter:

- March 15<sup>th</sup>, Garage Tour at Ponca City, KS where two garages will be visited. The ride will start at the Twisted Oz Museum in Augusta, KS at 8:00 and lunch will be in Ponca.
- May 9, 10 and 11<sup>th</sup> Spring Ride from Emporia and starts at Best Western Inn at 22836 W.18<sup>th</sup> Ave.
- April 12<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Twisted Oz Vintage Motorcycle Swap Meet and Bike Show. Admission is free and it's from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Additional Bike Shows:

- March 21, 22 and 23, Omaha Chapter's AMCA Freemont, NE Swap meet and bikes which can be judged.
- April 12<sup>th</sup>, ABATE Bike Show at the Lyon County Fairgrounds, Emporia, KS.
- June 8<sup>th</sup>, Kansas City Motorcycle Invitational Show put on by VJMC at Blip Coffee from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm.
- July 18<sup>th</sup> Wauseon AMCA National Meet at the Fulton County Fairgrounds in Wauseon, OH, from noon to 1:30 pm. There will be a free seminar about navigating estate planning for motorcycle enthusiasts.
- September 14<sup>th</sup>, Indian Motorcycle Summer at Blip Coffee from 9:30 to noon. Only Indian motorcycles will be shown. There are no entry fees and for questions **Text:** 816-454-2891.

After the meeting, Tom Binger gave a fantastic demonstration on how to parkerize bike parts. Thanks again, Tom, for sharing your knowledge with our group.

The April 13 meeting minutes have been omitted since it was a recap of upcoming events. The only thing to note was Jim Justice's talk about the basics of electricity which can be viewed on the Santa Fe Trail Facebook page.

## **May 18, 2025**

Doug Rollert gave the Treasurer's report.

Jim Justice advised the group that he and 4 other Club members attended the Sunflower Chapter's Spring ride at Emporia and that as usual it was a very good ride. The other members who also attended agreed.

Don Lipsky had designed some changes to the Club's logo and Jim J. passed the examples around for the meeting attendees to vote on.

Before upcoming events were discussed, Jim J. told the group that he wanted to tell about some funny things that he had encountered on various bike trips since there was not much to discuss at the meeting. He recounted 3 such events and asked if other members had stories they were willing to discuss. Several people were willing to share and everyone seemed to enjoy the stories.

Upcoming events mentioned were:

- May 22-25<sup>th</sup> KCBMWMC Rally in Paola, Kansas
- June 7<sup>th</sup>: Know Norm ride starting at Worth Harley Davidson.
- June 8<sup>th</sup>: KC Motorcycle Invitational Show presented by VJMC at Blip Coffee from 9:00 – 12:00.
- June 21<sup>st</sup>: Tougher Than Hell Run starting at Outlaw H-D in Blue Springs, MO.
- September 14<sup>th</sup>: Indian Summer motorcycle show again at Blip Coffee (this is the same day as our Club's picnic, but there is time to do both)

At the next meeting, Tom Binger will be giving a talk about selecting and ordering spokes.



# Sunflower Chapter Spring Ride

In early May the Sunflower Chapter put on another good ride, this one based in Emporia KS. The weather was perfect as we cruised the two lane highways of rural eastern Kansas. Jim and Sharon, Jack, Dave and I met in Ottawa Friday morning and took our time getting to Emporia. That evening we joined the rest of the club on a ride to Olpe Ks where we enjoyed a fried chicken dinner. The Saturday ride took us south and then east on some great roads, then through Burlington and Garnett where we stopped for lunch. Heading back west toward Emporia we stopped at a beautiful church near Waverly built in 1895. Back on the road to the motel we rode across the Malvern Lake dam and enjoyed the scenery north of Emporia. Saturday night dinner was at a steak house/bar and grill across the highway. Sunflower rides are well planned and well attended and are a great way to share your love for old iron.









[Click to see video](#)



## Member Spotlight

**Jack Larson**



Jack Larson has been a fixture at the SFT/AMCA chapter since it's inception in 2008. As one of the founding members, along with Jim Sneegas and Doug Rollert, and it's first President, he has presided over countless meetings, SFT bike shows and chapter rides. He rarely misses a monthly meeting and his influence on the Club's activities have been felt by all of us. He is always willing to share his knowledge and give advice, especially when it comes to antique Harley Davidsons. It's great to be on a ride with Jack because you know if you break down he probably knows how to fix it! Jack has enjoyed a long career as a machinist rebuilding Harley motors and transmissions in his home based shop. He also spent years building and racing drag bikes in his younger days starting in 1980 with dirt drags, then 16 years in top gas and nitro fuel drag bikes. These days are mostly spent building his own personal bikes from the ground up using parts he has collected from swap meets or fabricated himself. He usually takes an annual bike trip somewhere in the US and he likes to stop at historical sites along the way. Dave Schneider has ridden many miles with Jack, along with deceased SFT Newsletter Editor Raul Cabrera. I've been on a few more recent rides with Jack and Dave. It's always a good time whether we're on modern bikes or antiques.



When I do these member spotlight articles I give the subject some questions to answer if they choose to. Here are the answers Jack gave me.

How did you get interested in motorcycling?  
 What was your first motorcycle?  
 How old were you?  
 Where did you grow up?  
 Are you retired? If not, what do you do?  
 Married? / Kids?  
 Do any family members share your passion for old bikes?  
 How many bikes do you own now?  
 Why do you like antique bikes in particular?  
 What is your favorite antique your collection?  
 What is the one bike you wish you'd never sold?  
 What is your dream bike you'd like to add to your collection

*From my Dad  
 Honda 50 step through  
 12  
 Ruskin Heights  
 Yes  
 Yes/No  
 Yes, my cousin  
 10 plus a basket case  
 I like the old way of life  
 My Flathead  
 My 1965 Chopper  
 1937 EL or a Brough  
 SS 100  
 1941 EL  
 Bicycle riding and RC  
 cars  
 The camaraderie and  
 group rides*

What are you currently working on?

What other hobbies do you have?

What do you like about being a member of Santa Fe Trail MC?

Below; The Pea Shooter is a 1931 board track racer and the restoration was finished in the Winter of 2024. It's an all out racer with no brakes, transmission or clutch, so when the motor runs the bike is moving. For that reason you wont see this on a ride. It's one of his favorites, even though all he can really do with it is decorate his man-cave. It is pretty to look at.







Above and right; This is currently Jack's favorite bike and one that he'll probably never sell. It's a 1939 U model HD. The U is a low compression UL but if you know Jack, you know this is not a low compression bike. He started with just the engine cases and pieced this bike together with OEM parts. It's a rider, as are most of his bikes and will put a lot of modern bikes to shame.



Left and below is a '47 EL Knucklehead. This project also started with just a set of engine cases. When all the parts came together, this bike scored a near perfect 98.75 points in AMCA judging. Serious Inquiries only.

Below is Jack's '47 FL Bobber. Again, starting with just engine cases, he collected the rest of the parts for this bike. The frame required some restoration work and the exhaust pipes were hand built.





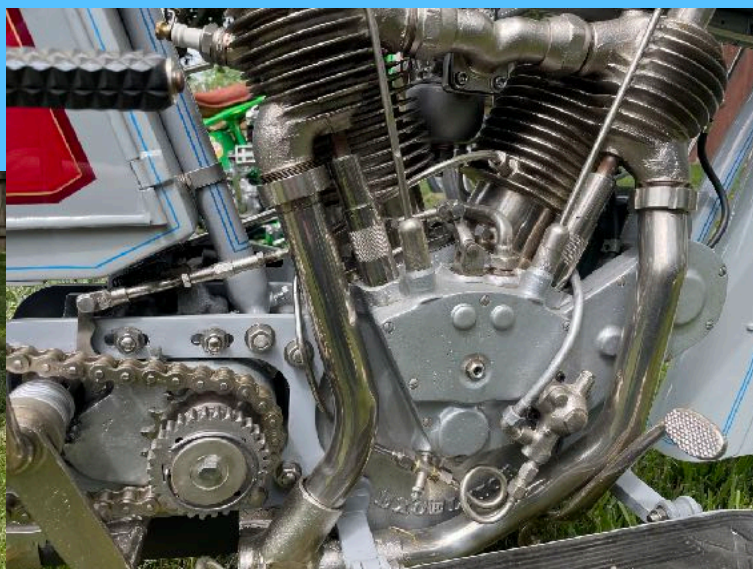
Below and right; This is a more recent build, it's a '51 EL Panhead. The paint job was inspired by a bike Jack saw at the Davenport swap meet and was featured in the AMCA magazine a while back. It's a real eye-catcher. I've never seen a luggage rack like this one but Jack says there were a few of them around. His saddlebags bolt to the sides and his tour pack bolts to the top. This bike won first place in the theme class "Bikes of the 50's" at our last bike show.

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Spring 2025



Below is a 1917 Excelsior twin with 3 speed trans. He bought the bike from SFT VP, Doug Rollert. Jack fabricated the tool box and SFT member Tom Binger restored the fuel tank, oil tank and front fender. You can see Tom's talk about metal restoration on our Facebook page.







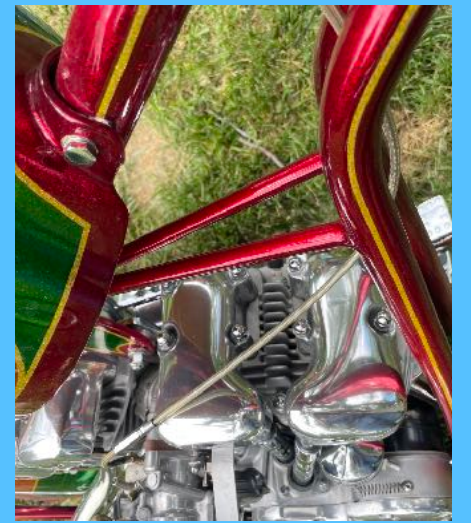
This 1939 Knuckle chop is a very recent build. It features a custom single downtube frame. Jack made the sissy bar, exhaust pipes, top motor mount, front brake rotor and carrier, and the hand and foot controls. He had to modify the dual piston brake caliper to single piston and he modified the early Sportster oil tank to fit the left side chain drive. This bike and the '69 FLH Shovelhead below really show Jack's artistry and his love for the choppers of the 60's and 70's.





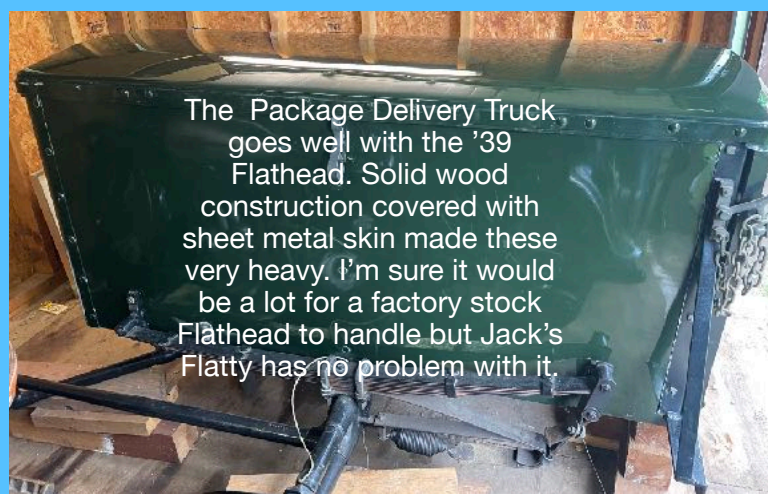


A lot of home made fabrication went into this build. Jack made the frame jig and the frame, the front end jig and the extended springer on his Shovelhead based chopper. He also made the pipes, sissy bar, oil tank, primary belt guard and foot controls. The mini drum front brake is from a Triumph Cub. The late model Sportster gas tank was shortened and narrowed by cutting up the tank, removing material and welding it back together. He cut the rocker covers in half giving the motor a unique look. The seat was covered by Slim in Lee's Summit MO.





Left and below; This is Juicy Lucy. She's a 1940 Knucklehead fitted with dual Linkert carburetors. Jack made the frame, oil tank, foot controls and hand shifter on this bike.



The Package Delivery Truck goes well with the '39 Flathead. Solid wood construction covered with sheet metal skin made these very heavy. I'm sure it would be a lot for a factory stock Flathead to handle but Jack's Flatty has no problem with it.





Larson Machine is not a large, high production shop. It's a one man operation housed in a two car garage with two rooms added on at the back. The metal lathe at bottom left takes up a whole room. It was set in place and the room was built around it.

The shop is tidy and organized and has everything needed to build and repair motorcycles.

Jack is retired but his reputation still gets him plenty of requests for work.

Lower left is a vintage Italian bicycle that helps keep his kickstart leg in shape.





The March monthly SFT meeting featured a talk by Tom Binger about protective metal coatings from the past such as Parkerizing. He gave us some background history on the subject and brought samples of metal that had the treatment done to it, and some of the equipment he uses in the process.

In April Jim Justice spoke about the basics of electricity. Both speakers spent some time answering questions afterward. These talks are interesting and informative and can be seen on the SFT Facebook page. You *should* try this at home



For Sale; Brand new 19" Perelli Scorpion dual sport, date code 2024 mounted on NOS HD rim, never ran, laced to OEM 3/4" Dyna/Sportster single flange hub, new chrome spokes, trued by Jim Lepisto at Cyclops Cycle, chrome in new condition, no rust. \$325 firm. 913 206 8134, John



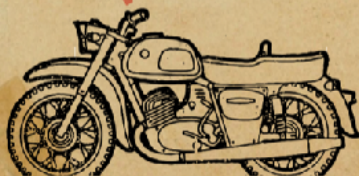
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## Upcoming Events

\*June 7, Know Norm Poker Run, Worth Harley Davidson, KC MO, register 9am, ride 10:30am

\*June 8, Kansas City Motorcycle Invitational Show by VJMC, Blip Roasters, KC MO

\*Sept. 14, Indian Summer Motorcycle Show, Blip Roasters, KC MO

\*Sept. 14, Annual SFT picnic, Heritage Park, Olathe KS

*Dan Holman's 1916 Indian Power Plus will be featured on this year's Know Norm Ride t-shirts.*

*Special thanks to Jack Larson for his contributions to this edition of the newsletter.*

*SFT Chapter dues renew at the first of the year. You can send your dues to SFT, 15075 W 167th Ter. Olathe KS 66062. Please include your current address, phone # and email address.*

**On The Trail** is a quarterly newsletter of past present and future SFT Chapter events. It's published during the months of February, May, August and November.

Chapter meetings are held at 2pm at K&M BBQ, 603 N Webster St. Spring Hill KS. 913 592 5145, on the second Sunday of every month unless otherwise stated.

Visit us on our website; [sftrail.org](http://sftrail.org) or our facebook page; Santa Fe Trail Antique Motorcycle Club

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