

# Iron Indian Riders Association



Powering Out of the Past - Cruising into the Future

## Smouldering Embers



### Pollie wants an Indian

Indian's parent company, Polaris, is in the news again. This time it's for expanding its Iowa works to not only include Indian motorcycles but a recently-acquired electric car company.

The *Spencer Daily Reporter* reveals: Skid loaders continued to pass by and assembly line employees continued work as Gov Terry Branstad (pictured), Lt Gov Kim Reynolds and a delegation of local leaders were taken on a tour of the 565,000-square-foot Polaris manufacturing facility in Spirit Lake.

They saw an assembly line that is continually changing.

In April 2011, the company announced its acquisition of the 110-year-old Indian motorcycle line. Indian motorcycle operations were moved from King's Mountain, NC to Spirit Lake. Six days later, Polaris officials announced plans to acquire Global Electric Motorcars, or GEMs from a wholly-owned subsidiary of Chrysler. The electric-powered vehicle line was moved from Fargo, ND to Spirit Lake. ([See the full story here.](#))

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## Farewell Rod

We're sad to report the recent passing of Rod Leamon. He was always the guy you could rely on at the meetings and last year served a stint as Secretary.

Rod attended just about every ride on his faithful 344 Military Chief, always bringing along a mischievous laugh.

He had worked hard in the road building industry with John Holland Constructions, but in his spare time he just loved his Indians, of which he had a small number. Rod was always interested in other people and their interests. Although he appeared tough, he was a softie on the inside.

I and many of his mates will miss him – our sympathies to his family. Funeral announcements will be passed on at the Tuesday night meeting.

*Phil Pilgrim*

## Last-minute snippets

Don't forget the regular end-of-month meeting on Tuesday, August 27. It's a great chance to **catch up**. See you at Highway 31, 743 Sydney Rd, Brunswick. Plus there's a Melbourne-based **ride this Sunday**.

Plus, club member **Chris Knoop** is somewhere in the USA, trying to talk customs into giving back his bike so he can contest the Cannonball Run. The latest *Smoke Signals* has a feature on his adventures so far, and you can [find the latest via his blog](#).

Speaking of *Smoke Signals*, the **print edition** has just been posted and should be in your hands in the next couple of days.

If you haven't yet renewed your club membership, now is the time to sort it out. [See this link](#).

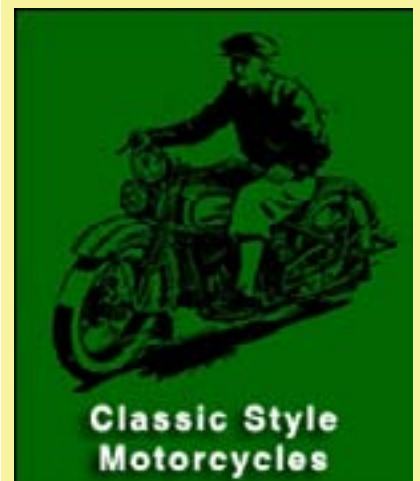
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member-only password for September: saddle