



Presents the

VIN

V i n t a g e I n s i d e r N e w s

Winter 2010

Keeping you up to speed on what is happening at the Barber Vintage Motorsports Museum



Dedicated to the preservation, interpretation, exhibition, and history of motorcycles, vintage vehicles and motorsports.

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Dear Friends and Members,



As we say goodbye to 2009 and enter into a new year, I look with excitement at the events we have planned for 2010. The Indy Racing League will race at Barber Motorsports Park for the first time in April. Combining the IRL with the familiar GrandAm Series will make for great racing. The museum will highlight special cars from the Lotus collection that have unique Indy history.

Spring will also bring another racing venue to Barber. The Bobby Rahal Legends of Motorsports is on the calendar for May 2010. This will be a celebration of vintage racecars at a level never before seen at Barber. This event will be comparable to the Goodwood Festival of Speed held in England each year. The museum will play host to an evening charity event that will draw from the group of exotic car owners who are here from all over the country as well as local museum supporters. Watch for this event and plan to attend!

Fall has a great line up with the American Motorcyclist Association SuperBike Race moving to September. The museum will host the year end AMA Awards ceremony at the conclusion of the race weekend. The ever growing Barber Vintage Festival returns in October along with the Motorcycles by Moonlight Dinner.

You may have noticed that I have outlined events that take place at Barber Motorsports Park. The park is owned by the museum which is a 501(c) 3 not for profit foundation. Events that take place at the park are not conducted by the museum but do benefit the museum. This small fact is sometimes missed when people mistake our foundation with businesses owned by George Barber, the museum's founder.

This year the museum staff will work hard on museum membership, from individual to corporate. Our goal is to provide value for your membership and a sense of ownership and pride in knowing a world class facility such as the Barber Vintage Motorsports Museum exists...with your help.

I hope you enjoy this issue of the VIN as much as we enjoy bringing it to you.

Lastly, don't forget to thank a volunteer during your next visit!

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Jeff Ray
Executive Director



Indy star, Hideki Mutoh took to the track during the IRL test last spring.

In the Collection



Marman/Schwinn Motorbike

The latest addition to the collection is a Marman/Schwinn motorbike. Not to be confused with a moped, this motorcycle has a horizontally opposed twin cylinder motor, which is a radical departure from the usual single cylinder Whizzer powered bikes. Its performance is unknown at this time, but a twin cylinder powered bicycle should be an exciting ride, to say the least.

Marman Products Company, Inc. of Los Angeles was a business established in 1948 by none other than Herbert "Zeppo" Marx. Yes, the youngest brother of the famous Marx Brothers Comedy Team was a very clever engineer and patented quite a few inventions, one of which was a cardiac pulse rate monitor.

With hostilities finally over, Marman purchased war surplus motors that were used to power WWII pilotless drones from the Jack & Heinz Aircraft Co. in Cleveland, Ohio. A clutch mechanism was added, and it was installed in a state of the art Schwinn bicycle.

Marman made clamping devices and like many other companies, was involved in the war effort. The "Marman Clamp" was used to support the atomic bombs carried on the Enola Gay. Marman still exists today as Aeroquip and continues to make high pressure hoses to this day.

-Brian Stark



Purpose of VIN

Welcome to the Barber Vintage Motorsports Museum! For those of you who are not familiar with the museum, let us introduce you. Located outside of Birmingham, AL, BVMM is the largest motorcycle museum in the world. We house over 1,250 motorcycles and the largest Lotus Car collection in the world. The Vintage Insider Newsletter is published quarterly and keeps the enthusiast up to speed about what is going on in the museum. So, take a look inside and see what's happening!

On the cover: Pictured on the cover are cars and motorcycles from the collection at the 5th Annual Barber Vintage Festival. They really do run!!

Restoration Corner

The car to be featured in this issue is nearing completion after 1 and a half years of work in our shops. The little Mk VI was originally part of a local collection acquired by the Museum a few years ago. American David Whiteside vintage raced it for almost 15 years prior to its purchase. Its history is significant in that it was the 18th car built by Lotus. The small company made 5 different models before the first Mk VI was unveiled in 1952. Our chassis, number 13, was delivered in 1953 to Englishman, Ken Laverton. It initially raced in the UK at various tracks including Silverstone (see period photo) and Brands Hatch before being exported to the US.

The recent picture shows details of the chassis restoration with new powder coating, fresh British racing green on the bodywork, and the new exhaust system fabricated in-house by Blake. Hopefully by the next issue we will have the engine installed and a track test in the books. Fingers will be crossed for Blake as the car is twice as old as he is.

– Lee Clark, *Car Restoration*



The first stage of any restoration by the Museum is a detailed condition report. Blake Repass was assigned the project and quickly discovered various minor racing shunts had taken their toll on chassis 13. He measured the frame, and it became evident that we would need to replace some tubes that were improperly repaired at the track. Given the car was now over 55 years old and had lived a proper life at tracks in 2 continents; we felt a total restoration was deserved.

Museum Store/Library

Did you know that the Barber Vintage Motorsports Museum is on Facebook?

What a great way to keep up with what is happening at the Museum!

Recent posts have included photos from our Volunteer Appreciation dinner, Member's Reception, and Kirkwood

Luncheon. We have also linked articles about the Museum and plan to continue doing so to keep everyone informed on what the world is saying about us. Also, look for photos of new acquisitions, as well as photos from our archives that detail the history of the Museum. In addition, we will feature store items like we did with our 2009 Christmas ornament that you can

enjoy for years to come.

Our monthly featured exhibits will be posted as well. January's focus on Morbidelli is just the first of these features and we plan to continue them throughout the year by highlighting different areas of the Museum. We plan to use Facebook, along with the VIN and our webpage, to keep you informed with what is going

on as well as clueing you in on upcoming events so you don't miss a thing here at the Museum. The Barber Motorsports Park can also be found on Facebook.

So check out our page and become our fan on Facebook today and invite your friends to do the same!

– Lee Woehle, *Librarian/Museum Store Manager*

Membership

Support the Barber Vintage Motorsports Museum by becoming a member. You can choose from several different membership options.

Also, remember that you can go to our website, www.barbermuseum.org/membership.php and register the quick and easy way, online!



Membership Benefits:

- Free admission to the museum
- A membership card for each member
- 10% discount off of items in the museum store
- 20% off of additional adult admissions when accompanied by a member
- Invitations to "members only" museum events
- Annual Vintage Festival poster and pin
- Quarterly edition of the Vintage Insider News (VIN)

Individual Membership: \$60 (1yr) \$110 (2yr)
Benefits listed above for one person

Individual Membership Plus: \$80 (1yr)
Benefits listed above for one person *plus*
o One complimentary museum pass to share with friends/family
o Hat or t-shirt

Dual Membership: \$110 (1yr) \$210 (2yr)
Benefits listed above for two people

Dual Membership Plus: \$130 (1yr)
Benefits listed above for two people *plus*
o Two complimentary museum passes to share with friends/family
o A hat or t-shirt for each member (2 items total)

Family Membership: \$150 (1yr) \$280 (2yr)
Benefits listed above for two adults and two children

Family Membership Plus: \$250 (1yr)
Benefits listed above for two adults and two children *plus*
o Four complimentary museum passes to share with friends/family
o A hat or t-shirt for each member (4 items total)

Out-of-Town Membership: \$60 (1yr)
Benefits listed above for one person living 100+ miles from Birmingham *plus*
o One complimentary museum pass to share with friends/family

* For details on **Corporate Memberships** please see our website at www.barbermuseum.org/membership.php

Upcoming Events

With the Indy Car Series quickly approaching, we are expecting great attendance here at the museum as well as Barber Motorsports Park. Don't forget to order your tickets for IRL April 9-11, which are on sale now. Please remember that IRL is one of three races during the year where we require a race ticket to enter the park. However, this ticket does not include museum admission.

In addition, we are happy to announce we will be hosting the Bobby Rahal Legends of Motorsports Car Show May 21-23. We will keep you posted with further details.

Welcome Hampton Inn Leeds!

We would like to extend a warm welcome to our friend and neighbor, the Hampton Inn at Leeds, which is set to open February 10th, 2010. We look forward to working with such an excellent facility in the future!



The Barber entrance sign being moved further up Barber Parkway to make room for the widening of Rex lake Road that is scheduled to be completed in 2011.

By the Numbers

Would you like to hear more about the Barber Vintage Motorsports Museum? If so, visit us at our website at www.barbermuseum.org and get a peak at what's going on with us. Here's a look at who all is checking us out online.

Number of hits for the Museum in 2009:

7.3 million

Number of hits for Barber Vintage Festival from July through December of 2009:

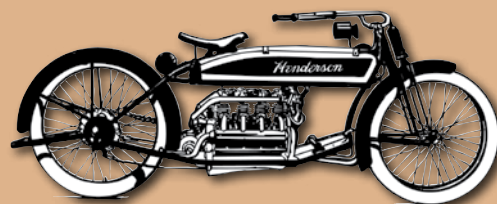
2.3 million

Barber Museum Tag Rewards Day



Automobile tag: On Saturday, June 19th and Saturday, September 4th, guests arriving at the museum parking lot driving an automobile with a Barber Vintage Motorsports Museum distinctive license plate will receive a free admission pass for the museum. In addition to the museum admission, the first 100 Barber-tagged automobiles to arrive before 11 AM will be eligible to drive around the Barber Race Track in a parade lap that will take place at approximately 11:15 AM. The parade lap will be available on a first come, first serve basis and will be limited to 100 automobiles. Track officials reserve the right to restrict vehicles from the parade lap at their discretion. This offer is limited to the driver of the licensed vehicle bearing the Barber tag. Additional museum access and access for passengers in the parade lap will be available for additional charge.

Motorcycle tag: On Saturday, June 26th and Saturday September 11, guests arriving at the museum riding a motorcycle with a Barber Vintage Motorsports Museum distinctive license plate will receive a free admission pass for the museum. In addition to the museum admission, the first 300 Barber tagged motorcycles to arrive before 11 AM will be eligible to ride around the Barber Race Track in a parade lap that will take place at approximately 11:15 AM. The parade lap will be available on a first come, first serve basis and will be limited to 300 motorcycles. Track officials reserve the right to restrict any motorcycle from the parade lap at their discretion. This offer is limited to the rider of the licensed motorcycle bearing the Barber tag. Additional museum access and access for passengers in the parade lap will be available for additional charge. Protective riding gear is required.



**Need a tax deduction for 2010?
Make a donation to the Museum.
Contact the Museum for more information.**

Events



Spring is quickly approaching and with it begins wedding season. The Barber Vintage Motorsports Museum has several options for the bride and groom to ensure this time in their lives is not only eventful, but unique as well.

For after rehearsal dinners, the Atrium creates an elegant environment for friends and family to relax and look forward to the wedding day. Audio visual equipment can be rented for slideshows or videos to enhance the memorable evening. The Atrium is also an ideal location for evening couples'

showers or parties. We only book one event per night so guests are able to have the Museum to themselves to wonder at their leisure.

Hosting wedding showers at the Museum is also an option. For daytime showers or teas, the Patio Room and Barber Room are exceptional locations. Both provide space for up to around 60-75 guests and have excellent views of the track. The Patio Room offers a large outside patio area with a fountain creating the perfect backdrop for a spring luncheon.

Need something for wedding guests or groomsmen to do during the wedding weekend? You can also schedule group tours that offer a behind the scenes view of the Museum. This is a fun option for guests that are from out of town or have free time.

For information on rental prices and information or scheduling a tour, call the events department at 205-699-7275 or email at events@barbermuseum.org.

– *Lauren Cater, Events Coordinator*

Farewell to Buell

Even though it is always sad to see an innovative American motorcycle company close their doors after 20 years, there is an upside to every situation. Erik Buell and his team, with Harley Davidson's corporate blessing, have donated 13 significant Buell motorcycles to the museum.

We now have several interesting prototypes, including a mock up of a Rotax powered moto-cross machine. However, the jewel in the crown is a 2010 XB12S that was the last bike to roll off the assembly line in East Troy, Wisconsin. This newly acquired bike will be paired with our 1987 RR1000, Serial #1, which is the first ever produced Buell, giving us the first and last versions to put on display here in the museum.



Volunteer News

Do you enjoy being surrounded by friendly, interesting people? Does spending time interacting with others from around the globe that share the same interests sound like a good time to you? If so, then we have just the place for you. We, here at the Barber Vintage Motorsports Museum, have a wonderful group of volunteers and we would like you to join us!



BVMM Volunteers enjoy a dinner in their honor for all of their hard work in 2009.

Volunteering is a vital part of the success of the museum and we value everyone who offers up their precious time to help us preserve the history of Motorsports. Our volunteers enjoy an array of benefits in exchange for donating their time. For example, during race weekends, volunteers receive a complimentary ticket to the race. In addition, we offer several opportunities for our volunteers to come out and enjoy the museum and interact with one another. And for those of you who are not the “gear head” type, don’t worry! We have several volunteers here at the museum who simply enjoy being in the beautiful environment and that love being surrounded by friendly faces.



Volunteers hard at work during the scavenger hunt at the annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

If you would like to join our volunteer team here at the museum, you can contact Lyndsey Yarbrough, Volunteer Coordinator, by phone (205.699.7275) or E-mail (lyarbrough@barbermuseum.org) for further details. You can also check out our volunteer web page at www.barbermuseum.org where you can download our Volunteer Information Form and email us your information. Our first big event, Indy League Racing, is coming up so make sure to turn in your form as soon as possible! Thank you for supporting the Barber Vintage Motorsports Museum and we can’t wait to see you back at the greatest motorcycle museum in the world!

–Lyndsey Yarbrough, Volunteer/Membership Director

Hotel Partners

Are you planning a trip to BVMM/BMP? We encourage our guests to patronize the hotels listed. These hotels support the museum and reflect the quality of service we desire for our guests.

1. Hampton Inn – Trussville

Phone: 205-655-9777

2. Holiday Inn Express – Trussville

Phone: 205-655-2700

3. Hilton Garden Inn Birmingham SE/Liberty Park

Phone: 205-503-5220

4. Comfort Inn & Suites – Leeds

Phone: 205-640-6600

5. Days Inn of Leeds

Phone: 205-699-9833

6. Hilton Garden Inn – Trussville

Phone: 205-655-5222

7. Homewood Suites by Hilton Birmingham South/Inverness

Phone: 205-995-9823

8. Comfort Inn and Suites – Colonnade

Phone: 205-968-3700

9. Holiday Inn Express – Irondale

Phone: 205-957-0555

10. Hampton Inn and Suites – Irondale

Phone: 205-933-0444

Volunteer Sponsors

The Barber Vintage Motorsports Museum would like to thank its 2010 volunteer sponsors.



Support the Museum

Did you know there are several ways you can support the museum?

The Barber Vintage Motorsports Museum is a 501 (c)3 non-profit organization. Memberships and contributions of vehicles, cash or goods are tax deductible. Please contact the museum or visit our website for more information concerning the ways you can support the Barber Vintage Motorsports Museum. Register to become a member online by visiting our website at www.barbermuseum.org/membership.php



Donations:

Do you have a bike, car, motorcycle handbooks, motorsports related magazines or memorabilia you are not sure what to do with? Please consider donating it to the Museum. Monetary donations are also welcomed!

Membership:

Are you a member of the Barber Vintage Motorsports Museum? If not, we have a membership level to meet your needs! Member benefits include free admission into the museum for a year, a subscription to our newsletter the VIN, invitations to member-only events and much more. Membership is a great way to support the Museum and its mission.

BVMM Car and Motorcycle Tags:



Alabama residents can purchase a distinctive BVMM motorcycle or car tag. The tags cost \$50. By purchasing one of these tags, you are adding a unique accessory to your vehicle as well as supporting the Museum. A majority of the cost of the tag comes directly back to the Museum and is tax deductible. When it is time to renew your vehicle tags this year, please consider supporting the Museum by purchasing a distinctive BVMM tag for your car or motorcycle.

Volunteer:

Join our volunteer team. Volunteers are an essential aspect of this organization. Enjoy sharing this magnificent venue with guests from all over the world, make new friends, and be a part of a team working at the "World's Greatest Motorcycle Museum".

Photos in this newsletter courtesy of: Al Hicks, Darrell McCalla, Dennis Lathom



Barber Vintage Motorsports Museum
6030 Barber Motorsports Parkway
Leeds, AL 35094

OPEN DAILY 10-5, SUN. 12-5
(OCT. 1-MAR. 31)

OPEN DAILY 10-6, SUN. 12-6
(APR. 1-SEP. 30)

CLOSED ON MAJOR HOLIDAYS

Call us at 205-699-7275



30% post-consumer recycled paper



Mark Your
Calendars:

Indy Racing
League

April 9-11, 2010

Bobby Rahal's
Legends of Motorsports

May 21-23, 2010

AMA
Super Bike Race

Sept. 24-26, 2010

6th Annual Barber
Vintage Festival

October 8-10, 2010