

Name: Jamie Schooley – Lifetime member. Profile Date: February 2024

Born: February 1963 in Port Colborne, Ontario

Voted in to the WCMC 1990

First Bike : 1982 Yamaha Maxim 750.

Current Bikes: 1998 Kawasaki Concours

Bikes owned: 1982 Yamaha Maxim 750, a 1985 Yamaha Venture Royale and a 1998 Kawasaki Concours



1982 Yamaha Maxim 750

I became interested in motorcycles the first time I saw one (too young to remember what age I was). From that moment I took every opportunity to ride one but was always on someone else's bike and didn't own one of my own until I moved out of my parents house, in 1981.

The reason I joined the club is that my good friend Marty Boyd was a member and I joined him on a WCMC fishing trip, in Tionesta, PA. What a great group of guys, I felt like I was home.

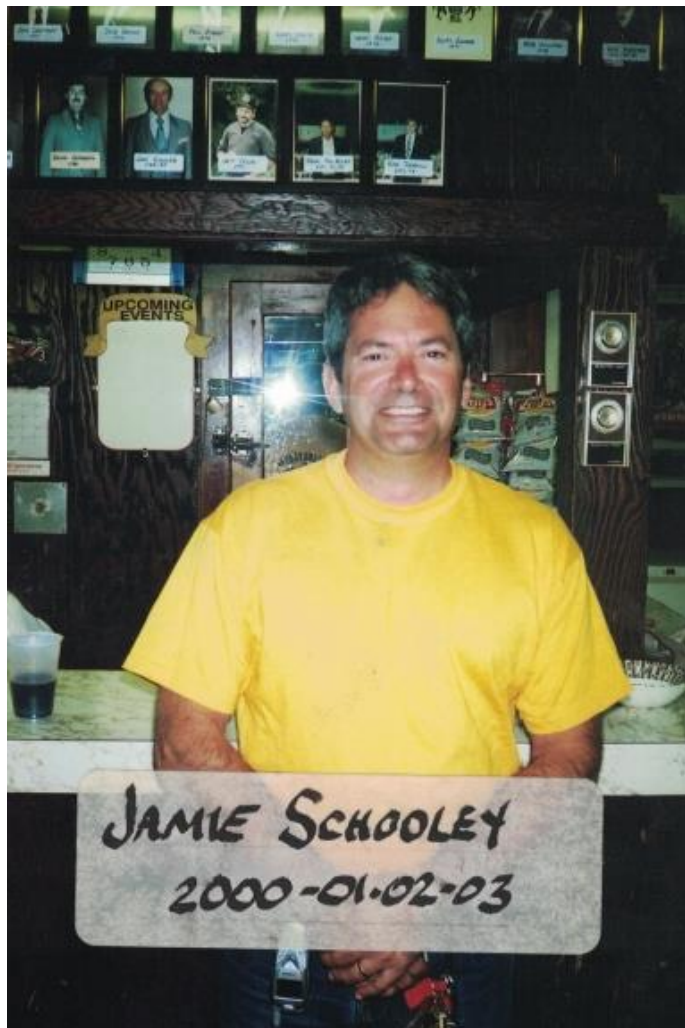
Most of my stories (the funniest ones) really shouldn't be anywhere in writing. When I think about my life with Welland County, I can only smile and reflect on what an incredibly wonderful experience that this great organization has provided me with. I think about the people, all the wonderful, like minded men and women who have given of themselves to cultivate our rich history in promoting and facilitating motorcycling as a sport and as a culture.



1998 Kawasaki Concours

I remember getting up early on Saturday morning, all wound up for the races that night. As race coordinator I would be thinking about all the plans and people needed to be there on race day and race night; looking at the weather reports, thinking about the potential problems, I would literally be gagging trying to hold down my breakfast from the excitement and terror. Arriving at the track around 10 am, there were already people hard at work: Beaver on track maintenance and grooming; Chester wiring up new speakers from the ones that were blown the previous week from our iconic Announcer Wes Pierce screaming "Speeeeeeedwaaaayyy!!". My first task, head up to the tower, turn on the power and load the Beach Boys CD into the player to start race day with all the right sounds to remind us what a great night was ahead and what excellent work we were doing to make it all happen.

Then I would pull out the case of walkie talkies, all labelled and frequency coordinated for the different track jobs, to check they all had batteries and hand them out...good communication was important and that was one of the many organizational works by Crash who knew like no other, what was needed on race day. The entire time, racers rolling in with their trailers, families and pit support and my heart rate would bump up a notch feeling like here we go, this is going to be awesome. Line ups at registration with Sarah and Shelley Gamm providing an organized and efficient response to questions, problems and complaints from racers champing at the bit to get started; Rene putting logic to the mystery of Race Programming; Jack Doan pit gate enforcerif you knew Jack, he didn't take shit from anyone (and that's what we needed), Randy Doan and Greg Gamm in staging: over the megaphone last call for 250 expert, "get your asses out here"! "Jamie, did you hear how those guys are talking in staging?" reply "please don't bother them, they do an excellent job"



President Photo

At the gate, John Vukanics and Ritz Rainville always providing a report on the demographics and attendance; George Bozak always with an assistant on parking, The Food Booth Crew, the Bar Crew, Security, Clean up, Grass Cutting, Bean Counting, Marketing and Promotion, the Board, Race Planning....such a collaborative effort always ending with avid discussion at the following Wednesday Night Club Meeting, with accolades and pride in another successful race night. Truly, my eyes well up just thinking about it, I can just smell the methanol and dirt. All I have is gratitude for having had the opportunity to be a small part of it.



Riding my Concours (East Coast Trip with Rene)

1998 Concours, owned from new, 120 K km. Time for a new bike, likely a single cylinder dual sport type. My dream to retire and ride to Argentina....hey Rene, are you up for it?



This picture was taken on the 2008 Paul Travis Mystery Tour

Positions Held and Jobs done around the Club:

I was appreciative of winning the Rookie of the Year Award; Presidents Award (4 consecutive years); Most Valuable Member Award. President (4 years) Board Member (I think 8 years) and Race Track Coordinator(6 years)



2022 Kawasaki 650 KLR

So, I have been thinking about getting a KLR, for 20 years now. Having been inspired by Dave Thomas and others at WCMC, I have been looking to explore, on and off road and if my health and circumstance permits, to go cross country and beyond. Now I have the bike it is time to do it.