

14. Mods versus Rockers October Event - 2007



Buzz Jones – Leader of the Pack - Rockers

regular annual fixtures on the calendars of both clubs alike. The streets of Royal Oak once more came alive the second weekend of October with the thunderous roar of 60's 'road-burners and screaming two stroke scooters.

Triumphs and Vespas alike descended upon the huge parking lot of a friendly and participating establishment on Woodward Ave., famed for its annual "Woodward Dream Cruise" classic 'Muscle Car' extravaganza. Around forty five machines arrived despite a chilly October morning and all told, about fifty bikes and scooters were accounted for in the course of the day. The rewards of the early cold ride in were a sunny and warm



63' BSA Super Rocket with 650cc Pre-unit A10 Engine – Mods choice for Best Rocker's Pick

side to lead this large group of riders on a fifty mile tour of local scenery. Unlike last year, the tables were reversed with motorcycles outnumbering scooters two to one.

The differences between machinery and clothing made a striking and highly entertaining contrast, just as they did back in the sixties. Unlike the sixties, a carnival-like atmosphere along with the afternoon sunshine made for a great day out. Many of the Mods were dressed in smart creased dress pants and dress shirts and neckties under their Parka jackets. Blue jeans and leather

A good-humored relationship is enjoyed by members of the Metro Triumph Riders Club (MTR) and the Rovers Scooter Club. No 'battles' have emerged so far and great times were had by all who participated at the annual Mods versus Rockers event held in Royal Oak the week before last in mid October, 06. Dressing appropriately to fit the era is all part of the fun as mock glowering looks were exchanged between the 'rival factions', only to disrupt into outbursts of uncontrollable laughter. Macho 'nods-a-plenty' were also the order of the day. From 'Yesterday's Reprobates' has emerged 'Today's Baby Boomers', all now resplendent with their graying hair and struggling waistlines. So successful were the meetings that they have become



Darren – Leader of the Pack -

ride around the local rural lake areas of Royal Oak. The 'leaders of the pack' were Buzz Jones for the

Rockers and Darren for the Mods, who rode side by



73' Vespa Sprint with 200cc Engine – Rocker's Choice for Best Scooter

spats were in abundance on the Rockers together with Marlon Brando 'The Wild Ones' style zipped leather jackets. I think many of the Rockers were a little surprised to learn just how knowledgeable the Mods were about the history of their scooters and shared the same enthusiasm for their machines as the Rockers have for their motorcycles.

The Rovers Scooter club has its very own class section at the MTR Classic Bike show, 'The Battle of the Brits', held every September at Freedom Hill, Sterling Heights, Michigan. Their president Eric was afforded almost equal 'air-time' on the televised 2005 Speedvision show, Corbin's Ride On, as Rockers president, Cliff Opalewski.

Each group presented one another with an award for what they judged to be their favorite machine. Rocker Tim Hatton with his fine 1963 BSA Super Rocket was awarded 'Best Bike' by Eric Mazorak from the Mods and Mod Greg McCormick took the 'Best Scooter', award from Peter Gareffa for his 1973 Vespa Sprint fitted with an over-size engine.



Peter Gareffa presents award of Rockers Choice of Best Scooter to Winner Greg McCormick



Tim Hatton receives his award for Mods Choice of Best Rockers bike.



Trio of Rockers



King of the Mods – Eric Mazorak, President - Rovers Scooter Club

(527 words)