

SCMA

Southern California
Motorcycling Association

NEWS



VOLUME 41 ♦ NUMBER 1 ♦ JANUARY 2009

Join us for the first run of the New Year



Sunday January 11

— See Page 5 for Details —

Visit S.C.M.A.'s Website at: www.sc-ma.com

Antelope
Valley
Touring
Society

B.M.W.
Club
of Southern
California

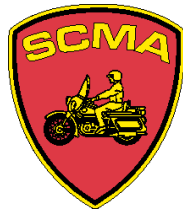
Motorcycle
Touring
Assn.
Chapter 3

Pasadena
Motorcycle
Club

SCMA
Outriders

Shamrock
Road Riders

Victor
McLaglen
Motor Corps



JANUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

FEBRUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

✓ Marks Travelers Events

JANUARY

- 10 SCMA General Membership Meeting 9-11 a.m. La Canada
Conrad's Restaurant
631 Foothill Blvd.
818-790-2230
- 10 Three Flags Meeting 12-3 p.m. Glendale
J's Maintenance
3550 Foothill Blvd.
310-387-3974 / 714-801-3931
- 11 ✓ SCMA Soup Run Anaheim/Pomona
8-10 a.m.
714-801-3931 / 310-387-3974
- 18 SCMA Soup Run (Rain Date)
- 24 Three Flags Classic Drawing Torrance
12-3 p.m.
Carson VFW Post #10166
20820 S. Vermont Ave.
714-801-3931 / 310-387-3974

FEBRUARY

- 14 SCMA General Membership Meeting 9-11 a.m. La Canada
Conrad's Restaurant
631 Foothill Blvd.
818-790-2230
- 14 Three Flags Meeting Glendale
12-3 p.m.
J's Maintenance
3550 Foothill Blvd.
310-387-3974 / 714-801-3931
- 14 Triple Crown Banquet Anaheim
6-? p.m.
310-387-3974 / 951-677-3644
- 22 ✓ SCMA Sweetheart Ride Encinitas
Sign-in: 8-10 a.m.
310-387-3974 / 951-677-3644



PHOTOS WANTED

Have you taken any good photos while on a recent ride?

If you would like to see them published, please e-mail them, along with pertinent information (location, name of ride, names, and photographer) to:

Randy Angel • rwangel@earthlink.net

YEARLY SUBSCRIPTION price to members is \$30.00;
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90651-0487.

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REMEMBER!

**ARTICLES MUST RECEIVED BY
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S.C.M.A. MONTHLY MEETINGS

The following meetings are open to all S.C.M.A. members and their guests:

MONTHLY GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS are held the 2nd Saturday of each month at 9:00 a.m.
(Except in March, September and October, check date shown on calendar of events and annual calendar)

— CHECK CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR ADDRESSES OF MEETING PLACES —

Jan Staws 310-387-3974

FROM THE CHAIR

Happy Holidays to all of you, I hope you are all safe and sound after the really unusual weather we have been experiencing this last week. Ice storms, wind, rain, snow beyond our wildest belief, unusual to say the least. What is California coming to?

I would like to thank each and everyone of you who have supported the SCMA throughout the last year. We seem to be able to keep our rider base at about 35 riders for the one day rides and 20 to 25 for the overnights, depending on which one we are talking about. Blake and I have been talking about making all of the rides \$15.00 for SCMA members, all discounts included, meaning mail-ins and membership. This would apply to SCMA events only and would not include Blazing Saddles, Grand Tour, Four Corners or Three Flags. The rides have averaged about \$16 to \$18 dollars for the last year or so anyway. We would still provide food coupons on some of the rides and plan on doing some cooking at the end of a few events this coming year in hopes it will give the members a chance to get to know each other better and enjoy each others company. Who knows, you might even enjoy it.

Reality such as it is, the last few months have not been a good indicator of things to come as far as our financial security as individuals go. Many of us have had to push back our retirement dates, cut down spending, and probably participate in fewer events due to the money crunch. The association is hoping that this does not have too large an impact on our events for 2009, but we know that it will have some. Just have to wait and see.

Already have 70 or so entries for 2009 Three Flags drawing, which will be held on January 24th, in Torrance at the Carson VFW, hoping to see a lot of possible participants there for the drawing. We usually have from 50 to 70 people who attend, hope that holds true this time.

Thanks to our members who support the Traveler's Award event. They put on some serious miles just going to and coming home for our rides. They sign up in January or February in order to make 9 out of 11, or 11 out of 11, each category brings a different award. 9 out of 11 allows you to purchase a Three Flags ticket without going into the draw. 11 out of 11 allows you to attend the Triple Crown banquet for free. This will be the last year we do that since the banquet cost far exceeds the cost of doing Traveler's, which is \$10.00, even then you get a pin and a beautiful certificate recognizing your accomplishment with frame.

Four Corners had a good year this year according to David Johnson, Chairman of the event. Had 102 finishers. Hope that many of them will attend the first Annual Triple Crown Award, which will honor California Parks Adventure, Four Corners and Three Flags. These events are stand alone events on their own, but to do all three of them in one year, WOW!! We have 11 riders who have accomplished this feat to my immediate knowledge and I hope that they will honor us with their presence at the banquet, which is on February 14, 2009. I hope that everyone who has a love for motorcycling will think about attending this event, we had 52 participant sign up for the first California Parks Adventure and more than half of them finished. They will be presented with their plaque, SCMA pin and AMA Grand Tour pin at the banquet, should they attend. We are hoping to snag a few of these riders to relate some of their adventures to us in the process of doing these events.

We decided to do this banquet format in order to bring together all members of the SCMA and not individualize these events as much. We appreciate what all of our riders bring to our organization and respect their accomplishments, for the day riders who sometimes put in a 500 mile plus day, getting to and from the ride and making the ride, for the riders who support the overnights, doing a thousand miles or more in two days, not counting getting to the start and getting home. For the riders who do Four Corners and Three Flags, well what can I say, they just like to ride, forever, I guess. Ray Davis has done Four Corners thirteen times, I guess Bonnie wonders why, so do I for that matter, but I guess he has done it because he just wants to.

Our first ride of the new year will be the Soup Run, January 22nd, starting in Oceanside and ending at Ganisha Park in Pomona. SCMA members ride free, except they must bring 2 cans of soup this year. One for the pot and one for MTA's charity.

February will bring us the Sweetheart Run, February 14th, to be exact, being Chaired by Kenn and Phyllis Hatke, yet Phyllis will be Mrs. Hatke having been married on February 7, 2009 if everything goes according to schedule. Congratulations to both of you. Kenn, I hope you realize how lucky you are.

I am hoping we have our Calendar of Events for 2009 in this newsletter, but if not, you can find it on the web site, hope that all corrections have been made.

Well that's all for now, keep the rubber side down and the sunny side up.

Jan Staws

Southern California Motorcycling Association *presents:*

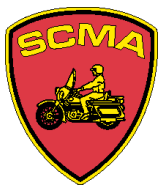


**SCMA SOUP RUN
2009**

**Sunday
January 11, 2009**

Start time 7-8:30 a.m.

Harbor House Cafe
714 North Coast Hwy
Oceanside, CA



Traveler's Award

**SCMA Members ride *FREE* .
\$10 for non-members.**



Santioned

AMA members receive \$1 discount

All riders must bring 2 cans of soup for entry

(Please do not bring outdated cans. One can will be donated to the MTA's Battered Women's Home, the other to be enjoyed by the riders at the end of the event)

Soups will be mixed for your enjoyment at the finish from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Ride closes at 3 p.m.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

BLAKE ANDERSON 714-801-3931

OR

JAN STAWS 310-387-3974

Rain Date is Sunday, January 18, 2009

A SNOOD

For most people, Thanksgiving is a time to reflect on what we've been given and savor the scents of crisp autumn days and pumpkin pie. For some, it's a little more complicated.

One November afternoon when my daughter was in kindergarten, I picked her up after school. She bobbed out to the car and crawled into the back seat. "What did you do today?" I asked. She couldn't wait to tell me.

"We learned that boys are different from girls" she chirped. Looking into the rearview mirror, I could just see the top of her head. "My teacher told us that boys have a thing and girls don't," she added.

"Well, yes they do..." I said cautiously. I couldn't think of anything else to say, so we were quiet for a moment. Then she piped up again. "That's how girls know that boys are boys," she said. "They see that thing that hangs down and they know that he is a boy."

I mentally calculated the distance home. Our five-minute commute already felt like an hour. "Did you know that when the boys see a girl they puff up?"

My palms were beginning to sweat. "Um...well.." I was still searching for something new to say, to change the subject when she asked, "Why do the girls like the boys to have those things?"

Well I didn't know what to say. I mean, what woman hasn't asked herself that question at least once? "Oh, well...um..." I stammered.

She didn't wait for my answer. She had her own. "It's cause it moves when they walk and then the girls see that and that's when they know they are boys and that's when they like them. Then the boy sees the girl and he puffs up, and then the girl knows he likes her, too. And then they get married. And then they get cooked." That last part confused me a bit, but on the whole I thought she had a pretty good grasp on things.

As soon as we got home and I pulled into the garage, she hopped out of the car, fishing something out of her school bag. "I drew a picture," she said. "Do you want to see?"

I wasn't sure I did, but I looked at it anyway. I had to sit down. There, all puffed up so to speak, looking mighty attractive for the ladies, was a crayon drawing of a great big Tom Turkey. His SNOOD, the thing that hangs down over his beak, the thing that female turkeys find so irresistible, was magnificent. His tail feathers were standing tall and proud.

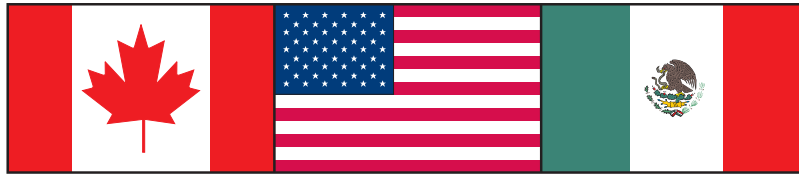
She was a little offended that I laughed so hard at her drawing, and I laughed until I cried. But when I told her I loved it - and I did - she got over her pique.

That was the end of that, for her anyway. But I'm not so lucky.. Every year I remember that conversation. And to be honest, I haven't looked at a turkey, or a man, the same way since. Kids have wonderful minds!

ATTENTION MEMBERS

Beginning January, 2009 the newsletter membership is being raised to \$45.00 to cover the cost of printing and mailing, which is about \$3.17 per month.

Non-newsletter is being raised to \$25.00 per year.



34TH ANNUAL

Three Flags Classic 2009

LETHBRIDGE, ALBERTA, CANADA

Presented by

Southern California Motorcycling Association

EVENT DATE : September 4th - September 7th, 2009
START : Mexicali, B.C., Mexico
ENTRY FEE : \$280.00
DRAWING DATE : January 24, 2009 12:00pm
DRAWING LOCATION : Carson VFW Post #10166
 20820 S. Vermont Ave., Torrance, CA 90502
 1(310)328-6474
 Breakfast from 9 am to 11 am
MAIL DEADLINE : Post Marked January 17, 2009
ENTRY DETAILS : Max. Two Entries per envelope, One Entry per person
MAIL ENTRIES TO : Three Flags Classic
 P.O. Box 92945
 Long Beach, CA 90809

More details will follow in mailers, flyers, Newsletters, magazines and the website.

WEB SITE INFORMATION:

SCMA : www.sc-ma.com / motorcycle runs / 3 flags classic
 3 Flags Classic: www.3flagsclassic.org

CHAIRMAN - Jan Staws - 1(310)387-3974, email : janstaws@verizon.net

CHAIRMAN - Blake Anderson - 1(714)801-3931
blake@blakeandersonconsulting.com



SCMA's First Annual Triple Crown Banquet

California Parks Adventure



USA 4 Corners Motorcycle Tour



Three Flags Classic



When : Saturday, February 14, 2009

- 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm Meet and Greet
- 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm Social Hour
- 7:00 pm Dinner - Buffet style dinner
- 8:00 pm Program

Where : Hotel Menage

1221 Harbor Blvd., Anaheim, CA 92805
1-888-462-7275

- Mention SCMA for special room rates @ \$99.00 + tax
- Cut off date for discount is February 1, 2009
- Motorcycles park for free, hotel guest parking \$10.00 daily
- 5 minute shuttle from Disneyland
- Web Site - www.hotelménage.com for directions and reservations

Banquet Cost : \$ 50.00 per person.

DEADLINE FOR BANQUET RESERVATION IS
FEBRUARY 7th, 2009

Come one, Come all. Everyone is invited to enjoy an evening with fellow motorcyclists. No participation in these events necessary. No membership required.

For more information contact:

Phyllis Shaw / Ken Hatke @ 1-951-677-3644

SCMA's First Annual Triple Crown Banquet Reservation

Please print clearly

\$ 50.00 Per Person

Name:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

Phone

E-Mail

Please make checks payable to: SCMA
C/O Ken Hatke
38685 Via Taffia
Murrieta, CA 92563

If you have completed the Triple Crown only mark that box. If you have not completed the Triple Crown but have completed one or more of the other rides please mark the appropriate box.

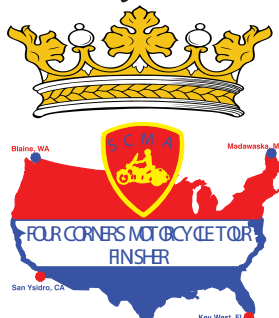
- Triple Crown
- California Parks Adventure
- Four (4) Corners Motorcycle Tour
- Three (3) Flags Classic

If you have an interesting story that you would like to share while on one of these rides please feel free to share in the space below. You can add additional paper if it runs over. This may or may not be used in the banquet.

California Parks Adventure



USA 4 Corners Motorcycle Tour



Three Flags Classic





Dear Readers,

I would like to introduce you to the very first adventure motorcycle-touring handbook that was recently launched in South Africa. The book is all about adventure motorcycle touring, with some chapters devoted to safety, motorcycle touring tips and routes to ride in Southern Africa. The book was written very much from a BMW motorcycle point of view, and also features a whole chapter dealing with the history of BMW motorcycles both in South Africa and internationally. The book was totally produced with the blessing of BMW Motorrad South Africa and is most definitely a book that every motorcycle-touring fanatic will want. I have travelled the length and breadth of Southern Africa, and can assure you that the quality is absolutely amazing. It is also the first of its kind publication in Africa. Even if you don't buy the book, please come and ride in the most beautiful country in the world!

The book is ideal for the overseas enthusiasts who wish to come and visit this beautiful part of the world, and deals with various issues that might confront the prospective traveler. I would be extremely grateful if you could possibly add this information on your respective websites, newsletters and databases. The book is available from Exclusive Books, CNA, Estoril and other good bookstores throughout Southern Africa. Sales so far have exceeded all expectations, and all indications are that it is becoming a best seller both in Southern Africa and internationally.

For further information, your readers and clients can also visit my website www.flatroadsandtwisties.com

Yours Sincerely,

Ben Fourie
Author
Flat Roads & Twisties
Johannesburg
South Africa
Mobile Telephone: +27 72 207 8163

THE SUNSHINE REPORT

Some information about Bryan Neagle's accident and condition. The accident happened on Sunday morning Nov. 30. He had just started out for a Sunday ride when an auto pull out of a gas station right in front of him. He had no time to brake and ran in to the side of her auto, upon impact he flew over his bike and the auto hitting ground on his wrist. His only injury was a dislocated his wrist. The surgery was done on Monday Dec. 8 to repair his wrist and should be out of work for about three month at which time he will be evaluated to see if will be able to return work as a mechanic at Anaheim/Fullerton Harley Davidson. Bryan is one of the riders I ride with and got started riding T.F.C. three years ago.

FOR ALL MY SPECIAL FRIENDS

One day a teacher asked her students to list the names of the other students in the room on two sheets of paper, leaving a space between each name.

Then she told them to think of the nicest thing they could say about each of their classmates and write it down.

It took the remainder of the class period to finish their assignment, and as the students left the room, each one handed in the papers.

That Saturday, the teacher wrote down the name of each student on a separate sheet of paper, and listed what everyone else had said about that individual.

On Monday she gave each student his or her list. Before long, the entire class was smiling. 'Really?' she heard whispered. 'I never knew that I meant anything to anyone!' and, 'I didn't know others liked me so much,' were most of the comments.

No one ever mentioned those papers in class again. She never knew if they discussed them after class or with their parents, but it didn't matter. The exercise had accomplished its purpose. The students were happy with themselves and one another. That group of students moved on. Several years later, one of the students was killed in Vietnam and his teacher attended the funeral of that special student. She had never seen a serviceman in a military coffin before. He looked so handsome, so mature.

The church was packed with his friends. One by one those who loved him took a last walk by the coffin. The teacher was the last one to bless the coffin.

As she stood there, one of the soldiers who acted as pallbearer came up to her. 'Were you Mark's math teacher?' he asked. She nodded: 'yes.' Then he said: 'Mark talked about you a lot.'

After the funeral, most of Mark's former classmates went together to a luncheon. Mark's mother and father were there, obviously waiting to speak with his teacher.

'We want to show you something,' his father said, taking a wallet out of his pocket 'They found this on Mark when he was killed. We thought you might recognize it.'

Opening the billfold, he carefully removed two worn pieces of notebook paper that had obviously been taped, folded and refolded many times. The teacher knew without looking that the papers were the ones on which she had listed all the good things each of Mark's classmates had said about him.

'Thank you so much for doing that,' Mark's mother said. 'As you can see, Mark treasured it.'

All of Mark's former classmates started to gather around. Charlie smiled rather sheepishly and said, 'I still have my list. It's in the top drawer of my desk at home.'

Chuck's wife said, 'Chuck asked me to put his in our wedding album.'

'I have mine too,' Marilyn said. 'It's in my diary'

Then Vicki, another classmate, reached into her pocketbook, took out her wallet and showed her worn and frazzled list to the group. 'I carry this with me at all times,' Vicki said and without batting an eyelash, she continued: 'I think we all saved our lists'

That's when the teacher finally sat down and cried. She cried for Mark and for all his friends who would never see him again.

The density of people in society is so thick that we forget that life will end one day. And we don't know when that one day will be.

So please, tell the people you love and care for, that they are special and important. Tell them, before it is too late.

And One Way To Accomplish This Is: Forward this message on. And I'm passing it on to you! Thanks for being my friend!

CALIFORNIA PARKS ADVENTURE RIDE

Stories by Dennis Steinert. Photography by Dennis Steinert and Michael Bowman.

**August 8-11, 2008 - 4 day trip into Northern California.
1,797 miles. A total of 4 stamps collected.**

Friday, August 8

Friday was a 501 mile blast up I-5 to Red Bluff, with a small detour. Pretty much boring super-slab all the way. Michael was on his new 2008 Honda CBR1000RR. I left Sylmar at 7:50, and met Michael in Gorman. After topping off the tanks, we left Gorman at 8:45. Next stop was for gas in Kettleman City at 10:15 154 miles down! Since Michael was on a new bike, and on an aggressive sportbike, I tried to make stops at 90-120 miles. About 80 miles north of Kettleman City, we turned off onto CA-165. It was time for a break from the super-slab. CA-165 is a fairly fast and straight north ride through a wildlife refuge, intersecting with CA-99 in Turlock. My dad lived for many years northeast of Sacramento, so I knew many alternate routes. This was one of my favorites, and one of the shortest ways to get from Sylmar to Sacramento. We stopped for gas in Los Banos at 11:40. 246 miles covered so far. The next 20 or so miles are in the San Luis National Wildlife Refuge. We startled some swan while traveling through the NWR. We made a stop at Hilmar Cheese Factory at 12:20. The cheese here is good, but we did not have the means to keep it cold, so we just sampled some of the cheeses and used the very clean restrooms. Leaving the cheese factory at 12:40, we quickly arrived at CA-99 for some more freeway riding to Sacramento. We exited at Florin Rd and stopped for gas at 1:55. Then it was city streets to the Squeeze Inn for lunch.

I found out about the Squeeze Inn on a Food Network show called Diners, Drive-ins, and Dives. This place is worth a stop for an excellent burger with cheese, called the "Squeeze with Cheese." If you like cheese burgers, don't even think of getting anything else. They recently opened a second location in Galt, it is nothing like the tiny hole-in-the-wall original location. We spent an hour at the Squeeze Inn, leaving at 3:10. We had covered 362 miles so far.

At 16:00, we stopped for a break and gas in Arbuckle. We made it to the Travelodge in Red Bluff at 5:30. We walked and bought food in a nearby market and some beverages at a liquor store.



Squeeze Inn on Fruitridge near Power Inn in Sacramento

Saturday, August 9

Saturday was a 399 mile loop through Lassen Volcanic NP and Lava Beds NM. We left the motel at 7:35 in the morning. After a quick stop for gas, we were on our way east and north to Lassen Volcanic NP. Riding on CA-36 from Red Bluff, the highway was nice and wide open, making for a pleasant cruise. I did see something that I did not believe existed in California anymore, our direction had a passing lane as it was going uphill, but traffic in the downhill direction could cross the yellow stripes and make use of the passing lane as long as there was no uphill traffic. Eventually, the road narrowed down and there were some nice twisty sections. The temperatures dropped as we gained elevation. Turning north on CA-89, we arrived at the entrance sign at 8:30, eventually making it to the entrance at 8:50.

We wove our way up the side of Lassen Peak, arriving at the road's high point at 9:05. It was chilly at 8,500'. We had a snack at



Lassen Volcanic National Park Entrance Sign.

Continued on page 16

Southern California Motorcycling Association

P.O. Box 487 Norwalk, CA 90651-0487



MEETINGS

- ◆ **E-BOARD / GENERAL MEMBERSHIP**
9-11 am - 2nd Saturday each month
Conrad's Restaurant
631 Foothill Blvd., La Canada
(818) 790-2230
- * **THREE FLAGS CLASSIC**
12-3 pm
J's Maintenance
3550 Foothill Blvd., Glendale
Jane Usatin 760-931-9396
Jan Staws 310-387-3974

SCMA 2009 SANCTIONED EVENTS

JANUARY

- 10 SCMA General Membership Meeting ◆
- 10 Three Flags Classic Committee Meeting *
- 11 SCMA Soup Run ★
- 18 SCMA Soup Run (Rain Date)
- 24 Three Flags Classic Drawing

FEBRUARY

- 14 SCMA General Membership Meeting 9 a.m. ◆
- 14 Three Flags Classic Committee Meeting *
- 14 Triple Crown Award Banquet
- 22 SCMA Sweetheart Ride ★

MARCH

- 7 SCMA General Membership Meeting ◆
- 7 Three Flags Classic Committee Meeting *
- 14 & 15 Shamrock Road Riders St. Pat's Day Ride ★
- 22 (Traveler's Award 1st day only)
- PMC Poker Run 626-963-5387

APRIL

- 5 Antelope Valley Touring Society AVTS Poker Run ★
- 11 SCMA General Membership Meeting ◆
- 11 Three Flags Classic Committee Meeting *

MAY

- 2 & 3 PMC 63rd Annual Green Horn Ride 626-798-9716
- 9 SCMA General Membership Meeting ◆
- 9 Three Flags Classic Committee Meeting *
- 23-24 Blazing Saddles 818-566-4107 / 310-387-3974

JUNE

- 13 SCMA General Membership Meeting ◆
- 13 Three Flags Classic Committee Meeting *
- 20 SCMA 4th Annual Dog Days of Summer ★

JULY

- 11 SCMA General Membership Meeting ◆
- 11 Three Flags Classic Committee Meeting *
- 12 SCMA Bare Bones Run ★

AUGUST

- 8 SCMA General Membership Meeting ◆
- 8 Three Flags Classic Committee Meeting *
- 9 SCMA Old Pin Ride ★

SEPTEMBER

- 4 Three Flags Classic Mexico to Canada 310-387-3974 / 714-801-3931
- 19 SCMA General Membership Meeting ◆
- 19 Three Flags Classic Committee Meeting *
- 27 Motorcycle Touring Association Wacky Wabbit Ride ★

OCTOBER

- 10 & 11 SCMA Grand Tour Sign-in: 6-7 a.m. 714-801-3931 / 310-387-3974
- 17 SCMA General Membership Meeting ◆
- 17 Three Flags Classic Committee Meeting *
- 27 SCMA Cemetery Tour ★

NOVEMBER

- 14 SCMA General Membership Meeting ◆
- 14 Three Flags Classic Committee Meeting *
- 15 SCMA Turkey Run ★

DECEMBER

No Meetings — HAPPY HOLIDAYS

★ Traveler's Award

See Reverse for Club, Officer, & Checkpoint Information

SCMA
FOUR CORNERS MOTORCYCLE TOUR
FINISHER

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Madawaska, ME
Key West, FL
San Ysidro, CA

David L. Johnson
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SCMA's
California Parks Adventure
AMA Grand Tour Event

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Beverly Hills, CA 90211
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SCMA
Three Flags Classic
Sept. 4-7, 2009

Jan Staws
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Blake Anderson
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Newsletter

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FUN STUFF

Puns, play on words, and assorted other good stuff for the brain.

1. The roundest knight at King Arthur's round table was Sir Cumference. He acquired his size from too much pi.
2. I thought I saw an eye doctor on an Alaskan island, but it turned out to be an optical Aleutian.
3. She was only a whiskey maker, but he loved her still.
4. A rubber band pistol was confiscated from algebra class because it was a weapon of math disruption.
5. The butcher backed into the meat grinder and got a little behind in his work.
6. No matter how much you push the envelope, it'll still be stationery.
7. A dog gave birth to puppies near the road and was cited for littering.
8. A grenade thrown into a kitchen in France would result in Linoleum Blownapart.
9. Two silk worms had a race. They ended up in a tie.
10. Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana.
12. Atheism is a non-prophet organization.
13. Two hats were hanging on a hat rack in the hallway. One hat said to the other, 'You stay here, I'll go on a head.'
14. I wondered why the baseball kept getting bigger. Then it hit me.
15. A sign on the lawn at a drug rehab center said: 'Keep off the Grass.'
16. A small boy swallowed some coins and was taken to a hospital. When his grandmother telephoned to ask how he was, a nurse said, 'No change yet.'
17. A chicken crossing the road is poultry in motion.
18. The short fortune-teller who escaped from prison was a small medium at large.
19. The soldier who survived mustard gas and pepper spray is now a seasoned veteran.
20. A backward poet writes inverse.
21. In democracy it's your vote that counts. In feudalism it's your count that votes.
22. When cannibals ate a missionary, they got a taste of religion.
23. Don't join dangerous cults: Practice safe sects!

Crime does not pay...as well as politics.
— Terry Smith

CALIFORNIA PARKS ADVENTURE RIDE

Continued from page 12

the small store in the parking lot, and Michael found a gift for his wife. While Michael was shopping, I was chatting with the ranger as she was opening her booth. We got out first of 2 Lassen stamps there. By 9:20 we were descending as we continued on CA-89 north. There were quite a number of hikers arriving to take the trail to the summit of Lassen Peak.

From roughly the high point of the road, until near Summit Lake, a distance of about 8 miles, the road was under construction and mostly gravel. Along with the dampness from the morning dew, this meant our bikes were quite dirty by the time we made a brief stop at the Devasted Area for pictures. We also stopped at Mazanita Lake and Loomis Museum at 10:05, for a second stamp. At 10:30, we were leaving Lassen Volcanic NP.

Next was a gas stop in Old Station, and then a stop at Subway Cave, which is along CA-89 near Old Station, just before the east junction with CA-44. We arrived at 10:55, and began exploring the cave. Subway cave is a lava tube. At one time, magma flowed here. The outside of the flow cools enough creating a tube of magma, much like a straw. Eventually, the source stops erupting, so the liquid lava drains out of the center of the "straw," leaving a nice tube behind. Since this was not a water carved cave through limestone, like so many caves are, there are not stalactites or stalagmites. The National Forest has developed a 1/3 mile section of the tube, placing stairs at each end, and plenty of interpretive signs both in and on top of the cave. You must supply your own flashlight. Luckily, I had a small flashlight in my toolkit.



Subway Cave – A lava tube. I guess those reflective strips really work



We left the cave parking lot at 11:35, turned east of CA-299, and then had lunch at a small roadside establishment east of Fall River Mills from 12:15-12:50. We stopped for gas in Bieber, at the junction with the Bieber Lookout road. We took the cutoff road up to CA-139, and then turning left 10 miles later to head towards the southern entrance of Lava Beds NM. The road through the National Forest is in horrible shape - Full of potholes which take careful riding to avoid. Inside the NM, the roads were nice, but of course you then had to deal with the decreased speed limits that are prevalent in the NP system. We made it to the entrance sign at 2:10.

We stopped for our stamps at the VC at 2:30, exploring the VC for 20 minutes. We had covered 203 tough miles so far, just over 1/2 of the way. Smoke haze was all around from the various fires in Northern California. North of the wildlife refuge and almost to the Oregon border, we stopped at the former WWII POW camp at 3:20. The camp is on Hill Rd, roughly 1 mile north of East West Rd.



Lava Beds National Monument sign The road to get here from the south is in terrible shape. Be careful unless you have a dual sport.

Just south of the Oregon border, we turned onto CA-161 west. This road stays just south of the border and goes through another National Wildlife Refuge. We got to US-97, and turned south to head back to Red Bluff. We tried to stop for gas in Doris, but the station had no premium (the CBR) or plus (my Connie), so we pushed on to Macdoel, stopping for gas at 4:00. CHP units were all over US-97, looking for someone. The rest of the ride was unremarkable, turning south on I-5, and stopping for gas in Dunsmuir at 5:00. The water level in Shasta Lake was quite low. We reached the motel at 6:30. We walked to a nearby Chinese restaurant for dinner.



Sunday August 10

Sunday was a 398 mile ride out to the coast and back for 2 more stamps. We left the motel at 7:35, heading north on I-5, and then west on CA-299 in Redding. Pay attention to the signs on I-5 in Redding, you actually briefly travel on CA-44 to get to the 299. We got gas in Redding. Heading west past Whiskeytown Lake (not open yet, stamp will be on return trip), the highway is nice and wide until just past the lake. After that, CA-299 is quite a blast all of the way to the coast. A great mix of tight and twisty alternating with straighter sections, and several summits to cross. There were several forest fires



Fog at the coast.

burning in the area around Weaverville. A major fire camp was set up in Junction City. By the time we stopped 20 minutes for gas and a snack in Willow Creek at 10:10, we had put the fires and smoke behind us. It was getting cold since we were nearer to the coast, so I put my windbreaker on over my mesh jacket. We were deep in Sasquatch territory, so I bought some Jack Links jerky so I could "mess with Sasquatch." As we neared the coast, the temperatures dropped and fog appeared. We took CA-200 as a shortcut to US-101 north.



The fog was thick and slightly drizzly as we headed north on US-101 to the Thomas Kuchel VC of Redwoods National & State Parks. Arriving at the VC at 11:40, we spent the next 40 minutes at the VC getting stamps, checking out the exhibits, looking at the birds nesting at the VC, looking at the ocean, and finally taking our photos.



Helicopter taking on water from the Trinity River.

After the VC, we did stop at Redwood Trail RV Park for some souvenir shopping, then gas in Arcata at 1:20. Next was a nice lunch in Willow Creek from 2:00-2:45 at Raging Creek Pub & Eatery. Along CA-299 near Helena, we came across a helicopter loading zone on the Trinity River. We pulled over and took some photos of the copters taking on water. They would stop occasionally to let rafters through. After that it was back through the fire base camp, and then a stop for gas in Weaverville 4:00.

I had forgotten to confirm the VC hours for Whiskeytown, so I erred on the side of caution and assumed the standard NPS closing time of 5:00. We still had 36 miles, with some very tight 20mph hairpins to go, so it would be close. We encountered a horse trailer holding up traffic in the tightest area, making for some slow going. I kept my eye on the GPS and the clock, wondering if we would have to get very spirited in our riding to

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CALIFORNIA PARKS ADVENTURE RIDE

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make it. The trailer finally pulled over and speeds picked up to normal. We made it to the VC at 16:55. It turns out that the closing time is 6:00, so we had plenty of time. We then took our photos at sign that is east of the VC along CA-299.

We arrived at the motel in Red Bluff at 6:20. Dinner was Italian.

Monday August 11

Monday was 499 mile return ride to Sylmar down I-5. We left the motel at 8:10, stopping for gas across the street. Then gas in Arbuckle. We stopped in Old Town Sacramento at 10:05, visiting the California State Railroad Museum. After



Old Town Sacramento.



the museum, we had some fries to eat, and walked along the river. I did stock up on my hard candy supply at the Candy Barrel. We left Old Town at 12:30. It was a hot day in the valley.

We made a stop in Stockton for gas and a cool down at 1:30. 180 miles completed on our way home. Another gas stop at the Panoche exit at 3:00. 285 miles completed. Then gas and a meal in Buttonwillow from 5:00 to 6:00. Only 103 miles to home. A stop in Gorman to say goodbye at 6:40, and then I was home at 7:30. What a trip.

24 stamps done – 1 to go. We plan on waiting until the fall for Death Valley. For more photos and information go to my web site http://www.psychobiker.com/SCMA_CPA/.



November 8, 2008 - Day trip into Death Valley. 546 miles. The final park!

Saturday, November 8

I pulled the Connie out of the garage and fired her up at 6:15 in the morning. A stop at the Chevron by the freeway for gas and air, and then onto the freeway at 6:35. At 7:15 I met Michael at one of our normal meeting points - the Carls Jr at the Avenue K exit of CA-14. We then took our usual route to Death Valley - north on CA-14 to Redrock Randsburg Road, Garlock Road, a short stretch on US-395, followed by Searles Station Cutoff Road, Trona Road, and finally CA-178 to Trona, stopping for gas at 8:45. We continued northward on Trona Wildrose Road, then turning onto Panamint Valley Road, stopping for photos at the Death Valley NP sign at 9:30.

It was a beautiful morning for a ride. A large Jeep club was holding their Panamint Valley Days encampment, so Jeeps were everywhere. We also ran into a number of dual-sporters on a ride. At 10:15, we were



Death Valley NP Entrance sign in Panamint Valley.

below sea level at Stovepipe Wells getting gas. Then it was on to Scotty's Castle. Just before Scotty's Castle there is an entrance booth. While the other entrances to Death Valley National Park are "on your honor" to pay at a self service kiosk or at a VC, this entrance has a booth. No problem, just flash the pass and away we went. We got to Scotty's Castle at 11:00 and were able to get tickets for the 11:20 house tour.

Scotty's Castle is really Albert Johnson's Death Valley Ranch. Scotty was a colorful character and Albert and his wife Bessie kept him around for laugh and companionship. It is well worth it to take the tour. For more info on Scotty's Castle, visit <http://www.nps.gov/deva/historyculture/scottys-castle.htm> Tickets sell out in the afternoon, plan to arrive in the morning. When we were leaving, the wait for a tour was over an hour.



Looking west from the sign.



Scotty's Castle.



We left the Castle at 12:40, and made a small detour to the Panamint Valley Resort for gas and a late lunch. I had the cardiac arrest special, a 1/2 pound burger smothered in blue cheese. We left the resort at 3:00. After Trona, we stayed on CA-178 all of the way to CA-14. We had a pleasant ride through Red Rock Canyon. We stopped for gas in Mojave. It was sunset (5:00), so I put on my clear shield. I waved goodbye to Michael as we rode through Lancaster. I pulled into the garage at 6:15, making it a 12-hour day.

All 24 stamps done. For more photos and information go to my web site http://www.psychobiker.com/SCMA_CPA/

CARROT, EGG OR COFFEE

I really like the moral of this little story. No wonder I love coffee! Sharon

A carrot, an egg, and a cup of coffee...You will never look at a cup of coffee the same way again.

A young woman went to her mother and told her about her life and how things were so hard for her. She did not know how she was going to make it and wanted to give up, She was tired of fighting and struggling. It seemed as one problem was solved, a new one arose.

Her mother took her to the kitchen. She filled three pots with water and placed each on a high fire. Soon the pots came to boil. In the first she placed carrots, in the second she placed eggs, and in the last she placed ground coffee beans. She let them sit and boil; without saying a word.

In about twenty minutes she turned off the burners. She fished the carrots out and placed them in a bowl. She pulled

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CARROT, EGG OR COFFEE

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the eggs out and placed them in a bowl. Then she ladled the coffee out and placed it in a bowl. Turning to her daughter, she asked, 'Tell me what you see.'

'Carrots, eggs, and coffee,' she replied. Her mother brought her closer and asked her to feel the carrots. She did and noted that they were soft. The mother then asked the daughter to take an egg and break it. After pulling off the shell, she observed the hard boiled egg.

Finally, the mother asked the daughter to sip the coffee. The daughter smiled as she tasted its rich aroma. The daughter then asked, 'What does it mean, mother?'

Her mother explained that each of these objects had faced the same adversity: boiling water. Each reacted differently. The carrot went in strong, hard, and unrelenting. However, after being subjected to the boiling water, it softened and became weak. The egg had been fragile. Its thin outer shell had protected its liquid interior, but after sitting through the boiling water, its inside became hardened. The ground coffee beans were unique, however. After they were in the boiling water, they had changed the water.

'Which are you?' she asked her daughter. 'When adversity knocks on your door, how do you respond? Are you a carrot, an egg or a coffee bean?'

Think of this: Which am I? Am I the carrot that seems strong, but with pain and adversity do I wilt and become soft and lose my strength?

Am I the egg that starts with a malleable heart, but changes with the heat? Did I have a fluid spirit, but after a death, a breakup, a financial hardship or some other trial, have I become hardened and stiff? Does my shell look the same, but on the inside am I bitter and tough with a stiff spirit and hardened heart?

Or am I like the coffee bean? The bean actually changes the hot water, the very circumstance that brings the pain. When the water gets hot, it releases the fragrance and flavor. If you are like the bean, when things are at their worst, you get better and change the situation around you. When the hour is the darkest and trials are their greatest do you elevate yourself to another level? How do you handle adversity? Are you a carrot, an egg or a coffee bean?

May you have enough happiness to make you sweet, enough trials to make you strong, enough sorrow to keep you human and enough hope to make you happy.

NCOM NEWS BYTES

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NCOM BIKER NEWS BYTES Compiled & Edited by Bill Bish, National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM)

CAN RISING MOTORCYCLIST FATALITIES BE BLAMED ON LACK OF HELMET LAWS?

Author Jacob Sullum begs the question in his article "Hit & Run" in Reason magazine's August 20th online edition, and goes on to answer those who blame the increase in rider fatalities on the repeal of helmet laws in several states.

Citing federal government data that indicate the number of fatal motorcycle accidents rose in 2007 for the 10th consecutive year, hitting 5,154, 7 percent higher than the 2006 total, Sullum writes that "the chief culprit recently seems to be higher gas prices, which have encouraged people to take advantage of motorcycles' vastly superior fuel efficiency: Motorcycle ridership appears to be rising even as the total miles for all vehicles drops....The highway safety authorities say that about 75 percent more motorcycles are registered today than 10 years ago. They suspect each motorcycle is ridden more miles, but the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration says it does not have a reliable measurement of use. The lack of such data makes it difficult to tell how much of an increase in fatalities following repeal of a helmet law results from less helmet wearing and how much results from more riding."

"While wearing a helmet reduces the risk of certain injuries," continues Sullum, "research suggests the overall impact on fatalities is modest. The unimpressive numbers are one reason motorcyclists have been so successful at defending their right to decide what, if anything, to wear on their heads. 'We are the only industrialized country in the world where there is an organized effort to weaken or repeal motorcycle helmet laws,' complains Russ Rader of the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety. Is that a sign of backwardness or a point of pride?"

Meanwhile, Forbes Magazine points out that a new study released recently by the U.S. Department of Transportation

found that “despite the relaxation of several state helmet laws, motorcycle helmet use in fatal crashes climbed from 55% in 1997 to 57% in 2006.”

In an August 25th article titled “Expensive Gas, Dangerous Roads”, Forbes writer William Pentland says, “Although helmets are undoubtedly decisive in some motorcycle accidents, the fact remains that the fatality rate for helmeted motorcyclists has risen more rapidly than it has for unhelmeted motorcyclists in the past three years. This suggests that factors other than helmet use have fueled the rise of motorcycle fatalities. Enter gas prices.”

Pentland’s research shows that since at least the 1970s, motorcycle registrations have tracked the rise and fall of gas prices. As prices rose in the 1970s, registrations followed. Similarly, in the 1980s, as gas prices fell, motorcycle registrations did too. During the 1990s, motorcycle registrations remained low and only began rising in 2000 and 2001.

“Last year, the number of licensed motorcyclists hit an all time high of 6,227,146,” says Pentland, “While the total number of miles traveled for passenger cars fell in 2007 for the first time since 1994, the total number of miles traveled for motorcycles not only increased, but reached a new record high.”

BAR OWNER ACCUSES POLICE OF DISCRIMINATING AGAINST HER PATRONS

A Green Bay, Wisconsin bar owner says the police department is discriminating against her because of her clientele. Kim VandenBusch says 75 percent of the regulars at Kimmers Bar & Grill are members of a motorcycle club.

Last week the city granted the owner a liquor license with a unique stipulation. The police department asked her to hang a sign in the bar that says “No club colors,” referring to the back patches worn by motorcycle club members.

“I was very much under duress on signing that because they said if I didn’t sign it I wouldn’t get my license,” VandenBusch told WBAY-TV, adding that it’s unfair because the bar has a good track record with the police department. “I felt it was very wrong. I felt it was discriminating. It should be up to the owner of the establishment to decide what clientele they want.”

But the police department has every right to do this. Last year the city passed an ordinance that says every establishment wanting a liquor license must first have its business plan approved by the police department.

Police Captain Bill Galvin said, “There can be fights, shootings, drug dealing, drug usage, things like that occurring at places where these gang members hang out.”

Galvin says putting up a simple sign will eliminate potential problems, but VandenBusch hasn’t put one up yet. Instead, she’s appealing to the Protection and Welfare Committee.

SHAMROCK ROAD RIDERS

Great Christmas Party

On Saturday, December 6, 2008, Joel and Kris Briggs opened their home to all the Shamrock members and friends for a Christmas buffet/potluck party. There were 25 members present, with extended family members also in attendance, from age 6 to uh, well, we won’t say.

We began the party in the early afternoon at the kitchen table, well-stocked with chips, veggies, and dips. Some of us thoroughly enjoyed watching a rousing college football game. Others ventured out to the patio and beautifully landscaped yard, enjoying the moderate weather.

Dinner was a feast of ham, giant-size, a roasted turkey, and real mashed potatoes. Salads and vegetable casserole dishes filled the kitchen, and Kris did a wonderful job balancing the menu from the RSVP list.

Dessert was a treat—cheesecake!—and a red and white Christmas cake, and Joel’s special aromatic coffee.

Expanding on “live to ride, ride to live,” here again we have a gathering of motorcyclists continuing the question, do we ride to eat, or eat to ride?

All in all, it was a family party, friendly, comfortable, filled with good conversation.

Hope your holidays were safe and merry!

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Southern California Motorcycling Association - Post Office Box 487 - Norwalk, CA 90651-0487

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In making this application for membership, I hereby agree to comply with the rules governing the Southern California Motorcycling Association and, while holding membership, do my best to promote and protect the image of family motorcycling and sportsmanship.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT _____

