



Victory

ROADS
Victory Riders Calgary NEWSLETTER

Drifter Don...

VRC announces second Life Member

It's not often that Drifter is rendered speechless. It happened when **President John B** stood up to speak at the end of the March meeting.

After explaining that the Club was looking at the criteria for naming **Life Members**, the President announced the Club has someone who qualifies - **Drifter Don**.

He presented Drifter with a Life Member **patch, engraved slate plaque** and matching slate coasters.

A shocked and surprised Drifter managed blurt out thanks to John B and the Club for the **honour**.

After the meeting, when he had a chance to collect his thoughts, Drifter reflected on the recognition.

"I've been a member since early 2012 when I got my first **Victory**. I believe you should do what you can to **support** the Club. I believe it's important to keep the Victory name alive." He added, "But, moreover, **I like the people** in this club. I like riding with them, hanging out with them."



President John B presents a shocked Drifter with his Life Member patch.

After a few stints as fill-in secretary, he became **Vice President** in **2015** and moved to President two years later. Drifter retired as President in **2025**.

"The best part of being President was **leading rides**," he said.

The Club introduced numerous **innovations** and **events** during

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Next Events

April Breakfast Meeting

April 19, 10 am
Red Crowns Pub

BS & Beer

John B & Susan's Estate
Sunday, April 12, 1:00 PM
See Facebook Event



Randy & Bonnie hosted BS & Beer in March. John B & Susan will host on April 12. See the Victory Riders Facebook Event for details and directions.

Upcoming Rides & Events

April LUNCH

April 19, Red Crowns
Pub, 10am Breakfast
Ride to follow???

BS & Beer

April 12
John B & Susan's Estate
See Facebook Event
1pm on...

Contacts

- President - John B
President@VictoryRidersCalgary.com
- Vice President - Doug
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- Secretary - KD Berthelet
Secretary@VictoryRidersCalgary.com
- Treasurer - Randy H.
Treasurer@VictoryRidersCalgary.com
- Past President - Drifter
DrifterDon@gmail.com
- Ride Wranglers - Open

New members

Victory Riders Calgary now has 673 members, according to our Facebook site.

Gatekeeper Joan is merciless in sniffing out and booting fake members, bots and scammers.

Welcome to our new members:

- Vinnie Worth
- Darren Cunningham
- Jim Williams
- Gerry McKee
- Josh Wyatt



Great turn out at the March lunch meeting, including Cathy and Erwin who came down from way up north to join their Club for breakfast.

Events looking for volunteers

Ride For Dad

Calgary Motorcycle Ride For Dad

is seeking volunteers to fill several positions on the **Executive** and **Volunteer** Team.

Contact them to learn how you can become involved in fighting **prostate cancer** in your own community. Everyone is welcome – riders, non-riders, those who have lots of time to give, and those who have just a little. Contact **David Saxby, 403-585-9870** or email calgary@ridefordad.ca to find out how you can get involved.

Two Wheel Sunday

Two Wheel Sunday is looking for volunteers for its **June 7** event for set up including **signage, traffic control, entrance and exit control, help directing vendors to their lots, garbage control, first aid.**

If you are able to give a couple of hours of your time on the day of the event, contact **Jill** at Volunteer@twowheelsunday.com or go the 2WS website at <https://twowheelsunday.com/volunteer-registration/>. Victory will have its own booth at the event.

Your motorcycle is ready, are you?

It's a **sore subject** - pun intended - but your body needs preparation for the riding season just like your bike does.

Light exercise like neighborhood **walks, yoga**, or at home gym routines can help prepare you for the **hard work** that is riding.

Practicing **stretches** specific to common motorcycle pains can also help prevent any twinges.

Also, it's also never a bad idea to do some low-stakes **riding practice** in an empty lot or quiet street to



reaffirm the basics and just get comfortable in the saddle. Repeating basic skills builds **confidence** and useful **habits**.

Maintenance checklist...

Is your Victory ready for that first ride?

Let us assume for a moment that it will, eventually, stop snowing in Southern Alberta. If that happens, we might all get out for a ride. That first ride, however is the last thing on your Spring **checklist**. Here's what come first, before you hit the streets:

1. Give your bike a good once-over. Look for leaks, loose connections; missing or loose bolts, nuts and fasteners. Check for signs of damage or parts that are out of place. Clean, tighten, replace or repair as needed.

2. Check the whole fuel system. If you smell gas, look for leaks or loose connections. If your gas sat for more than six weeks, add Sea Foam or Sta-Bil or drain it and start over.

3. Before starting, test all switches and controls, including the ignition switch, engine kill switch, starter button, and handlebar controls. Ensure that the switches and controls move smoothly and that they engage and disengage properly. A shot of WD-40 or a dab of dielectric grease will help.

4. Check the battery. Before you start checking electricals, hit the source. Victories are famous for loosening up battery cables. Pre-ride is a good time to get down and dirty. Clean up the battery terminals and connections with baking soda and water; and ensure they will stay tight for the season. A fully charged battery showing under 12.4 volts should be replaced.

5. Most tires lose some air over the winter, so check the pressure and pump them up to optimal. While you're at it, check for cracks and road damage. How many kilometres are on them? Start budgeting as some tires are hitting \$1,000 a pair installed. While you're down there, check the drive belt for cracks, wear and proper tension.



6. Cables and fluids. Check and lubricate your clutch cable (see **Page 4 story**.) Check the colour of your brake fluid and replace if it's dark. Levers need lubricating as well.

7. Ensure brakes are working. Raise the bike and give your tires a spin. Squeeze the front and rear brake lever individually to ensure your pads are doing their job. While it's up, slowly turn the handlebars lock to lock. If you feel a click or a niche, steering head bearings may need attention.

8. Check oil level. Victories are famous for not burning oil, but check the level and colour nonetheless. How many kms since the last change?

9. Okay, turn on the ignition, but don't start it yet. Check to ensure your gauges, brake lights, turn signals, taillights and headlight are all working. Also check any accessories that you've added, particularly ones that connect directly to the battery.

10. Okay, start the bike (off the kickstand.) Listen for any funny noises (other than the usual ones Victories make.) She should settle in a

rhythm quite quickly.

11. Ready to ride? Nope. Three more checks. First, is your **paperwork** in order; licence, insurance and registration all up to date? Second, is your **gear** ride-ready? Helmet, boots, gloves etc. all fitting properly, in good shape, and ready for another season? Thirdly, **are YOU ready to ride**, mentally and physically? If you are, be careful out there. Beware of loose gravel and bike-blind car drivers.

See you on the road.

Breakfast meetings returning April 19th

The long winter of sleeping in before **VRC meetings** is over.

As of April 19, Club meetings will be of the **breakfast** variety.

They will start at **10am** at the Red Crowns Pub, 523 Woodpark Blvd SW, Calgary.

The earlier start time will allow for **after-breakfast rides**, weather permitting; or indoor activities like a quiet afternoon at the pub, if the weather isn't permitting.



One neglected area of our Victories is control cables, particularly clutch cables, which are prone to stress because of the routing. VP Doug has a little trick he uses to bring the necessary nourishment to cables. It involves a **Zip-Loc bag** (or pay \$40 for a cable luber.)

Unhook the cable at both ends and **clean it**. Cut the corner off the Zip-Loc and slip the cut corner over the top end of the cable. Secure it with a **zip tie** or rubber band. Put a cup at the bottom end of the cable to catch any lubricant that drips through.

Put enough lubricant in the bag so that the level is **above** the end of the cable. Slide the cable up and down inside the sheath a few times and let **gravity** do its thing. Once lubricant appears in the cup at the bottom; your work is done. Sealing and squeezing the bag may be needed.

What **lubricant**? The forums say no WD-40 or penetrating oil. For older, non-Teflon lined cables, white **lithium grease** is recommended.

There are brand name cable lubricants, but any **silicone-based spray**, **Teflon-based lubricant** or **light oil** like 3-in-One will do.

2026 Ride & Event Schedule

Road Diary: "Tomorrow we ride! No, we don't. Tomorrow! No." It will happen eventually. Don't forget our Breakfast Meeting, April 19, at Red Crowns Pub, 523 Woodpark Blvd SW, Calgary. Parka optional.

Victory Riders Calgary Ride & Event Schedule 2026

Colour Code:	GREEN - VRC Events	
	YELLOW - VRC Participation or Interest	
	BLUE - Victory National/Regional	
25-Jan	VRC Meeting/ Brunch	Red Crowns Pub, 523 Woodpark Blvd. SW
January 30 - Feb 01	Calgary Motorcycle Show	Expo Centre
21-Feb	BS & Beer	Woodie & Laura's garage, 5621 51st Street, Olds
22-Feb	VRC Meeting/AGM	Red Crowns Pub, 523 Woodpark Blvd. SW
15-Mar	CVMG Swap Meet	Red Deer
21-Mar	BS&Beer	Randy & Bonnie's garage.
29-Mar	VRC Meeting	Red Crowns Pub
April 9-12	Edmonton Motorcycle Show	Edmonton YEGmotorcycleshow.com
26-Apr	VRC Meeting	Red Crowns Pub
May	Awareness Ride	Calgary
18-May	Victoria Day Ride.	
24-May	VRC Breakfast Meeting and Ride	Red Crowns Pub
June	CIAY Kids Ride	Big Sky BBQ
07-Jun	Two Wheel Sunday	Calgary
June	Honour Ride	Blackfoot Motor Inn
20-Jun	Ride for Dad	Ralph's Motorsports, Balzac
June 25-28	VMC National Rally	Colorado Springs, CO
June	Kids Cancer Care Motorcycle Ride	Calgary/Kootenays
June	For The Love of Motorcycles	Blackjacks Roadhouse, Nisku
28-Jun	VRC Meeting	Red Crowns Pub
July 17 - 27	Two Hills Bike Week	Two Hills, Alberta
July 22 - 26	Western Canada IMRG Celebration	Kimberley, B.C.
July	CVMG Ponoka Rally	Ponoka, AB
26-Jul	VRC Meeting	Red Crowns Pub
Aug 07 - 16	Sturgis Rally	Sturgis, South Dakota
August	Kaslo Kurves	
08-Aug	Ride to Reynolds	Wetaskiwin
August	Bikes & Bombers	Bomber Command Museum, Nanton
August	12 Stop Ride for Recovery, Calgary	Calgary
23-Aug	VRC Meeting	Red Crowns Pub
07-Sep	Labour Day Ride	TBD
September	Victory Motorcycle Club National Rally	TBD
September	Calgary Motorcycle Toy Run	Calgary
September	Nanton Bomber Night Start Up	Bomber Command Museum, Nanton
27-Sep	VRC Meeting/Fall Colours Ride	Highway 40 - South to North
25-Oct	VRC Meeting/Ride Weather Permitting	Red Crowns Pub
October	CVMG Fall Swap Meet	Red Deer
22-Nov	VRC Meeting	Red Crowns Pub
2026-12-13	VRC Meeting	Red Crowns Pub
Weekly		
	Wrangler's Ride	Ride Leaders' call on time, place and destination
	Drifter's Ride	Lunch or "Coffee" Ride during the week
	Tuesday Bike Night	Twin Cities Saloon, Longview
	OBB Wednesday Bike Night	Big Rock Brewery, Calgary
	CVMG Vintage Bike Night	Thursdays, A&W Drive In, 16th Ave and 4th St. NW



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Life Member

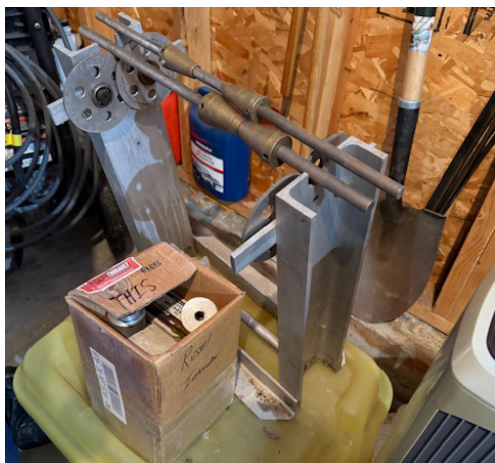
his tenure including **Meet In The Middle, Two Wheel Sunday, Kaslo Kurves, Victory ROADS newsletter, Vicmas!, 10K+ Club** and, ironically, Life Membership.

The late **James Hamling** was the first to be named Life Member. That was in **2025**.

Stuff for sale



Cody is selling his **High-Ball**. It's 2013 with 30,171 kms on it. Corbin seat, sissy bar and other goodies and extras. Tires have about 5k kms on them. \$7,999. Text or message Drifter for contact information.



Nellie Daly in Red Deer keeps finding stuff in **Victor's** bike garage. This industrial-strength **wheel balancer** is up for sale. Contact Drifter if you are interested. Price is negotiable.



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Victory Riders Calgary



VRC is a **Victory Motorcycle** riding club based in **Calgary, Canada**, with members all over the world. We are Victory riders, owners and enthusiasts, dedicated to ensuring Victory retains its place as the best North American-made bike. There are more than 670 members on our [Facebook](#) group. We meet monthly in Calgary and ride even more often.

Next Event/Ride:

www.VictoryRidersCalgary.com

Website is a work in progress

Facebook is not for everyone. It is an important tool for the Club to get out information, as is this newsletter. But we also have another option - our **website**.

WWW.VictoryRidersCalgary.com doesn't get the attention the other outlets do, but it has the advantage of permanence.

The Club tries to keep members informed through Facebook, but our messages are sometimes **lost** in the tangle of ads, promoted stories, **AI-generated crap** and random nonsense. It makes finding **real information** difficult.

The late **James Hamling** started our website in **2013**. Since that time it has grown, moved and changed, trying to keep pace with the Club.

It was heavily used during the **pandemic** to follow Club activities, but use dropped off when people were able to meet **face-to-face**

again.

In addition to information about the Club, the website is the repository for all back issues of **Victory ROADS**, information on rides and events and some Victory **history**.

One growing area is **Gear, Swag & Parts** which pretty much describes the contents. Links to our Club **swag** is there, along with Club **regalia** and items from **James Hamling's collection**.

It's **not an on-line store yet**, so purchasing still has to be done through the Executive.

A **members' forum** and **photo gallery** are under development.

If any members are interested in working on the **website** and building its importance to the Club, please contact any **Executive** member.