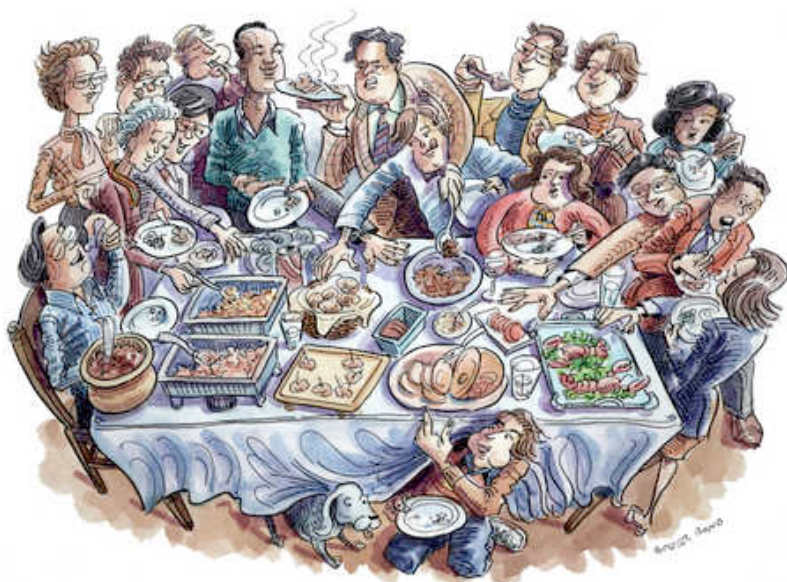




SCMA NEWS

Proudly Serving the Long Distance Riding Community Since 1968

***Our Sweetheart Ride is February 10
Our Big Annual Awards & Appreciation
Banquet is March 2***



Details are inside for our best evening of the year. Come join us for some laughs, great food and to honor the riders and volunteers that made 2012 such a great year. Get all the dope on what's ahead for 2013 as well.

Upcoming Events: (See club websites for details)

- | | |
|--|--|
| Feb 9: BMWCOSEC Rib Ranch BBQ | Feb 16-18: South Coasters Death Valley Campout |
| Feb 10: SCMA Sweetheart Run* | Feb 23-24: BMWCOSEC Solvang Ride |
| Feb 10: South Coasters Ride to Yuma Territorial Prison | Mar 1-3: BMWCOSEC Colorado River Campout |
| Feb 12: SCMA Board Meeting | Mar 2: SCMA Banquet Day Ride |
| Feb 16: SCMA GMM | Mar 2: SCMA Annual Awards and Appreciation Banquet |
| Feb 16: Three Flags Committee | |

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We Want to Hear From You Contact Us At:

SCMA
PO Box 487
Norwalk, CA 90651
www.sc-ma.com

The Buck Stops Here:
714.801.3931
BlakePAnderson@gmail.com

Road Signs

Our 2013 Calendar is Set

SCMA invited its affiliated clubs to attend our General Membership Meeting on January 19 to set our 2013 calendars.

SCMA will put everything on our online calendar found on the front page of our website www.sc-ma.com. All SCMA events are now up and the first three months of our affiliated club events are pretty much up. Everything else will go up when time permits. Check it out.

January 20 Soup Run was a Screamin' Success!

We overwhelmed the Filling Station Cafe in Old Orange as we signed in 120 riders who kindly donated cans of soup in lieu of a riding fee for our annual Soup Run.

We normally get 30 riders for this event. Heavy advertising, a beautiful day and social media made it grow to this very nice turnout.

Over 400 cans of soup were donated to "Families Forward" located in Irvine. More inside.

Sweetheart Ride Set for February 10

Our annual Sweetheart Ride is coming soon. It begins and ends at Roy's Cycle Service in Newhall. We'll cover about 140 miles on some beautiful winter riding roads. 7AM to 9AM sign up. More inside.

March 2 is SCMA's annual Awards and Appreciation Banquet

Our annual Banquet will be at the Embassy Suites in Santa Ana. Sign up now by mailing a registration form and \$45 to Kenn Hatke. Find the flyer, form and more information inside.

Website News

Access to almost all information, calendars and old newsletters is now available to everyone. SCMA members only can log-in to access the forum, to modify their user profiles and to sign-up and/or pay for our five premier riding events online. While membership is required to participate in our premier events, membership is NOT required for our one-day and two-day local events.

Some members are still having problems logging on. Most of the time there's a fault with the email address associated with a member's account. SCMA must repair the email address and assign a temporary password for a member experiencing the difficulty.

Some of the trouble is due to security settings or old browser versions used by some members. If you are experiencing problems we invite you to make sure your spam filter is not causing the problem, that you have a current version of your browser and that you can accept cookies.

We are trying to sort out the problems one-by-one. Thanks for your abiding and long-suffering patience, if you are one of the souls knock, knock, knocking on SCMA's door.

If you have comments, questions and concerns, please email Blake at BlakePAnderson@gmail.com. If you need to be walked through the site, he'll do it over the phone.

Are You Interested in Attending a "55 Alive" Driving Class?

Our own Gaylord "Huey" Ward is a certified instructor for AARP's 55 Alive driver safety program. He has offered to conduct a class for SCMA. We would like to gauge interest in the idea. It is an 8-hour course.



Why take a driver safety program at this stage of our lives? There are plenty of reasons: Sharpen your defensive driving. Learn about new traffic laws. Find out how to adjust to your age-related changes in vision, hearing and reaction time. Learn how medications may affect your driving. Assess your own driving ability with a "Personal Driving Capability Index." Get a break on your insurance premiums. And much more.

Interested? Then email Blake at BlakePAnderson@gmail.com

It's EASY to Subscribe to SCMA News

Want to subscribe? Know someone else that would like to receive it? Simply email the editor at BlakePAnderson@gmail.com and request it.

You will automatically receive the newsletter once per month plus any special announcements and fliers about upcoming SCMA events.

January Membership Report

By Sally Bishop, Membership

Renewing Members During January	4
New Members During January	65
Lapsed Members	388
Life Members	91
Sponsoring Corporate Members	5
Active Regular Members	484
Total Members on the Rolls	872

SCMA Board of Directors, 2012-2013



Chairman

Blake Anderson
714.801.3931

BlakePAnderson@gmail.com

Vice Chairman

Steve Shulman
949.769.1726

steven1050@aol.com

Correspondence-Membership Secretary

Sally Bishop
714.693.7801

SallyJBishop65@gmail.com

Treasurer

Dennis Even
661.298.0000

even4two@pacbell.net

Recording Secretary

Barbara Fox
805.659.1956

twofoxs@pacbell.net

Referee-Risk Manager-Insurance Coordinator

Joel Briggs
805.529.4245

jbriggs555@att.net

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Norwalk, CA 90651-0487

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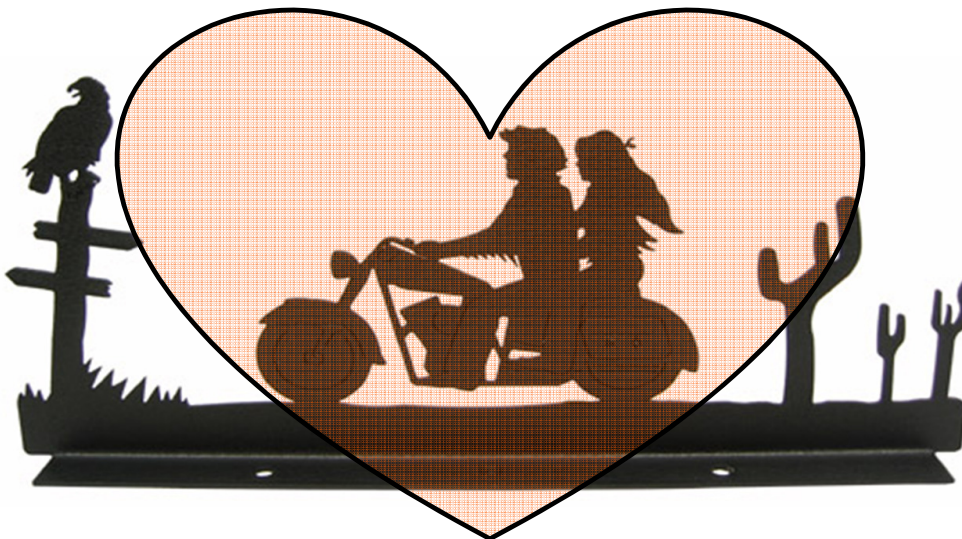
The Southern California Motorcycling Association Proudly Presents



The Sweetheart Ride 2013



An SCMA Traveler's award event



Sunday February 10, 2013

Starting at:

Roy' Cycle Service

24421 Main Street

Newhall, CA

Sign in at 7:00 -9:00 A.M.

Ride Closes at 3:00p.m.

Entry Fee (Price includes all discounts)

Riders and passengers \$10/Head

For more details

Call 310-345-9799 or email Mitcho399@gmail.com

March 2 Banquet Ride

By Steve Howe

Howdy,

Come one and come all to join us for a crisp morning ride leading up to the SCMA Awards and Appreciation Dinner. For the second year in a row (actually, three if you include the 2011 rainout) we will offer an opportunity for our local friends and our away-from-home friends to ride the wonderful roads of Southern California.

Our ride this year will feature our favorite price - FREE. We will gather Saturday morning March 2 in the lobby of the Santa Ana Embassy Suites Hotel between 7:30 and 8:00a.m., sign-in, conduct a brief rider's meeting and hit the road at 8:00 a.m. Of course you can leave sooner if you like. Ride solo or join the group.

We will eat breakfast along the road.

There are 2 exciting routes planned. The route chosen will depend on the weather in the days before the event. We might just flip a coin! Which ever way we go, we'll have you back to the hotel in plenty of time to shower and show up for the evening's festivities. Information on the banquet is a few pages from here.

This will be the third Travelers Award ride of the year. For those who haven't registered for TA, there will an opportunity to sign up. Due to some darned liberal scorekeeping including a cluster of makeup rides, you still have a chance to end the year with a "perfect" 13 that wins you a free dinner at the 2014 awards banquet.

Southern California is blessed with great mountain roads that ring the densely populated coastal plains of Orange County and Los Angeles County. Hidden in them hills are world class roads the rival anything Europe has to offer.

So saddle up and join us for an evolving SCMA tradition. Remember we will pick a road house for breakfast so hold off on chowing down early and wait to join us for some well-earned calories and a chance to sit down together and start spinning stories that will carry us into the night.

SCMA's Affiliated Clubs

Antelope Valley Riders
www.avts.av.org

BMW Club of Southern California
www.bmwcosc.com

BMW Club, South Coast Riders
www.scbmwrc.com

Motorcycle Touring Association
www.mtaca3.org

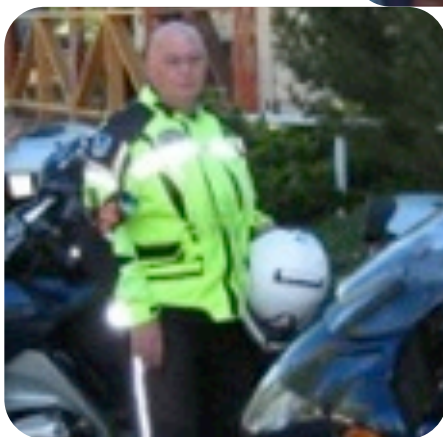
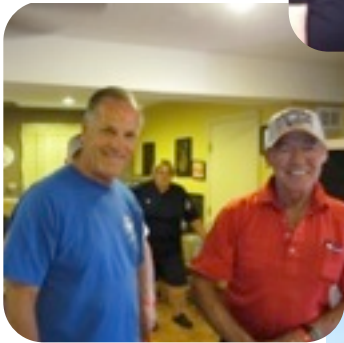
Pasadena Motorcycle Club
www.pasadenamc.com

Shamrock Road Riders
www.sc-ma.com/shamrock.htm

Victor McLaglen Motor Corps
www.thevmmc.com

2012 Scrap Book

2012 gave us so many memories. Here are just a few.



SCMA Rides, Events, Communications

SCMA's USA 4 Corners Tour
Bill Allen, Chair
949.374.1536
Bill@AllenDesigns.com

California Adventure Series
Greg Harris & Dennis Even
661.400.2401 & 661.210.8264
even4two@pacbell.net

2013 Three Flags Classic
Dennis Even, Chair
661.210.8264
even4two@pacbell.net

SCMA Best 15 US Road Challenge
Charlie Coyner, Chair
719.432.8856
charlie.coyner@gmail.com

Traveler's Award
Dannie Fox, Chair
805.889.5220
twofoxs@pacbell.net

2013 Awards & Appreciation
Banquet
Kenn Hatke & Phyllis Hatke-Shaw,
Co-Chairs
951.677.3644
kenn2006@verizon.net

SCMA Newsletter
Blake Anderson, Editor
714.801.3931
BlakePAnderson@gmail.com

Publicity Chairman
Steve Howe, Chair
562.298.6236
steve_howe@sc-ma.com

Sunshine Report
Phyllis Hatke-Shaw, Sunshine Lady
951.677.3644
pshaw2003@verizon.net

2013 Soup Run Recap By Steve Shulman

When you combine a beautiful mild winter's day following a week of lousy weather, a heavy canvassing of motorcycle shops with flyers, a noble cause and the wonders of social media networking, do you know what you get? You get a great turnout. So, first the hard stats:

- Ride distance: approx. 158 miles
- Total Riders: 120
- SCMA Members: 23
- Non-members: 97
- Cans of Soup: Approximately 400
- Riders Fed: 70
- First rider in: approx. 11:15 a.m.
- Last rider in: approx. 4:00 a.m.
(friend had flat tire)



New friends

It was a remarkable day for SCMA and for the new friends we met. The non-members were a heavy mix of Harley Davidson riders with a large number of them riding two-up.

Preparing and serving lunch was a challenge. Normally we get 30 Soup Run riders. Huey had prepared the night before. He figured with heavy advertising we

might get 50 and he was prepared to feed a large crowd. With 120 at the start we had a huge crowd. So Huey, Blake and I left the start, headed to grocery stores for extra pasta, chili, chips and other fixin's and then set up the kitchen at Mason Park in Irvine and awaited the first arrivals.



A sprinting group of our old BMW *Huey & Steve Howe* friends were at the finish well before noon. They were the first to sample Huey's remarkable Cincinnati Chili. They had eaten and taken off before the first group of Harley Davidson riders rolled in after a far more leisurely pace. They were very appreciative of the design of the route because SCMA managed to introduce many of them to new roads.



The Prize

The next day the 400 soup cans went to Families Forward in Irvine. It was a great way to end a perfect ride.





**SCMA Annual Awards and Appreciation Banquet
March 2, 2013
Highlighting the achievement of the
Triple Crown Award Participants**

**California
Parks Adventure**



**USA 4 Corners
Motorcycle Tour**



**Three
Flags Classic**



When: Saturday, March 2, 2013
5:00-6:45 PM Registration and Social Hour
7:00 PM Dinner
8:00 PM Program

Where: Embassy Suites (Orange County Airport North)
1325 E. Dyer Road, Santa Ana, CA 92705
Hotel reservations call (714) 241-3800 or 1 (800) Embassy (362-2779)
Mention SCMA for special rates at \$109 plus tax for king;
\$119 for double
Parking and Breakfast are complimentary
Cut off date for discount rate is February 15, 2013

Banquet: Cost is \$45.00 per person Cut off date for banquet reservations is
February 27, 2013

Come one, come all. Everyone is invited to enjoy an evening with fellow motorcyclists. Participation in motorcycling events is not necessary. No membership is required.

For more information refer to the Reservation Form (on SCMA Website/Newsletter) or contact Phyllis Shaw-Hatke or Kenneth Hatke at (951) 677-3644 or email kenn2006@verizon.net

A special ride has been planned by Steve Howe. This activity is a Traveler's Award. They will leave from the hotel at approximately 8:00 AM. The length of the ride will depend on the weather conditions the day of the ride. For more information, go to www.sc-ma.com.

Please look at the next page of this newsletter to find the registration form. Send it and \$45 to the address found on the registration form.

**SCMA'S AWARD AND APPRECIATION BANQUET
RESERVATION FORM**



**HIGHLIGHTING THE TRIPLE CROWN AWARD
and
HONORING THE RIDERS THAT HAVE COMPLETED
USA 4 CORNERS MOTORCYCLE TOUR
BEST 15 US ROADS CHALLENGE
CALIFORNIA PARKS ADVENTURE
CALIFORNIA MISSION TOUR
THREE FLAGS CLASSIC**



**and
HONORING OUR VOLUNTEERS**

**March 2, 2013
\$45.00 per person**

Payment by check or money order payable to SCMA.

Complete this form and mail it with your payment so it received by February 27 to:

**SCMA
c/o Kenneth Hatke
38685 Via Taffia
Murrieta, CA 92563**

1st Name _____ Email _____ Phone # _____
Address _____ City _____ State/Province _____ Zip/Postal Code _____
Dinner Selection(select one): Angus N Y Steak Chicken Picatta Penne Pasta

2012 Events Completed California Parks Adventure/California Missions Tour
 USA Four Corners Motorcycle Tour
 Three Flags Classic
 Traveler's Award

2nd Name _____ Email _____ Phone # _____
Address _____ City _____ State/Province _____ Zip/Postal Code _____
Dinner Selection(select one): Angus N Y Steak Chicken Picatta Penne Pasta

2012 Events Completed California Parks Adventure/California Missions Tour
 USA Four Corners Motorcycle Tour
 Three Flags Classic
 Traveler's Award

If you have an interesting story that you would like to share at the banquet, please email your story to kenn2006@verizon.net or mail to Kenn Hatke at 38685 Via Taffia, Murrieta, CA 92563. Dependent on the number of responses, your story may or may not be selected from those received.

The Southern California Motorcycling Association Proudly Presents



THE 38TH ANNUAL THREE FLAGS CLASSIC



AUGUST 30, 2013
THRU
SEPTEMBER 2, 2013



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OR FOR MORE DETAILS VISIT

WWW.SC-MA.COM

**WHILE YOU'RE ON THE WEBSITE
BE SURE TO CHECK OUT THE
THREE FLAGS CLASSIC FORUM
FOR TIPS, TALES , AND TFC
UPDATES.**

SCMA - Home of the 3 Flags Classic, Four Corners USA Tour, California Adventure Series, and 15 Best Roads Challenge

Best 15 US Roads Challenge

By Charlie Coyner, Ride Chair

2013 has arrived! It's time to get the cobwebs dusted and open that new mapping software you got for Christmas and start planning now for your own Best 15 Roads in the USA Quest!

This year we're adding a road located in New Hampshire, "Kancamagus Highway" with a side trip up the "Mt Washington Auto Road". We dropped the route in Vermont VT-100 since many of our 2012 riders had complained about the condition of the roadway. So, we still have a terrific and scenic New England route in our 2013 collection!

The other 14 roads remain unchanged for 2013. We are still including Beartooth Pass and Chief Joseph Highways; CA-1, Monterey to Morro Bay; Lolo Pass; Cherochala Skyway and Tail of the Dragon; Going to the Sun Road, MT; "Million Dollar Highway", CO; Blue Ridge Parkway; WA-20, Concrete to Omak,

MT; VA-16, "Back of the Dragon"; The Twisted Sisters, TX; US-16 Custer to Mt Rushmore; US-191 Springerville to Three Way, AZ; UT-12 Torrey to Bryce Canyon and; US-50, the Loneliest road in America, Ely to Carson City, NV. This still gives you 15 of what we think are the Best Roads in the USA! Rode 'em before? Then ride 'em in the opposite direction.

If you're going to do the 2013 Three Flags Classic or even the USA Four Corners, you might pick up some of these roads along the way and complete two of our Premier events at the same time! Enjoy!

We'd love to have you Join Us for the fun of it! We're always open for suggestions, let us know for our 2014 collection!



 The advertisement shows a blue and black motorcycle jacket against a background of a road lined with trees. The Tourmaster logo is in the top right corner. The text "EVERYWHERE WEAR" is prominently displayed in the middle left.

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- Internal media pocket and sleeve key pocket
- Dual-zippered fanny pack
- Adjustable waist belts
- Jacket/pant zipper attachment

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Join Us and Ride the



Southern California Motorcyclist Association's

Best 15 Roads in the USA



**Entry is \$60.00 and ride must be completed within the calendar year.
For Information and Rules Visit:
www.sc-ma.com and Register On-Line.**

For more Information,
Contact Charlie Coyner, SCMA Best 15 Chair at (719) 432-8856 or charlie.coyner@gmail.com

2013 Travelers Award Contest Rules

Dan Fox, Chairman

Check the ride list. It shifted a bit since 1st announced in January's newsletter. SCMA is offering the Travelers Award once again. This year we are charging \$20 to participate. For 2013 we will provide new awards and its easier than ever to count to 13. 7 rides for a pin, 10 rides for a plaque/trophy and 13 rides for a free 2014 awards banquet dinner (all prizes accumulating, of course).

13 Possible Qualifying Rides for 2013

SCMA Soup Run	January 20
SCMA Sweetheart Run	February 10
SCMA Banquet Day Ride	March 2
PMC Poker Run	March 10
Shamrocks St. Pats Run	March 16-17 (first day)
S. Coasters Hearst Castle	April 19-21 (first day)
PMC Greenhorn Run	May 18-19 (first day)
SCMA Blazing Saddles	May 25-26 (first day)
SCMA Dog Days of Summer	July 14
South Coasters 7 Passes Tour	Aug 2-4 (second day)
SCMA Grand Tour	October 12-13 (first day)
SCMA Cemetery Tour	October 27
SCMA Turkey Run	November 17

Plus 2 Possible Make Up Day Rides

For those riders that miss a ride we are offering two make up rides that can be substituted for any qualifying ride

BMWCOSEC Park & Ride	September 28
SCMA Winter Solstice Challenge	December 21

Plus a Make Up Premier Ride

We also will provide the ability to substitute one of SCMA's Premier Rides for a qualifying ride. But only one. Attending a premier ride is nearly impossible without stepping on one of the qualifying rides. So, for 2013, as we have done for the last 3 or 4 years, you can substitute one of the premier rides as a qualifying ride.

SCMA Three Flags Classic	August 30-Sept. 3
SCMA Four Corners Tour	21 days in 2013
SCMA Best 15 US Roads	Anytime during 2013
SCMA California Mission Tour	Anytime during 2013
SCMA California Parks Advent.	Anytime during 2013



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Riding The Best 15: Blue Ridge and Back of the Dragon

By Gonzo Gonzales

On the morning of August 12 I rolled out of brother's in Lusby, Maryland heading south into Virginia toward Waynesboro where I would connect to the Blue Ridge Parkway (BRP).

Riding the parkway was beautiful. Overwhelming vistas from lookout points seemed to be located at every other mile. Lush greenery was alongside the well-maintained road. It is a narrow 2 lane road and with long no passing zones and a speed limit of 45, it means real slow going. I entered the BRP around 4:30 PM so after about an hour of riding and stopping for photos I realized there was no way

I could make it to Fancy Gap before nightfall.



Bailing off the BRP at Buena Vista was easy and I found the Buena Vista Motel.

The place

was old style and clean and a reasonable price. The owner gave me a discount, marked restaurant locations on the town map he provided for me, and I headed into the night towards downtown. I found the family-owned Canton Chinese restaurant still open. I was welcomed with hot tea and enjoyed the spicy kung pao chicken. It was equal to the California restaurants back home and authentic Chinese.

After a good night's rest I went to TheBlue Dog Art Café for breakfast. I met Fred Pasternak a local retiree, and Butch Hogan whose wife Sue owns the restaurant. Butch engaged me in conversation while also admiring Sophia and the oversized carriage rack that I have on the back for my gear. He noticed my USMC(Ret) plate and told me his stepson is an active duty Marine with several Afghanistan tours under his belt.

It was pretty easy to get back on the Blue Ridge exactly where I got off and I headed towards Roanoke. The ride was pure joy. Easy speeds, no traffic, lush greenery, beautiful views, fresh air. I enjoyed deep breaths of clean air....no exhaust fumes up here! I was so enthralled with this ride and frequently stopped at lookouts to click a photo and look at the valleys below dotted with farms, small towns, thin line roads barely discernible from this distance as they meandered through the rolling hills of the valley. Before I knew it the road weaved its way around Roanoke. When I arrived at Peaks of Otter I found a lodge/restaurant so I decided to go in and treat myself to a nice lunch. It was good to take a break and just enjoy the rest. My waitress was Keegan and she filled my empty coke bottles with water for the next leg of the ride.

Back on the road heading for Fancy Gap, it didn't take me long to realize that I was not going to make it to The Dragon Inn north of Chilowee and The Back of the Dragon (VA 16) if I continued on to Fancy Gap. So, I kicked in a new plan and decided to go to the 150 mile marker as required by the SCMA for this event then bail out from there to get on the I-81 down to Marion to ride northwest on VA 16 "Back of the Dragon".

I found the 150 marker and took pics. Then about 10-15 miles later found a paved road that took me off the BRP, down thru Gap countryside and farms, and into Floyd where I tanked up again. Garmin got me onto the US8 which finally got me south onto I-81.

As I pulled off for Marion, VA and rolled into a station for gas, and a receipt for proof of visit, the thunder gods moved in and drenched the area keeping me under the gas station canopy for about 45 minutes. When I left there it was close to 7:30pm and I didn't go more than a mile when I came upon the Marion Town sign and had to stop for a photo proof....as I came to a stop two deer bolted out from behind the sign where they were feeding and ran up the hill.

Riding the Blue Ridge and Back of the Dragon (continued)

Not too far from the Town Sign, the climb started for the Back of the Dragon and the first 180 deg ascending switchback was experienced.

The road was a combination of good curves but not too many switchbacks. It was bordered with forested mountain on one side and woods or cliffs on the other side. Since the sun was relatively low on the horizon there were mostly shadows; and in some places the trees made a canopy over the road. It was a good medium climb up the first mountain and a matching descent into the valley on the other side. A bit of level road and then I climbed again, over the ridge, down into a valley and then up and over a third ridge. After coming off the last ridge the steepness shallowed out and the road had two or three left curves before coming to a right curve through trees whose bark was completely covered in vines of some sort. It seemed like a jungle.

Light was waning and my Garmin had me arriving in Tazewell at a spot where VA 16 took a sharp right at a stop sign and then another 3-5 miles to Tazewell. It was almost dark and I took a left onto the business 16. This took me through a community and I was expecting to enter a downtown area but instead rode by what appeared to be a fairgrounds where I could see the top of a Ferris Wheel over the low buildings. Right after that there was nothing so I turned around and headed to where I entered the town, turned left, and found a gas station to get my receipt. Now it was totally dark and no photo ops.

However, earlier on the highway, in one of the valleys, there was a sign showing US16 and Tazewell at 19 miles. There was still plenty of light so I stopped for a photo op and on the 2nd photo using the timer I was walking back to retrieve the camera when dogs started barking. They ran down a farm's dirt driveway and came to the road's edge growling and barking at me. This was a clear sign for me to get outa Dodge. One dog hid in the bushes and glared at me...the other came about 3 feet into the road and watched me. I knew what they were waiting for....they wanted to chase the bike as I rode away. I started the bike and just as I started rolling the both charged fast! HA!...I was ready for

them and poured on the gas leaving them in the 'dust'.....so much fun.

After tanking up I put Maryville in the Garmin and was directed back

out to the fairgrounds and to highway US19 which I think was named 'Lonesome Pine". Making a left I felt totally disoriented in the dark and was very unsure of the direction as I was expecting to make a right towards I-77 for a southerly run back to I-81. I stopped at some large business parking lot under their lamp and consulted my AAA map and figured out what Garmin was doing....it was taking me on a route paralleling I-81...a more direct route of shorter distance.

At Cedar Bluff, just outside of Richmond I got rained on...never saw it coming because of the dark...so I pulled into a McDonalds and had a small bite to eat. It was already 10pm and my Droid Maps told me I was 200 miles from Maryville...a good 3 hours from The Dragon Inn where I had a room waiting for me. So I called it quits and got a room at the Timberline Lodge, a local motel on Claypool Hill (at the intersection of US19 and I think 460). The motel was clean and comfortable but my windows and doorway faced the highway below and I could hear the semi's engine braking all night long.



Editors Note: Ronald "Gonzo" Gonzales was one of SCMA's 2012 Finishers of the Best 15 US Roads Challenge

*Ride Safe: Lane Splitting Tips**

**Excerpted From the California Motorcyclist Safety Program*

Lane splitting in a safe and prudent manner is not illegal in the state of California. Motorcyclists who are competent enough riders to lane split, should follow these general guidelines if choosing to lane split:

1) Travel no more than 10 MPH faster than other traffic because danger increases at higher speed differentials.

A speed differential of 10 miles per hour or less allows an alert, competent rider enough time to identify and react to most dangerous situations that can occur. The greater the speed differential, the less time a rider has to identify and react to a hazard.

2) It is not advisable to lane split when traffic flow is at 30 mph or faster --- danger increases with speed.

At 20 mph, it takes 30 to 60 feet to identify a hazard and begin to take evasive action. Actual braking or swerving takes additional time and distance. Braking and stopping distance varies greatly based on a multitude of factors (rider, bike and environment). As speed increases, crash severity increases.

3) Usually it is safer to split between the #1 and #2 lanes than between other lanes.

Other road users are more accustomed to motorcycles splitting between the #1 and #2 (furthest left) lanes. Avoid splitting in lanes near freeway on-ramps and exits. Avoid splitting lanes when another motorcycle rider is splitting between other nearby lanes as cars may make additional room for one rider and accidentally reduce space for another.

4) Consider the total environment in which you are splitting, including the width of the lanes, size of surrounding vehicles, as well as roadway, weather, and lighting conditions.

Some lanes are narrower than others, leaving little room to pass safely. If you can't fit, don't split. Some vehicles are wider than others, it is not advisable to split near wide trucks. If you can't fit, don't split. Know the limitations of your motorcycle. Wide bars, fairing and bags require more space between vehicles. If you can't fit, don't split. Avoid splitting on unfamiliar roads to avoid surprises such

as poor road surfaces. Seams in the pavement or concrete between lanes can be hazardous if they are wide or uneven. Poor visibility, due to darkness or weather conditions, makes it difficult for riders to see road hazards and makes it more difficult for drivers to see you. Help drivers see you by wearing brightly colored protective gear and using high beams during daylight.

5) Be alert and anticipate possible movements by other road users.

Be very aware of what the cars around you are doing. If a space, or gap, opens up next to your lane, be prepared to react accordingly. Always be prepared to take evasive action if a vehicle changes lanes. Account for inattentive or distracted drivers. Riders should not weave back and forth between lanes or ride on top of the line. Riders should avoid lingering in blind spots. Never ride while impaired by drugs, alcohol or fatigue. Constantly scan for changing conditions.

Remember:

These guidelines are not guaranteed to keep you safe. Lane splitting should not be performed by inexperienced riders. These guidelines assume a high level of riding competency and experience.

Every rider has ultimate responsibility for his or her own decision making and safety. Riders must be conscious of reducing crash risk at all times. California law requires all motorcycle riders and passengers wear a helmet that complies with the DOT FMVSS 218 standard.

You can get a ticket! Motorcyclists who lane split are not relieved of the responsibility to obey all existing traffic laws and ride sanely. With respect to possible law enforcement action, keep in mind that it will be up to the discretion of the Law Enforcement Officer to determine whether your riding behavior is safe and prudent.

*SCMA's Premier Events**

USA Four Corners Tour

Imagine the adventure and satisfaction of visiting San Ysidro, CA; Blaine, WA; Madawaska, ME; and Key West, FL in 21 days or less. The USA Four Corners Tour is a self-guided tour visiting these four locations in any order you select and at any time of the year. Visit our website for complete information about this World Class event.

Three Flags Classic *(an AMA "Extreme Grand Tour")*

The 38th annual Three Flags Classic is set for a Deming, NM start on August 30, 2013 and a finish in Winnipeg, MB on September 2. There is a September 3 banquet. 250 riders will travel 2100 miles through the mountains and rolling hills of New Mexico, Colorado, Nebraska, South Dakota, Minnesota and Manitoba. Watch the SCMA website and the TFC forum for unfolding information.

California Adventure Series

The California Adventure Series includes two different rides: The California Parks Adventure (CPA) and the California Mission Tour (CMT). Complete one toward qualifying for the Triple Crown award.

CPA During any single calendar year and in any order and at any pace, visit all of the 24 National Parks and Monuments in California. Join the fun by purchasing a full color, well-illustrated passport book from SCMA that lists all locations. Get a park stamp and a photo of yourself at each location. Return the completed passport to SCMA and get it back along with a pin and a plaque.

CMT During any single calendar year and in any order and at any pace, visit all of the 21 California Missions. It works just like the CPA listed above

SCMA Best 15 US Roads Challenge

During 2013, travel our annual list of Best 15 US Roads. Every mile from your home to the roads and back again must be traveled on a motorcycle, trike or sidecar. Rules, application and details can be found on our website.

Tie It All Together with the Triple Crown Award

Imagine completing the USA Four Corners Tour, the Three Flags Classic and one of the California Adventure tours in a single calendar year. It is a rare achievement--done by only 10 riders per year. SCMA honors this significant accomplishment with a limited-edition plaque that marks you as a very unique long-distance rider.

Annual Awards and Appreciation Banquet

Triple Crown Awards and others awards are presented at SCMA's Annual Awards and Appreciation Banquet that will be held March 2nd in 2013 at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Santa Ana, California. More on our website. Registration information for the banquet appears in this newsletter.

**For more information visit our website and and scroll down to find all of these premier events*

Help Wanted

SCMA needs a ride chair for the October 27 Cemetery Tour

SCMA needs a ride chair for the November 17 Turkey Run

SCMA needs a ride chair for the December 21 Winter Solstice SS1000 Mile Challenge

Are you interested? If you live within 200 miles of Santa Ana or are willing to ride to within 200 miles of Santa Ana, I will be willing to buy you lunch so that we can talk about getting involved in SCMA as a ride chair or some other volunteer position.

Come on, pick up the phone right now or type up a quick email. Start something.

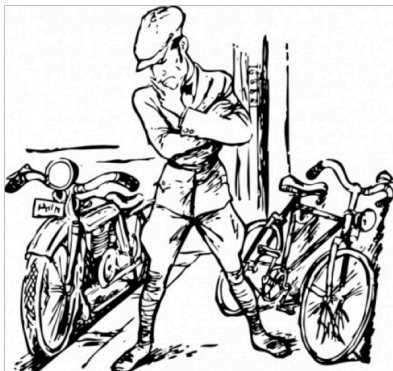
Blake Anderson (714) 801-3931
BlakePAnderson@gmail.com

Sell It Here...

Remember we accept free motorcycle-related ads from our members. Send your ad to the newsletter editor by the 25th of the month.

We Want Your Stories and Photos

Do you have a story that needs to be told? A ride you have taken? An interesting person you want to profile? Memories of your first motorcycle and what it meant to you? Maybe you have a good old days story about SCMA. If you have an idea, write it or tell it. We'll print it.



Everyone is Welcome at Our General Membership Meetings

We generally meet once per month on Saturdays beginning at 9 AM. We meet at:

Coco's Restaurant
 306 N Azusa Ave.
 (just south of San Bernardino Road)
 Covina, CA

Directions to Coco's:

From the I-210 Freeway, head south on Azusa Ave. 2.2 miles. Coco's is on your left.

Or...

From the I-10 Freeway, head north on Azusa Ave. 1.0 miles. Coco's is on your right.

Please join us any time. Hear first hand about what is planned for the upcoming rides offered by SCMA and its affiliated clubs. Get to know the people that put these amazing events together. Tell us what you think. And get a feel for what it would be like to join our efforts in providing the best that riding has to offer. No one is doing what SCMA is doing. No one.

Our 2013 General Membership Meetings are:

- February 16
- March 9
- April 13
- May 4
- June 8
- July 13
- August 17
- September 21
- October 19
- November 16

Three-Month Running Calendar (with qualify Travelers Award Events in Red)

February

- 10 *South Coasters GMM and Day Ride*
- 10 *SCMA Sweetheart Run**
- 12 *SCMA Board Meeting, Shaker Cafe, 10AM*
- 16 *SCMA General Membership Meeting, Coco's Covina, 9AM*
- 16 *Three Flags Committee, Coco's Covina, 11AM*
- 16-18 *South Coasters Death Valley Campout*
- 23-24 *BMWCOOSC Solvang Ride*



March

- 1-3 *BMWCOOSC Colorado River Campout*
- 2 *SCMA Day Ride (Morning of Banquet)**
- 2 *SCMA Awards and Appreciation Banquet*
- 3 *South Coaster GMM and Day Ride*
- 9 *SCMA GMM, Coco's Covina, 9AM*
- 9 *Three Flags Committee, Coco's Covina, 11AM*
- 10 *PMC Poker Run**
- 16-17 *Shamrocks, St Patrick's Day Weekend Run**
- 19 *SCMA Board Meeting, Shaker Cafe, 10AM*
- 23-24 *South Coasters Borrego Springs*

April

- 5-7 *South Coasters El Capitan Ride*
- 13 *SCMA GMM & Calendaring Session, Coco's Covina, 9AM*
- 13 *Triple Crown Committee, Coco's Covina, 11AM*
- 16 *SCMA Board Meeting, Shaker Cafe, Glendale, 10AM*
- 19-21 *South Coasters Hearst Castle Ride**
- 19-21 *BMWCOOSC Benton Hot Springs*

Here's what's on the road ahead. For more information, check the SCMA website www.sc-ma.com and the websites of our affiliated clubs

Club websites (page 4) have more information. ALWAYS consult them before a ride for last-minute changes.

*Qualifying Travelers Award Event

Some valuable fine print (really)

Articles and advertising must be received by the 25th of the month in order to appear in the next published issue of SCMA News. Send written correspondence to: Southern California Motorcycling Association, PO Box 487, Norwalk, CA 90651-0487

Email newsletter submissions to:
BlakePAnderson@gmail.com

SCMA's website is always your best source for complete and current information on our rides and events. Our membership application is there too. Go to www.sc-ma.com for information, applications and other resources. Links to all of our affiliated clubs are there too.

The SCMA neither endorses nor sanctions any fund raising activities by its members or riders participating in its events for any purpose benefiting or on behalf of third party charities unless expressly stated otherwise. All such activities are outside of the control and view of SCMA and no support of any kind should be construed.

Any article, letter or material printed in this or any other SCMA publication is the opinion of the author or contributor and is not necessarily the policy or opinion of the SCMA Board of Directors unless expressly noted therein.

All material appearing herein can be used freely with the courtesy of attribution.

Advertising space is provided to our members only. Regular membership is \$25 for one year or \$45 for two years. Want ads are free for regular members. Sponsoring corporate membership is \$400 per year and includes a one-half page ad in the newsletter for 12 months and prominent mention at SCMA's March Awards and Appreciation Banquet and the September Three Flags Banquet.