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**Zanetti and his dogs tool around future home on Indian with sidecar**

By DAVID MOORE - *The Arab Tribune*

The stares, questions and exclamations Jay Zanetti got when he pulled up to Huddle House Monday for breakfast were not unusual. You tend to get that sort of reaction when you drive a gloriously restored 1939 Indian motorcycle with a matching sidecar packing two Pomeranian dogs.

Zanetti takes it all in stride, even graciously answers a large helping of questions from a reporter as he eats.

For the record, Heidi and Fritz, the dogs, sit well mannerly outside in their sidecar.

"When they see the bike come out, I can't get out of the yard without them," Zanetti laughs.

As soon as he reached Huddle House he got them two sausages to tide them over while he ate inside. When he finished, he took them two pieces of bacon.

Zanetti, 77, is a retired operator of heavy construction equipment. He and his wife, Linda, live in Grahamsville, N.Y., but for the past two winters have been restoring a smoke-damaged house they bought on Georgia Mountain Road.

He says they'll move as soon as they sell their house in the Catskills, but with the current conditions the house is not moving nearly as fast as his motorcycle goes.

Zanetti bought the Indian in 2004 from a man in Winter Haven, Fla., who had ridden it hard for 31 years. Along with Linda, he's an avid member of the Antique Motorcycle Club of America (AMCA) and spent three years painstakingly restoring the vintage bike.

He was thrilled to find an Indian sidecar in Phoenix, Ariz., with a serial number that matched that of the motorcycle, meaning it was built in the same year.

He restored the sidecar, too, and painted it and the bike to match the color scheme of Indian's special 1939 World's Fair edition of the bike. That fair, Zanetti adds, was held in New York, and his father had taken him to see it.

As for the Indian, it's impressive enough not only to turn heads at Huddle House but also to warrant coverage in the AMCA magazine.

It's not his first bike to restore. He's also given new life to a 1930 Indian; a '46 Harley; a belt-driven, one-cylinder Pope motorcycle, vintage 1911; and four Hendersons, which were built in Detroit from 1912 to 1917, when the company was bought by Schwinn and moved to Chicago where production continued until 1931.

Like his motorcycle and sidecar coming together from different parts of the country, the Zanettis came to Georgia Mountain via a circuitous route.

They were visiting Florida several years ago in their motor home when they met Grover Williams from Guntersville. They had motor homes and other things in common and became close enough friends that he invited them to Guntersville about two years ago.

"It was like home, mountainous with large reservoirs, and we liked it," Zanetti says of the area.

There was one big and attractive difference - no tons of snow.

"You have to shovel it to get to your mailbox," Zanetti says. "Then you shovel it to get back to the house."

He and Linda came across the damaged house and five acres for sale on Georgia Mountain Road, and it got their fixer-upper attention. They got together with the owner through a visit to Williams' church and quickly settled on the house.

Zanetti brought down his woodworking tools two winters ago, and he and Linda started another restoration job.

Monday at Huddle House was not the first time Zanetti and his restored Indian made local news.

He took the bike to the recent air show at Albertville Regional Airport, where it caught the attention of a member of a local motorcycle club who works at Albertville Nursing Home. She told him about a terminal patient who desired to ride one more time on the back of a motorcycle.

His condition, however, made that impossible, but Zanetti's sidecar opened another avenue to fulfilling the man's wish. So about a week ago he showed up and gave the man a ride. A Huntsville television station covered their ride.



*Jay Zanetti enjoys a ride Monday with Heidi and Fritz in the sidecar of his '39 Indian Tribune photo by David Moore*