

Classic Motorcycle Show, Sale, & Swap

In the Valley of the Sun, the New Year traditionally opens with the Classic Motorcycle Show, Sale, & Swap, organized by Barney Watson and Roger Meinershagen.

This held true on Sunday January 5, 2014 as the 19th annual event again took place at the Steel Horse Saloon, located at 1768 W Bell Rd in Phoenix, from 9a-1pm. It's free to set up and there's no admission fee.

As Barney noted, "Our show is unique, as we don't charge for spots. We do it out of love for classic British Iron." The event is directed toward those bikes which are 35 years or older, as this is the Antique Motorcycle Club of America (AMCA) guideline. There are no judges or trophies. It is a 'gathering of hobbyists'. They do not allow booths where people sell leather, sunglasses, earrings, edibles, etc. Food & beverages are avail-

able at the Steel Horse.

One of the participants commented that, "The weather was perfect and the crowd was shoulder to shoulder... Thanks go to Barney and Roger for a job well done." He also observed that, for the Norton lovers, there was a Colorado gent with a booth full of Norton parts to sell.

Barney shared that he counted 26 Brit/Euro vendors, and about 50 classic bikes. Promoted as an event for British & European enthusiasts only, over time the stringency has relaxed... But only a bit {:o)

They have now designated an 'All Others' area; which, this time, had 24 vendors. Barney explained, "Our intention in the past was Brit/Euro only. However we had people show up with a British motorcycle frame, and a bunch of mid-70's Japanese stuff. So several years ago we began to separate those to a dif-

ferent area. It has worked well, and most of our vendors 'know the routine'. 'All Others' are mainly Japanese, American Cushman scooters, etc. There are some Harley vendors, but most vendors honor the original intent of the show. There are choppers, and custom motorcycles; but they are powered by British engines. They can be displayed along with British and European cycles."

The goal is to maintain & promote the history of these early machines. As the flyer states, "This event is designed to encourage and facilitate the restoration and collection of classic British & European motorcycles." There you have it, the bottom line.... It's about sharing the love of the bikes & making sure they are around for future generations to appreciate. Well done Barney & Roger. Keep up the good work!

Betsy

pix by Tucson Gerry

