

Name: Ken Johnston

Date of Profile: June 19, 2016

Voted in to the WCMC June 2002

First Bike : 1965 Yamaha YDS 250

Current Bike: 2014 Indian Chieftain

I have owned a 1965 YDS 250 Yamaha, 1982 Honda 90, 1987 Yamaha 750 Maxim. 2002 Kawasaki Vulcan 800 Classic. 2004 Kawasaki Vulcan Classic 1500, 2006 Harley Davidson sportster 883, 2009 Kawasaki Vulcan Classic 900, and my current ride, a 2014 Indian Chieftain. I also owned numerous dirt bikes and a quad.



1965 YDS 250 Yamaha



2006 Harley Davidson sportster 883

I became interested in motorcycles at a young age. My father Rode dispatch during the war and I always liked to tinker with things. I helped build a mini trail in the sixties with a frame kit and Briggs and Stratton engine. One of my friends and I co-owned it and we had many hours of fun with it. I progressed to building VW trikes with another one of my high school friends. We rode those big bikes in the sixties. (Honda 50 or maybe even a 90) In those days you did not need a m/c licence and you could ride with just a beginners licence. I did not own my own bike until the seventies and I rode whatever I could borrow.

My first Motorcycle was a 1965 Yamaha YDS 250 and I sold it when the kids were young and rode on and off for a few years while they family was growing I rode a friends Yamaha Virago and did not return to motorcycle riding full time until 2002 when the kids were grown up.

I currently ride a 2014 Indian Chieftain with the 111 Cubic Inch Thunderstroke engine. It was the first new era (Polaris) to come to the Niagara Peninsula. I bought it in March of 2014 as a retirement gift to myself. Since then there are many more Indians around Niagara.

The reason I joined the club was:

In 2002 my first wife passed away suddenly and I had just started to ride again. I went on a group ride for Huntington Disease run by Rene Landry that ended up at the races, I also met Jim Ewert and Jim and Rene sponsored me.

I was so impressed with what WCMC was all about that I decided to join. I was voted in and worked countless hours around the club. In effect, the club became my family. I met Christine Ringler in 2003 and got married a for second time. Christine and her two boys also spent countless hours volunteering at various events over the years.

I was also voted rookie of the year in 2003. I became involved in more activities and was elected to the board of directors. I was President of the club from 2004 to 2006. My family and myself spent every weekend at the track and lived in our 30 foot trailer in the campground. For a number of years we ran the toy run, the kids Christmas party, and volunteered at almost every charity event the club was involved with. We also spent 5 years in the registration booth with Christine doing registration and payouts, tabulating the standings and sending them to the newspapers while I did heat programming and security and our son James was one of the runners and then raced for one season. My granddaughter also has her own Indian motorcycle.



My Granddaughter and I on our Indians