



Victory

ROADS

Victory Riders Calgary NEWSLETTER

2023 riding year...

It's not the miles, it's the memories

As member George Nauss posted recently, "It's not the miles... it's the memories." And we have some great ones from the 2023 riding season.

It started early this year, thanks to some February Chinooks that allowed a few of our cold-blooded members to get out. VP John B, of course, rode his to the car wash on February 17. Anyone ride earlier than that?

At the February breakfast meeting, Jumpmaster rolled out an ambitious riding plan for the year. It included during-the-week rides, overnights and a three-day ride. No one doubted it would happen. In March, members began posting their "first rides."

April 16 saw the first club ride; lunch at the Water Valley Saloon. Four bikes showed up, but there was no looking back from there. Eight members rode into the April breakfast meeting



and five of them went for "coffee" afterward in Mossleigh.

In May, the club rides started in earnest. So did planning for the major summer events. The four major ones were: Two Wheel Sunday in June; the Victory Motorcycle Club rally in Spearfish, South Dakota, also in June; the Banff-Jasper overnights in July and a three-day ride to the Kootenays in August. Shoehorned among them were Club rides during the week and on weekends, and other motorcycle events that brought us together as riders or as spectators.

Two Wheel Sunday was a milestone. We put more than 30 Victory bikes on display and the reaction by the public was incredibly positive. We had every model of Victory except the V92 on display. We learned later that a V92 owner was trying to get his bike there, but just couldn't pull it off.

Spearfish followed just days later. Ten Club members headed out, picking

up an eleventh along the way. For many, it was their first trip to South Dakota and its wonders like Devil's Tower, Mount Rushmore, Sturgis, Spearfish Canyon, Needles Highway and on and on. On the return trip, some even opted for an extra day or two detour. Touring is addictive.

July's highlight was the overnights up Highway 93 from Banff to Jasper. Hi93 has been called one of the most scenic roads in the world and it showed. Club members took the road south to north on the Saturday, overnights in Hinton. The following day, we rode the highway north to south. Like Highway 40, the Parkway is a scenically different ride, depending on the direction.

Kaslo Kurves in August was legendary. Highway 31 and 31A are world renowned and gave the Club a great riding experience. Some opted for

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Next Meeting
November 26

10:15 am

Winkin' Owl Pub

13750 Bow Bottom Trail SE,
Social Breakfast Meeting
Ride to follow (dreaming!)

All-weather rider..

You could find yourself in Delia, Alberta

By John B
Vice President

It seems I have made a name for myself as an all-weather rider. While most normal riders are putting their bikes away for the winter, I keep mine ready at all times.

I have come to believe – however delusional it may be – that there is always a day or two each month that are **warm and safe enough** to get out for a ride. Sometimes it's just a quick ride down the road and back, while other times, 100s of kilometres.

Nov. 6th with its predicted 12°C afternoon was one of those days. Like most of my rides, I don't really have a plan or know where I'm going; but I do have a general direction. Usually if it's warm, it's even warmer in the **Red Deer River valley** so I'm headed that way.

Randomly choosing roads that take me east and north eventually get me to **Rosedale, Wayne and Drumheller**, popular locations for riders all summer long; but today no other riders were around. Making a few stops for fuel, drinks and dead ends, I decide to head north and around to the next bridge upstream of **Bleriot Ferry** as it's closed for the season.

Leaving Drumheller north bound on **Highway 56**, I realize there is a paved road, which turns out to be **Highway 576**, heading eastward. I don't believe I have ever been on that road or know where it goes. The sign reads **Fish Lake** and I figure why not?

Highway 576 snakes up out of the river valley into the open plains. It eventually turns to gravel, but offers up another paved road heading north. Highway 851 is a pleasant surprise. Twenty kilometres up the road takes you into **Delia, Alberta**.

Delia is a quiet little village with murals painted on many of its buildings. Much of the village reminds me of a museum with paintings, grain elevators and historic buildings that appear to have stopped in time. I'm sure I could have spent hours window shopping



The picturesque small town of Delia has many murals celebrating its history.

around the old building or in the shops, closed maybe because it was Sunday; and exploring much of the village, once part of the **Canadian National Railway (CNR)**.

A quick Google search after returning home from the ride reveals some notable facts about Delia. It was **originally known as Highland**, Alberta, between 1914 and 1915; but the post office was always called Delia (1912). It was named after **Delia Davis**. I assume the name Highland came from the fact that it is the **highest point** between **Saskatoon and Calgary** along the CNR.

Delia was the first community in Alberta to be governed by a **female reeve – Violet Bars** – in 1919. The 2021 census has the **population of 152** which is down nearly 30 per cent from 2016. It is possible Delia, like many small towns and villages, could become a ghost town.



We can help **slow the process** by just visiting and supporting some of the small businesses that still exist. I hear rumours that the **restaurant** serves excellent food and may be worth a **return trip** even if it means a 4°C, 90-minute ride home.

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The memories...



a side trip to the ghost town of **Sandon**; unforgettable. Kaslo Kurves was such a success that the Club voted to expand it to **four days** next year.

Looking back on 2023 will bring a smile and an excitement for **2024**. Planning is underway....

2024 Rides & Events Calendar

Other than the November and possibly December **Breakfast Meetings**, there are no more scheduled events on the 2023 calendar. 2024 events are starting to be added. Keep those ideas for rides and get togethers coming in.

Victory Riders Calgary Ride & Event Schedule 2024

| Colour Code: | GREEN - VRC Events | |
|---------------|--|--|
| | YELLOW - VRC Participation or Interest | |
| | BLUE - Victory National/Regional | |
| January | Vicmas! | Winkin' Owl Pub |
| 28-Jan | VRC Meeting/ Breakfast/Brunch | Winkin' Owl Pub |
| January 26-28 | Edmonton Motorcycle Show | Expo Centre |
| February | Move The Soul Community Bike Show | New Horizon Mall |
| February 2-4 | Calgary Motorcycle Show | BMO Centre, Calgary |
| 25-Feb | VRC Breakfast Meeting/AGM | Winkin' Owl Pub |
| 24-Mar | VRC Meeting | Winkin' Owl Pub |
| 24-Apr | VRC Meeting | |
| April | Bull Head (Laughlin) River Run | Laughlin, Nevada (mayheminfo.com) |
| April | Route 66 Bike Week | Arizona |
| 04-May | International Female Ride Day | |
| May | Awareness Ride | Calgary |
| 20-May | Victoria Day Ride. | |
| 19-May | VRC Breakfast Meeting and Ride | Winkin' Owl Pub |
| 02-Jun | Two Wheel Sunday | Calgary |
| June | VMC National Rally | Spearfish, South Dakota |
| June | IFK Kickstart Show | Calgary |
| June | Honour Ride | TBA |
| June | Ride for Dad | Ralph's Motorsports, Balzac |
| 23-Jun | VRC Meeting | Winkin' Owl Pub |
| June | For The Love of Motorcycles | Blackjacks Roadhouse, Nisku |
| July | Banff Jasper Parkway Overnighter | |
| July | ECL Choppers For Charity Hospice Ride | TBA |
| July 24-28 | Western Canada IMRG Celebration | Kimberley, B.C. |
| 28-Jul | VRC Meeting | Winkin' Owl Pub |
| July | VMC Regional Rally | TBD |
| July | Lethbridge Air Show | Lethbridge Airport |
| Aug 2-11 | Sturgis Rally | Sturgis, South Dakota |
| August | Kaslo Kurves | |
| August | Ride to Reynolds | Wetaskiwin |
| August | Meet In The Middle | Route to be determined |
| August | 12 Stop Ride for Recovery, Calgary | Calgary |
| August | Bikes & Bombers | Nanton Bomber Museum |
| 25-Aug | VRC Meeting | Winkin' Owl Pub |
| 02-Sep | Labour Day Ride | TBD |
| September | Nanton Bomber Night Start Up | Bomber Command Museum, Nanton |
| September | Calgary Motorcycle Toy Run | Calgary |
| 22-Sep | VRC Meeting/Fall Colours Ride | Highway 40 - South to North |
| 27-Oct | VRC Meeting/Ride Weather Permitting | Winkin' Owl Pub |
| October | CVMG Fall Swap Meet | Red Deer |
| 24-Nov | VRC Meeting | Winkin' Owl Pub |
| December | VRC Meeting | Winkin' Owl Pub |
| Weekly | | |
| | Captain's Ride | Road Captains' Call on time, place and destination |
| | Tuesday Bike Night | Twin Cities Saloon, Longview |
| | OBB Wednesday Bike Night | Big Sky BBQ, Okotoks |
| | CVMG Vintage Bike Night | Thursdays, A&W Drive In, 16th Ave and 4th St. NW |

Upcoming Rides & Events

November Breakfast Meeting – November 26
Winkin' Owl Pub, 10:15am
Agenda items include Vicmas, 2024 riding season and High Miler trophies for 2023 riding season.

Garage Sale – Victory parts/ accessories for sale; go to FILES tab on our FaceBook site for details.

Contacts

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New members

Victory Riders Calgary now has 522 members, according to our Facebook site.

Welcome to our new members. Hope to see you at our upcoming breakfast meetings or on the road next riding season.

- Mykhailo Dnov
- Winnie Jacqueline
- Christopher Brownell
- Doug Shearer

Contribute!

Send your own story, photos or story ideas to:
VictoryRidersCalgary@gmail.com
How about a photo and write up on your bike?
Something for sale (Victory-related)? Post it here.



Don't get caught without your VRC Challenge Coin. \$15 (cheaper than buying a round.) Large and small patches also available.



All the bike winterization tips in the whole world

By Drifter Don

Unless you plan to ride your Victory all year like our cold-blooded Vice President John B, you're probably going to have to winterize and store it.

I Googled 'winterize your motorcycle' and got 525,000 results. So, I read them all and compiled them for this story.

First question, though, is 'why do I need to winterize?' Not winterizing can lead to battery drain, fuel degradation, tire damage, corrosion and rust, oil contamination and other horrible stuff.

One of the 525,000 articles suggested moving to Australia for six months. The other 524,999 boiled down to the eight or nine points:

Point 1: Wash and wax. Washing gets rid of all the dirt, oil, road grime, bug guts, bird poop and other contaminants that will degrade the finish of metal, chrome and plastic parts. Waxing will protect your bike from minor scratches and moisture. **Plastic** can be treated with silicon protectant. If you have **leather** seats or other leather bits, treat them as well. Be sure to **dry your bike**, especially if you cover your motorcycle. Any moisture on your motorcycle can cause corrosion. Some people spray any exposed metal parts with **WD-40** to get rid of moisture. Lube/grease key areas.

Point 2: Change the oil and filter. Used oil can turn **acidic**, causing corrosion from the inside out. Make sure you tighten the filter and drain plug **properly**. You don't want drips on the floor over the winter. People might mistake your bike for another well-known brand. What kind of oil? Bugger off!

Point 3: Inspect the belt drive. Check the inside and outside of the **often-neglected** belt and look for wear, chips, cracks, cuts, fraying, holes or missing teeth like your cousin Jed.

Point 4: Tires. Here's where the stories were all over the map. **Some said** deflate tires for long-term storage. **Others said** leave them at spec or over inflate to decrease the possibility of



flat spots. The majority **consensus** was: get the bike off the floor with a lift. No lift? Use cardboard or carpet between the tires and the cement. Lifting the bike takes the pressure off the tires, preventing flat spots and dry rot. One site said this was a myth; modern tires don't do that. I have no idea what's right, so error on the side of caution.

Point 5 – Battery. If you don't have a **smart charger**, get one. If you have a trickle charger, get a smart charger. If your storage area is not heated (below freezing), take the battery out and smart charge it inside. Clean up the battery while you have it out. Corroded terminals can lose contact. A wire brush or fine sandpaper works. Coat everything with dielectric grease.

Point 6 – Gasoline. Since **all gasoline in Canada now includes ethanol**, fuel stabilizer is a must. Best plan is to fill the gas tank as full as possible (to minimize bare metal exposure to the elements.) Add the correct amount of stabilizer. Run the motor to mix it and get it into injectors.

Point 7 – Don't start the bike periodically. I said don't. Unless you plan to start the bike, run it until it's hot and then take it for a ride **like John B and Doug** plan to, don't start it at all. Running it for a little while does no good and can do damage to the motor, starter and battery.

Point 7A: Fog the motor. If the bike is going to sit for several months, pull the plugs and **spray fogger** or pour a bit of **engine oil** (a spoonful)

in the cylinders. Put the (lifted) bike in gear, spin the rear tire a bit to **turn the engine over** and coat the pistons and cylinder walls. Replace the plugs or gremlins will sneak in.

Point 8: Storage. The best place to store your bike is somewhere well ventilated indoors. **Livingroom is best, but not everyone is unmarried.** You need the air to circulate so moisture or condensation won't collect under your cover. To keep out mice and squirrels, **cover the ends of your exhaust** and air intake with taped-down plastic bags or something similar. Not needed in most livingrooms. No cover? Throw a **bed sheet** over the bike; it breathes, but stops the dust.

And think about **security**. You may need a chain or brake lock if there is any question. Make sure the storage facility has **insurance** or keep your bike insured. There's still a risk of fire, theft, asteroid strike, vandalism or physical damage.

Yes, you can store a motorcycle outside in winter, but use a quality cover, choose a sheltered location, lift it off the ground, plug any intakes and pipes, bring your battery and seat inside, and check the bike regularly.

Lastly, clean your gear. You've got at least a season of oil, road grime and bugs guts on it and you don't have to smell like that. **Condition** the leather. Don't forget **helmets**. Sweat builds up in helmet liners, damaging them.

There, now you can **hibernate** until spring comes.

November meeting is the entry deadline for our prestigious High Miler trophies

Want to be the envy of everyone on your block? Then get your name in for Victory Riders Calgary's annual High Miler and Magic Miler Trophies.

The November breakfast meeting will be the cut off deadline for getting in your entries. Trophies will be presented to the male and female riders with the highest accumulated kilometres in the 2023 riding season.

Also, there will again be a Magic Miler Trophy. We use VRC's top secret random number generator to produce four, five or six numbers. The rider who has those numbers in his or her odometer total from this past riding season, get to take home the trophy.



Magic Miler is a bit different from last year. The number you need to submit is the one on your odometer on **November 26**, regardless of how many kilometres you rode this year. The competition is open to all club members, competing for High Miler or not.

The **High Miler Trophies** will be awarded to the **female and male rider** who accumulated the most kilometres this season. Numbers must be submitted at or before the November meeting,

If you entered the competition last year, then your year-starting odometer

reading is on record.

Any rider accumulating more than **10,000 kilometres** in 2023 is eligible for a **10K Club patch** or a **2023 Year Bar** for last year's patch.

If you didn't get a chance to ride much, we have **recognition** for that too; so enter no matter how many kilometres you rode.

If you have any **questions** or **forgot to photograph** your odometer at the start of the riding season, get in touch with **Drifter Don**. His contact information is on **Page 3**, or through **Facebook Messenger**.

Trophies and patches will be presented at our **Merry Vicmas!** celebration in January.



Project 200 - In 2010, Roland Sands took a 2011 steel frame and had Lloydz build a Big Bore motor with Garrett Turbo and intercooler. Belt was tossed in favour of a chain. The result dyno-ed out at 214.29 horsepower with 243.54 pound feet of torque.