

June 8, 2020



Hall of Fame **INSIDER**

— E-mail Newsletter —



2020 Vintage Motorcycle Days postponed

In accordance with "Responsible RestartOhio" guidelines for holding public events in the Buckeye State in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic, the AMA and Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course have postponed 2020 AMA Vintage Motorcycle Days.

Held at Mid-Ohio in Lexington, Ohio for the past 24 years, the annual celebration of America's motorcycling heritage was scheduled to take place July 10-12. New dates for the event later in 2020 have not been finalized.

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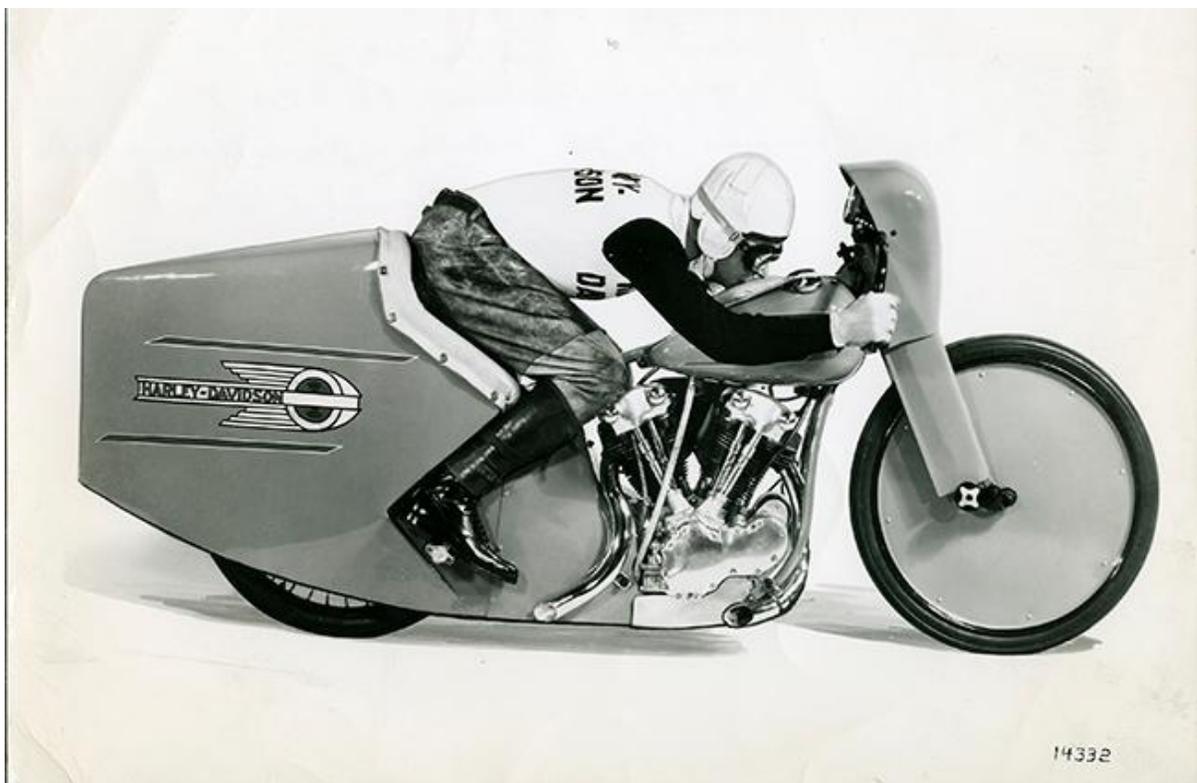
Learn about the 'Lords of the Board Track' raffle bike

"What if there were still a board-track racing class?" That was the question that motivated custom motorcycle builder Kevin Dunworth when he designed and built the AMA Motorcycle Hall of Fame's "Lords of the Board Track" raffle bike.

This stunning machine started life as a 2003 Harley-Davidson 100th Anniversary Edition Sportster XL 883 Custom and now offers a powerful combination of early 20th-century styling and modern air-cooled V-twin performance.

Follow the link for a chance to win this unique bike, and read more about its creation in the July edition of *American Motorcyclist* magazine.

[Read More >>](#)



From the Archives

Here's a photo of AMA Motorcycle Hall of Famer Joe Petrali aboard the Harley-Davidson streamliner on which he set an AMA land speed record. Petrali posted a two-way average speed of 136.183 mph on the sandy shores of Daytona Beach, Fla., on March 13, 1937. The streamliner featured a 61-cubic-inch, overhead-valve engine.

[Read more about Petrali at the Hall of Fame website.](#)

Featured Hall of Famer



AMA Motorcycle Hall of Famer Kenny Eggers

Kenny Eggers was one of the top racers on the West Coast during the 1950s. Born in San Jose, California, on June 13, 1929, Eggers learned to ride a friend's motorcycle when he was 12. He began winning Northern California races in the late 1940s, earned his amateur license in 1950 and won a slew of races across the country.

Turning expert in 1951, Eggers continued winning. The biggest victory of his career came on July 1 of that year in San Mateo, Calif., at Bay Meadows. Riding a Tom Sifton-tuned Harley-Davidson, Eggers shocked the best riders in the country by winning the AMA 20-Mile National, the first race on a mile oval that year. A month later, Eggers finished runner-up at the national championship Springfield Mile.

Eggers also gained fame for winning the AMA national road race at Willow Springs International Raceway in 1954, the first motorcycle race held at that historic Southern California venue.

[Read about all the legends and heroes](#) in the AMA Motorcycle Hall of Fame.

Featured Bike



1953 Triumph Thunderbird

Beginning in 1950, more Triumphs were sold in America than in any other country, and the biggest bike in the British manufacturer's lineup was the Thunderbird. A few years after the 650cc vertical twin was introduced, a Thunderbird rider would change the sport of land speed racing forever. Record runs at the Bonneville Salt Flats helped establish Triumph's reputation for building fast, lightweight motorcycles.

But arguably the most famous Triumph Thunderbird image came from Marlon Brando's performance in the 1954 film, "The Wild One." Riding his own 1950 model, the actor portrayed motorcycle-gang member "Johnny" in the movie that spawned the biker-flick genre.

A still shot of a leather-jacketed Brando, astride the bike, with a stolen dirt-track trophy attached to the headlight, has become one of motorcycling's most enduring images.

In 1953, the year this motorcycle was manufactured, Thunderbirds were painted blue. Americans favored black, however, so the factory complied, creating a tougher-looking, U.S.-only version named the "Blackbird."

Enter to Win!



You could win a 1973 BMW R75/5 sidecar rig

The AMA Motorcycle Hall of Fame is raffling a 1973 BMW R75/5 sidecar rig to raise money toward its mission to preserve and promote the rich history of motorcycling in America.

For a \$5 donation, Hall of Fame supporters receive one chance to win this cool custom machine. A \$20 donation earns five chances to win.

[Click here](#) to learn more and donate today!

Exhibits at the AMA Motorcycle Hall of Fame Museum



Lords of the Board Track: Learn about one of motorcycling's first popular racing disciplines, which quickly rose to popularity in the 1910s but had mostly disappeared by the end of the 1920s.

Main Hall: The main floor celebrates Hall of Fame inductees, the heroes of the track, road, trails and halls of government who have elevated the sport and lifestyle of motorcycling to new heights. Currently featuring the 2019 inductees.

Founder's Hall: Honoring the AMA Motorcycle Hall of Fame's generous contributors.

Motorcycle Toys and Collectibles: A collection of more than 1,000 motorcycle-inspired toys.

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