

Name: John Harrington

Profile Date: April 2021

Born: March 11, 1950 Shannonville

Voted in to the WCMC May 16, 1979 – 1985 Rejoined September 2009

First Bike : 250 Triumph Tiger Cub

Current Bikes: 2016 Kawasaki Concours, 2012 KTM 350.

Bikes owned: 250 Triumph Tiger Cub, 250 Ducati, 650 BSA Lightning, 360 Bultaco Astro, 500 Yamaha SR, 650 Triumph Bonneville, 500 Yamaha TT, 175 Yamaha IT, 250 Yamaha IT, Honda CB 1000, 1984 Gold Wing, 883 Harley Davidson Sportster, Honda 550 Ascot, 2006 Harley Davidson Dyna, 2010 Harley Davidson Street Glide, 450 CRF Honda, 250 CRF Honda, 2012 Kawasaki Concours, 2014 Kawasaki Concours and a 2016 Kawasaki Concours.



250 Triumph Tiger Cub

I became interested in motorcycles around 1960 while watching Hare Scrambles. I rode my first Hare Scramble in 1963 at Point Ann. My father (Diamond Jim) supported me in my early riding career.

In 1977 I came up to the Welland area to ride my first Massasauga Enduro. I finished but don't remember where I placed. I continued to ride it every year until 1983.



Massasauga Enduro Crest

I originally joined the club because I was riding enduro to be more involved with the club. I started helping layout the enduro at that point.

I met Moe Gagnon and Pete Thompson and at that point got involved in Flat Track Racing. I did not ride however I sponsored Pete Thompson, Daryl Johnson and Ronnie Bosak. I was at the track every Saturday night and travelled around to all the ½ mile tracks. I met some incredible people.



Welland County Speedway

I got into outdoor Ice Racing and raced at the Port Colborne Winter Carnival for several years. I continued Ice Riding and still do to this day. We get together and go out and ride the Canal.

I took a few years off riding to focus on my career and got into building Hot Rods.

I got back into Ice riding with Ryan and Rob Rainville around 2007. I had also started doing more street riding around that time as well as Motocross riding. I rejoined the club in September 2009 and got involved with the building of the Motocross track.

I went on to hold several positions in the club including, Board member several times 2011 until 2015 and I was President in 2014.

The Motocross Track opened up to the public around 2009 thanks to the hard work of Ryan Rainville with myself and many other club member who were interested in Motocross riding.



Doing a Jump on my 450 Honda CFR

Working and participating in all the events that the club puts on has been a pleasure to me. It is a real experience meeting and working with all the different people from all walks of life.

One of the most pleasurable experiences was when I was doing the Race Coordinator position. It was a lot of fun getting things organized and having the races run off as smooth as they can possibly run.

I also helped organize the first Biketoberfest in conjunction with Bruce Bissell. The club really pulled together and made the transition of this event from the Fenwick Lions Club to the WCMC very smooth. This has become one of our Premier Events.

The last couple years of the Event Fred Legaut, Andy Muscat and myself were in charge of garbage removal.

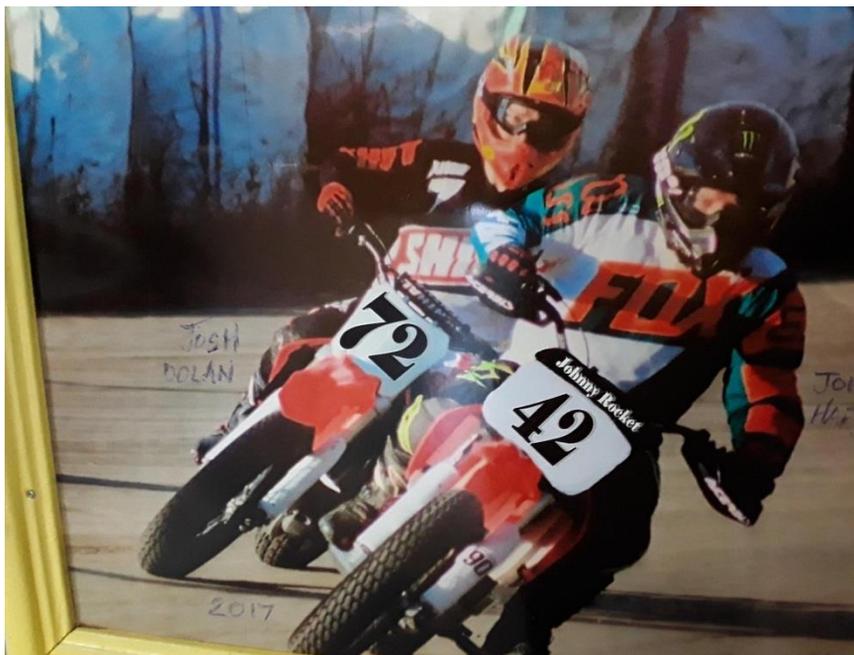


Biketoberfest

Around 2010 Rob Rainville, Jeff Orosz, Josh Dolan, Kyle Legaut, Andy Muscat, Greg Gamm and myself start going down to West Virginia to ride the Hatfield and McCoy trails. We would go down for four days and ride from morning until 3 and then go the back to enjoy each other's company and fix the motorcycles for the next.



Hatfield and McCoy Trail Rides



This is me showing Josh Dolan the way around the Track
They don't call me Jonny Rocket for nothing.

In closing the three big highlights of my riding career so far would be riding on the Ice with Ryan Rainville, riding on the Dirt Track Sunday afternoons using bikes loaned to me by Chris Evans, Jeff Dulaj and Josh Dolan. The third would be our trips to West Virginia riding the Hatfield and McCoy trails.