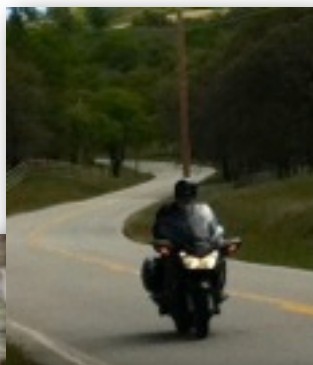




SCMA NEWS

Proudly Serving the Long Distance Riding Community Since 1968

*May is a Time for Celebrating,
Remembering, Spending Time with
Friends and Families,
and Some Serious Riding!*



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Upcoming Events (See club websites for details)

- May 3-5: South Coasters: Yosemite Ride
- May 4: SCMA General Membership Meeting **CANCELLED FOR MAY**
- May 11: SCBMWRC: Mother's Day Ride
- May 12: Mother's Day**
- May 14: SCMA: Board Meeting
- May 18: AZRATPack: Southern AZ British Invasion
- May 18-19: PMC: Greenhorn
- May 25-27: SCMA: Blazing Saddles
- May 25-27: SCBMWRC: Death Valley
- June 8: SCMA: General Membership Meeting (Nomination of Officers)

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

By Blake Anderson

May General Membership Meeting Has Been Cancelled

We will not meet in May. Our next meeting is June 8.

Annual Board Elections Are Coming

Nominations are being taken now through June 8 for the three board positions that are elected in odd-numbered years for two-year terms: Chair, Recording Secretary and Referee-Risk Manager. All SCMA members are eligible to run. Nominations require a nomination and two seconds. Nominations will be taken through the June 8 General Membership Meeting.

Ballots will be distributed following the meeting. Completed ballots must be returned to SCMA, PO Box 487, Norwalk, CA 90651 by Friday, July 12.

Ballots will be counted and announced at the July 13 General Membership Meeting.

We need a chairperson for the October 27 Cemetery Tour

We are still looking for someone to chair for the October 27 Cemetery Tour. Pick a start, find 5-7 cemeteries, design a route and a finish. Find an interesting grave in each cemetery and write a question about the departed. A macabre sense of humor helps. Dig up an adventure for your fellow riders. Email Blake or another board member.

Free Breakfast on June 8

It may be true that there is no such thing as a free lunch, but that does not apply to breakfast. One SCMA member will receive a free breakfast at the General Membership Meeting on June 8. Attendance has its rewards!

Status Report on USA Four Corners Tour

Bill Allen reports that as of May 1, seventy-three riders have signed up for the tour—a 12% increase over last year's pace. If the trend continues through the riding season we will end up with approximately 130 entrants. Six entrants are Canadian, 1 is from Saipan and 66 are from the United States.

If you are considering the Tour for 2013, remember that a completed application includes an entry form, ride fee, signed and witnessed release of liability form and a membership application and fee if you not a current SCMA member.

It's EASY to Subscribe to SCMA News

Want to subscribe? Know someone else that wants to? 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. Email Blake at BlakePAnderson@gmail.com if you are interested.



May is Motorcycle Awareness Month

Signing Up for One-day and Two-day Rides is E-A-S-Y

Do you know how easy it is to sign up for SCMA's one-day and two-day rides? All you have to do is show up! Pre-registration and red tape is not part of these rides. This means that a last-minute decision to ride is always possible.

So, for the upcoming Blazing Saddles Ride on May 25-27 and the Dog Days of Summer Ride on July 14, just show up, pay the ride fee, sign our Release of Liability form, get a ride pin and saddle up.

Signing up for SCMA's Premier Riding Events

Signing up for our five premier rides requires pre-registration because of the starter materials we provide you. Most of the tasks can be done on line. SCMA membership is required. For USA4C, CMT, CPA and Best 15 the Release of Liability Form must be downloaded, signed, witnessed and mailed. The TFC ROL is done in Deming

April Membership Report

By Sally Bishop, Membership

Renewing Members During April	10
New Members During April	47
Lapsed Members	385
Life Members	91
Sponsoring Corporate Members	5
Active Regular Members	572
Total Members on the Rolls	1073

Editor's Note: We were a month behind on these statistics last month. We are back on track in the May Newsletter.

SCMA Board of Directors, 2012-2013



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Long Distance Motorcycling Checklist

by Steve Shulman

We all face an important question when preparing for a long distance ride: What to pack? Its a hard question. On one hand, we want to prepare for fun, problems, cold mornings and blazing hot afternoons. On the other hand, we have limited space to pack it. Here's my checklist. It is based on my experience riding the Three Flags Classic, the USA Four Corners Tour and preparing for my 2013 True X Tour. You may not pack all of this, but it is here for your consideration. I recommend that you share additional ideas at the SCMA website's forum under "Knowledge Base > Road".

Personal Items

Prescription Medication
Driver's License
Bike Registration
Passport
SCMA Tour Paperwork
Maps
Address Book / Passwords
Credit Cards
ATM Card
Cash
Checkbook
Medical Card
Insurance Card
Hotel Reward Cards
Credit Card #'s & Lost #'s
Reading Material
Reading Glasses
Book Light
Stamps

Electronics

GPS Locator
Camera / Charger
Video / Charger
Cell Phone / Charger
Computer / Charger
iPod / Charger
iPad / Charger
Satellite Radio
Thumb Drive
AA/AAA Batteries
DC Charger Plug
CD Music

Riding Gear Essentials

Helmet
Cold Riding Jacket
Light Riding Jacket
Rain Jacket / Pants
Riding Pants
Thermal Pants
Riding Boots
Leather Gloves
Weather Gloves
Bandana
Neck Warmer

Clothing Essentials

Socks
Underwear
Walking Shoes
Tee Shirts
Collared shirt
Jeans
Shorts
Swim wear
Ball Cap

Toiletries

Shampoo
Soap
Toothbrush
Toothpaste
Hair Gel
Hair spray
Hair Brush
Cologne
Shaving Cream
Razor/Blades
Q Tips
Baby Powder
Towel

Riding Essentials

Drinking Water
Earplugs
Sunglasses
Sun Block
Lip Balm
Roll of Quarters (tolls)
First Aid Kit
Erasable Marker for
Windshield

Motorcycle Essentials

Hidden Spare Key
Tire Gauge
Tire Plug Kit
Compressor
Fuses / Bulbs
Leatherman
Flashlight / Charger
Toolkit
Cleaning Towels
Windshield Spray
Cleaning Solution
Communication Cords
Bike Cover
Velcro Straps
Bungee Cords
Zip Ties
Zip Lock Baggies

Camping Gear

Tent and Spikes
Sleeping Bag
Pad
Stove, Cooking Gear
Pillow
Toilet Paper
Tissue
KOA Card / Map

Last Minute Preparations

Pay Monthly Bills
Pay Insurance Bills
Verify Canadian Insurance
Check Cell Phone Plan
Notify Credit Card Company
Notify ATM Company
Stop Newspaper
Stop Mail
Update Trust, Will
Oil Change
Tire Change
Check MC battery

On-the-Road Service

Locate shops
Schedule tire change*
Schedule oil change*

*If projected mileage makes service necessary

A Final Note on Last Minute Motorcycle Service

Major service should be completed at least a week ahead of your trip so that you can get at least 100 miles on your bike. Over the years we have seen a number of riders chasing corrective adjustments during a tour because of a servicing error back home. Give yourself time to make sure the service on your bike was done right.

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UPDATES.**

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5. IT'LL MAKE YOU SMILE. EVERYONE KNOWS THAT SMILING = NOT COOL.

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SUNDAY FINISH

SAN JUAN BAUTISTA, CA



Above: You actually can't get anything you want at Alice's Restaurant. See for yourself on Sunday

Left: Angel's Camp: A Bit of California's Gold Rush History on Saturday



Ride Safe: Target Fixation

By Blake Anderson

As I write this column, tonight's news features a red Ducati running up behind a bicyclist on Deadman's Curve on Mulholland Drive in the Santa Monica Mountains here in Southern California. The bicyclist was hit hard from behind and went over the handle bars of the Ducati and into the motorcyclist's lap before tumbling onto the pavement. It occurred at the very famous curve that weekend riders seek out. It's just west of the famous Rock Store where Leno and other riding celebs hangout. On a typical weekend, photographers stand in the dirt on the high inside part of the curve to photograph motorcyclists and hotrods taking the curve. Many of us have gotten at least one terrific photo of ourselves after paying the \$15 fee the professional guys get online for the day's best shots. And so it was no wonder that the video of the accident was taken. Find it on YouTube if you can. It is worth a look-see.

The accident is worthy of mention because it illustrates one of the greatest errors we as motorcyclists commit: target fixation.

The Ducati was climbing through the turn at a moderate rate of speed. He was 75% through the switchback and was straightening out when he then steered into the much slower bicyclist who was well-over to the right and pumping up the hill. The bicyclist certainly heard the whine of the Ducati making the curve behind him so he was as close to the edge of the road as possible. There was plenty of room for the Ducati to pass him on the left and the Ducati had already been straightening out on the curve--a curve he had probably run many times before. Dry pavement. Good pavement. Plenty of sunlight. Moderate speed. And sufficient line-of-sight. But the crash occurred.

We all know what happened.

The Ducati rider caught sight of the bicycle and kept his eye on him to avoid hitting him. And therein was the problem. The more he looked at the bicycle to avoid it, the more he steered toward it. The motorcyclist even resorted to dropping his feet to the ground as if to stop his bike. Perhaps a rookie mistake. Perhaps not.

Its the same thing that happens when you teach your 5-year-old to ride a bicycle on a quiet cul de sac with only one car parked at the curb and well out of the way. You can be guaranteed he will crash into the car. Watch out! Watch out! Watch out! Oh my gosh, son, are you okay?

Look where you want to go and not where you do not want to go. Simple rule. We all know it. But when we are surprised or at the edge of our riding envelope, then we revert to our hard-wired human behavior and look at the hazard.

Solution? Practice, practice, practice.

Ride Safe...

SCMA's Affiliated Clubs

Antelope Valley Riders
www.avts.av.org

AZRATPack
www.azratpack.com

BMW Club of Southern California
www.bmwcosc.com

BMW Club, South Coast Riders (aka South Coasters)
www.scbmwrc.com

Pasadena Motorcycle Club
www.pasadenamc.com

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

Victor McLaglen Motor Corps
www.thevmmc.com



Let's Ride Deadman's Curve



The Dog Days of Summer Ride Is Running

July 14

By Steve Howe

Arrive Sunday morning, July 14th, gassed and ready to ride at the Tumbleweed Cafe 27870 Hwy 33, Derby Acres, CA. The café is a rustic red building about three miles from of the southern Hwy33/Hwy58 junction.

Registration will be open from 6:00 to 9:00 am to accommodate the early birds and also those who come a long way to the start. We recommend staying in Taft or Bakersfield the night before the ride to get an early start. For the hearty souls among us, the Tumbleweed also provides free tent camping behind the café for motorcyclists. There is some lush grass and room for about 10 tents. Feel free to use this accommodation.

This ride has been approved by the SCMA board as a Membership Drive ride and will carry a price of \$15 for the general public, \$10 for SCMA Members. Those who become NEW members of SCMA at the ride will ride that day for free. Ride pins and year bars will be distributed at the start.

The route is 365 glorious miles of twisting turns and rolling hills, running northbound to Carmel, then turning south on Hwy 1, culminating at Morro Rock. Morro Bay offers several fine eateries where you can dine before the ride home. Better yet, there will be plenty of sunlight left, why not pick a coastal town and stay out one more night. Some of your favorite roads lie on the way home and will be devoid of traffic Monday morning.

For those who really must get home there will be 2 good "Bailout" points on the route. We really hope you don't need to use them.

For more information email steve_howe@sc-ma.com

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

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Lane Splitting and Tickets: Observations from A Retired CHP Officer

My name is Steve Miriani. In 2010, I retired after 30 years in the California Highway Patrol. My former occupation is the reason I was asked to write about lane splitting and tickets. Last month I wrote about red light cameras.

Let me start again with this: The ranks of police officers are filled with good cops and a few bad cops. Just like any other profession, most of the officers you meet have families, support their communities and do their best.

So how about lane splitting? How can you be ticketed, if it is legal? Well, actually in California it just isn't prohibited like it is in 49 other states. And recently the State issued recommended guidelines--not laws--for lane splitting safely.

The first thing to remember is this: If you are lane splitting and you crash for any reason, it is your fault. It does not matter if a car hits you, it is your fault, period. And a ticket can be issued if, in the officers judgment, you were lane splitting too fast or in an unsafe manner. It is a judgement call and different officers have different thresholds.

For example, one officer can say 20 MPH over the speed of traffic is too fast and another can say 10 MPH is too fast. The new guidelines split the difference, but they are only guidelines. Road, weather and light conditions will be considered by the officer. However, if you contest the ticket, the officer must convince the judge it was too fast. If the officer, based on his training and experience can convince a judge the motorcyclist was going too fast for safety's sake, the motorcyclist is toast. I will say more about court dates later.

In the courtroom, It is up to the officer to prove the violation, as it is with any type of violation. However, a lane splitting violation is vastly different

than a ticket for speeding on the freeway. On a 65 MPH freeway, it is a violation to go 66 MPH. Whereas in lane splitting, an officer must articulate why it is too fast, especially if it was under the posted speed limit. The vehicle code section used for the violation is 22350 CVC, and that is the same section one can be cited for driving too fast in rain or fog, even if the driver was driving under the posted limit.

So how do you avoid being ticketed for unsafe lane splitting should you be pulled over?

Often times I am asked by friends how to get out of tickets. The best way is to not be issued one. What I mean by that is, not to drive perfectly, but if pulled over by a cop, there are things you can do to reduce your chances of getting a ticket.

Before I tell you how, you must see life through a cop's eyes. Keep in mind, cops are human and they sweat, bleed and experience fear. When an officer activates the red light to pull you over for a traffic violation, the officer is watching for furtive movements, traffic, listening to the radio in case their partner needs backup and insuring you do not stop in an unsafe location. Providing the actual stop goes well, as the officer approaches your bike, they must be completely aware of their surroundings as well as watching you.

What I'm trying to convey is, I don't care how many times the task was previously performed without a problem, the potential is there and the police officer's blood pressure is raised.

During contact with violators and speaking from experience, eight of ten people flat out lie and deny committing the infraction. I will go so far to state that 80-90% of people I contacted during a shift for whatever reason, lied to me even if they knew, I knew the answer before I asked the question. Some people are downright belligerent. Here are some of the things people said that no law enforcement officer believes or cares about:



Continued on following page...

*Lane Splitting: Observations from a Retired CHP Officer
(continued from the previous page)*

"I'm not on the freeway, you can't give me a ticket."
"I renounced the US Government and belong to the United Confederates, your action is illegal and you will be prosecuted." "You can't make me take off my helmet just to see my face." "If you give me a ticket, I will rape your wife." "My dad is a judge." "I swear there was another purple Corvette." "Do you know who you are messing with?" "I'll have you badge,"

I am attempting to relate that if you are stopped by a cop for a traffic violation, just be polite and tell the truth. I have written over 25,000 tickets in my career. But I have also released many people including a few that had exceeding 100 MPH. Why? Because they were nice and said something truthful like, "you got me", "I just wanted to see how fast it would go", and one of the best "I gotta take a dump." We've all been there.

Cops get lied to all of the time and it is refreshing for someone to simply say "I did it and it won't happen again." Admitting your mistake will not

guarantee avoiding a ticket, but it will improve your chances.

And what about contesting the ticket in court? Well, although cops get paid very well for going to court on a day off, I personally would rather have been on my motorcycle. If the violator had been nice, then perhaps I was riding the hills on my motorcycle. However, if I had a scheduled court appearance for a jerk I remembered, I would make it a point to show up.



*Editor's Note:
Steve Miriani is an SCMA member and is a contributor to SCMA News.*



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Best 15 US Roads Challenge: Blue Ridge Parkway--Ride at Least 150 Miles

By Charlie Coyner, Best 15 Ride Chair

Since most of us West Coasters haven't spent a lot of time riding some of these roads in the east, here is some information that may help you decide which section (or all) of the Blue Ridge Parkway (BRP) you may want to tackle.

The Parkway was born out of the Great Depression with groundbreaking in September 1935. By World War II, about half of the roadway was completed and by the 1960s all but one section was open to the public. In 1987, the last section was completed around Grandfather Mountain in North Carolina.

Designed as a recreational motor road and managed by the National Park Service, The Parkway includes numerous tunnels (twenty six to be exact) and bridges as it follows the crest of the Blue Ridge Mountains. This scenic, slow-paced road winds 469 miles through the Appalachian Highlands of Virginia and North Carolina. The Parkway connects the Shenandoah National Park

near Waynesboro, Virginia with the Great Smoky Mountains National Park near Cherokee, North Carolina. The portion of the road through the Shenandoah National Park (105 miles) is known as Skyline Drive. At Afton Mountain, Virginia, Skyline Drive heads north and the Blue Ridge Parkway turns south. A word of caution, the speed limit on the BRP is 45mph and it is heavily patrolled.

The Parkway is one of the most ecologically diverse areas in the world with about one hundred variety of trees, 1,600 plant species, 54 mammals and 159 species of birds. Go to <http://www.blueridgeparkway.org> for much more information on the Parkway as well as an excellent interactive map.



Join us for the 2013 collection. As of May 1 a total of 5 riders are taking the challenge. Shouldn't you be number six?

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- Two vertical zippered chest map pockets
- Internal media pocket and sleeve key pocket
- Dual-zippered fanny pack
- Adjustable waist belts
- Jacket/pant zipper attachment

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Check out all our videos at youtube.com/helmthouse. For more information see your local dealer or visit tourmaster.com. Cortech and Tour Master are registered trademarks of Helmet House. ©Helmet House, Inc. 2012. Always maintain, inspect and wear protective motorcycle riding gear. No gear can offer complete protection from all situations. Obey all speed and safety laws. Riding and alcohol or other drugs don't mix.

Join Us and Ride the



Southern California Motorcyclist Association's

Best 15 Roads in the USA



Ride the 2013 Collection

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

*It is Still Possible to Land a Trophy for SCMA's 2013 Travelers Award
Dan Fox, Chairman*

Even if the May 18-19 Pasadena MC Greenhorn is your first qualifying ride, it is possible to complete 10 rides for 2013! 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 trophy and 13 rides gets you a free 2014 awards banquet dinner (all prizes accumulating, of course). Look here:

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.

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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American Motorcyclist Association Urges Extra Caution During Motorcycle Awareness Month



PICKERINGTON, Ohio -- The month of May is Motorcycle Awareness Month -- one of the most important months of the year for the safety of all road users and especially motorcyclists, according to the American Motorcyclist Association.

The AMA is the largest motorcycling rights and event-sanctioning organization in North America.

"Motorcycle Awareness Month serves as a seasonal reminder to all road users to look around, check their mirrors and consciously look for motorcycles," said AMA President and CEO Rob Dingman. "Motorcyclists are now getting out on the road in greater numbers across the nation, and it's vital that road users watch for them to avoid crashes.

"Unfortunately, many drivers aren't always mindful of other road users, and an annual reminder is helpful for them to recognize the flow of motorcycles in traffic," Dingman said. "By consciously looking for motorcycles in May, we hope this will grow into a habit that will last the rest of the year, and longer."

AMA board member and actor, Perry King, is featured in a public service announcement campaign produced by the AMA called "Think. Ride. Watch for Motorcycles." Video and audio messages can be downloaded at www.americanmotorcyclist.com/Rights/Resources/PublicServiceAnnouncements.aspx.

"One of the leading causes of motorcycle crashes is the fact that drivers don't see motorcycles," Dingman said. "Drivers tell themselves to watch for cars, trucks, buses and pedestrians, but they don't always tell themselves to look for motorcycles. We want to change that."

Drivers can avoid crashes with motorcyclists by taking extra care and looking twice to spot motorcycles in traffic -- especially at intersections -- respecting the motorcyclists' space on the road and by not following too closely.

The AMA recognizes that distracted or inattentive driving has become a major concern for all road users. Far too many cases have been documented of motorcyclists being injured or killed as the result of other vehicle operators being distracted or inattentive.

The AMA also strongly encourages motorcyclists to wear appropriate safety gear and practice safe riding techniques.

The AMA has long advocated that local and state governments maintain or increase funding for motorcycle rider education and motorist awareness programs -- two highly effective strategies to reduce the likelihood of motorcycle crashes.

To view AMA position statements on distracted and inattentive vehicle operation and rider education, as well as other subjects, visit www.americanmotorcyclist.com/rights/positionstatements.

Riding the California Mission Tour: Santa Cruz and Carmel

By Ronald "Gonzo" Gonzales

It was the first of October and I was in San Jose staying with my brother-in-law, using his place as a point of departure. There are a ton of National Parks/Sites and Missions in this area and I'd be able to visit family while making day trips to each of the locales. One of my Twitter-friends, KarolHarley, lives in Hollister and is a retired blue uniform. She rides a Road King and will meet up with me for our ride to the missions in Santa Cruz and Carmel.

Karol arrived Monday around 9:30am and we headed out on I-280 connecting to CA-17 south to Santa Cruz. I've always loved and hated this road. It's a gorgeous ride thru the hills and getting out of the greater basis area. The air is sweeter and the views are nice. That's the luv part. The problem with this two lane, sometimes bumpy highway, is that there's always a lot of traffic. And for some reason the cage drivers need to get to their coastal destinations 5 minutes ago....they're like in a NASCAR event or something. Then the really fun part is when you come around a turn at 60-65 and find a 90+ year old driving at 45... yikes!

But we made it down the other side and Karol guided us through the streets and right up to the Mission....she'd been there a few times before. She took the requisite photos of me in front of the mission then we went over to the gift shop to get the 'stamp' for the passport. Ooops, they are closed on Mondays. So we took a photo of the operating hours sign.

Back on the road we headed thru downtown and then we headed out to Monterrey. It was a great ride along the coast and riding the hills. Roads were good, traffic was acceptable with only a little construction in progress, and the sea air was a welcome change from the Bay Area. Once in Monterrey Karol led us to Cannery Row where we parked the bikes right

in front of Bullwhacker's, next to a Dyna with camping gear, fishing pole, etc., loaded on it.



We went into Bullwhackers to have lunch. While waiting for our food I noticed some folks at the other tables-- a tour group with British accents. Cool!

That's when I noticed a biker guy heading out of the patio so I called to him and asked if that was his bike out there. He said no, his was parked down the street...then responded with "why were you asking?" Being in a smart butt mood I replied, "I accidentally knocked it over" and "sure am glad it wasn't you cuz you're too much bigger than me!" We all laughed, and some of the Brits laughed at this one too. Then one of the Brit ladies asked for a photo shot with me....WOW! She was a cutie too...BUT... it was her husband taking the photo. I did ask her, in a loud voice, "is that your husband?" "Yes" she replied. With a smile I asked, "Does he know about us??" Ahh, so much fun and laughter. And it got me a great hug from her!

Then the place became empty with the touring Brits gone, our food arrived, and we started chowing down. This is when it really got to be fun! A good sized Dude walks up to our table and asks, "I heard you were looking for the guy that owns the bike out front." I almost fell outa my chair laughing. Karol was busting a gut too. We introduced ourselves and I explained that we were trying to pull a prank but it backfired cuz the other guy wasn't the owner. Seems the other guy, upon exiting the restaurant, saw the dude getting his bike ready to ride so he told

Continued on following page...

*Riding the California Mission Tour: Santa Cruz and Carmel
(continued from previous page)*

him we were looking for him...something about knocking his bike over. He told us that he inspected his bike all over but couldn't find any damage. And hearing that we were just yanking the other guy's chain made him feel a lot better. But the other guy sure turned the prank around on us! Anyhow the gent stayed and chatted with us for about 15 minutes. He's from Alabama and is touring CA then heading home.

After lunch we got back out on CA-1 and headed south for Carmel. This is where I took the lead 'cuz I had the Garmin. And I'm glad I did as it was a couple of lefties and righties on various streets....but Garmin brought us right to the front of the Mission! After parking our bikes right at the entrance to the Gift Shop I went in and got the Mission stamp in the SCMA Passport.

We took a photo in front of the mission proper and one at the gift shop entrance so we could catch the shop hours sign next to the door. One of the Brit ladies asked for a photo shot with me...WOW! She was a cutie too... BUT...it was her husband taking the photo. I did ask her, in a loud voice, "is that your husband?" "Yes" she replied. With a smile I asked, "Does he know about us??" Ahh, so much fun and laughter. And it got me a great hug from her!



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Heading out of there Karol led us out on Carmel Valley road to the intersection to Laurelas Grade a nice climbing road with a little bit of winding that connected with CA-68 heading for Salinas. The rides were great! In Salinas we stopped for a soft drink, got some fuel for the bikes, then headed north on El Camino Real, US-101, where Karol exited near Bautista to head home in Hollister and I continued on to San Jose.

It was a long day, a fun day, a great day for riding with a fellow riding enthusiast. Wonderful vistas were enjoyed, memory lane was walked, had some good laughs with the Brits and great conversation with the dude from Alabama.

Editor's Note: Gonzo is an SCMA member and a regular contributor to SCMA News.

*SCMA's Premier Events**

USA Four Corners Tour/USA Four Corners True X 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. Add Lebanon, KS between each corner and do it in 26 days or less and you've got a "True X". Plaque, pin, patch and hat to certified finishers. Visit our website for complete information about this World Class event. More people have topped Mt. Everest than have completed this challenging long distance pinnacle.

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 10-15 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. In 2014 it will be held Saturday, March 1 at the Embassy Suites in Santa Ana, California.

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

Help Wanted

SCMA needs a ride chair for the October 27 Cemetery Tour

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. SLO, Fresno, Needles, Calexico. Where do you live?

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 currently meet at:

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

UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, but remember to check every month to make sure. Changes are possible.

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 future 2013 General Membership Meetings are:

- May 4 **CANCELLED**
- June 8 (including nominations)
- July 13 (including ballot count)
- August 17
- September 21 (including TFC recap)
- October 19
- November 16 (including '14 calendaring)

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

May

- 1 **Labor Day (Mexico)**
- 3-5 South Coasters Yosemite Ride
- 4 SCMA General Membership Meeting, **CANCELLED**
- 11 SCBMWRC Mother's Day Ride
- 12 **Mother's Day**
- 14 SCMA Board Meeting, Shaker Cafe, Glendale, 10AM
- 18 AZRATPack Southern AZ British Invasion Tour
- 18-19 **PMC Greenhorn***
- 25-27 **Blazing Saddles***
- 25-27 SCBMWRC Death Valley Ride
- 27 **Memorial Day**



June

- 8 SCMA General Membership Meeting
- 9 BMWCOOSC Day Ride
- 11 SCMA Board Meeting, Shaker Restaurant, Glendale, 10AM
- 15 South Coasters Tech Day
- 16 **Father's Day**
- 23 South Coasters Summer Solstice Ride
- 29-30 BMWCOOSC Big Bear Weekend

July

- 1 **Canada Day**
- 4 **Independence Day (United States)**
- 7 South Coasters GMM and Day Ride
- 13 SCMA General Membership Meeting, Coco's Covina, 9AM
- 13-28 BMWCOOSC Tour & MOA Rally
- 14 **SCMA Dog Days of Summer Ride***
- 16 SCMA Board Meeting, Shaker Cafe, Glendale, 10AM
- 17-21 BMW MOA National Rally, Salem, OR

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 8) 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 submittals 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.