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WALT SIEGL: A SIMPLE LITTLE PAN THAT'S WORLDS APART

PLUS: HANDLEBAR, CONTROLS & MIRRORS BUYER'S GUIDE

Mark McLain Always Had The Perfect Pan In His Mind

DREAM-SICKLE

SOMETIMES THEY DO COME TRUE!

Article & Photos By: Tattoo Duke Miller



Mark McLain has been messin' with bikes since he was 18 years old. A month out of high school he got his first Iron Head and he was hooked. Although he's owned many types of bikes, he's had the idea in his head of what the perfect

Pan would look like. Mark ended up working for several shops and has had a bunch of great builds over time but it wouldn't be 'till many years later that he would finally get his chance to make that dream come true.



Mark's first Pan came to him after he turned 19, it was a '59 and a significant step up from the Iron head sporty. He continued to hone his skills as a Harley mechanic and bounced from shop to shop, gathering up experience as he went.

Luckily for Mark he has finally landed at a shop where his passion for building custom bikes is shared by the owner. The shop is Highland Harley-Davidson, located in Somerset, Pennsylvania and is owned by John Vogt. John is very kind to his employees, often when he takes in a trade or buys an older bike and notices one of the techs especially interested in it, he'll turn them loose and see what they can do. That was the case here and when Mark saw the Pan his eyes lit up, the rest was history.

Originally purchased from a lady whose husband was in the process of restoring it when he had a stroke. He had to abandon the project and the

'59 got pushed into a corner. Now, due to health problems she let Highland give it a new home and they let Mark give it new life.

When the bike came into the shop it was in serious disrepair. In spite of that, McLain knew exactly what he wanted to do and after a little convincing of John, the project got underway. Without much to work with other than the frame and engine cases, Mark would have his work cut out for him. That was fine since he was into having it be a complete rebuild, wanting to end up with a daily rider that could be reliable and good looking also.

First on the block would be the engine and transmission. He tore into it, made a list and replaced almost all the internals with brand new shiny goodies. Next, the frame, wheels and all other parts to be powdercoated where stripped down, cleaned and carried over to the coating shop right next door. Here's the benefit of that relationship, 5 hours later they had the finished





products back in the shop, ready for assembly.

With "The Paint Shop" also minutes away, their man Casey was able to jump on the sheetmetal and throw some killer paint and hand pinstriping down. Not wanting any wires or controls exposed on the 16" apes was a challenge, until Mark figured out away to eliminate the front brake lever. He had an internal throttle machined to operate in reverse that would work the front brake. He also wired the horn and highbeam buttons into the shift knob, leaving the bars naked and skinny.

The day we saw Mark roll up on this bike, we were at an event that had been rained out. Even as the water beaded off of it, it was as sweet as it is here. One look at this little '49 bobber can tell anyone that Mark has had the vision of how it would come out in his head for years. Can't wait to see what he comes up with next! *CYCLE SOURCE*

CYCLE-RESOURCES:
Highland H-D
 Somerset, PA
 PH: 814-444-1903
www.highlandhd.com



DREAM SICKLE TECH SHEET

Owner: John Vogt-Highland H-D

City: Somerset, PA

Fabrication By: Mark McLain

Year: 1959 Pan Bobber

Model: FL

Time: 6 Months

Year: 1959

Model: Panhead

Builder: H-D/Mark McLain

Ignition: Electronic

Displacement: 74"

Pistons: Stock

Heads: Stock

Cam(s): Heavy Load

Carb: S&S

Air Cleaner: S&S

Exhaust: Drag Pipes

Year: 1959

Make: Stock

Shifting: Police Shifter

Modifications: Stock

Make: 1959 H-D

Rake: None

Stretch: None

Type: Stock

Extension: N/A

Mods: N/A

Front Wheel: Stock/Spoke

Size: 15"

Tire: 130 Wide White

Brakes: Drum Stock-Hand Operated

Rear Wheel: Stock/Spoke

Size: 15"

Tire: 130 Wide White

Brakes: Drum Stock

Painter: The Paint Shop-Casey

Color: Harley Orange and Black

Type: PPG

Powdercoater: Leiss-Tool and Die

Chroming: N/A

Bars: 16" Apes

Risers: 4"

Gas Tank(s): 5 Gallon Stock

Front Fender: N/A

Rear Fender: Fat Bob

Seat: High Rollers

Foot Controls: N/A

Foot Pegs: None

Head Light: Stock

Lever(s): N/A

Oil Tank: Stock

Tail Light: Cats Eye

Primary Cover: Stock Chrome

Photography By: Tattoo Duke

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