



Vintage Japanese
Motorcycle Club
North America, Inc.

Monthly Newsletter to the Midwest **VJMC** Community

Editor: Buddy Walton

Associate Editor: Mark Bayer

Visit our Facebook page: [KANSAS CITY VINTAGE JAPANESE MOTORCYCLE CLUB](#)

This is a newsletter covering what is going on in the Midwest with our VJMC friends.

Please send us your events, activities, or interesting stories. We will keep you informed about the above topics and want to see our region grow. Please pass this newsletter to any of your friends and let's build a community. Any correspondence will be kept private and no information will be given out without your permission.

January 2022 Edition

Topics: A letter from **Buddy Walton** about the language of the motorcyclist!

Mark Bayer will discuss developing a better connected Midwestern VJMC Field Representative Community.

Please consider attending the 45th **VJMC** National Rally in 2022.

The Languages We Speak:

Most of us speak the English language although many of us are bilingual. If you are reading this you most likely speak a lesser known language called "motorcycles". Of course it is a well known universal dialect with multiple disciplines of brands, countries, years, and over 120 years of history and evolution. But we have all been in those situations with our friends, acquaintances and strangers don't speak our language.

The holiday season brings out this "language barrier" frequently at office parties, Christmas parties and family gatherings. Many of us have been there, the entire room is engaged talking about the weather, politics, holiday plans, sports and on it goes while you quietly sit in the corner, observing and wondering if anyone actually does own a motorcycle and dare you start any conversation which may initiate a conversation in your " language". Sometimes the conversations are met with questions such as: Oh we have four wheelers, we know someone that died on a motorcycle, my son wants one but it's too dangerous but he is going to be a football player, or I hope you don't ride one of those crotch rockets. And the most common I encounter when they find out I ride is "what model Harley do you ride"?

It's all good because I don't speak much their language of sports, politics, entertainment culture and many other dialects. And within "our" language there are many "sub" languages involving racing disciplines, rides and destinations, bike accessories and performance, new and old models , it's endless.

Being involved in the VJMC gives us many opportunities to share our love of motorcycles, camaraderie, knowledge of motorcycles, planning rides and speaking "the same language" with one another. It's not something to take for granted and provides a special feeling when you make that connection with another that understands "our" language.

Wishing everyone a very happy and safe new year ahead

-Buddy Walton



Lets build a better connected and more active VJMC community if our Midwest area: by Mark Bayer.

Our Kansas City VJMC members have been very engaged with events, rides, and other activities for quite some time. We have also had numerous people from all over our four state area regularly attend our events. Those states are Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, and Missouri. We would like to increase communication with other active groups in our geographic area. We would also like to add South Dakota, Illinois, Minnesota, Colorado, and Texas. This would include any Field Representative or active and engaged individual VJMC member who wants to communicate with us and who is located in the Midwest. Here are our goals:

- Know more about **what is going on** in the Midwest.
- Build a **stronger VJMC community** in the Midwest.
- Find a way to **better promote** Midwest activities.

- Develop **this newsletter to better reflect** our larger Midwest community.
- Find a group which would work developing a “**Great VJMC Midwest Tour**” in 2023 (2022 is much too soon) which would attempt to connect as many of the hot spots in our area. The plan would be to make a progressive ride with fewer going the entire route. All is open or all is closed depending on the level of interest or participation.
- Create a way to **get to know active groups or people** in our area.
- Have a **conference call between Field Representatives** in the Midwest area.
- **Build VJMC membership** by having more events and better communication about what is going on and where. We want to become more inclusive and active in communicating who we are and what we do.

If you are a VJMC Field Representative in any of these states noted above please respond to the e-mails which have been sent out. If you have not received the e-mail mentioned above, please contact me at nkcma@yahoo.com. I am working on having a conference call between all of us in January of 2022 as a first step. Once we get connected on the call each person can introduce themselves and we can begin to build lines of communication. We could create a Midwest website or Facebook page, I am sure someone will have a great idea. I am also sure that there may not be a perfect time for all of us to get connected but we will attempt to find a time that most of us can get connected.

Here’s the bottom line, for us to grow and increase our activities in our different areas we have to start somewhere. **All that we need is good ideas and people who will get engaged.** Just getting to know others and what they are doing will encourage engagement. Furthermore, as we are able to know about and promote activities in the Midwest, that alone will increase the desire for new people to join our club.

In the end, I would like to get to know other engaged VJMC members better and to better promote what is going on in our part of the country.

-Mark Bayer



A KCVJMC event in Kansas (left) and in Missouri (right).

Make plans to attend the **45th. VJMC National Rally** to be held in Eureka Springs, Arkansas. This is a must attend event so sign up today. The link to register is attached.