

SCMA

Southern California
Motorcycling Association

NEWS



VOLUME 41 ♦ NUMBER 6 ♦ JUNE 2009

Kick Off the Summer with a Howl



Saturday • June 20

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

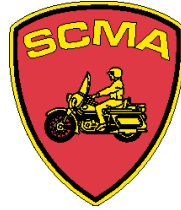
Motorcycle
Touring
Assn.
Chapter 3

Pasadena
Motorcycle
Club

SCMA
Outriders

Shamrock
Road Riders

Victor
McLaglen
Motor Corps



JUNE

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				

JULY

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	

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

✓ Marks Travelers Events

JUNE

- 13 SCMA General Membership Meeting 9-11 a.m. La Canada
Conrad's Restaruant
631 Foothill Blvd.
818-790-2230
- 13 Three Flags Meeting 12-3 pm. Glendale
J's Maintenance
3550 Foothill Blvd.
310-387-3974 / 714-802-3931
- 20✓ SCMA 4th Annual Dog Days of Summer Santa Paula
Sign-in: 8-10 a.m. - Logsdon Cafe
714-308-8083 / 310-387-3974



JULY

- 11 SCMA General Membership Meeting 9-11 a.m. La Canada
Conrad's Restaruant
631 Foothill Blvd.
818-790-2230
- 11 Three Flags Meeting 12-3 p.m. Glendale
J's Maintenance
3550 Foothill Blvd.
310-387-3974 / 714-802-3931
- 12✓ Bare Bones Run
Start: Fullerton Harley
Sign-in: 8-10 a.m.
714-851-4668 / 310-387-3974



Please submit all articles, artwork and flyers for the **SCMA NEWS** to:
Randy Angel - rwangel@earthlink.net

Submit text as a Word Document.
 Artwork is printed at 300 dpi.
 Art and flyers should be submitted in jpeg or PDF formats.
 If additional correspondence is needed, please contact me at:
(310) 370-2725 • 18531 Mansel Ave. Redondo Beach, CA 90278



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EXECUTIVE BOARD

VICE CHAIRMAN

Blake Anderson
714-801-3931
Blake@BlakeAndersonconsulting.com

CHAIRMAN

Jan Staws
310-387-3974 cell
janstaws@verizon.net

RECORDING SECRETARY

Phyliss Shaw
951-677-3644
pshaw2003@comcast.net

CORR. SEC./MEMBERSHIP

Flavia Gullett/Vernon Lucero
626-441-5437
lucero@yaho.com

TREASURER

Kenn Hatke
951-677-3644
Kenn2006@verizon.net

REFEREE

Chuck Jones
714-851-4668
bykrchuck@sbcglobal.net

S.C.M.A. WEBSITE

SC-MA.com

TO PLACE INFO ON SITE:
TERRY SMITH
Webmaster10@frontiernet.net

S.C.M.A. NEWS

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Jan Staws
310-387-3974 cell
janstaws@verizon.net

PRINTER

Randy Angel
18531 Mansel Ave.
Redondo Beach, CA 90278
310-370-2725
rwangel@earthlink.net

REMEMBER!

**ARTICLES MUST RECEIVED BY
JUNE 10, 2009
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JULY 2009 ISSUE**

EXECUTIVE BOARD COMMITTEES

Travelers Award 2009

Dannie Fox
805-659-1956/805-889-5220
twofoxs@pacbel.net

Newsletter Editor

Jan Staws
310-387-3974 cell
janstaws@verizon.net

USA-Four Corners M/C Tours

David L. Johnson
909-796-2277
chairman@usa4corners.org

Blazing Saddles 2009

John Katics
818-566-4107
jkatics@sbcglobal.net

AMA Insurance Information

Blake Anderson
714-801-3931
Blake@BlakeAndersonconsulting.com

Grand Tour 2009

Blake Anderson 714-801-3931
Blake@BlakeAndersonconsulting.com

Three Flags Classic 2009

Jan Staws - Chairman janstaw@verizon.net
Blake Anderson - Vice-Chairman Blake@BlakeAndersonconsulting.com
714-801-3931

California Parks Adventure

Mitch Friedman 310-838-9550
www.sc-ma.com
scmacpa@earthlink.net

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

Hello to all,

Well we are entering the summer riding season and hopefully you will join us for our summer events. We have on tap the Dog Days of Summer, Bare Bones, Old Pin Ride and of course Blazing Saddles at the end of May, which will have come and gone when you get this newsletter.

Election time is here, I apologize to the confusion about the ballot not being in last months newsletter but we had to go back and re-open nominations for Referee since we had mistakenly thought it was the Treasurers position up for re-election. There is a ballot in this newsletter and I hope that all of you please send in your votes for whomever you feel you would like governing your association for the next two years. It has been a long time since you have had a choice and hopefully you will express your opinion one way or the other. There are many hours dedicated to keeping the SCMA in good running condition, getting volunteers to help put on our rides, getting volunteers to work checkpoints for these rides, attending the start and finishes of our events, keeping the Newsletter going each month, these are just a few of the duties of the Chairman has on his or hers plate.

We also have two people running for Referee which is a time consuming job also. Both of the persons running have had Risk Management which is a requirement for serving as Referee. They both have served the SCMA in many ways for some time now. The Referee is responsible for making sure our events have been sanctioned by AMA and the event is insured by AMA also.

In case of an accident, they must fill out a report within so many hours and get it to AMA, especially in case of a fatality. We are lucky to have more than one person interested in volunteering for the job.

We will be choosing a Chairman for the 2010 Three Flags Classic at the next general membership meeting. 2010 will be the 35th Annual, who would have thought it would be around this long. Joe Usatin's idea has been kept alive for all these years by the many volunteers who put in many, many hours in the year and a half that each committee spends in getting the ride done.

How do you thank people who are that dedicated? Without them the SCMA would be lost.

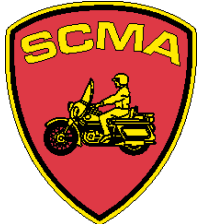
Four Corners is holding it own for the most part. Ridership is down right now but I highly expect that is due to our economy and we are lucky to have the participation we have. It is a special event that takes a lot of planning and steady riding. If I ever get another trike I will probably try to do it, who knows.

Well, once again I appeal to all members to vote, this is your association, put the people you wish to govern it in office.

That is it for now; keep the rubber side down, the sunny side up. Until next month, see you at Dog Days of Summer ride.

Jan Staws

Southern California Motorcycling Association Proudly Presents the 4rd Annual



Traveler's Award



Saturday • June 20

ENTRY FEE (Price includes discount)	
SCMA:	\$18.00
All others:	\$19.00
Additional Discount for Mail-in	
SCMA:	\$2.00
All others:	\$1.00
<i>Total Discount not to exceed \$3.00</i>	

Sign-In: 8-10 a.m.

Start: Logsdon Cafe (Santa Paula Airport)
824 E. Santa Maria St., Santa Paula
805-525-1101

Finish: Cycle Gear
24508 Lyons Ave., Newhall
661-255-6522

**\$5 Coupon for Breakfast
50/50 Raffle • Ride Pins**

Pre-registration Deadline - June 13, 2009

Make checks payable to: SCMA

Mail to: Jan Staws, 1959 Gale Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90810

Name _____ Name _____

Address _____ Address _____

City _____ State __ ZIP _____ City _____ State __ ZIP _____

Telephone _____ Telephone _____

SCMA Number _____ SCMA Number _____

ELECTIONS — 2009

— Candidates statements for position of Chairman —

Hi All. I would like your vote,

Election time is coming near and for the first time in six years we have two people running for Chairman of the SCMA and one of them is me. I want the job and I need your vote to get it. There are still challenges to be met and jobs to be finished. We still need to get a data base going so when we need important information we can access it immediately, especially in case of an accident. It is vital that we do this. Finding a better way to keep up with membership and renewals, making our volunteers lives easier somehow.

I hope that in the last six years I have done enough to prove myself to the membership by being here when the association needed someone to lead it. I have brought several new runs to the program, have continued to support the rides we have had in place for many years and have had the good fortune of support from a hand full of people who continue to help make the SCMA what it is today.

I have been a member of the SCMA since 1976 and have served in almost every position on the board at one time or another. I have been doing the newsletter so long now I cannot remember when I inherited it way back when, but we have made improvements throughout the years, the biggest one going on line with it. I have missed a meeting or so a year, have not missed an article "From the Chair" since becoming chairman, keeping the membership informed as much as possible.

I hope that in knowing me for the last six years you will feel confident in granting me your vote.

Thank you,

Jan Staws
Chairman, SCMA

To My Fellow Riders,

I have decided to throw my hat in the ring for Chairman of the SCMA. I hope that I can have your vote.

If elected, I would like to accomplish four objectives. First, with the help of the ride chairs, continue to offer high quality day rides, weekend rides and our signature big three: Three Flags Classic, USA 4 Corners and California Park Adventure. Second, to increase membership and ridership with a thoughtful publicity and outreach effort. Third, to promote a more cooperative and respectful relationship with our associated clubs. And, fourth, prepare for the 35th annual Three Flags Classic occurring in September 2010.

The SCMA Board of Directors and the ride committees have significantly improved the quality of our rides during the last two years. Most of that success is the result of the hard year round work of approximately 15 people. Imagine what we can accomplish with twice that number involved in planning and executing our rides and other events. I believe that with positive leadership we can recruit more volunteers and provide even more successful events in the next two years.

It has been my distinct privilege to serve as SCMA Vice Chairman for the last year as well as Risk Manager for the last two and Chairman of the Grand Tour for the last three. In those roles I believe I have demonstrated the ability to work hard and creatively as a team member that appreciates the contributions and ideas of others. I believe that SCMA has a remarkable history that we can all look to for inspiration and advice while we seek to make SCMA better.

I look forward to the challenges ahead and hope you will join me, starting with giving me your vote.

Thank you,

Blake Anderson
(714) 801-3931

ELECTIONS — 2009

— Candidates statements for position of Referee —

Hi, my name is Chuck Jones and I am the current S.C.M.A. Referee. I am running for re-election and would like your vote. This year has been a very busy one for me, little did I know that when I decided to get more involved by volunteering for S.C.M.A. that it would be one interesting ride. I have to date completed 9 out of 10 Three Flags Classics (dam Harley Davidson, but that is another story) I have completed two years worth of Travelers Awards 2007 and 2008 and working on 2009. I am also chairing two rides again this year. Bare Bones and Turkey Run. Did I mention that I am also on this years Three Flags Committee since no one came forward as a Chairman for the event the E Board is doing the run. I am co Chairing Start, Route and Finish with the help of Bob Masuzumi and Dennis Even along with Kenn Hatke.

I feel that I am capable and worthy of your vote. With my experience as a rider and my enthusiasm for the S.C.M.A. I feel I would be a good choice for Referee.

Thank You,

Chuck Jones



Hello, my name is Joe Mandeville and I am running for the office of Referee. Most of you know that I am a former chairman of the association and have served on numerous Three Flags Committees. However, this election is not about the past, but instead is about the future.

Among other things, the referee works with the AMA in getting sanctions and insurance on SCMA events. I am a life member of the AMA and worked as a Road Representative as well as a risk management lecturer for them.

I believe that I have the ability to work with the executive board as well as the clubs in handling the sanctions and insurance. I also believe that I have the ability to handle the SCMA specific events put on by the executive board.

I would appreciate your vote for SCMA Referee.

Joe Mandeville

Sticker Wanted

Dear members,

I did the 3-Flags Classic three times at the end of the last decade. I adorned my panniers with the stickers, but I seem to have scraped off the sticker from the 2000 rally. Does anyone have the old stickers?

Who should contact to see about a replacement?

I realize this is a obscure request, thank you for your time in responding.

John Paul Gray, Ph.D.
docgray@dslextreme.com

Your Vote Counts!

Mail Ballot to:
Sally Bishop
16511 Garfield Ave. #C44
Paramount, CA 90723
— *Deadline: July 10, 2009* —

2009 SCMA Election

Chairman

- Blake Anderson
- Jan Staws

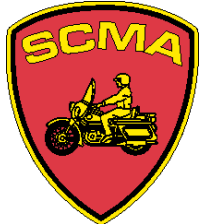
Secretary

- Phyllis Shaw

Referee

- Chuck Jones
- Joe Mandeville

SCMA is proud to present the annual



Traveler's Award



Sunday • July 12

Sign-In: 8-10 a.m.

Start: Fullerton Harley
2635 W. Orangethorpe Ave.
Fullerton, CA 92833
714-871-6563

Ride Closes at 3 p.m.
**\$17 for non-SCMA members*

Entry Fee — \$15*

**Coffee and Doughnuts
at the Start**

•
50/50 Raffle

•
**\$5 Food Coupon for lunch
at end of ride**

Mail-in Deadline: June 30, 2009
Make checks payable to: SCMA

Mail to: Jan Staws, 1959 Gale Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90810

Name _____	Name _____
Address _____	Address _____
City _____ State __ ZIP _____	City _____ State __ ZIP _____
Telephone _____	Telephone _____
SCMA Number _____	SCMA Number _____

DRINK, DRINK, DRINK

by John Del Santo

There are different possible threats that we have to be concerned with when we are riding... Drunks, People who are not paying attention, and one that we don't often think of:

DEHYDRATION: Is one that can sneak up on you. Lower or higher elevation, hot or cold temperature, Drink! Drink! Drink! Gallons each day! and not diuretics like coffee or alcohol drinks they just make it worse. The less clothing that we are wearing, the more water will evaporate from our body. Our body needs the liquid, and if we don't get enough our body will let us KNOW about it, sometimes with...

HEAT EXHAUSTION: That can make us feel like just stopping and laying down next to the road in the shade and going to sleep. Maybe Forever. We can fall asleep as easy on a bike as we could driving a car and falling asleep has a whole nother meaning when it happens on a bike. Drink! Drink! Water and sports drink get in someplace cool, dump water on your head and down your shirt. Rest Because next in line comes the killer. Which can worsen from heat exhaustion with little warning. Our body's temperature control stops working! Hot dry skin, severe headache, exhaustion, hallucination, THERE IS AN IMMEDIATE POSSIBILITY OF DEATHFIRST CALL 911! Move the victim to a cool place, douse with water, fan breeze onto the victim. If we act quickly and correctly, maybe we can prevent permanent brain damage or death. Once someone has suffered a heat-related illness, the chances of it happening again in the future are higher.

ABATE of CALIFORNIA LOCAL 6 — <http://abatelocal6.org/index.html>

ALL ABOUT BIKES

Greetings Fellow Motorcycle Enthusiast!

We are reaching out to motorcyclists all over the world to let them know about our new site that was launched 6 weeks ago, www.allaboutbikes.com .

If you are affiliated with a club, we would be happy to place a link on our site to your website!

Unlike other websites and magazines, we cover the entire spectrum of motorcycles, and not just one particular area of interest. From everyday riding, motorcycle sports, track days (including videos of actual tracks from the rider's perspective!), manufacturers, and industry, we are focused on providing information on all areas of motorcycling. Look at us as a blend of print magazines, that contain interesting informative content, and the internet, that provides instant, dynamic information at your fingertips 24/7.

Our site utilizes a new format that we created called a Vertical Information Portal, or VIP for short. It is the first in a series of "allabout" sites that we are developing, that will focus wholly on one particular subject area – thus the name, AllAboutBikes!

We are reaching out to ask you to visit our site, explore it, and share it with others. Become a registered user, and most importantly, let us know what you think. Why? Because we want real passionate motorcyclists like us, whose tires hit the pavement, to let us know what it is that interests them. Please check us out and provide us with your feedback, it is truly appreciated.

Thank you, and safe riding.. Fueling Your Passion!

Ron Manges
Vice President - Business Development
AllAboutBikes.com

HEADLINES

These are actual headlines:

Man Kills Self Before Shooting Wife and Daughter

Something Went Wrong in Jet Crash, Expert Says

No, really? Ya think?

Police Begin Campaign to Run Down Jaywalkers

Now that's taking things a bit far!

Panda Mating Fails; Veterinarian Takes Over

What a guy!

Miners Refuse to Work after Death

No-good-for-nothing' lazy so-and-so's!

Juvenile Court to Try Shooting Defendant

See if that works any better than a fair trial!

War Dims Hope for Peace

If Strike Isn't Settled Quickly, It May Last Awhile

Ya think?!

Cold Wave Linked to Temperatures

Who would have thought!

Enfield (London) Couple Slain; Police Suspect Homicide

They may be on to something!

Red Tape Holds Up New Bridges

You mean there's something stronger than duct tape?

Man Struck By Lightning: Faces Battery Charge

He probably IS the battery charge!

New Study of Obesity Looks for Larger Test Group

Weren't they fat enough?!

Astronaut Takes Blame for Gas in Spacecraft

That's what he gets for eating those beans!

Kids Make Nutritious Snacks

Do they taste like chicken?

Local High School Dropouts Cut in Half

Chainsaw Massacre all over again!

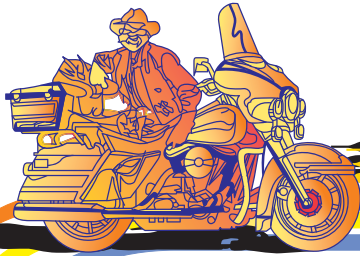
Hospitals are Sued by 7 Foot Doctors

Boy, are they tall!

And the winner is....

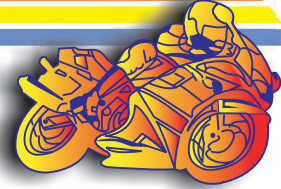
Typhoon Rips Through Cemetery; Hundreds Dead

Did I read that right?



SCMA

Southern California Motorcycling Association

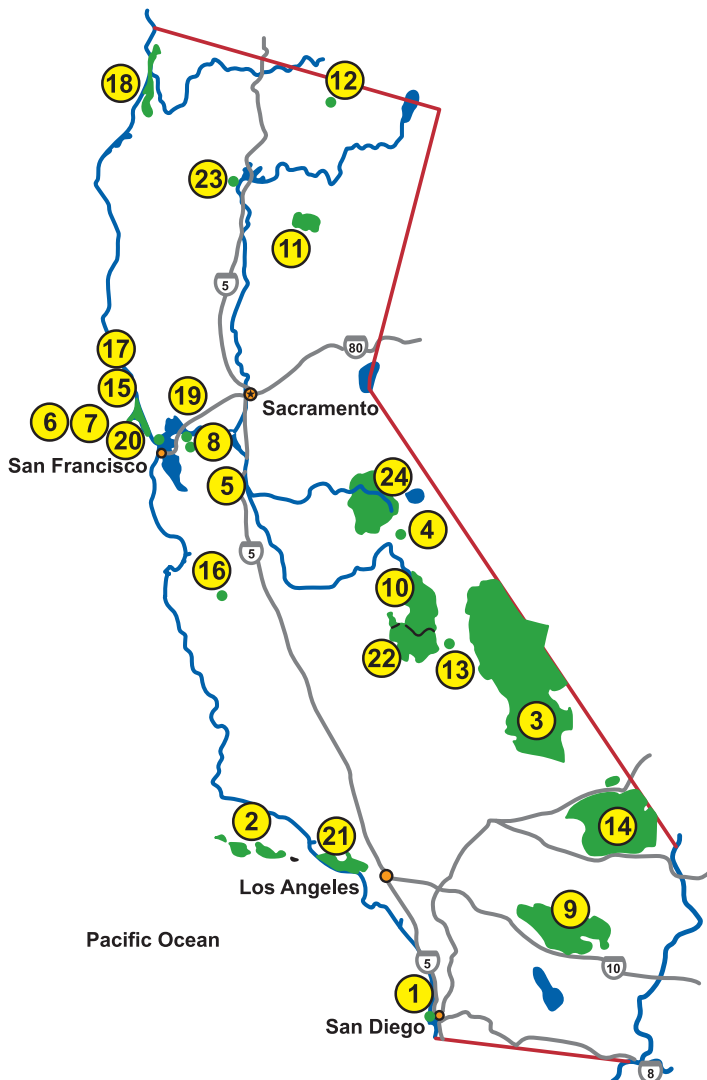


SCMA's California Parks Adventure

AMA Grand Tour Event

--- A Year Long Event ---

Rules of the Tour



- ◆ With each park visit, stamp your Passport w/ that parks' stamp, available at the visitor's center (Please call ahead to confirm visitor center hours).
- ◆ Be sure to take a photograph of you or your motorcycle in front of one of the following: the entrance, the visitor's center, or some landmark within that is unique to that park.
- ◆ All 24 National Parks in California must be visited between Jan. 1st & Dec. 15th of the calendar year.
- ◆ All participants will receive a map of California, a SCMA Parks pin and a AMA Grand Tour Pin. Finishers will receive a finisher's plaque.
- ◆ Return the completed passport postmarked no later than December 15th to:
Mitch Friedman
8306 Wilshire Blvd #246
Beverly Hills, CA. 90211
- ◆ For more information, please visit our website at:
www.sc-ma.com
Email us at:
scmacpa@earthlink.net

SCMA's California Parks Adventure

\$ 60.00 Non-Members

\$ 50 for SCMA members

Please print clearly

SCMA # _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone _____

E-Mail _____

Please make checks payable to: SCMA Park's Adventure
8306 Wilshire Blvd. #246
Beverly Hills, CA 90211

SCMA's California Parks Adventure

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Cabrillo National Monument - San Diego, CA | 13. Mazandar National Historic Site - Independence, CA |
| 2. Channel Islands National Park - Ventura, CA | 14. Mojave National Preserve - HQ in Barstow, CA |
| 3. Death Valley National Park - Death Valley, CA | 15. Muir Woods National Monument - Mill Valley, CA |
| 4. Devils Postpile National Monument - Mammoth Lakes, CA | 16. Pinnacles National Monument - Paicines, CA |
| 5. Eugene O'Neill National Historic Site - Danville, CA | 17. Point Reyes National Seashore - Point Reyes, CA |
| 6. Fort Point National Historic Site - Presidio of San Francisco, CA | 18. Redwood National and State Parks - Del Norte & Humboldt Counties, CA |
| 7. Golden Gate National Recreation Area - San Francisco, CA | 19. Rosie the Riveter WWII Home Front Nat'l Historical Park - Richmond, CA |
| 8. John Muir National Historic Site - Martinez, CA | 20. San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park - San Francisco, CA |
| 9. Joshua Tree National Park - HQ in Twentynine Palms, CA | 21. Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area - Thousand Oaks, CA |
| 10. Kings Canyon National Park - Southern Sierra Nevada, CA | 22. Sequoia National Park - Southern Sierra Nevada, CA |
| 11. Lassen Volcanic National Park - Mineral, CA | 23. Whiskeytown National Recreation Area - Whiskeytown, CA |
| 12. Lava beds National Monument - Tulelake, CA | 24. Yosemite National Park - the Sierra Nevada, CA |

The April 2009 Honor Run News Letter

THIS IS A MISSION, NOT A RIDE!!

The Cause:

Build a Fisher House to serve the families of our Wounded Warriors. Provide support for ALL who serve.

The Mission: "Ocean to Ocean"

During August/September 2009 conduct a Cross Country Motorcycle Tour starting in in Washington D.C. and ending in Southern California. Raise money for the Fisher Foundation and Intrepid Fallen Heros Fund

America's heroes need your help.

Today's technology mercifully moves an injured warrior from battlefield to fully-equipped hospital in less than an hour.

What's this mean? It means the number of amputees we bring home from war has skyrocketed over previous conflicts. It means 1 in 4 injured warriors now come home with a traumatic injury of some kind.

And the hospitals they come home to, while better equipped to handle them, are often ill-equipped to provide for their families.

What can we do? Here's what we can do. There's this thing called The Honor Run, Saturday, September 5th. A coast-to-coast ride that ends in Southern California.



The donations we raise will help a number of organizations take care of the men and women who took care of us. As well as their families.

Dave Barr, a double-amputee, will take off from the Vietnam Memorial in Washington D.C. on August 28th. As he and his buddies pick up steam and riders crossing the country, they'll roll through a bunch of states. Ending up at Oakley headquarters in Orange County, California for a monumental celebration. See more here.

Word is, this thing could be up to 10,000 strong as it thunders on home.

Law enforcement's onboard. So's the 1st Marine Division Association. So's the Vietnam Veterans of America. So's CSI New York's Gary Sinise and his Lt. Dan Band, scheduled to get it on at the giant celebration at Oakley on the 5th.

All we need are you and your brothers to ride with this very simple message.

“America, the time has come to pay back our heroes.”

With pennies. Dollars. Jobs. Education. Care. Whatever we've got.

There are no politics in these efforts. No Republicans. No Democrats.

Only Americans.

We need your help out there on the road. To ride. To support the ride. To spread the word on the ride. We need all of America, but the message starts with you.



These are our heroes. They fought for all of us. Now's our chance to fight for them. Ride for them. Ride for you. Ride for honor.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

We consider each Rider and Organization that receives this News Letter our most important audience!!

We believe that you agree with our Mission to assist our Wounded Warrior Families. If you have friends that would like to receive this News Letter,

Go to the Honor Run Website:

www.thehonorrund.com • www.firstgiving.org/gratefulpatriot1 • www.firstgiving.org/gratefulpatriot

We only have 5 months until the MISSION BEGINS!!

Register NOW at:

<http://www.thehonorrund.org/>

DAVE BARR'S "OCEAN TO OCEAN RUN"

NOTE: THIS IS A TENTATIVE SCHEDULE THAT WILL BE UPDATED EACH MONTH IN THIS NEWS LETTER

THE RUN

28 August 2009

Depart Washington DC
Arrive Cambridge Ohio

29 August 2009

Depart Cambridge Ohio
Arrive Indianapolis Indiana

30 August 2009

Arrive Kansas City Missouri

31 August 2009

Arrive Kolby Kansas

1 September 2009

Arrive Denver Colorado

2 September 2009

Arrive Salina Utah

3 September

Arrive Mesquite Nevada

4 September 2009

Arrive Biggs Harley Davidson San Marcos California

5 September 2009

**THE HONOR RUN
BIGGS HARLEY DAVIDSON TO
OAKLEY FUTURE WORLD!!!**

WELL, TIE ME DOWN!

by John Del Santo

The average driver has no clue as to how much force the wind can create. They'll watch the News on TV and see a 65 MPH Gale blowing down trees on the Florida coast, and then they'll put chairs, garbage cans, and an aluminum ladder in the back of a pickup truck and drive down the highway at 65 MPH and expect the stuff to stay there! The most common things to find lying in the road are bungee cords (the hooks on those are good for a flat tire). The second most common thing to find in the roadway are the things the bungee cords used to be holding down... and there is a GIANT list of stuff waiting to snare you... Aluminum ladders and pieces of plywood, mattresses and living room chairs, tires, parts of tires (road gators), and hub caps... Lawn chairs, charcoal barbeques, and coolers, AND the liners from inside the back of pickup trucks. Whew! It can be like running an obstacle course! Constant Surface Appraisal is a necessity, And a good healthy following distance can give you time to see and evade things on the road that will hurt you, including the time to see big potholes as they emerge into view from under the car that you are following. Cal Trans spent 82 Million Dollars last year just picking up stuff on the freeways, stuff that came off and out of peoples cars and trucks. They picked up 138,000 trash bags full of stuff from San Diego Freeways, alone.

We are aware of the things we need to watch for when other people don't secure things properly, so now let's look at the types of tie-downs that we need to do right. I've heard some bikers say that if something did not fit in their wallet, they didn't take it on a trip. The rest of us, from time to time, go on a tour and need to attach something to our bike. First... Bungee Cords... Don't trust them. If you don't use them at all, they won't hurt you. Some government agencies forbid their drivers from using them on official vehicles for any reason. Some people use them, but will use FOUR of them across something on their bike instead of ONE, Just as insurance, or in addition to nylon straps. We can strap something down snugly on our bike, but should stop an hour down the road to check if the weight has shifted or the tie-down has loosened. We need to keep our Center of Gravity low and centered so the bike handles properly. The luggage rack on the back of a bike was not designed for heavy stuff, and things tied to the front forks do nothing good for the forks or the steering. A rawhide boot-lace or parachute cord only takes up a little carrying space, but in an emergency can make a pretty good one-time tie-down strap. My wife made her own tie-down straps, strong black nylon straps, with substantial black buckles... used for securing the tent and sleeping bag and rain gear... nothing was going to escape from these babies !! However, pulling into a campground in the Yukon late at night during a storm, she discovered that black may not have been the best color to use... It was tough to see which strap went where in the dark; multi-colored straps will do the trick next time. A rider tells the story about his leather jacket escaping from the bungee cord on the back seat and the wind taking it down into the spokes of the back wheel... Ya' talk about a SUDDEN STOP!!

It would be nice to expect a clear road out in front of us... but it just isn't going to happen. So we need to stay alert and be ready for anything that's out there on the road that shouldn't be. Be Aware; Constant surface Appraisal; Get your knees in the breeze; and... Ride Safe!

Classic Quotes

The secret of a good sermon is to have a good beginning and a good ending; and to have the two as close together as possible. — *George Burns*

Only Irish coffee provides in a single glass all four essential food groups: alcohol, caffeine, sugar, and fat. — *Alex Levine*

I don't feel old. I don't feel anything until noon. Then it's time for my nap. — *Bob Hope*

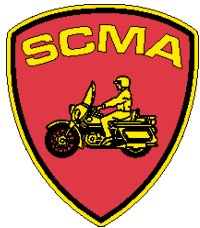
I never drink water because of the disgusting things that fish do in it. — *W.C. Fields*

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PONDERISMS

I used to eat a lot of natural foods until I learned that most people die of natural causes.

There are two kinds of pedestrians: the quick and the dead.

Life is sexually transmitted.

Healthy is merely the slowest possible rate at which one can die.

The only difference between a rut and a grave is the depth.

Health nuts are going to feel stupid someday, lying in hospitals dying of nothing.

Have you noticed since everyone has a camcorder these days no one talks about seeing UFOs like they used to?

Whenever I feel blue, I start breathing again.

All of us could take a lesson from the weather. It pays no attention to criticism.

In the 60's, people took acid to make the world weird. Now the world is weird and people take Prozac to make it normal.

How is it one careless match can start a forest fire, but it takes a whole box to start a campfire?

Who was the first person to look at a cow and say, 'I think I'll squeeze these dangly things and drink whatever comes out?'

If Jimmy cracks corn and no one cares, why is there a song about him?

Why does your OB-GYN leave the room when you get undressed if they are going to look up there anyway?

If quizzes are quizzical, what are tests?

If corn oil is made from corn, and vegetable oil is made from vegetables, then what is baby oil made from?

Do illiterate people get the full effect of Alphabet Soup?

Does pushing the elevator button more than once make it arrive faster?

Why doesn't glue stick to the inside of the bottle?



NCOM NEWS BYTES

THE AIM/NCOM MOTORCYCLE E-NEWS SERVICE is brought to you by Aid to Injured Motorcyclists (A.I.M.) and the National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM), and is sponsored by the Law Offices of Richard M. Lester. For more information, call us at 1-(800) ON-A-BIKE or visit us on our website at www.ON-A-BIKE.com.

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

NEW MOTORCYCLE AND SCOOTER SALES SET RECORDS

Despite the economy, U.S. sales of new motorcycles in 2008 still topped the one-million mark, and did so for the sixth straight year. That beats the longest run of million-plus sales ever recorded by the Motorcycle Industry Council, during the five years from 1970 to 1974. Also, scooter sales last year reached their highest annual level ever.

The MIC's preliminary estimate for all motorcycles and scooters sold nationwide in 2008 is 1,087,000, down just 3.3 percent compared to 2007. The MIC is currently estimating 2008 scooter sales at 222,000, a new record. Back in 1992, total motorcycle and scooter sales combined were just 278,000.

"All in all, our industry has not declined as precipitously as many others," said MIC President Tim Buche. "Many Americans certainly want motorcycles, both for recreation and transportation. When they aren't buying now, it's down to personal economics, not desire."

While total sales have declined slightly during the past two years, they are following in the tracks of some very big years. There were 1,124,000 new bikes sold in 2007. In 2006, that number was 1,190,000, the biggest year for motorcycle sales in more than three decades. The record for most new bikes sold in a year is 1.5 million, back in 1973.

CONGRESS CONSIDERS MOTORCYCLE SAFETY MONTH

A Congressional committee has passed a bill encouraging all road users to be more aware of motorcyclists and their safety, and encourages motorcyclists to take rider training and practice safe riding skills. House Resolution 269, a bill entitled "Supporting the goals of a motorcycle safety month", received unanimous approval from members of the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

The resolution is co-sponsored by Rep. Gabrielle Giffords (D-AZ), an avid rider who is co-chair of the Congressional Motorcycle Safety Caucus, and caucus co-chair Rep. Michael Burgess M.D. (R-TX).

The measure now goes to the House floor for a full vote.

INTERNATIONAL FEMALE RIDE DAY — MAY 1st

Women riders are hitting the road in record numbers, with the latest statistics showing that 12.6% of motorcyclists and scooterists are now women, a 29% increase from 2003. Now, the ladies even have their own day to kickstart the riding season!

Flagged for the first Friday of May each year, International Female Ride Day has become the globally synchronized day for women to — just ride!

Supported by the motorcycle industry around the world, it now encompasses a range of international cultures and locations including Canada, United States, South Africa, Australia, Greece and the UK to name but a few, with Poland joining in this year.

In conjunction with International Female Ride Day, Harley-Davidson Motor Co. has declared May as the first-ever Women Riders Month and has planned a series of events around the world to celebrate the ever-growing numbers of female riders hitting the highway and to encourage more ladies to take life by the handlebars.

Harley-Davidson is also encouraging women to learn to ride via either the Harley-Davidson Rider's Edge New Rider Course or the Motorcycle Safety Foundation Basic RiderCourse training program, and is backing a Guinness World Record attempt for the number of women motorcycle riders trained in one weekend during the first weekend of May.

CALIFORNIA SMOG CHECK BILL PASSES COMMITTEE

Most motorcycles would have to pass the same smog inspections as cars and trucks under legislation approved by a California legislative committee. SB 435, introduced by Senator Fran Pavley, passed the Senate Transportation Committee on April 14 and has been referred next to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

The measure seeks to include motorcycles in the state's Smog Check Program beginning in 2012 and would cover about 72% of all motorcycles in the state — year 2000 and newer models with large, class-three engines.

No state currently requires motorcycles to undergo regular emissions testing, since motorcyclists in Arizona and Kentucky successfully lobbied to end such test procedures.

Continued on page 20

NCOM NEW BYTES

Continued from page 19

MILITARY REQUESTS MANDATORY TRAINING FOR CIVILIANS

Combat injury or death are always possibilities in a war, but last year more U.S. Marines were killed here at home while off-duty riding motorcycles than from enemy fire in Iraq, prompting all military branches to require completion of rider training courses and mandatory personal safety equipment on and off base.

Now, in a move encouraged by military leaders at different Armed Forces bases, a bill is making its way through the North Carolina legislature that would extend the mandatory training requirement to civilians, making it tougher and more expensive to get a motorcycle license.

The legislation, Senate Bill 64, passed the State Senate on March 11. It would take effect July 1, 2010 and require would-be motorcyclists to pass a safety class before they can get a motorcycle endorsement on their licenses. The bill, which is currently pending in the state House, would also prevent riders from taking advantage of the "perpetual" learners permit by making it valid for just 6 months with a rider having one year to get a full motorcycle endorsement or quit riding.

It's estimated there are 48,000 motorcycle riders in the Department of the Navy, many of them choosing sport bikes which are designed for speed. Nationwide, the military lost 41 people to motorcycle crashes in fiscal 2001. That tripled to 124 in 2008.

WASHINGTON STATE BIKERS PROTEST WSP SURVEILLANCE

A motorcycle rights group is demanding answers from the Washington State Patrol. During an annual rally at the Capitol this year in Olympia, a state trooper was seen on video as he recorded the license plates of those visiting their elected officials. The sergeant was seen wandering through the parking lot and using a voice recorder to take down the license plate numbers from motorcycles as their owners were inside the statehouse advocating for issues important to them.

Aid to Injured Motorcyclists (A.I.M.) Attorney Martin D. Fox, a Seattle lawyer representing several local motorcycle groups, is spearheading an inquiry into the incident and wrote an angry letter to Governor Chris Gregoire protesting the WSP's January 22nd surveillance activity, noting; "I may be old school, but I always thought that the Capitol was supposed to be a sanctuary for free speech and assembly, and not an opportunity for clandestine intelligence gathering on citizens trying to be involved in the political process."

Fox, an attorney for ABATE of Washington and legal counsel for the Washington Confederation of Clubs, distributed his letter to numerous Washington media outlets, along with a DVD with images of a trooper "crawling around the bushes of the Capitol to record license plate numbers of motorcycles into his tape machine," the letter reads.

"My concern is anyone going to the Legislature to have their views heard are being put on a list and it's not what we do in America," said Fox.

ABATE and the COC are awaiting a written reply. "They want to know why it was being done and where this information was going," said Fox.

AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENTS BAN BIKIE "GANGS"

Two of Australia's biggest motorcycle "gangs" could soon be banned and their members arrested for associating with one another under new anti-bikie laws passed in response to escalating violence between rival clubs.

The New South Wales government has drawn up emergency legislation that it claims will dismantle the biker gangs and bring the violence to an end. Under the proposals, the police would be able to apply to the courts to have a motorcycle group declared a "criminal organization" and outlawed on the basis of intelligence about its alleged activities.

"The new legislation was about declaring a particular organization a criminal group, and I would say that this is a path that we will now be able to go down," NSW Assistant Police Commissioner Catherine Burn told reporters.

The Rebels and the Comanchero, clubs that were involved in a widely reported fatal brawl at Sydney airport, are likely to be the first gangs so proscribed. Police could then arrest any member wearing gang colors or associating with other known gang members.

In the meantime, gang legislation enacted in South Australia last June to dismantle the clubs has had the reverse effect - serving to unite rival clubs. Gypsy Jokers, Hells Angels, Rebels, Finks and Descendents bike club members have, for the first time, joined together in protest against the Serious and Organised Crime Control Act, described by the government as being the toughest anti-gang law of its kind in the world.

The alliance, known as the FREE Australia Party, is only a few application process steps away from forming a legitimate political party. The party's leader, Paul Kuhn - a committee member of the Motorcycle Riders Association of SA and a Justice of the Peace - said the group was formed because of deep concern anyone associated with a member of a club would be found guilty under the law. "The Government is now controlling and dictating relationships," he said.

WEIRD NEWS: MUSICAL HELMETS

A European recycle program could turn music and movie disks into motorcycle helmets. A recycling plan proposed by the Swiss supermarket chain Migros aims to reduce the number of old CDs and DVDs landing in the regular trash by collecting and using them for an unrelated end product.

The recycling program aims to reduce the number of old CDs and DVDs destined for the dumpster. Collection points will be available across Switzerland, and they plan to shred the disks, using the resulting granular remains to make new products such as motorcycle helmets.

According to a store spokesperson, the discs contain the valuable petroleum product polycarbonate, and far too many of them end up in the normal trash. If the program is successful, an old Madonna CD or Brad Pitt movie could be made into head gear.

MILLION MILE MAN

Congratulations to Dave Zien, former Wisconsin State Senator and longtime champion of bikers' rights, for his unprecedented ride into history on April 4 as the odometer on his 1991 FXRT Harley-Davidson turned 00000 for the tenth time! Zien became the first person to ride the same Harley-Davidson motorcycle 1 million miles, which may be the most mileage on any motorcycle ever!

The feat earned him a world record from the Iron Butt Association, the international organization that oversees and governs safe, long-distance motorcycle riding challenges, which was present at Hal's Harley-Davidson in New Berlin, WI to witness the achievement.

During his time in the saddle, Zien has collected numerous riding records, including logging 1,616 miles in 24 hours and riding 3,032 miles in 48 hours, and through 48 states in eight days. He also has gone through three engines, a couple of transmissions and too many tires to count.

The Harley-Davidson Motor Co. recognized Dave's accomplishment by presenting him with a 2009 FLHXR in exchange for his Million Mile Bike, which is reportedly headed to the Sturgis Motorcycle Museum & Hall of Fame. The long-serving legislator is already inducted into the Motorcycle Hall of Fame for not only his riding achievements but for his motorcycle rights advocacy during his 18-year tenure in the state legislature.

During his years as a lawmaker, Zien was known for becoming the state's first motorcycle-riding legislator. Bikers' rights got Zien involved in politics, as he founded the Wisconsin Better Bikers Association after returning from Vietnam and helped repeal the state's mandatory helmet law. He has also served for many years on the Legislative Task Force for the National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM-LTF), and has lobbied against adult helmet laws in numerous states and on the federal level.

In addition to his staunch support of bikers' rights issues, as a Marine combat veteran he dedicated much of his public service to advocating for veteran's affairs.

At last report, Dave was reluctant to leave his trusty steed behind, but as the first digits roll across his new odometer, a journey of a million miles begins anew.

QUOTABLE QUOTE: "Government can do something for the people only in proportion as it can do something to the people."
— Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826), drafted the Declaration of Independence, 3rd US President

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while on a recent ride?**

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