



**Association for Injured Motorcyclists of Canada
Northern BC Chapter**

452 Dornbierer Crescent
Prince George, BC V2M 5Y6
Email: aimpgpresident@gmail.com

Phone: 250-552-2536

UpComing Events

AIM Meetings

Sunday April 17, 2011 5:30pm Nellie's Pub @ The Northwood Motor Inn
Sunday May 22, 2011 5:30pm Nellie's Pub @ The Northwood Motor Inn
Sunday June 26, 2011 5:30pm Nellie's Pub @ The Northwood Motor Inn

Rev Up To Spring 2011 — May 7, 2011. Tickets are on sale now at the following locations: Harley Davidson, Boutique of Leather, Leather by Shannon & Queen of Hart Tattoo. In Vanderhoof you can call Kim @ 250-570-2171

Vanderhoof Sportsman Show - April 9 & 10 at the Vanderhoof Arena—come check out what is new this year! Stop and say hello and if you have a couple hours to help out, please let me know ASAP.

Motorcycle Awareness Pine Centre Mall Show— April 29 & 30 will see all the clubs in Prince George back in Pine Centre Mall showing off our rides and providing information to the public and the riding community on Motorcycle Awareness & Safety - as well as information on the different clubs that are around town. AIM will have our information table set up and will be doing membership drives as well, if you are able to help out - please contact Lori!

WATCH FOR MORE INFORMATION ON EVENTS TO COME!

Advertising Information

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V2M 5Y6

| Ad size | Per Issue | Per Year |
|---------------|-----------|-----------|
| Business Card | \$ 25.00 | \$ 75.00 |
| Quarter Page | \$ 45.00 | \$ 150.00 |
| Half Page | \$ 65.00 | \$ 225.00 |
| Full Page | \$ 125.00 | \$ 450.00 |



**Association for Injured Motorcyclists
Northern BC Chapter**

Serving Prince George & Surrounding Area
Volume 4, Issue 9

March 2011

Letter from the President

Well here we are, spring is in the air. Well sort of anyway. In the next few weeks we expect to start seeing the bikes roll out and fire up for those early birds that like to get moving. While the weather appears to be improving, there are still some important things to remember. First and probably one of the most important is tire pressure. That's right, many of us get so excited to get out there, we grab our plates, hit the starter and away we go. But for the few extra minutes it takes to check your tire pressure it can save a lot of hassle and money.

After a long winter the tires are bound to be low, no matter how good or how new they are. Tire pressure has a major effect on the handling of your bike. It would not be a good start to the season to go down in the first curve you come to because tires were the last thing you were thinking of. They should be the first. Also remember to give your brakes a few pumps before you go to be sure they are holding pressure as well.

With that, there are still risks of frost and ice in certain areas. Shady corners can be your worst nightmare if not treated with respect. Along the same line there is still a lot of sand and gravel on the streets. Be sure to keep this in mind. Ride to the conditions and be safe out there. Nobody wants to kick of the season in the hospital or with a damaged bike.

With the winter fading it means that it is time to start kicking of the season again. While this winter was fairly quiet for us, we have been busy planning. We have the Rev up to Spring dance coming up on May 7 at the Kinsmen Hall. Tickets are available now so make sure to get them early! We will once again be holding the Toy Run Dance in September also. This is the 30th annual Prince George Toy Run, and we are looking to make it a big one. More details to follow as they are available.

So that about wraps it up for now, until next time , keep it between the ditches, and safe riding.

Darryl Laing

Serving over 250,00 on-and-off road motorcyclists throughout the province. A.I.M. is committed to assisting injured motorcyclists by providing knowledge of rights, assistance with emotional support as well as regular hospital visits and by helping with aspects of recovery not covered by other agencies.

Serving over 250,00 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 knowledge of rights, assistance with emotional support as well as regular hospital visits and by helping with aspects of recovery not covered by other agencies. It is operated solely by volunteers and relies on memberships and donations for funding.

Association For Injured Motorcyclists

Northern BC Chapter

452 Dornbierer Cres.

Prince George, BC V2M 5Y6

250-596-1410 (non-emergency)

Disclaimer

Although we welcome your input, articles submitted and printed in the newsletter do not reflect the opinions of the Association For Injured Motorcyclists as a whole.

A.I.M. Monthly Meetings

Sunday October 3, 2010

Sunday October 24, 2010

Sunday November 28, 2010

7:00pm @Nelly's Pub (Northwood Inn)

Any questions please call Lori or Darryl

250-596-1410

A.I.M CHAPTERS BC

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Prince George, BC

www.aimnorth.ca

250-596-1410

Vancouver Chapter

www.aimvancouver.com

1-604-580-0112

Interior Chapter

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Room for 4 more directors

Black Ice continued...

2. Testing: Nail a small piece of metal (stainless steel or tin – something that won't rust) on the outside of your shed or garage. When you bring your bike out and have it sitting while warming up, check the piece of metal to see if there is frost on it (Don't test it with your tongue – but then you're Canadian so I don't have to tell you this). Metal attracts moisture in the air sooner than other surfaces and tends to cool the moisture more and will show frost before other surfaces such as asphalt. Thus, you will set up your "mind set" that the road is frosty and that you need to ride very carefully. This will give you a margin of safety.

"Bridges and overpasses can be especially dangerous. Black ice forms first on bridges and overpasses because air can circulate both above and below the surface of the elevated roadway, causing the bridge pavement temperature to drop more rapidly." (Wikipedia).

3. Wariness: Be wary of bridges and overpasses. Moisture from a body of water will collect on a bridge above and seek the opportunity to form black ice to put you down. Overpasses collect the moisture from vehicle exhausts travelling underneath, and again will form black ice.

"At low temperatures (below -18 /C), black ice can form on roadways when the moisture from automobile exhaust condenses on the road surface." (Wikipedia)

4. Beware: Beware the Ides of – no, no, I mean, beware shaded sections of roadway (especially curves). You can be riding on dry pavement, exposed to the early morning sun, and suddenly be on black ice on a shaded section of highway. This is common on shaded curves and you can easily find yourself heading into oncoming traffic.

"The formation of black ice begins when rain, fog, or mist deposits ice on pavement in cold weather. The latent heat of the pavement slows the freezing rate, so these droplets of water run together before they freeze. As a result, the air bubbles in the water are forced out, and the frozen sheet of ice which forms is almost completely clear. Black ice often blends in with deposits of rain on a road, and it can also form with a matte appearance which makes the road surface look clear and dry." (Wise Geek)

The Warning: Actually, I don't mind if someone warns me to watch out for black ice because it means they care, and the warning does serve to promote the right "mind set" for my ride. To all you early morning riders, have a good ride, and as Sgt. Phil Esterhaus of Hill Street Blues used to say: "Be careful out there."

I don't want to visit you in the hospital; I would rather see you at our monthly meetings!

Watch Out For Black Ice !

Gary Richardson - Vancouver AIM Visitation Director

"Black ice is a deposit of ice which forms in a way which causes it to be transparent. Because the ice is totally clear, it is often invisible, which makes it very dangerous." (Wise Geek)

I always get a kick out of someone warning me of this when I head out on the bike on a frosty morning. No, I am not referring to the album "Black Ice" by the Australian rock band AC/DC. I am talking about that thin sheet of ice which you can't see that forms on the road at freezing temperatures. Why I laugh is because, how can you watch out for something that you can't see?

"Black ice, sometimes called glare ice or clear ice, refers to a thin coating of glazed ice on a surface. While not truly black, it is virtually transparent, allowing black asphalt/macadam roadways to be seen through it, hence the term "black ice". The typically low levels of noticeable ice pellets, snow, or sleet surrounding black ice means that areas of the ice are often practically invisible to drivers." (Wikipedia).

Now that many of you will be putting your bikes back on the road, there still are occasional nights of freezing and black ice is a definite hazard. If you can't see it, then how do you prepare for it and avoid it? Short of putting bulldozer tracks with grousers on your wheels, you will be vulnerable.

"Because it represents only a thin accumulation, black ice is highly transparent and thus difficult to see as compared with snow, frozen slush, or thicker ice layers. In addition, it often is interleaved with wet road, which is nearly identical in appearance. For this reason it is especially hazardous when driving or walking on affected surfaces." (Wikipedia).

1. Awareness: This is the most important tool in your toolkit. Check the weather report before you leave and be aware if the temperature is below ten degrees above freezing. Ice can form in above freezing temperatures. Even the computerized ice warnings on your car dashboard readout indicate the possibility of ice when the outside temperature is a few degrees above freezing. By being aware of the danger, you will establish a proper "mind set" and be more cautious in your riding and watchful for black ice situations.

"Black ice may form even when the ambient temperature is several degrees above the freezing point of water 0 /C (32 /F) if the air warms suddenly after a prolonged cold spell that leaves the surface of the roadway well below the freezing point temperature. Salt's ineffectiveness at melting ice at these temperatures compounds the problem." (Wikipedia)

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AIM Goes to OTTAWA

Darryl Laing

We have awesome news!!! AIM is starting to spread right across the country.

The first weekend in March of this year, myself, Dave Munro from Vancouver and Dave "Newfie" Stuckless of Interior chapter took a trip to Ottawa. We had been contacted by fellow riders early last year from the Ottawa area who were interested in getting involved with AIM. So after some time and talks, we flew out to our nations capitol, and held an information session with several riders in the Ottawa and Gatineau areas. There is a lot of interest in opening a new AIM chapter in Ottawa, and they are well under way to getting this done. If all goes well I expect to see the first official AIM chapter outside of BC opening this year.

We are all very excited about this new venture , and it promises to be a huge year for the Association in general. While there are talks of further chapter openings in Ontario, we will be holding off until Ottawa is underway, and we are sure they can survive alone.

If anyone has friends back east in the Ottawa area that would be interested in getting involved with AIM, please contact us and we will connect them with the contacts back there. We all know how important AIM is and what a great resource we offer to injured riders, let's spread that message right across the country!

As an addition to the Ottawa chapter opening, a member from the Ottawa area will be doing a few Guinness world record attempts this year. The first of which is going to be a mini chopper record attempt. Dennis Pettigrew of Ottawa is planning to ride his 3/4 mini chopper from Ottawa to Rock Creek BC, ending at Boogie Bash. Along with the record attempt, Dennis will be promoting Motorcycle awareness and safety, and all money raised will be going to AIM.

Riders helping riders—right across the Nation!

BUY & SELL

If you have anything you would like listed, please send the information in to aimpgnewsletter@gmail.com and we will add it to the section - ANYTHING AT ALL!

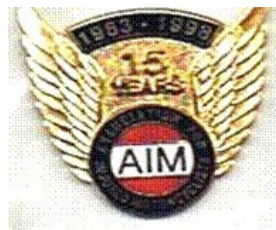
1982 Honda CBX900ss - \$1500.00 obo. Needs a bit of work, all the parts here. Will need a new battery. A few hours and you are on the road! Rides great, call Darryl at 250-596-1410 or 250-981-8434.

We Have AIM Merchandise for sale!
T-Shirts - Water Bottles - Pins - Patches

Contact us for more information!!!
250-596-1410 or email aimpgsecretary@gmail.com



10th Anniversary Pin - \$15



15th Anniversary Pin - \$15



20th Anniversary Pin - \$15



AIM Pin - \$10



AIM 25th Anniversary Patch - \$50.00



25th Anniversary Pin - \$15



Northern BC Chapter Patches Now Available \$10

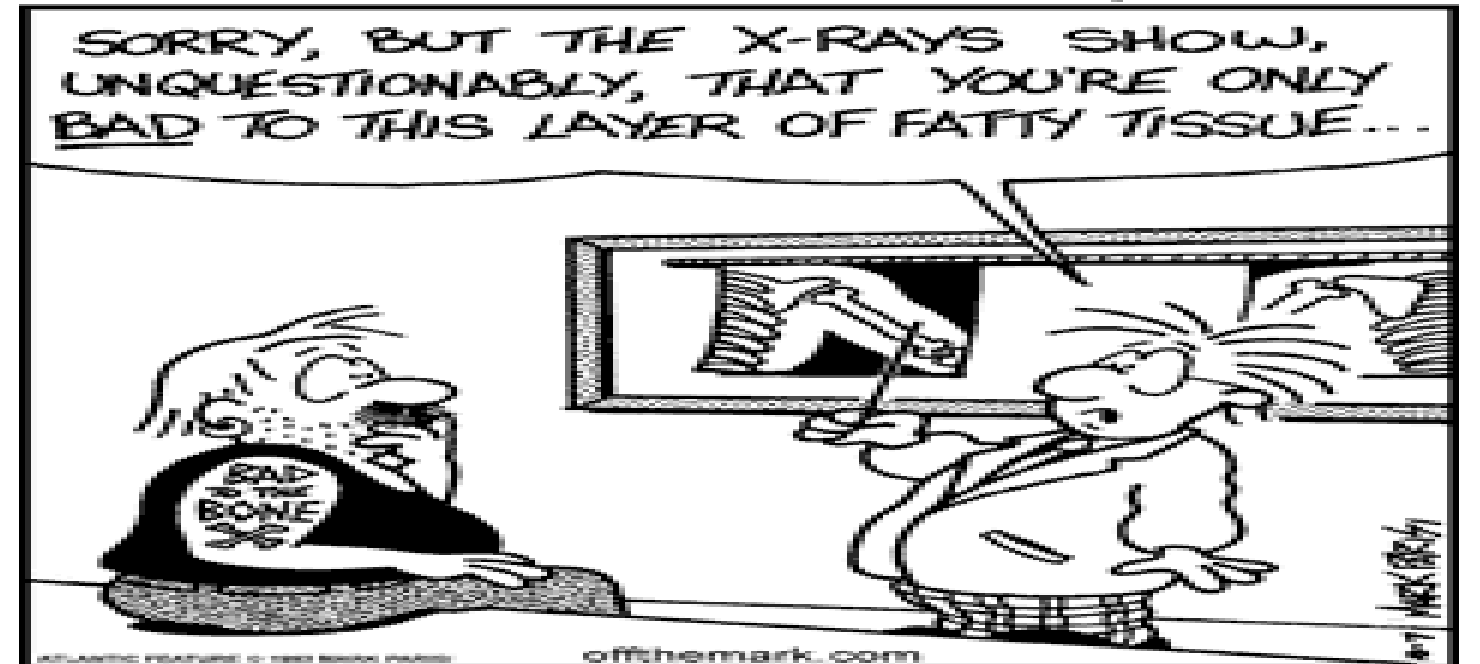
The Changing Demographics of BROTHERHOOD Continued...

“Bikers” carried a stigma back then. Nobody liked us much. Made us try that much harder to be offensive. I use to carry a handful of ball bearings in my left jacket pocket—thrown over your shoulder at 70-80mph towards the windshield/radiator of the “Cage” - that’s trying to run off the road. Only had to use them twice, oh and once I kicked a guys fender to keep him from squishing me against the center divider. Point being we once counted on each other for survival, mechanical help, moral support, parts and tools loaned or given and we partied together A LOT! We were brothers cause we had to be. Nobody else like us, we relied on each other for everything. “Brotherhood” is an old term, “Bro” the slang term is ours, or at least it was. Adopted by Fratboys, aboriginals, blacks and gangsters alike it has been one of the most overused words of the later 20/21st century. Getting to the degree where the only person I feel comfortable calling my “Bro” is my sister.

Ben Stinson of “How I Met Your Mother” fame, recently published a book called “The Bro Code” in which he actually states the code. Some of it’s crap, some rings true. Brotherhood has been diluted then to gender loyalty—but wait—that’s a whole lot of people isn’t it?

Thinking we should come up with a new word for Biker Loyalty cause the modern definition seems to be “I’m your friend til I get busted or told to kill you” or “I’m a Drunken idiot but that’s ok cause my friends are here being idiots too”. So how did we come to this? Maybe we should be “Spoke Friends” or “Die Hards” um or....suggestions???

off the mark.com by Mark Parisi



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The Changing Demographics of BROTHERHOOD By Wayne Balcaen

For those of you who don't know me, I spent 20 years in the motorcycle industry in Prince George. Primarily those years were as a mechanic but also a substantial amount of time in parts, sales and service, writing pretty much everything but the books. God I hate the phone!

For those that do know me and wonder what I've been up to, I now drive a 5 ton cube van full of building supplies to Fort Ware Kwadacha. A remote village—Drive 177 kms toward Mackenzie, turn left for the Williston Lake causeway (a 1.5 km man made land bridge with NO rails) onto a radio controlled dirt/gravel logging road for 413 kms.

I flat out LOVE IT! Fort Ware rests at the foot of the rocky mountain trench and the confluence of the Kwadacha Finwall and Parsnip Rivers. It's beautiful, the air and the water are clean and the people are friendly. Fishing is also very good. See a lot of wildlife in the summer—Bears, Lynx, Porcupine, Moose, Elk, Rabbits, Grouse and the occasional Horse, Donkey or Dog.

It's 30 years ago there—men are still men. They hunt, fish, build cabins and river boats, gather from the forest—Food & Medicine. They pile the back of the pick up to go to the lake. Spanking is still an accepted form of punishment and an adults lap is still the baby seat (speed limit in the village is 15km). They also live a much slower paced lifestyle. Not so bad hmm??? Made me realize how much things have changed—not all for the better.

I spend a lot of time alone on the road with just the truck, the trees and my thoughts. These things combined led me to write this article on how the motorcycling "Brotherhood" has changed.

When I started riding most motorcycles were cantankerous units. Point ignitions, crude finicky carbs, kick starts, poor machining and excessive vibration were the order of the day. Kick start Harley's were "Audience Sensitive" 2 kicks for every person watching. Nobody ever believed that my old Ironhead Sportster could start on the first kick cause she only ever did it when we were alone! Park in front of Pine Centre on a chilly Saturday in the fall and it was easier to push home that to start it.

Back then if 6 motorcycles went to Bear Lake and 6 came back without a breakdown, it was a frigin miracle! We had to help each other with break downs. Everybody would break out their tool rolls and jump in. Nowadays, most pack little tools and Bear Lake is not even a challenge.

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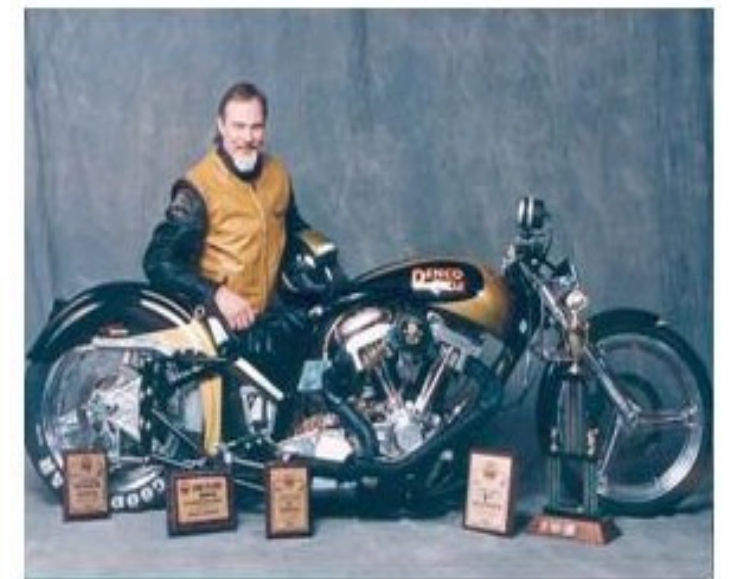
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2011 Events Off to a Great & Early Start

I hope everyone had a good winter and that you are all gearing up for a great spring and summer! Seems like this winter has been very long but thankfully it is finally disappearing!

In January Darryl and I took a trip down to Vancouver to help the Vancouver AIM Chapter out with the Trade-Ex show and it was great! It was good to see some old riding friends and so many people who are interested in AIM. We spent pretty much the whole weekend at the table and we were even lucky enough to meet some new members of our own chapter who signed up while they were down there!

It is amazing how much the Association is growing and it just keeps getting better.

In April we will be at the trade show in Vanderhoof and are looking forward to meeting and greeting new and old members that we don't get to see often.

We also have the Motorcycle Awareness Show at Pine Centre Mall at the end of April and we are hoping to see you all out for that. Remember, you can renew your memberships, get your T-Shirts, pins, patches and lots of other stuff at the table. We are also going to be looking for volunteers to help man the table so if you have a couple hours you can give us, please let me know ASAP.

May 7 is the Rev Up To Spring Dance at the Kinsmen Hall. Tickets are available now so make sure you get yours quickly! We want to see as many people as possible out to help us kick off the season!

Lori Laing

Membership to Association For Injured Motorcyclists Northern BC

A.I.M. is the leading organization supplying assistance to injured motorcyclists. Your membership helps to support that cause. We believe that all motorcyclists, and their families, benefit from A.I.M. through hospital visitations, direction for legal and other assistance, and moral support.

A.I.M. is a 100% volunteer organization, which is registered in the Province of British Columbia as a non-profit society.

A.I.M. Northern BC Chapter dues:

- Cdn. \$20.00 - Single Member
- Cdn. \$30.00 - Couple

Application Form

Return this application with your payment to the following address: 452 Dornbierer Cres. Prince George, BC V2M 5Y6

Make cheques payable to: **A.I.M. Northern BC** Your membership is valid for one year from registration

NAME: _____ Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Address: _____ Postal Code: _____ City: _____

Email: _____ New: ___ Renewal: ___ Single: ___ Couple: ___
\$20 \$30

Newsletter Via: Email ___ Mail ___ Volunteer: Yes ___ No ___

Bits & Pieces - Resident Mechanic Wayne Balcaen

Tire Pressure

CHECK IT! Tires are the most expensive, high wear item on your bike. Motorcycles are deceiving, their tires have stiff sidewalls and they are relatively light. Do not rely on visual inspection or kicking the tires. Buy a gauge, check often. This will save you money on tires and gas. It will make your bike ride better too.

REPAIRS

Don't be scared to try your own repairs. A good base set of tools will set you back about \$500.00. Spend it—would you cook breakfast on a rock by the fire? Can't believe how many guys have a \$300,000 house and \$60 worth of tools! Buy a manual or go online and learn about your bike. If it came with an owners manual—READ IT! Should only take 2 or 3 periods (hockey not menstrual). Please don't be scared to admit your in over your head and take it to a skilled technician. Check him/her out first!

OIL CHANGES

Don't cheap out on oil or oil changes. The average motorcycle has the power to weight ratio of a Ferrari. Would you pour cheap oil one of those?

CLOTHING

I don't get chaps, they leave the most important parts "Hanging out" I wear leather pants that fit over my jeans. Then I just have to take my boots off to layer down. (This is Wayne's opinion—everyone is entitled to their own but dress to the conditions and ride safely!)



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