

Cover Bike

While at the Milwaukee Rally last July 29-August 1st, I was sitting at the booth with the family watching all the people. Did you ever notice that every now and then something catches your eye that you just have to investigate? Well it happened on Saturday.

I was sitting there when I happened to see an old bike roll by with a throw back rider from the really old days. With his half shell lid and goggles, knickers style pants and calf length boots, I couldn't help but think I seen a old timer straight out of Hollywood motion picture. Well I sat there a little while longer and low and behold this bike parked right in front of my booth. Talk about excited! I jumped up out of my chair, grabbed the camera and note book and went over to get a closer look.

I waited for what seemed an eternity before the crowd around Peter Rudolph Schmidt (the bikes owner/operator) was thin enough to move in. Once I got up close to the bike I asked if I could get some pictures. I proceeded to shoot every angle of the bike. Like a kid in a toy store for the first time, I just kept finding something more interesting every time I moved the camera. After I got some pictures I got a chance to talk to Peter for a few seconds.

Peter is a retired engineer from Germany. With a really heavy German accent he proceeded to tell me about his time on the bike. This bike is a 1928 JD H-D, with 65,000 miles on it. This model was the first year that a front wheel brake was introduced. Peter told me," that he came over for the 100th, didn't want to go home right away, so he decided to run around the US for awhile." Putting 16,000 miles on since then. "Telling me that people treated him great on his US tour." Can you expect less from the brothers in the states?

Peter did also mention that while cruising, he did get quite a few looks of disbelief, but that's to be expected. Like me, they're just envious of your ride.

It was a pleasure talking to you Peter. Hopefully we'll all see you and your '28 here for the next reunion.





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