



“A Hand for the Downed Rider”

The Helping Rider

A.I.M VANCOUVER

105 ~ Winter ~ 2010/11



Never Give Up On Your Dreams

by Marcia Thomson.

If anyone had ever told me that I would be a motorcycle rider I would have told them that there was not a chance of that ever happening....and then it happened. I started riding about nine years ago. I had been a passenger for a few years and always sat on the back thinking “I could probably do this if I put my mind to it” but never acted on it. I

was a bit of a nervous passenger depending on the situation. So off I went to “motorcycle school” and took the course. I passed with flying colors on that little Yamaha 250. I was the biggest person on the smallest bike. What a sight! I was smiling all the way to a shop in Mission where I was living at the time. My husband and I found a nice little Yamaha 650 (even though I thought I should have a Harley right away) that was in excellent condition, got the insurance and rode it on out of there. I spent about a year on that bike.

Continued page 9

“HELPING INJURED RIDERS SINCE 1983”

Serving over 250,000 on-and-off road motorcyclists throughout the province, A.I.M. is a benevolent, non-profit society registered under the provincial Societies Act and holding a Federal Charitable Tax Number. A.I.M. is committed to assisting injured motorcyclists by providing legal assistance, knowledge of rights, assistance with emotional support as well as regular hospital visits and helping with aspects of recovery not covered by other agencies. It is operated solely by volunteers and relies on memberships and donations for funding.

www.aimvancouver.com



The Helping Rider

#105 ~ Winter ~ 2010/11

Vancouver A.I.M.

#37 - 13320 116th Ave,
Surrey, B. C. V3R 0R8

Tel: 604-580-0112
Fax: 604-580-0114

www.aimvancouver.com
info@aimvancouver.com

The Helping Rider is published by
The Association For Injured Motorcyclists
Vancouver Chapter

Free to all interested readers.
Advertisements are welcome.
Articles and letters to the editor are also welcome.

Disclaimer

We welcome your input, articles printed in the
newsletter do not necessarily reflect the opinions
of the Association For Injured Motorcyclists

CHAPTERS

Vancouver Island, BC

Please forward all correspondence to
Vancouver address above
604-580-0112

Interior

Kelowna, BC
www.aimcaninterior.com
1-800-360-9079

Northern

Prince George, BC
www.aimnorth.ca/
250-596-1410

JANUARY

Third Thursday of the Month 7:00 pm
DAVIDSON PITT STOP RESTAURANT
16225 Fraser Hwy, Surrey, BC
All are Welcome! Rain or Shine!

604-580-0112

Directors

President
Dave Munro

Membership
Bob Hamilton

Vice President
Marcia Thomson

Entertainment
Karen Weinstein
Rocky Weinstein

Secretary
Christine Derksen

Newsletter
Al "Smokey" Greaves

Treasurer
Chris Munro

Directors @ Large
Russ St.Eloi

Communications
Gary Richardson
Chris Munro

Paul Hounslow
James "Scruffy" Williams
Doug Nicolson
Dave Wilkinson
Sandy Catela
Al Lawrence
Tom Skirrow

Visitations
Craig Heale
Gary Richardson

Past President
Steve Lazaroff

Newsletter Ad Rates

Size	\$ per Issue	\$ per 4 issues
1/8 of page (B card)	40	150
1/4 page	80	300
1/2 page	160	600

3S Printers Inc.

23011 Fraserwood Way
Richmond, B.C. V6V 3B3
604-520-7050

I would like to say a BIG Thanks to 3S Printers. Because
of their Prompt, Fast, Friendly, and Quality service that
we have been able to run past our deadlines, getting in
the last minute articles and posters and still be able to
send the newsletter to all you folks on time.

Vancouver Motorcycle Show

January 20 — 23, 2011

Tradex Exhibition Centre

Abbotsford Airport, BC

www.vancouvermotorcycleshow.ca/

Thursday....3 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Friday.....10:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Saturday....10:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Sunday10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

From Highway #1 take the Mt. Lehman Rd. Exit and head South on Mt. Lehman Road. Follow the TRADEX signs on Mt. Lehman Road and turn right on Cornell Street.

Thank you

Just as note of thanks to the advertisers, the volunteers, the past, present executives of A.I.M. Clubs MC Shops and Organizations who have spent many days and hours to promote the aims of A.I.M. (sic) over the past year.

The support of these people and groups have made it possible for A.I.M. to further its goals during the last year and we look forward to making further progress in the coming year. We wish you all a heartfelt thank you and a happy NEW YEAR!!

2010 – Highlights

Below shows the busy schedule AIM kept. Some were seminars, educating the volunteers in helping Injured Riders. Others, we attended Rider events, promoting AIM. Or were recipients of donations from an event. We also organized events to raise funds. Thanks to Ron Szoczei for his support at so many events volunteering his expertise in judging motorcycles.

PullFocus Film School = produced 12 minute film.
Seminar re disability
GF Strong Social Workers and established formal liaison
Public showing of our movie
Brain Injury Seminar @ GF Strong (held monthly)
Hi-Way Choppers Swap Meet - Agradome @ PNE
Show-'N'-Shine at Carp's Cycles
Tsawwassen Vintage Swap Meet
Visitation training seminar at Prince George Chapter
Azzkikr's Show-'N'-Shine
CMDRA Drags in Ashcroft (manned the gate)
Delivered modified van to Kelowna for injured rider
Fly n Ride Wings & Wheels Show-'N'-Shine
Duke's Pub Show-'N'-Shine
Sasquatch Inn Show-'N'-Shine
invited on BCCPD Part 7 committee: met with ICBC
Hot July Nights Car & Bike Show-'N'-Shine, 100 Mile House
Duke's Pub Show-'N'-Shine
Azzkikr's Show-'N'-Shine
Fraser Valley Thunder Rally at Fraser River (Yarrow)
Boogie Bash @ Rock Creek

GF Strong Show-'N'-Shine (our 10th Annual)
Mountainview Harley-Davidson Show-'N'-Shine (Hope)
BCCOM Gastown Show-'N'-Shine, Drag Specialties
Duke's Pub Show-'N'-Shine
Liaise with "Civil Rights Now!"
"Out On A Limb" Show-'N'-Shine at the Davidson Pitt Stop Restaurant
Interview on Co-op Radio
Vancouver Toy Run
Fraser Valley Toy Run
Adaptive Sports Seminar @ GF Strong
Meeting/liaison with Brain Resource, Advocacy & Information Network
repeat "Out On A Limb" Show-'N'-Shine
Disability Consultation @ Vancouver City Hall
Christian Motorcyclists' Christmas Dinner
second meeting at ICBC re Part 7
seminar: Treating and Litigating Psychological Overlay
International Day of Persons with Disabilities: Roundhouse Comm. Cent.
Gospel Riders' Christmas Dinner
Disability Advisory Committee
liaise with Stephanie Cadieux at her appreciation dinner (wheelchair)

Gary Richardson, Visitation Director



Visitation Report 2010

This has been one of our busiest years, unfortunately. Perhaps it was the good weather. We attended a total of 364 Visitations to 33 riders and helped 19 family members as well as making one vocational referral. Included in our Visitations were two follow-up "home visits" to one rider in Kamloops and one in Merritt.

We have also had downed riders referred to us by staff at both the Royal Columbian Hospital and the GF Strong Rehabilitation Centre. Within the medical community we are increasingly perceived as a credible support group. We did more than just Visitations, though. We took some downed riders out for supper at our favorite restaurant (and supporter) the Davidson Pitt Stop Restaurant. For some, we took in hamburgers or pizzas when we visited them. While one rider was in hospital we went down to his union office to pick up medical forms for him to fill out for his coverage.

One rider we took to Deeley's Motorcycle Museum. Another rider we took shopping for boots and a visit to Deeley's Motorcycle Museum. Another we took some groceries to him as he had just returned home from hospital and had no transportation. We also took him around on errands to do grocery shopping and banking and helped him purchase a car and insurance. We provided a "hoodie" to a rider using a wheelchair which provides protection in the cold winter air and was donated by Amy of the Davidson Pitt Stop Restaurant.

Referred a family member for psychological help in such a way that it would be paid for. Suggested a form of treatment called "Mirror Therapy" (no drugs) to three amputee riders which has proven 85 % effective in dealing with phantom pain. We got one downed rider's car fixed so it was running again with time and parts donation from Clarke Hill Motors, in Coquitlam; the rider uses a wheelchair and his car is essential to him.

A downed rider's bike was transported to several Show 'N' Shines for competition. Arranged with two institutions to use their bus to transport downed riders and other residents to some of our Show 'N' Shine functions. Delivered a downed rider's modified van to Kelowna for pick-up.

We provided food and \$ 300 to two downed riders in need. Provided employment and business start-up information to a downed rider in Alberta. Attended several seminars related to Visitations, support groups, and benefits and resources available to handicapped people. Attended several Team Meetings at GF Strong Centre and celebrated

two birthdays. Paid for TV rentals in hospital. Recommended vocational testing for a downed rider through their lawyer so that it would be paid by insurance.

We had a number of downed riders in the Upper Fraser

Visitations Report 2010

- Visitations: 293
- Phone consultations 68
- Total 364
- Riders helped: 33
- Family Members helped 19
- Vocational Referrals 1
- Currently being visited: 3 Riders
- UBC Hospital 1
- George Pearson Hospital 1
- Brookside Lodge, Langely 1

Valley (Mission, Abbotsford Chilliwack) this year and this put a strain on our resources. However, as luck would have it, we gained a Visitation Volunteer who lives in Aldergrove and she handled those Visitations for us very well.

All this is possible due to our Visitation Volunteers. Kudos to them! Their dedication is unrivalled. We had formed three teams of two each and one team developed a new technique of meeting all of the downed riders at GF Strong at the same time.

The group meetings went really well and gave the riders the opportunity to discuss this with each other. They were a hit with riders and volunteers alike. We have a variable cross-section of Visitation Volunteers including the following (some overlaps) two women, three amputees, two wheelchair users and one stroke victim.

We can relate to almost any injury. All of our Volunteers attended a brain injury seminar held at GF Strong; this was valuable to them as sometimes a downed rider has sustained a brain injury as well. Currently we are visiting two downed riders in wheelchairs and one with a stroke.

Our work is ongoing. We look forward to helping injured riders this year but hope that we will not be so busy.

By Gary Richardson Visitation Director.

Ron Szoczei ron@chromedreams.com

(604) 307-7564
8567 132 St.
Surrey BC
V3W 4N8



CHROMEDREAMS.com
Motorcycle Appraisal Service

Ensure your Investment Is Insured!



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all you Sisters and Brothers in the Biker World.

The new Year is here and the program starts all over. Dozens of events and dozens of things to do

A.I.M. had a reasonably good last Year accomplishing many Good things and our aspirations are to excel or exceed this year but WE cant do that without YOU. Now ask your self , What does that mean?

Well it means there is always a need for VOLUNTEERS.

Every event we attend or put on there is a need for help, whether it is set up or take down or hand out pamphlets. Our booth needs people to Sell our Worth, to tell people what we are about. You'd think after 27 years of being around, all bikers would know about A.I.M. but sad to say that is not the case. So we got to keep promoting A.I.M.

By the way folks it is time to Renew your memberships for 2011. Remember the fees is what helps the system work. This year I would like you all to do something different, and that is talk to a friend about joining A.I.M. or renewing their membership. Lots of us forget or we let the membership lapse a year or two ago, well now is the time to do it. Talk to your BUDS and get them join or ReNEW.

RUSS ST.ELOI, Director at Large

MotorcycleLawyer.ca

Long time motorcycle rider and one time CMDRA record holder, **Daryl Brown**, is pleased to assist with your accident claim.



- **Personal Injury/ICBC Claims**
- **Motorcycle and Auto Cases**
- **Free Consultation**

400 - 713 Columbia St
New Westminister, BC
Phone (604) 526-1821 or (604) 612-6848

Visit us at

www.motorcyclelawyer.ca

Leathers
By
Linda
Custom Leathers
Repairs & Alterations

Tel. 604-589-9309
(By Appointment Only)

linda.leathers@telus.net • leathersbylinda.com
11675 - 95A Ave., Delta, BC V4C 7A9



info@trevdeeley.com

1875 Boundary Road
Vancouver, B.C. V5M 3Y7

Tel: 604-291-2453
Fax: 604-294-3704
Toll Free: 1-866-510-2911
www.trevdeeley.com

Are you having a Motorcycle event, or know of one that you would like to see posted at www.aimvancouver.com/calendar/

Please email us at info@aimvancouver.com

Attention Calendar of Events



**CANADIAN MOTORCYCLE
DRAG RACING ASSOCIATION**

Unit No. 37 - 13320 - 116 Avenue, Surrey, BC V3R 0R8
Ph: 604-580-9008 • Fax: 604-580-0114
E-mail: info@cmdra.com
www.cmdra.com

Methyl Tertiary Butyl Ether

Methyl Tertiary Butyl Ether (MTBE) is a compound derived from petroleum that has been in use since the seventies to raise the octane level when pollution regulations required removal of lead in gasoline. MTBE became the additive of choice to raise the oxygenation level of fossil fuels. The CAA required that cars produce less carbon monoxide emissions to meet specified allowable air pollution levels.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has found extensive MTBE contamination in water supplies around the country. This difficulty has created massive environmental problems. The EPA has classified MTBE as a human carcinogen (cancer causing agent). Currently ethanol, a product made from corn, is the recommended replacement for MTBE. Ethanol is currently being used as a fuel additive by Husky/Mohawk stations. Whether it can be a cost effective substitute for MTBE is an ongoing debate. Current production capacity does not even approach that necessary to meet the demand for replacing MTBE. Several foreign producers of MTBE for use in the U.S. are making claims and filing lawsuits through tribunals established in the World Trade Organization (WTO). They are objecting to restrictions on the use of MTBE imposed by state or local governments such as those proposed in California. According to the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) the WTO tribunals allow international corporations to file suits against a nation that enacts

legislation or implements regulations that may act as a trade barrier.
Editors note We can consider ourselves lucky that we have access to a fuel that has Ethanol in it. So buy your gas at a Husky/Mohawk station. Smokey

July 13-17, 2011

Seems I have run out of room thanks to Gary, Marcia's, Russ and Smokey's much needed articles. Really appreciate it!. So everyone keep your ears and eyes open for a very busy summer. Already the weekend of July 13-17, 2011 is booked with 4 (FOUR) events in BC. 100 Mile House's Hot July Nights, Swap Meet, Dance, Car and Bike Show n Shine, a must see!

Then CMDRA Drags in Ashcroft, always a great time! For the kids; The Great Canadian Bike Rally in Merritt, BC which is supported by the town of Merritt and last but not least. Sturgis North, Motorcycle Rally & Music Festival in Salmon Arm. So for those of you that like to ride, this will be totally awesome way to spend the weekend checking out each event. Please Google these events, to reserve, register and sign up where needed.

Just a reminder, you do not need to be a member for us to visit, nor do we judge whose fault it is. We are here to assist. So call us if you need info, a visit. 604-580-0112



Barristers & Solicitors



E. James McNeney

MOTORCYCLE ACCIDENT?

Call ...

McNeney & McNeney

Legal Services for Riders by Riders

You already know many non-riders think motorcycles are dangerous and you shouldn't even ride one. What you may not have thought about is that most lawyers are non-riders, and may share this prejudice. Do you want that kind of lawyer? It is in the best interest of the insurance company to settle as quickly as possible! They are representing the insurance company (NOT YOU!) You need someone with experience when dealing with corporate insurance companies like ICBC. E. James McNeney has been protecting the rights of auto accident victims since 1977.

Do you know your rights in BC? Ask us now!

Toll Free: 1-800-535-6565

Tel: 604-687-1766

www.aimvancouver.com



32th Annual GIANT Motorcycle Parts SWAPMEET @ PNE Agrodome



Sunday, March 20, 2011



10 am — 4 pm

604-367-1409



Complete Bikes Welcome:

Antique * Modern * Obsolete * Buy * Sell * Swap

Hard-to-Find-Parts Accessories * All Makes & Models Represented

Twelve Important Things My Motorcycle Has Taught Me

The only good view of a thunderstorm is in your rear view mirror.

Four wheels move the body; two wheels move the soul.

I'd rather be riding my motorcycle and thinking about God, than sitting in church thinking about my bike.

Life may begin at 30, but it doesn't get real interesting until about 75 mph.

Midnight bugs taste just as bad as Noon time bugs.

Sometimes it takes a whole tank full of gas before you can think straight.

A bike on the road is worth two in the shed.

Young riders pick a destination and go; old riders pick a direction and go.

When you're riding lead, don't spit.

Catching a yellow jacket in your shirt at 75 mph can double your vocabulary.

If you can't get it going with bungee cords and duct tape, it's serious.

Only a biker knows why a dog sticks his head out of a car window

Author Unknown

Accident Root Cause Analysis

An accident is an unexpected event which happens in a certain place and time without necessarily any real reason of cause but usually tainted with some sort of negative outcome on one or both parties involved. Most of the time, an accident can be avoided by one of the individuals involved if certain actions are taken that are usually overlooked or if one of the persons involved had time for a second thought before acting. An accident is sometimes defined by the event itself and not by the situation or facts surrounding or leading up to the accident. In many legal cases, an accident is not just the main incident but is a combination of: actions within a developing situation, existing issues that led up to the accident, errors or miscalculations by any of the main parties involved and/or the outside influence of another party.

Many professionals, in the personal injury prevention field, try not to use the actual word, "accident," because they take a different approach to such situations. More common accidents like auto and fire are diligently studied in order to target how to prevent them from happening in the future. The professional term is, "root cause analysis," but does not include unpredictable accidents. Some physical causes include collisions, slip and fall accidents, or by grasping something that can cause physical bodily harm. There are many different types of accidents; one that would be categorized under a freak accident would be, "an act of God." It is very difficult to bring a court claim against the natural powers that be. Even though, most insurance companies do insure individuals against the dangers of certain natural events like hurricanes, earthquakes, floods, or wildfires. Another group of accidents that seems to be increasing year by year is amusement park accidents. They are increasingly responsible for causing more deaths among American families every year. There have also been thousands of accidents involving inflatable items such as, water slides and rubber tubes. There have been many safeguards put in place to protect people against these types of mishaps, but they still happen. Irresponsible behaviour, carelessness, and/or disregard for park rules and regulations are the major factors involved in amusement park accidents.

Most accidents don't occur without at least one individual involved. Accidents are usually consequence of an individual's negligence or carelessness, or they can be attributed to dangerous weather or climate, which can place a person in a precarious situation. Accidents cause injuries to people, damage to property, and create

financial grief and hardship for the innocent persons that have to pay for the costs of those damages. If the individual that is responsible for the accident, does not accept responsibility for that accident. You are permitted to bring a legal claim against that person or entity in court to recover any financial losses and/or medical expense caused by the accident. In order to get full compensation for your injury, it is best to consult a qualified accident attorney to support and represent you through this difficult period.

Smokey

CMDRA 2011 National Series

DATE TRACK LOCATION

June 11-12 Castrol Raceway Edmonton, AB
June 18-19 Grand Bend Motorplex Grand Bend, ON
July 2-3 North Central Motorsports Park Prince George, B.C.
July 16-17 Sturgis North Nitro Nationals -Eagle Motorplex Ashcroft, B.C.
August 6-7 MHDRA Drag Strip Medicine Hat, AB
August 20-21 Mission Raceway Park Mission, B.C.
September 10-11 Castrol Raceway Edmonton, AB

CMDRA 2011 Eastern Divisional Series

DATE TRACK LOCATION

May 21-22 ** Toronto Motorsports Park Cayuga, ON
June 18-19 Grand Bend Motorplex Grand Bend, ON
July 16-17 Grand Bend Motorplex Grand Bend, ON
July 31 Napierville Raceway Napierville, PQ
August TBA
September 10-11 Castrol Raceway Edmonton, AB


British Columbia BCCOM Coalition of Motorcyclists

Tel: (604) 580-0111 • Fax: (604) 580-0114 • Toll Free: 1-877-580-0111
Website: www.bccom-bc.com • Email: shannon@bccom-bc.com
Unit No. 37 - 13320 - 116th Avenue, Surrey, B.C. V3R 0R8

Working for your freedom to ride!

NEW & RECYCLED PARTS
ALL MAKES & MODELS

Hours:
Fri, Sat, Sun, Mon
10:00am - 6:00pm

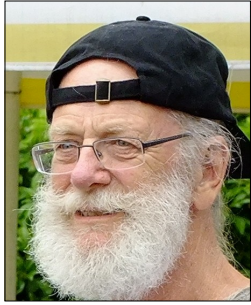


EST 1977
BIKE LTD.

201 - 20701 #10 HWY.
LANGLEY, B.C. V3A 5E8

TEL: (604) 534-1033

Newsletter in Color at ... www.aimvancouver.com/news



**"Walk A Mile In My Shoes" - Notes
From A Wheelchair**
*Walk a mile in my shoes, walk a
mile in my shoes*
*And before you abuse, criticize and
accuse*
Walk a mile in my shoes.
(As recorded by Joe South)

What would it be like to be stuck using a wheelchair? How would that affect your life, your ability to get around? Your intrepid reporter for the Association for Injured Motorcyclists decided to find out.

Out To Lunch

I do hospital Visitations to downed motorcycle riders for the Association for Injured Motorcyclists (604-580-0112). As a number of these riders end up using wheelchairs to get around, I wanted to gain a better understanding of what their life is like. I especially wanted to see how easy or difficult it is to get around on the transit system in a wheelchair.

I had previously arranged to take a good friend out to lunch; Paul Caune (pronounced "con") who founded **Civil Rights Now** (604-928-1644), an advocacy organization assisting people with disabilities fighting for their rights. Paul uses a power chair (they are not called electric chairs for obvious reason) due to a progressive physical condition.

Paul has no use of his legs and extremely limited use of his hands and arms, but he is still mobile. Paul recently surprised me by travelling 25 kilometres on the transit system in pouring rain. True, he was wearing rain gear, but still it was miserable and he endured.

I had arranged to meet him at his place in Burnaby and travel with him to a "biker restaurant" out in Surrey (Davidson Pitt Stop Restaurant on the Fraser Highway). I decided it would be a great opportunity to use a wheelchair for the journey. I borrowed a wheelchair to use during our trip.

*If I could be you and you could be me for just one hour
If we could find a way to get inside each other's mind
If you could see me through your eyes instead of your ego
I believe you'd be surprised to see that you'd been blind.*

The Wheelchair

That evening I visited two downed riders in wheelchairs and they gave me this advice. "Lean forward when you push the wheels so the chair won't tip back so easily." "Don't use half strokes when pushing the wheels forward; put your hands right to the back of the wheels and bring them forward. That way the bigger strokes make you go faster and it is easier on your arms." They also told me to watch out for a rise when going from the platform into the Skytrain car.

Paul's Place

I parked my pickup halfway down the block in front of Paul's

place, pulled the wheelchair out of the back, sat down in the chair and started my trial. I found I was repeatedly facing obstacles and having to go around them. I immediately faced a five inch curb and had to wheel uphill on the street to the end of the block to access the sidewalk. My arms quickly fatigued and ached.

Everything was a challenge.

Paul was surprised to see me in a wheelchair. I played the sympathy card but he was having none of it, however he applauded my intent. Paul offered sage advice for our trip: "Always carry a bottle of water in case you get stranded, and this will happen ...

often." "Watch out for broken glass." "Watch out for dog poo." Most important, "Watch out for drivers using their cell phones when crossing the street." And so we headed out for lunch.

Now your whole world you see around you is just a reflection

And the law of common says you reap just what you sow

So unless you've lived a life of total perfection

You'd better be careful of every stone that you throw.

The Trip

We wheeled three blocks to the Skytrain station. I started out at full speed but quickly ran out of energy and felt powerless. Paul patiently waited for me at the end. At the Skytrain station Paul provided sage advice: Always wheel backwards into the elevator with your back to the wall so no one can steal things from your backpack or from the bag hanging behind your wheelchair. It happens ... often. This reinforced my feeling of vulnerability.

The Skytrain came quickly and I faced my next challenge. Just as Clients had predicted, there was a gap between the platform and the floor of the Skytrain car. I got stuck boarding onto the car and the big wheels spun uselessly. A sense of urgency overcame me. Thankfully, someone offered to help me and lifted the back of my chair up onto the floor of the car. Once on the Skytrain I set the brakes but the wheelchair was jostled by the stopping and starting and going around the curves and I felt insecure. I held tightly onto the railing in an attempt to keep the wheelchair in position.

In Surrey we transferred to a bus. Accessing the bus was really cool. The bus kneeled down and a ramp unfolded to the sidewalk with just a slight resulting slope. Paul and I grabbed the two spots at the front reserved for wheelchairs. After we backed our wheelchairs into position, the (very courteous) driver assisted with the tie-downs.

We got off at the 162nd Street bus stop on Fraser Highway which is about one block from the Davidson Pitt Stop Restaurant. We crossed the Fraser Highway and I was almost hit by a truck. Because of the low height of the wheelchair I felt I was invisible to drivers; Paul had warned me about this. Motorcyclists know it is important to make eye contact with oncoming drivers before turning left in an intersection and this was even more important for me due to my low visibility in the wheelchair. As before, my arms became tired and sore before I had gone the one block to the restaurant.

And yet we spend the day throwing stones at one another 'Cause

Gary Richardson, Visitation Director



Bike Whisperer

Since Robert Redford's film "The Horse Whisperer" we are familiar with the gentle training of horses. There is also a popular television serial about a Dog Whisperer. There even are "Ghost Whisperers"!

When used, this technique appears to achieve miracles with little fanfare and very quickly. Is it valid or is it "poseur"?

That remains to be seen, however, now there is a new breed on the horizon: "Bike Whisperer". Horse Whispering harkens from the days of the Greeks when Xenophon postulated his treatise "On Horsemanship" which has influenced horse trainers in many disciplines including natural horsemanship and dressage down the centuries.

It is often believed to be more about listening than whispering.

The Whisperer can "read" the body language of the horse. Horse Whisperers are typically called in to deal with difficult and dangerous behavior. Enter, now, the Bike Whisperer.

Is your bike unruly? Is it hard to start? Does it cough and sputter intermittently? Is it hard to shift gears at times? Does the rear tire keep going flat?

Does its electrical system shut down at the most inappropriate times (this is not reserved only for Triumphs with the Lucas "Prince of Darkness" electrical system)?

All these problems can be solved by the "Bike Whisperer". Many people give a name to their bike. They believe it has a soul, personality. It is this part of the bike that the Bike Whisperer works with. Some owners neglect their bikes, avoiding oil changes, failing to oil the chain, not washing and waxing it regularly, using the wrong gas, swearing at it when it fails to start, etc.

Others abuse their bikes, over-revving redline, riding the brakes, speeding on rough roads, and kicking it when it won't start. This hurts the bike's feelings and it is reluctant to perform.

The "Bike Whisperer" can communicate intimately with your bike and will listen to it, reaching its soul to find out what is troubling it. They can work with the bike, massage its feelings and get it to agree to perform at maximum again. Mind you, you will have to change your behaviour as well, showing respect for your steed, being nice to it, feeding it premium gas, and taking it out for runs on curvy back roads to unleash its potential.

If your bike is balking and giving you trouble, try a "Bike Whisperer". They may well solve your problems.

Bike Whisperer



Association for Injured Motorcyclists

#37— 13320 116th Ave, Surrey BC V3R 0R8

Ph. 604.580.0112 Fax. 604.580.0114

www.aimvancouver.com



Whether you are an accident victim or a sincerely interested party, please take our appeal earnestly. We are serious about our livelihood. WE NEED YOU! ... Become a member and give us support for effective representation on all matters of concern to Injured Motorcyclists.

Name: _____ Cell: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Prov: _____ Postal Code: _____

Home Ph: _____ Email: _____

Please return this application with your payment to the address above.

Make checks payable to (A.I.M.)

Association for Injured Motorcyclists

Would you like to Volunteer?

Would you like Newsletter by Email

New

Single Membership

Couple Membership

Club Membership

Renewal

\$25.00

\$35.00

\$35.00

OFFICE USE	Date	Int.
Receipt		
Card		
Computer		

Coming soon, sign up online at www.aimvancouver.com

Continued from front page

Never Give Up On Your Dreams

by Marcia Thomson.

I happened upon a deal for an "Ironhead" and bought which I rode for about a year, and got tired of it breaking down at the most opportune moments.

A friend of mine was trading her 1200 Sportster in on a Road Glide so I was at the shop to buy her Sporty when she did the deal. The bike never hit the showroom floor and I was on it and on my way to "Slack Alice's Show & Shine" in Penticton. Was a great weekend with a "new to me bike" and a first place trophy for the Sportster division.

I rode that one also for about a year. On a rainy day of not riding we decided to hang out at the Harley Shop and there it was. I found "My Bike". There it was just begging me to buy her. I tried to ignore her for a couple of weeks but she kept calling me back. I then traded the Sporty in and rode my new Heritage Softail away a couple of days later. I still have her, love her and plan on keeping her.

Now going back to about thirteen years ago, I had a lump on the top of my foot for about a year and half and had been to three different doctors who told me not to worry about it. Then it got bigger so they finally removed it. They told me to come back in a week and they would remove the stitches. When I arrived they told me that I had a very rare type of cancer. They told me this on a Friday afternoon and had me at the Cancer clinic in Vancouver on the Monday morning. I had a seven and half hour surgery and they saved my foot. I was pretty happy about that.

After some healing I had thirty six radiation treatments on my foot. Everything was going pretty well but was never really "good". After a few years I began having some problems with the foot. The radiation had not treated my skin very well as all of the radiation had been done from the bottom of my foot. The bones were brittle and every little bang would break bones.

My big toe did not move as they had replaced the tendon and thus made my big toe stiff. I started to have many infections as my skin was wearing through. In the mean time I had to have a mechanical valve replacement in my heart and because of the infections in my foot it was causing me to become "septic" and the doctors were afraid of this attacking the new valve. So finally the decision was made to remove my foot. This may sound odd to some but I was so hoping that would happen as it was pure hell living with what was "my foot". I had a left below knee amputation done in February 2008. I finally left the rehabilitation hospital in mid July after some complications were taken care of.

From day one of the surgery I already knew that I would be back on my bike. Your attitude has much to do with how you

heal and how you decide to get on with your life. Of course you have thoughts. I found myself wondering how I would be able to ride my bike.....should I be looking at a three wheeler or maybe an electric shifter. All of these questions! All I knew was that I just needed to still be able to ride.

So off to Mountainview Harley Davidson's Shop I went to see what had to be done. Right away they ordered me up an electric shifter and then took me back to talk to Alex. Of course Alex being the smart guy that he is had already been thinking about me and my bike and what he could do for me before I was even there to do a deal.

About a week later my husband rode my bike out to the shop and they spent time with me to see what would be the best way to get my foot (prosthetic) sitting in the right spot as well as what they could do with my heel/toe shifter. It didn't take them long to figure out what to do. They moved the whole shifter assembly and footboard out about an inch and took my highway pegs off of the engine protectors and added them to my shifter levers so that I would be able to hit the shifter to put it into neutral for the electric shifter. Well by the time he was finished with my bike I had an electric shifter that works!

Now I have the best of both worlds as I can also go through everyone one of my gears using my prosthetic foot and leg. So the end result was that I picked up my bike on Saturday, September 13th, rode it for about five hours and then rode all day Sunday in a Poker Run (won that too). This my friends made up for the five months that I was in the hospital and the rehabilitation hospital in Vancouver. I have to say I have not felt that much joy since I got my new leg and was able to walk again. I could not thank and will never be able to Thank Dave and the guys at Mountainview Harley Davidson enough for their generosity in getting me back on my bike.

I have since helped start the "Fraser Valley Amputees Support Group" of which we have four members that lost their legs due to motorcycle accidents but because of their love of the "wind in their face" they got right back on I also have become a member of AIM (Association for Injured Motorcyclists) and now the Vice President. This group goes out of their way to help the motorcyclist and their families through rough times. These people also still ride. I approached AIM and asked them if we could do a fundraiser together. So on September 12, 2010 we hosted our "Out on a Limb" 1st Annual Motorcycle Show & Shine.

There are two quotes that I was given from a fellow amputee when I was in Holy Family Hospital Rehab and they are:

"Attitude is a little thing that makes a big difference" and "If you don't like something change it; if you can't change it, change the way you think about it".

Never give up your dreams! Never say Never! Keep smiling!

Marcia Thomson, Vice - President

PLEASE Ride SAFELY!!!

For those who park their Mc's and Scooters downtown, here is a little info.

Vancouver Motorcycle and Scooter parkingThe City of Vancouver currently has 50 metered spaces for motorcycle parking on various streets throughout Vancouver. These spaces are intended to serve the demand for short turn-over on-street motorcycle parking.

The City's existing motorcycle meter parking area is much smaller than that of a regular therefore a car cannot fit in the space provided. These parking areas are clearly signed for motorcycles and scooters only. Cars are not allowed to park at these meters. Motorcycle meter parking spaces are located strategically



throughout the city to provide short-term motorcycle parking and are offered at a 50 per cent reduced rate.

Motorcycle meter parking spaces are located strategically throughout the city to provide short-term motorcycle parking and are offered at a 50 per cent reduced rate.



Look for this graphic painted on the areas reserved for motorcycles and scooters

The City of Vancouver will soon introduce new motorcycle and scooter only metered parking spaces. These new spaces provide all-day motorcycle and scooter parking. Special decals will be placed on these meters to show that the spaces are for motorcycles and scooters only. They can also be identified by motorcycle parking signs and triangular white-painted zones at the beginning of parking blocks. Electric scooters can park in these spaces for free. View parking rates for non-electric motorcycles and scooters.




Cars cannot park in metered spaces or parking areas dedicated to motorcycle parking. These areas are clearly signed for motorcycles and scooters only. Automobile drivers should check for motorcycles parked at meters in front of or behind them before entering the car as they may be difficult to see from inside the automobile.



Motorcycles and scooters can also park in regular meter parking spaces. A discounted rate will soon apply if the fee has been paid using the City's Pay-by-Phone service. A regular parking rate applies when the fee has been paid at the meter using coins. Motorcycles and scooters can also park in regular meter parking spaces. A discounted rate will soon apply if the fee has been paid using the City's Pay-by-Phone service. A regular parking rate applies when the fee has been paid at the meter using coins.

For more information on EasyPark's motorcycle parking and the discounted rates they offer please call EasyPark at 604.682.6744 or More info at..... <http://vancouver.ca/engsvcs/parking/enf/parksmart/motorcycles/index.htm>


BARBER
PROSTHETICS CLINIC
Lorne Winder C.P.(C). F.C.B.C
CERTIFIED PROTHETIST
Dave Moe C.P.(C).
CERTIFIED PROTHETIST

540 SE Marine Drive
Vancouver BC V5X 2T4
P 604-321-1115
F 604-321-7681
lorne@barberprosthetics.com
dave@barberprosthetics.com


• Quality Service & Repairs
• All Makes & Models
• Designated Inspection Facility

Steve Lazaroff, Certified Motorcycle Mechanic
Telephone (604) 588-9099
#13-12332, Pattullo PL. Surrey, B.C. V3V 8C3