



"A Hand for the Downed Rider"

The Helping Rider

A.I.M VANCOUVER

#141 Winter 2020

Wishing You and Yours a Very Happy and Safe New Year.



Tradex, Abbotsford, BC
Jan 24 to Jan 26, 2020

Hours

Friday, Jan 24th - 12:00PM - 9:00PM
Saturday, Jan 25th - 10:00AM - 8:00PM
Sunday, Jan 26th - 10:00AM - 5:00PM

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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.

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The Helping Rider

#141 ~ Winter ~ 2020

Association For Injured Motorcyclists

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

Free to all interested readers.
Advertisements are welcome.

Articles and letters to the editor are also
welcome.

**Yes we help Injured riders and their
families who are not members of
AIM**

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Disclaimer

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

Events, posters, and other information presented within this Newsletter are, to the best of our knowledge, true and accurate; although we make a genuine effort to provide accurate information about third party events, you are ultimately responsible for verifying the information to rule out the possibility of errors, omissions, and unexpected changes or



Come on down to Red's Annual Garage Sale and Swap Meet on Sunday February 23 from 10:00AM till 3:00PM. Whether it's a cylinder from a Pan Head to an engine crank for your Evo, you're sure to find something. There's no need to worry about the Winter weather as it's IN-DOORS!! That's right our service department will be completely shut down for the weekend so we can bring you this incredible event indoors with over 75 individual tables/vendors. Another room has been added for those non greasy items such as jewelry, gifts & clothing?? Table registration opens January 1st please email tdhd@trevdeeley.com to reserve your spot;) Both the door entry fee, and BBQ

VISITATION REPORT 2019

Once again the year has come to an end and it has been a busy year.

Downed riders helped: 23

Some riders recovered quickly from their injuries and got back to their lives. Others were not so fortunate and had a slower recovery, and some were left with a permanent disability which has had a significant effect on their lives. We find that our home visits are very important as they are no longer receiving a lot of attention and we help fill in that gap and guide them through the insurance maze. We do get a lot of questions.

One rider up in the Okanogan required assistance, so Dave Munro, Nancy and Blane drove up to help him out. While visiting him in hospital Dave discovered two other downed riders in the same hospital who were not being attended to so he provided service to them also.

Much credit is deserved by our Visitation Volunteers who always rise to the occasion to provide assistance and moral support.

Visitations Performed: 53

In addition to visiting and providing moral support, we also assist financially in a small way to help out those who suddenly have no income and are, for in-

stance, having trouble meeting expenses. We are able to provide funds to a few downed riders throughout the year, and to five downed riders at Christmas time. This was especially appreciated by those who had children.

We established liaison with two Clinics, Mountainview Health and Wellness in New Westminster just a block from the Royal Columbian Hospital, and Lifemark 64th Avenue in Langley, and we can make direct referrals to them.

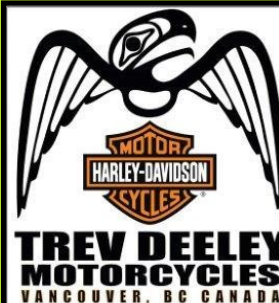
We also established liaison with the Watson Centre in Burnaby, a clinic for brain injury. We can make direct referrals to them as well as to Chuck Jung and Associates Psychological Services.

[Continued on last page](#)

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Long Ago and Far Away

This happened when we were living in Athens Greece ... 1995-ish. Wow, that is long, long ago and far, far away. I guess that goes to show that good experiences stick with you a long time. Ok, maybe it wasn't TOTALLY a good experience...but it was definitely good sticking material.

Marg and I were heading home to Kiffisia, a northern suburb of Athens, on our Kawasaki Concours after some very pleasant riding along the area North-East of Athens. Lots of nice, wooded twisties through the olive groves as well as some open views of the Aegean Sea. I had recently read about an astronomical observatory on Mt. Penteli, one of three mountains near Athens but had not taken the time to check it out. I hoped to see a major telescope. Mt. Penteli was also the mountain where the marble was quarried for many of the ancient Athenian buildings including the structures on the Acropolis. Apparently the marble was so highly prized that it was even shipped to ancient Rome for their statues.

There were soooo many great places and roads within less than 2hrs range from Athens. Lots of ancient ruins to visit and lots of gorgeous, hilly, twisty roads to get there. There had always been other locations that drew our attention. Those ancient folks really knew how to select their sites! I don't recall any of these places without an exceptional view. Weather during the very long summers was gorgeous. This enhanced the clear blue sky and equally beautiful, clear turquoise water.

Our ride home was usually much later in the day so we took the opportunity to explore around our backyard, so to speak. We cautiously made our way up the rather steep and twisty hillside, not sure if there would be an abrupt turn into a hidden laneway, after all, the bike weighed well over 600lbs and had a high centre of gravity. Luck was with us and a large-ish sign indicated the entrance was just ahead. I turned into a nice wide lane and came face-to-face with a high, closed gate. Hmmm. Well, duh! You come to an astronomical observatory for stargazing. Stars are seen at night. This was three in the afternoon. Sign says opens at 7pm. Ok, we were only 15 minutes from home so we could come back at any time now that I knew where it was. We took the opportunity to stretch our legs and take in the views from the 500 meter elevation. The high point of Mt. Penteli was well over 1000 meters high. We were on the eastern slope looking towards the large island of Evia and we easily identified several of our favourite destinations in the distance including Marathon. Yep, the one of racing fame.

Time to head home. It was a pleasant area, not yet crowded with homes like so many other places so once again there were lots of scenic views to the left of us as we headed downhill. On the right were the quite large-ish homes surrounded by equally large-ish brick and stone privacy

walls. This is quite typical around the Mediterranean and Middle East.

As we were coasting past one of these walls, we heard some dogs barking. Not to worry they were behind the big wall. Of course I had try out my imitation cat meows. Ooooh, this got the doggies' attention! Hee hee hee. Marg was frantically telling me to stop the meowing. What's the big deal, we were separated by that big stone wall. Dumb dogs! As we passed by the wrought iron gate we could see that the barking came from 2 very large dogs. Good thing that the wall was there separating us.

As we slowly coasted further down the hill, the high stone wall abruptly ended and there were those two dogs. I'm still not sure who was the more surprised at this point, us or the dogs. It took a moment for each of us to react. I cranked on the throttle and the dogs cranked their legs. They must have been very well trained guard dogs because they only chased us for a dozen meters beyond the end of the wall before turning back. Good thing too because there was a very tight switchback coming up very fast! There wasn't much time to enjoy the scenery until after the dogs turned back.


Once we got settled in back home and were kicking the incident around we had our own chuckles. Images of the old TV cartoon with Tweety Bird, Sylvester the Pussy Cat, and the dogs jumped into my mind. I had visions of the dogs lolling around afterwards and snickering to themselves..."Well, I guess we scared them folks, didn't we?!" Yes, the buggers really did!

Marg told me that one of the dogs actually got a nip at the heel of her riding boot in spite of the saddlebag being a barrier. It wasn't easy, but I controlled my meowing urges on the bike after that incident. Oh, we never did get back to the observatory....but not because of the dogs.

Nowadays my meowing is pretty raspy but there are still occasions when I like to meow at a barking dog. And Marg still reprimands me. That incident long, long ago and far, far away was a good lesson;

If you must meow, do it from the safety of your car.

Written by Bill & Marg Buschman



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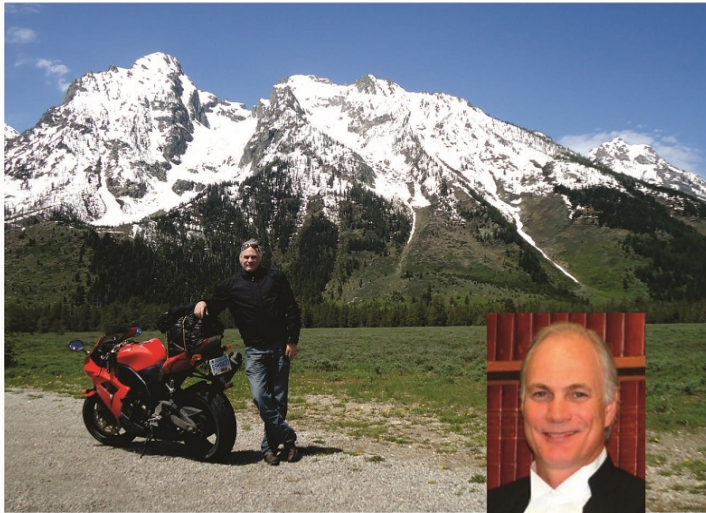
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Message from Secretary

Well another year is over and as an AIM Volunteer for 2019 it was a good year. We did AIM's usual events but also were invited to a few new events like Moto Concept and Louie's Leather they were good events for AIM and we got to reach a new crowd of young riders.

A New Year starting and I personally hope it's a safe riding year for everyone and a good year for AIM. Hope to see everyone at the Tradex January 24th to 26th.

Nancy

Rider went down???

Call us at 604-580-0112 with
full name of rider and which hospital



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Enjoy Riding Everyone!!!!!!!

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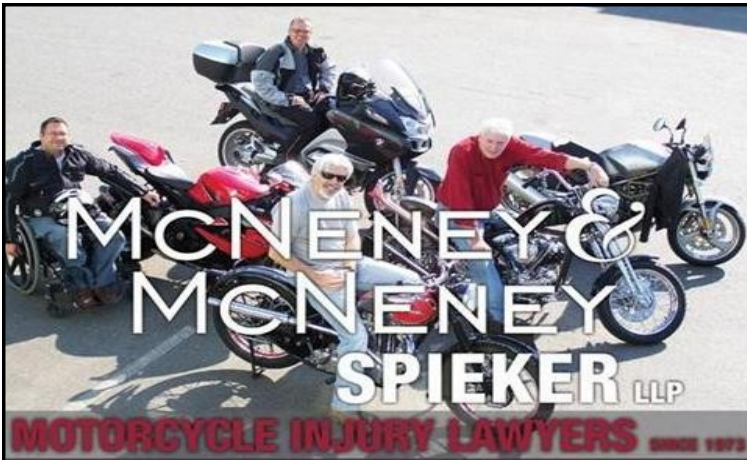
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A Word From Our President

I would like to Thank all the Directors and Volunteer's from last year and all previous year's for all that they did and Thank all the New Directors and Volunteer's for this year for all they are about to do. Lol

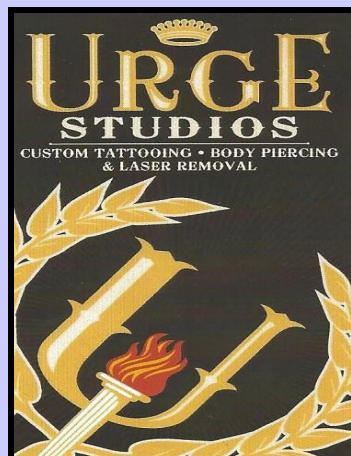
To all the Sponsors and Members that has contributed to AIM a Special Thank you for helping us to continue to help where we can.

To all those that did called AIM about Injured Riders for without them we cannot help.

Please remember if we are not called, emailed with name of injured and location they are at, we can't help. For all those who are interested in helping call

us or even better come to Tradex and talk to one of our Board Members

Dave



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Does AIM help Non-Members?

YES we do!

Majority of the injured riders we help are non-members and nor do we ask or expect them to sign up or write a thankyou letter to AIM. We are here to help in whatever capacity we are able to without applying any expectations or any stress to their situation. After an accident things can get very complicated, frustrating and highly stressful. We also have helped riders months after the accident.

If someone wants a one on one communication and does not wish to go to one of our meetings, we are always available to chat on phone or meet for coffee.


On occasion we have received calls from Social Workers at hospitals, asking if we would visit a rider that was not in an accident but might be losing a limb for example and the visit allows for questions and answers if they wish to ride again, or maybe discuss prosthetics.

Our meetings are monthly and open to everyone, member non-member, rider, non-rider, etc.

On another note, We are all volunteers of AIM - Non-Profit, Charitable organization and yes we need people to sign up as members, because it is you the member who is part and parcel of this network letting us know a rider is down, giving us the info so we can visit. Your membership and any donations are crucial to helping the injured riders and their families.

The AIM board and all Volunteers thanks all of you!

Bunnii




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Whether you are an accident victim or a sincerely interested party, all help is greatly appreciated in this endeavor. All of AIM'S funds come from Memberships and Donations. **WE NEED YOU!** ... Become a member and give us support for effective representation on all matters of concern to Injured Motorcyclists.

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VISITATION REPORT 2019

Family members helped: 4

We are currently busy on the ICBC Advocacy and Advisory Committee which is a sequel to the Attorney General meetings (now discontinued) regarding the restructuring of ICBC. Along with other "stakeholder" groups, we provide input on one of the changes ICBC is implementing: the new Care Based Model which looks like this:

- Customer Recovery Specialists will cover initial claims
- Senior Customer Recovery Specialists will cover claims with severe injuries such as brain injury, spinal injury, amputations and complex multiple injuries. If a claim is still active after a year it will then be transferred to a SCRS.

We are pleased that, along with input from the other groups, our recommendations were accepted for increasing the benefits. The new benefits which were effective January 1, 2019 are outlined below:

- Part 7 limit \$ 300,000
- Wage loss up to \$ 740/wk (\$ 3,206.67/mo)
- Homemaking allowance \$ 280/wk (\$ 1,213.33/mo)
- Funeral costs \$ 2,500
- Death benefits \$ 30,000
- Other medical supplies/services \$ 1,000
- now pay full medical fees for services: you do not have to pay a portion of the fee
- no longer need to obtain adjudicator's permission for treatment. For example you can go directly to a physiotherapist who will confirm your claim number with ICBC and then will bill them directly.

Patients can elect to augment their recovery with additional treatment which includes:

- general practitioners
- chiropractors
- psychologists (requires prescription from general practitioner)
- registered massage therapists
- kinesiologists

- physiotherapists
- occupational therapists
- clinical counsellors
- accupuncturists.

Our help to the downed riders has included some interventions to help move things along. Below are a couple of examples.

Taxi Account: One downed rider had recovered to the extent that she could drive herself to her treatments. Her taxi account had thus been terminated. However, her doctor put her on a muscle relaxant and she could not drive while on it. So she did not take it on the days that she had her physiotherapy and doctor's appointments. When her doctor found out that she was doing this, he told her she has to take it every day for it to be effective, so now she could not drive at all. The doctor provided a prescription to ICBC for ongoing necessity for the taxi account due to her being on the muscle relaxant which prevents her from driving, however ICBC would not reinstate her taxi account. We contacted management at ICBC and asked if they could look into it as the request is reasonable and the Adjudicator was stalling on replying to the downed rider's request. She had now gone four weeks without physiotherapy treatment and without a response and was in increasing pain. I received a response the next day that the taxi account was reinstated.

Treatment for Brain Injury: A downed rider had a brain injury which had not been addressed for two years. Medically, it is preferable that treatment for brain injury start somewhere between six months to one year after the crash. We brought this to ICBC'S attention and then drove the downed rider to the doctor to get a prescription for psychological assessment. The rider was then able to initiate treatment with a psychologist which was beneficial.

Conclusion As we enter the New Year, we will continue to serve downed riders. We help all downed riders ~ they do not have to be a member.

We look forward to seeing all of you at the various events we attend throughout the year. Check us out on our calendar: <https://www.aimvancover.com/calendar/>

Gary Richardson, Visitation Director