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JULY 2011

Volume 21 Number 5

IronWorks®

JOE'S FXR

A PERFECT PARTNERSHIP
QUICK HANDLING
& ELEGANT STYLE



FLHX WRAP-UP
HP & DRIVETRAIN MODS

SPOTLIGHT
BLACK FRAME CYCLE PROJECTS

GET READY TO ROLL
WITH H-D FACTORY BITS

1961 XLCH • CYCLE ELECTRIC • XIAN'S TRIBUTE RIGID • KIRK TAYLOR • NEW E-FAB PROJECT
LEO'S STEEL PANTHER • SAM KANISH • BUILT BY JIMS • KENDON TRAILER • RACE TECH INSTALL
STEADYMATE TIEDOWNS • WARREN HEIR CHOPPER • VANSON • CHOPPER BUYERS GUIDE





36

ON THE COVER

Volume 21 • Number 5 • Our 175th Issue

This is what it's always been about, at least among authentic bikeriders; tooling down the avenue on a motorcycle that only looks great and handles like a dream but one that has meaning to the person riding it. What others might consider just a bunch of parts becomes a bike with soul once the owner and a trusted friend put their hearts into its construction.

Get the story on Joe's bike and collaboration he formed with John the Painter that resulted in the sweet ride pictured here. It's right here, in this issue of *IronWorks*.



FEATURE BIKES

- Tribute Chopper**8
By Xianleather's Christian Marsh
- Jr's Cycle Products**16
Warren Heir Jr.'s new traditional chopper
- Leo's Steel Panther**.....20
A bobber turned chopper
- Joe's Silver FXR**36
An understated beauty
- Eddie's Twelve-Year Build**.....44
Cheap on the wallet, not on the eyes



FEATURE STORIES

- LA Calendar Show**32
A classy Sportster takes center stage
- H-D P&A Spring Spiff**70
Spiffing up the bike and the tool box



IW GARAGE

- Kendon Stand-Up Trailer**.....40
Easy to load, easy to store
- Steadymate's Cinchtite Tie-Downs**....48
Tried and tested
- Paint & Finishes**50
Tricks and special effects
- Engine**.....52
Fasten those fasteners
- All About**54
Suspension by Race Tech
- JIMS Tool Tech**56
From concept to customer
- Metal**.....58
Lock Baker starts a new fab project
- Project FLHX**60
Drum roll, please...
- Project XR1200**.....64
Stage II mods: time for cams
- All About**67
At Vanson it's all about fitting right
- Electric**68
Building a 65A generator



DEPARTMENTS

- Buyer's Guide**.....72
Choppers and Bobbers
- IW Eye**82
Worth a thousand words

REGULARS

- Steve B**6
Touched
- Sam Kanish**12
Snakebit waits for no one
- Mike Tomas**14
When it's right, you know it
- Margie Siegal**.....76
'61 XLCH: the quintessential sportbike

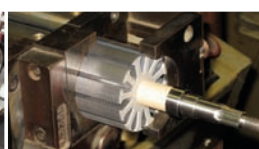


24

SPOTLIGHT

Black Frame Cycle Projects

One too many wrecks on the dirt bike circuit forced Jamie Dykeman to face reality and turn his motorcycling efforts in a different direction. Casting about for motivation he started dredging up memories of the hardcore bikes he saw carving the city streets when he was a kid, and he became inspired to start building. That's how Black Frame Cycle Projects was born. Turn the page and take a look at some of Jamie's clean, uncluttered bikes, all based, as you might guess, on solid black frames.



Touched

I am touched. This is not necessarily news to the people that know me. I don't know if it is coming home from a long month of travelling around from Daytona to California to Minnesota in less than 30 days, but I am appreciating home more than usual and feeling thankful.

Just recently I've seen first hand how generous people of the V-Twin persuasion can be when it comes to reaching out and touching someone they don't really know, lending them a hand, a shoulder, a bit of advice. I can't get specific because people can't be named, but suffice it to say I saw a friend really lean forward and help someone he didn't know (who just happened to be another friend of mine,) so selflessly, honestly and completely—I was just proud to know both the guy who had lent a hand as well as the guy who needed help and sought it.

This is the good stuff of life and it makes me happy and proud of both of these characters. All the players involved in this story are bikeriders and all people involved recognized that the actual world of dedicated V-Twin pilots is relatively small and so, not surprisingly, once name-dropping commenced all parties realized they knew the same set of characters. Small world, reach out and touch someone, it makes a difference, and it helps.

Another thing that touched me recently was the excellent turnout at the Donnie Smith Show and Chopper Class Challenge, held in St. Paul, Minnesota. There is something plain cool about adult teacher/enthusiasts getting kids involved in the V-Twin passion early in their lives. I mean, what a leg up these young folks will have, getting a taste of *this* and being encouraged at such a young age. Recognizing, in no specific order: the Caledonia Build Team, Caledonia, MN, the New Richmond High School Build Team, New Richmond, WI, the Eden Jr./Sr. High School, Eden, NY, and the Mitchell Technical Institute, Mitchell, SD. These are the fu-

ture of our chosen pleasure and we can't help but be proud. It was clear and evident; every single one of these teams did a great job executing their vision. They all learned valuable lessons and they had fun doing it, and *IronWorks* magazine is proud as hell to be involved.

Visiting Minnesota was brisk but my friend and renowned illustrator/artist Justin, taking pity, whisked me away to Kevin Baas's house for an evening sweat lodge session in his small backyard workshop with 75+ of his biggest friends—which kept the blood warm and the mind entertained. Kevin is an interesting guy who is doing some motivating things in terms of using bikes to connect with and engage young people. And from my vantage point, something seems to be working because all of the young folks I met throughout the weekend were passionate, knowledgeable and thankful—really on point. I liked visiting Minnesnow-ta; next time, though, it will be on two wheels when the temps aren't so...hmmm...small!

Other Business

Please notice we've added a new feature to *IronWorks*' pages, the *IronWorks Eye*. The Eye celebrates the V-Twin riding experience, featuring one image per issue captured by both well known as

well as up and coming photographic talents. A showcase of sorts, it is a place we can celebrate the one thing we all love—riding. I hope you like the idea. Razor blade out these images from each issue and frame 'em!

Tech Sheets

Okay, I get it; people want tech sheets, they want lists of parts. I don't get much mail from our shy subscribers, but when you want something – you tend to peep up. I've heard about this often enough to do something about it. It will take a little bit for us (me, really) to figure out how to do it a better way, but we will. Suffice it to say, I hear you, let me work on it.

Up and Coming

We've got some really solid bike features and builders teed up for future issues. Through some introductions and travel, I met some really solid, talented builders who are doing some notable work. I am psyched to be working with them to help tell their stories and show their machines.

Stay tuned and stay on two wheels!

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