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# The Helping Rider

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#67

A.I.M. Vancouver

Spring - 2001

## it's A Small World



*Ms. Mary Clarke (left) and Irene Beilstein at the Big Screen T.V. Presentation at G.F. Strong on December 4, 2000.*

The Paper Airplane flyoff 2000 saw the proceeds go to the G. F. Strong Rehab Centre in Vancouver. This rounded off our fundraising and A. I.M. was able to purchase a 48" projection T.V. for the day room at the centre. The clients were thrilled with the T.V. as it was in place for them to hold their own Grey Cup Party. The next phase of the Paper Airplane Flyoff 2000 will see the proceeds go to G.F. Strong for equipment.

The Paper Airplane Flyoff 2001 grand prize was a set of custom made leathers from Linda's Leathers, which was won by Cameron from Surrey. Just by chance a few weeks ago Cameron was visiting his friend Ryan at G.F.Strong, where Ryan showed him the T.V. set A.I.M. had donated. This was not the first time that Cameron had heard about A.I.M., years prior Cameron's Dad was killed in a motorcycle accident. A.I.M. was there to

assist the Family To use a well-known phrase "It's a small world after all".

All this would not be possible but for the assistance of others . We need to thank our Sponsors and Volunteers, without them A.I.M. would not function. I suggest that the next time you need something check these people out, because they have given back to the Motorcycling Community and it's a nice way of saying "Thank You!"

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*Serving over 220,000 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 the injured motorcyclist by providing legal assistance, knowledge of rights, assistance with emotional support as well as making regular hospital visits and helping with aspects of recovery not covered by other agencies. It is operated solely by volunteers and relies on membership fees and donations for funding.*

**"HELPING INJURED RIDERS SINCE 1983"**

## BAD HAIR DAYS

It appears that there is a challenge going to raise \$10,000.00 for A.I.M. Vancouver by Western Powersport and the Coast Riders. Michelle at Western Powersport has the challenge to raise this money by the December 01, 2001 annual "Club Night" put on by Western PowerSport. If we manage this accomplishment then the owner of Western Powersport, Marq and Gil Constant, and AIM director Marcel will have their long locks cut off and the hair donated to the Wigs For Kids Foundation to help make wigs for kids going through chemotherapy. This helps two organizations at the same time.

On the weekend of the MMIC show in Abbotsford Tony Cording from Yamaha Canada was approached to assist and he said it should be a **dealership/industry** challenge. Tony also committed to a buzz cut if the goal was reached. Vancouver AIM president Ted Allen joined in as well and Ted will have his pony-tail chopped for the cause if the target is reached.

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All donations are greatly appreciated.

## MOTORCYCLE SAFETY CHECK

- 1) Tire pressure and condition
- 2) Brake pads or shoes, thickness and feel at the lever or pedal.
- 3) Oil level.
- 4) Tail light.
- 5) Brakelight operation from lever and pedal.
- 6) Fuel level.
- 7) Drive Chains and lubrication.
- 8) Headlight operation, high and low beam, got a spare bulb?
- 9) Turn signal operation.
- 10) Battery electrolyte level.
- 11) Coolant level.
- 12) Suspension settings. Are you riding solo or with a passenger?
- 13) Adjust mirrors.
- 14) Clutch adjustment for comfort and action.
- 15) Check for appropriate tools, tire patch kit etc.
- 16) Check complete bike for loose nuts and bolts.

This list is numbered in the order of importance that makes sense to me, tires and brakes being the most safety oriented features of the motorcycle.

*Submitted by,  
Steve the Bike Wrench,  
A.I.M. Director at Large.*

## The Helping Rider

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# COLLEEN CHRISTENSEN

## Membership Director

Hello, I would like to take a moment to introduce myself to you as your new Membership director. I have only been involved with A.I.M for a short time, but I must admit I could not be more proud to be involved with such an enthusiastic and supportive group. I am truly honored to accept this position and hope to continue along the same steps as our past membership director by doing whatever I possibly can to assist A.I.M.

I would also like to take a moment to tell you about my first experience with A.I.M. I was attending a function in Keromeos three years ago with my five year old son, I had only been riding a few weeks, I had left my bike idling while I visited with some friends about 10 feet away, when I turned towards the bike I heard my son's horrified screams, my heart raced as I ran towards the motorcycle and saw, what to this day is still as clear as the day it happened.

My Son stood with tears streaming down his face, the front of both his legs were severely burned, he had walked into the hot pipes on the motorcycle. Within moments members of A.I.M took charge, as I stood by frozen with fear and guilt these heroes

(in my eyes) helped my young son by keeping him calm and treating the burns, one of the members held me as I cried. For the first time in my life I felt helpless... I could not take the pain away from my son, nor could I even comfort him when he needed me the most. Thanks to the members of A.I.M he was taken to the closest hospital and was treated. To many I am sure this may have just been a burn... nothing to fret about... but to me it was a day I will never forget.

I never got a chance to thank those people and to this day I don't even know their names, but I did make a promise to myself that one day I would give back what they so generously gave to me and that was their help, support, and someone to lean on when I needed it most.

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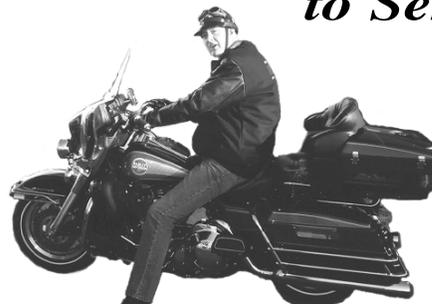
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***DISCLAIMER***

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

**SHIFTING SANDS**

Those who were in attendance at the Elections would be aware that I was elected President. At that time I was very reluctant to accept the position. I was asked at that time to accept so I would have time to consider my position. After deep consideration I felt it was best to resign from the board. Looking at my year ahead I could see that I would not have the time to put into this role over the coming year. This would not have been to the betterment of A.I.M. because I believe in doing a thing well not multiple things “halfbaked” I tendered my resignation a couple of weeks after the election. I would like to thank everyone who has confidence in me.

Sincerely Irene Beilstein.  
*Editors note- Everyone should be made aware that Irene has worked long and hard to further A.I.M.’s endeavours, a large part of A.I.M.’s accomplishments have come to be because of Irene’s dedication. The past and present executive I am sure will wish Irene a well deserved thank You.*

**AM I MISSING SOMETHING?**

As the riding season never seemed to have left us this past winter we better get ourselves in riding gear and prepare for the season ahead.

As Director of Entertainment I am planning to keep things on the KISS strategy “Keep it simple stupid. None the less, I am committed (or should be!) To work on maintaining local traditional events such as the Scavenger Hunt, The Summit Camp out, which will now take place (away from any summit) at Ashcroft with CMDRA drag races weekend, also on the agenda is the second GF Strong Show and Shine! Of course we will do what we can for the Boogie Bash. Well, I am one man and other executive members already have their hands full with their own stuff so I will need help, anyone

with or without a clue, let me know if you could help out in any of those events.

Help is needed in a variety of ways from leadership positions to entertainment to casual labour. Volunteers are always in great demand.

As you know these events are what permits AIM to be involved in supporting our damaged brothers and sisters. Without us they are “On their own!”

You can reach my e-mail at <marz1is@home.com> or call Shannon at the AIM line: 580 0112.

Meanwhile be careful out there, be very careful, be prepared as we know that sooner or later something will happen.

*Marcelle Larouche*

**A.I.M. WEBSITE: [www.aimcan.com](http://www.aimcan.com)**

# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Well now that we made it through the first bike show of the new millennium I can sit back and put a few words to paper. I haven't done this in awhile so here goes nothin'.

I would first like to take this opportunity to welcome the new board of directors for this year. We had to move some directors around so the board is different than it was in November. These changes were due to the resignation of Irene, our president, due to family commitments. She did commit to still supporting AIM and assisting where she can if time allows.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the past board and the volunteers who helped with the many projects and events last year. You worked hard to keep AIM Vancouver growing.

This year we have a lot of things happening and we hope that everyone continues to support AIM and comes out to the various events. We also have a Lottery License to raffle a hand made quilt that was made by one of our directors in the North Coast AIM chapter. The money from this raffle will be used to help pay for the electric door opener we installed for a rider who is now a quadriplegic due to a motorcycle accident.

Also this year we will be working with the CMDRA on the Ashcroft High Desert Rally and Race. There will be camping, racing, beer and food available. The gate charge will be \$30.00 for the weekend. This will be better than just a camp out or just a race. There should be lots of stuff to do there. We'll keep you posted.

Let's hope that 2001 is a safe riding year for everyone.

See ya on the road!

*Ted*

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## AIM NEW YEAR

Happy New Year to all.

Well here we are a new year, a new Board and the prospect of a whole year filled with events to enjoy.

The first of which was the International Motorsport Show.

What a great event. On Sunday there was a report that 30,000 people had attended.

Thanks to all the people that came out to help and all of you that came out just to see what was going on.

For those of you that were at the show you got a chance to see the beautiful hand made quilt that was donated by Alice of the Prince Rupert Chapter to be raffled off to help raise funds to pay for an electric door opener. This door opener is for a quadriplegic rider who has been unable to get in and out of his apartment with out the assistance of an aid. Now he will be able to have a little freedom.

The Licensed lottery tickets are \$2.00 each of 3 for \$5.00 and the draw date is April 22, 2001. You can see

the quilt at our monthly meeting held at Bridgeveiw Community Hall the third Thursday of each month or call any of the directors for information or tickets. Better hurry. There are only 1000 tickets and they are selling pretty quickly.

This winter flew by and it has been mild enough to almost have ridden all the way through. For those of us that are not so tough spring is not far off.

There are a number of events to come. Like Boogie Bash and the High Desert Rally and Race. This will be a multi activity event which will include a campout with the drag races in Ashcroft. Stay tuned for details.

With these and all our events we rely on our volunteers to help. We need people to help set up, take down, move stuff, sell ticket, take tickets and of course to come out and participate and enjoy. So if you should be interested in volunteering or if you just want to get involved please feel free to contact any member of the board .

Happy New Year and safe riding

*Kathi Allen*

## NEW RIDERS

As new riders or riders new to BC there are a few things that are good to know. First thing is that a class 6 license is mandatory to operate a motorcycle in British Columbia and to get one was just made much tougher by ICBC as they have recently taken over the Motor vehicle branch. So once you have successfully studied and practiced and all that jazz you get to pass your exam and then choose "your style of riding." There is such a wide variety to choose from that the worst thing you could do is ask someone's opinion... figure out what you like and go for it no matter what anyone says!

So you have chosen "what you think" is your type of ride. You would now like to know more about that type of riding so you look up other people in that style... Nowadays there are rid-

ing clubs of all kinds and I would encourage you to join in some of them that relate specifically to your chosen style. Just to name a few. The Hog and the XL Riders only accepts, Harley Davidson motorcycle riders, same with The Gold Wing Club as far as I know will only accept Gold Wing Riders. The Vespa club for scooter riders. The Classic Motorcycle Club, for older bikes of any make. There are some trials teams and dirt bike clubs. As well Freewheelin' is a ladies riding club.

And then there are other clubs that are less specific such as The Greater Vancouver Motorcycle club which is older than most members. The Coast Riders which is a chapter of the Virago Owners club but has always accepted anyone who can keep up with Highway speed! The CMDRA if you like Drag Racing. Point is there is something for you but the first thing

you should consider is to register with The BC Coalition of Motorcyclists. It stands for the rights of everyone who rides on two or three wheels (580 0111). AIM is another organization that should be considered on your basic package deal. AIM will be there to help if you ever need them! AIM helps out all damaged riders. You could help out now by paying your annual dues.

Across the province you will be able to find motorcycle group rides almost everywhere on any weekend that doesn't snow! The lower mainland is of course blessed with the best riding weather in Canada. Join in the popular Sunday rides and soon you will find the confidence to let go the left hand from the handle bar and wave to your fellow riders.

See you down the road friend.

*Marcel Larouche*

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## MESSAGE FROM THE V.P.

Hello everyone it's me again Rick Andress same name new position as Vice President. Looking forward to a great year! Many new faces on the board and some old ones, should prove to be a lot of fun! I would like to welcome all the new members and old members back, Welcome Ted Allen as President. We have a few functions planned this year. The Scavenger hunt in June, GF Strong show and shine, and our yearly campout in August held this year with the Ashcroft drag races. Looking forward to seeing all of you in the wind, and at various functions throughout the year.

Please keep in mind that although all these functions are meant to be fun we do depend on everyone's support so we can all enjoy the activities, I would like to thank each of you in advance for your support as I learn my new position as Vice President, and am looking forward to any suggestions you may have.

*Rick*

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# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## APRIL

- 14-15 WMRRR races @ SIR  
22 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Classic & Vintage M/C Swap Meet and Show 'n Shine @ Tsawwassen, BC  
Two building of parts and bikes including a tribute to "100 Years of Indian Motocycles". Bikes confirmed to attend include a 1904, 1906, 1908, 190p Factory V-Twin Racer, 1910, a 1911 Isle of Mann TT replica, 1914 Hendee Special, 1915, a 1918 Model O, 1920 Scout, 1929 101 Scout and many other Indians. The Seattle Cossack Motorcycle Stunt & Drill Team will perform in the afternoon\*\*info line (604) 299-0020.  
27-29 Vancouver Classic Car show  
27-29 Vintage M/C Racing @ Sears Point, CA

## MAY

- 20 Sounds of the Past Vintage M/C racing @ Portland International Raceway  
27 Sounds of the Past Vintage M/C racing @ Seattle International Raceway

## JUNE

- 2-3 CMDRA Drag Racing @ Budweiser Race Track, Edmonton, AB 882-1009  
2 AIM Scavenger Hunt & Family Day 580-0112  
23-24 CMDRA Drag Racing @ North Central Raceway, Prince George, BC 882-1009

## JULY

- 6-8 Luxton Ironhorse Motorcycle Rodeo 250-743-2963  
8-9 O'Keefe Ranch Vintage Motorcycle Rally 1-250-542-9191  
14-15 CMDRA Drag Racing @ Mission Raceway Park, Mission, BC 882-1009  
15 Sounds of the Past Vintage M/C racing @ Spokane, WA  
17 Sounds of the Past Vintage M/C racing @ Seattle International Raceway  
21-22 Brothers of the Third Wheel Trikein at Salmon Arm. Call Kevin at 604 943-6993 for info.  
28-29 CMDRA Drag Racing @ Budweiser Raceway Park, Edmonton, AB 882-1009  
???? Show & Shine at Roadhouse Pub

## AUG

- 19 G.F. Strong Show & Shine A.I.M. 580-0112  
26 Mt. Baker Sea to Snow Road Run, Bellingham, WA 604-856-8218

## A.I.M. APPLICATION for MEMBERSHIP

**WE NEED YOU . . .** Become a member in 2001 and give us support for effective representation on all matters of concern to injured motorcyclists.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Province \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this application NOW with your payment to:

### **ASSOCIATION FOR INJURED MOTORCYCLISTS**

*Please Check One:*

AIM Vancouver: #37 - 13320 - 116Ave., Surrey, B.C. V3R 0R8

AIM Vancouver Island: P.O. Box 998, St. A, Nanaimo, B.C. V9R 5N2

AIM Interior: P.O. Box 5111, Kelowna, B.C. V1Y 8T9

AIM Sunshine Coast: 6864 Harvie Road, Powell River, B.C. V8A 5J1

AIM Kootenay: 94 Morrison Road, Kimberly, B.C. V1A 2L7, e-mail: jmcquill@rockies.net

AIM Northern B.C.: P.O. Box 297, Prince George, B.C. V2L 4S2

New  Renewal

Single Membership - \$20.00

Couples - \$30.00

Club - \$30.00



# A.I.M. IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE C.M.D.R.A.

*Presents*

# HIGH DESERT RALLY & RACE



**AUGUST  
25 & 26  
2001**

**ASHCROFT, B.C.** *Bill*

