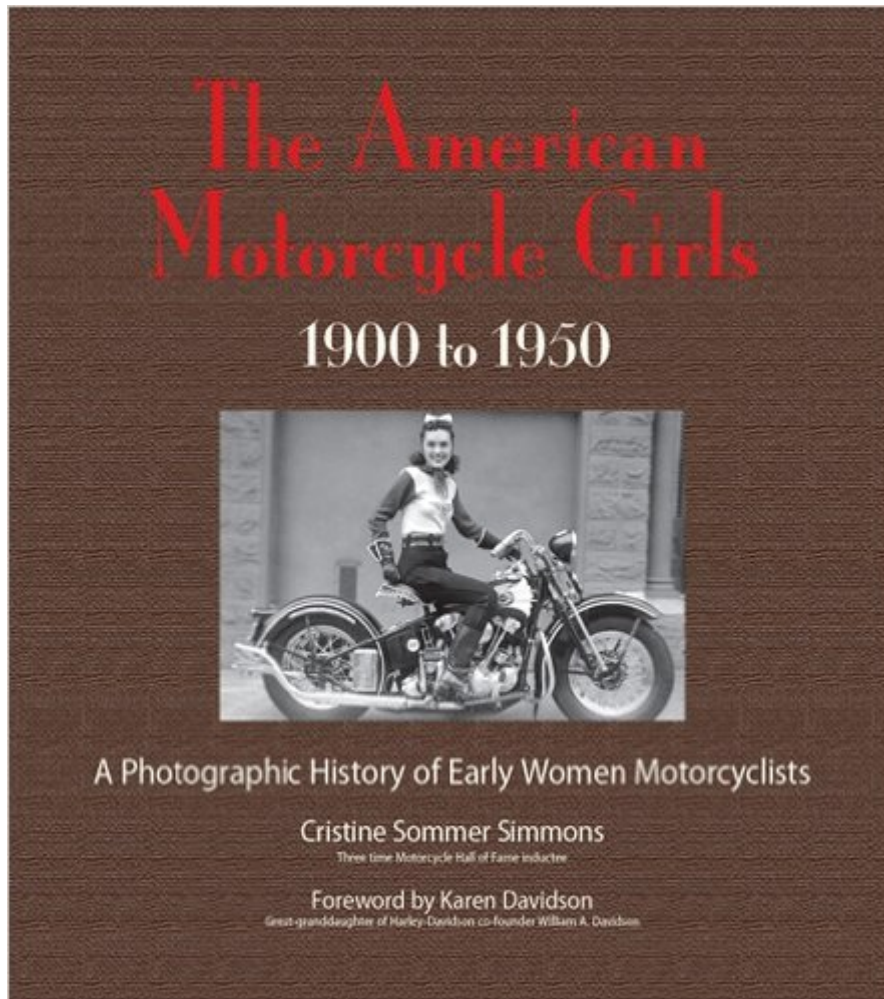


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# The American Motorcycle Girls: A Photographic History Of Early Women Motorcyclists



## Synopsis

Features photographs of women motorcyclists.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 240 pages

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Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (41 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

This book was sent to me by a friend who knows that I edit a motorscooter magazine. As the title says, it is about motorcycles not scooters, but it does have a couple of early scooter-like bikes such as a 1920 Briggs--Stratton model which is like an early go-ped. But even for a scooter-fanatic like me this look at "vintage" motorcycles and women from the early 20th century is awesome. Each of its 240 pages brim with images. It must have taken scores of hours to gather all of these photos. From promo shots of rough-n-tumble daredevils to glamorous women in period finery, each of these images tells a story. Captions often list the names of the women with a brief interesting note. In *American Motorcycle Girls* you'll meet Alice Brady, a stunt rider who rode The Wall of Death and whose mischievous smile lies beneath perfectly painted lips. Did you know that the first issue of *The Motorcyclist* (which eventually became the AMA's official publication) had a woman rider on its cover? Only a small portion of the images in the book comes from advertisements. Most are snapshots, casual pictures or news photos, with a few publicity shots. The book is written by Christine Sommer Simmons a three-time motorcycle hall of fame inductee, who obviously relishes the rich history of women riders. Today there seems to be more women than ever riding. However 20 or 30 years ago, it was a rarity to see a woman on a bike that wasn't the passenger. Women riders may seem like a new phenomenon, but as *American Motorcycle Girls* shows, we are just

descendants in a long line of females motorcycle enthusiasts.

This book sheds incredible light on the true pioneers of women in the motorcycle world. It inspired me to "get to know" the first women who were brave enough to ride across country through extreme conditions and against all odds and criticism. Its hard to believe that in a generation where women couldn't even vote or smoke, some were celebrating their independence and strength on the road, on 2 wheels. I love their names, their stories, the clothing they wore and the undeniable peace and freedom in their faces. The writer has immortalized some amazing women in this book and I applaud her in-depth research, wonderful writing and captivating photos. This is a great gift not only for motorcycle enthusiasts, but for anyone who wants a glimpse into the history of women who dared to march to a very different (and very cool) drum. GREAT BOOK! Thank you!

Just browsing on I came across a book about women motorcyclists and I immediately was drawn to quickly review it.. After maybe two seconds I pressed on the buy it now...I received the book shortly thereafter and was soooooo pleasantly surprised at not only the quality of the book and the pictures but of the history and stories. Being a woman biker myself I cannot wait to share it with all of my friends. I am going to buy another one or maybe more and give it as a gift...I look forward to sharing the book, keeping it on my table so everybody could see!

I received my book the day I was to leave to attend a Motor Maid event in northern Ohio. I was so excited that it arrived before I left, that I strapped the box to the back of my motorcycle and took off. I opened it that night and was in total awe of those early women riders. It was even more fun to share the book the next day with a couple of the older Motor Maids. They knew personally several of the women in the book. One of them still rides today and she's just as beautiful as she was when she was young. It's an incredible book, full of great photos, old magazine ads, and a lot of history. I highly recommend it!

As a woman Harley rider, I like having a look at the women's history of riding and realizing that even though there aren't that many of us in the all riders group, we still have always had a few who loved the bikes and the road. There are a lot more of us out there these days. Wonderful pictures and info on the women who came before us.

I bought this book as a gift and after reading all the other reviews I knew it would be a good one. It's

a really well thought out and very elaborately illustrated book with a striking front cover. I was actually surprised at how large it was when it arrived (I guess I never thought to look at the dimensions). It could actually be a coffee table. The author did her homework. This just isn't a thrown together patchwork of pictures, it has substance and the chronology that makes sense. My wife rides and I know she'll love it. As for shipping. I went for the super saver "free shipping" in the 5-8 business day estimate. Well three days later it arrived like all products, packed like a tank. I am extremely satisfied with the book and the service.

I hate to admit it, but I almost didn't pick this book up because it was about women motorcyclists. I think it's great that more and more women ride, but not being a woman I just thought the book wouldn't be for me. But it was such a well-done book that I picked it up anyway and started looking through it. I ended up buying a copy and reading it. I know it's primarily a book of photography, and the photos are extremely cool, but the writing is also very good. I recommend this book to anyone who cares about motorcycling, whether they're boys, girls, hermaphrodites, or neuters.

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