



SCMA NEWS

Proudly Serving the Long Distance Riding Community Since 1968

*The Three Flags Classic August 30-September 2: Colorado Beckons**



**as does New Mexico, Wyoming, Nebraska, South Dakota, North Dakota and Manitoba (See page 11)*

Upcoming Events

(See club websites for details)

Aug 2-4	South Coasters 7 PassesRide	Aug 17	SCMA General Membership Meeting, Coco's Covina, 10AM
Aug 11	South Coasters GMM & Ride	Aug 29	SCMA Three Flags Classic Check-in, Deming, NM
Aug 16-18	BMWCOSEC Winery Tour	Aug 30- Sep 2	SCMA Three Flags Classic
Aug 17	SCMA Board of Directors, Coco's Covina, 8AM	Sep 3	SCMA Three Flags Banquet, Winnipeg

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Road Signs

By Blake P. Anderson

It's NOT too late to ride this year's Three Flags Classic!

I can see you. I can see you sitting there with regret. I can see you wondering why the hell you decided not to ride this year's TFC. Well, now is the time to change your mind and decide that 2013 is, indeed, your year.

The weather is beautiful. You are in your summer riding groove. Your bike is running great. And you are itching for something more than that same damn 275-mile loop you ride to burn most of a Saturday.

Go to the SCMA website, mouse over "Forums", click on "Three Flags Classic Forum" and find a ticket for sale. There are several as I write this. Email the seller and buy your ticket. Email dennis_even@sc-ma.com and give him your contact information and ticket number.

In those 15 minutes you will become a 2013 rider. Then pack your bags and show up at the Deming check-in on Thursday, August 29. We ride on the 30th.

It's that easy to turn a ho-hum summer into a spectacular summer. There is more about this year's TFC on page 11.

Board Meetings moved to Saturdays

Now that we have a working stiff on the board again, we are moving our meetings from

Tuesdays to Saturdays. We will meet at 8AM ahead of the General Membership Meetings

August General Membership Meeting Starts at 10AM

Our next meeting is August 17, 10AM, Coco's Covina. **For the foreseeable future these meetings will start an hour later than usual.** We will draw for a free breakfast. Among other agenda items, we will provide last-minute updates on the upcoming Three Flags Classic. Come to the meeting to form riding teams, hear the latest news and ask questions.

Annual Board Election Results

The results are in for the three board positions that are elected in odd-numbered years to two-year terms. Blake Anderson was re-elected Chairman, Barbara Fox was re-elected Recording Secretary, and Steve Howe was elected Referee-Risk Manager.

They join Steve Shulman, Vice Chairman; Sally Bishop, Correspondence Secretary-Membership Director; and Dennis Even, Treasurer who are in the middle of their two-year terms.

Where IS that Deming start hotel hiding?

It bears repeating that the start hotel in Deming has changed names but it has NOT changed locations. It is now called a Quality Inn. Same location: 4600 E. Pine, Deming, New Mexico. Use the Pine St. offramp of I-10.



The REAL sign of happy motoring

Cemetery Tour October 27

Details will appear next month. A route to out-of-the-way and long-forgotten cemeteries will haunt you then.

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 receive the newsletter once per month and occasional special announcements. We are proud to say that SCMA is a portal to outstanding riding events.

All newsletters going back to 2007 can be viewed and downloaded on line at <http://sc-ma.com/category/news>

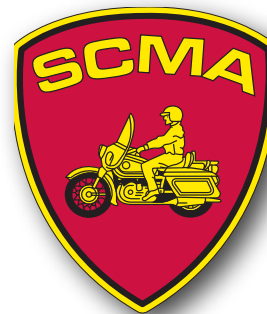


Let's Ride

End-of-July Membership Report

By Sally Bishop, Membership

Active Regular Members	610
Lapsed Members	352
Life Members	94
Sponsoring Corporate Members	5
Total Members on the Rolls	1061



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7 Passes Ride August 2 - 4, 2013

This ride will basically follow the route developed by Bill Allen for the rides in July 2011 and 2012.

This is an opportunity to explore the roads through the Sierra Nevada Mountain Passes from Bakersfield to South Lake Tahoe in a three day ride. The routing information and GPS files have been posted for viewing and downloading from the Club the web site calendar for August 16, 2013.

The ride will begin in Bakersfield on Friday morning August 2, 2013. The ride will depart at 9:00AM from Zingo's Café (3201 Buck Owens Blvd in Bakersfield)



For breakfast the riders should arrive earlier.

For those who wished to ride to Bakersfield on Thursday evening the Holiday Inn Express at 3001 Buck Owens Blvd. in Bakersfield is located adjacent to Zingo's.



Friday morning the riders will exit Zingo's left onto Buck Owens Blvd then right onto Airport Road onto S. Granite Road and onto Hgwy 155 around Lake Isabella to Hgwy 178 then Hgwy 178 east over Walker Pass and turn north on Hgwy 14 and continue north on Hgwy 395 with a fuel and lunch stop at the Merry Go Round Restaurant in Lone pine. Then continue north on Hgwy 395 to SR 120 and over Tioga Pass at Yosemite (park fee will apply) and then onto Sonora for Friday evening. One option for



Friday evening is the Inns of California in Sonora. There are several hotels in Sonora to choose from. Saturday morning at 8:30AM the riders will leave Sonora and head east and north over Hwy 108 (Sonora Pass) to the 395 north and Hwy 89 over Monitor Pass and continue on Hgwy 89 on over Ebbetts pass. Then continue on Hgwy on 89 to Hgwy 4 towards Angel's Camp, stopping for fuel and lunch at Angel's Camp.



The riders will head north via Hgwy 49 towards Tahoe (Hgwy 50) over Carson Pass and Luther Pass. Then take Hwy 207 over the Kingsbury grade to meet up with Hwy 395 south into Bishop.

Staying over night (Saturday August 3, 2013) in Bishop. One option for lodging in Bishop is the Ramada Limited Inn. Saturday evening dinner in Bishop. Leaving Sunday morning at 8:00AM the riders head south on the 395. An optional breakfast stop at the Ranch House Café in Olancho. Then continue south with a stop at Kramer Junction and then onto I-15 and home.

In addition to the mileage to Bakersfield, there are 420 miles Day 1 (Bakersfield to Sonora). Then 460 miles Day 2 (Sonora to Bishop). The final leg Day 3 is 300+ miles for the ride home from Bishop on Sunday August 4, 2013.

*The 2013 Park N' Ride Rally, September 28
Benefiting the Wounded Warrior Project
by Howard Meiseles*



The BMW Club of Southern California and New Century BMW Motorcycles invite you to the 4th annual PARK 'N RIDE Rally, an SCMA alternate Traveler Award event. The rally commences at 7am on September 28, 2013 and finishes at 3 pm; covering locations in California and surrounding states. This scavenger hunt-type, limited attendance, motorcycle rally encourages the riders to start anywhere and develop their own route to collect the most points. The rally contains two riding classes with a chance for door prizes, plus open class riders qualify for gift certificate prizes of \$300 for 1st, \$200 for 2nd, and \$100 for 3rd places. Additionally, at the end is a silent auction benefiting the Wounded Warriors Project™. A \$25 registration fee



is payable at <http://parknride.bmwcosc.com/> before September 21, 2013. Rally Packs will be sent out on September 22, 2013. <http://bmwcosc.com/simplemachinesforum/index.php?PHPSESSID=ciin7nt6gfi0aonj4vm7m3bqv3&>



*The 2012 Players, Left to Right:
Mark (New Century BMW), Matt Pflugh (2nd Place), Brian Casey (1st Place), Eric Lipps (3rd Place) and Ellen Welter-Meiseles (Rally Master)*



*SCMA Grand Tour
October 12-14*



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.thevmc.com

Our annual SCMA Grand Tour is set for October 12, 13 and 14. The entry fee is \$25. Sign-in is 6am to 7:30am at the Denny's Restaurant, 16262 Sierra Highway, Mojave, CA. Our checkpoint and overnight lodging will be the Best Western, Town and Country located at 189 N. Main Street, Cedar City, Utah. Our finish will be on October 13 in Laughlin, Nevada.

We will leave Mojave and head easterly toward Death Valley. We will travel through the park, head out



the east side and point ourselves in the direction of Las Vegas. From there

we will head toward Cedar City where we will overnight and gather for dinner at a nearby restaurant.



On Sunday we will head east and south through Kanab and Flagstaff before turning west to pick up Route 66 (and I-40 at times when the old road runs out on us).

Overnight in Laughlin. Take a look at the shows that are in town. It could be a very nice night.

Because Monday is the Columbus Day holiday for some, it is a perfect opportunity to take a nice long way home from there. At this time of year, the desert outposts will be uncrowded and cool. How about a late breakfast or early lunch in Kelso Depot?



Kelso Depot



Downtown Kanab, Utah

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Columbus Day
weekend

Oct 12-14, 2013



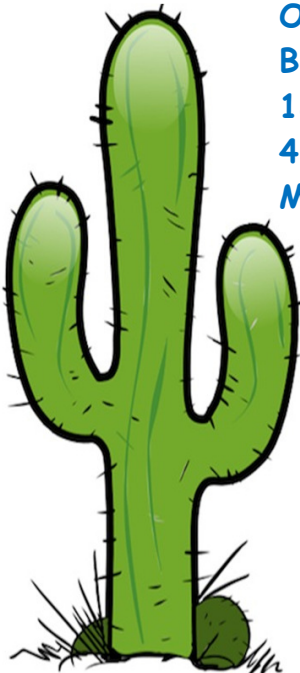
A 2013 SCMA Travelers Award Event

All motorcycles are welcome on this Desert/ Mountain Tour

Begin at
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Mojave CA, 93501
Sign in 10/12/13,
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Ride price \$25/Head



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For more and/or the latest info
visit sc-ma.com, or
email kenn2006@verizon.net

SCMA is - Pasadena Motorcycle Club - Antelope Valley Riders - Shamrock Road Riders - BMW Riders Club of Southern California

Arizona Rat Pack - South Coast BMW Riders Club - Victor McLaglen Motor Corps - Southern California Motorcycling Association Outriders

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

The 2013 Turkey Run, Saturday, November 16
By Ronald "Gonzo" Gonzalez

The November Turkey will fly south to San Diego County on November 16 hoping to find warmer and drier weather for his annual SCMA Turkey Run.



This one day ride is planned to begin at Bravo Burgers in San Juan Capistrano and run about 150 miles through the Cleveland National Forest, skirting Lake Elsinore, Menifee

Valley, Temecula Wine Country and Pala communities and ride the vista-friendly North San Diego Hill Country. It ends at the Pala Casino.

To establish a promising afternoon, a poker chip drawing will be held at the Pala Casino and every participant will have the opportunity to extract a chip of either \$1, \$2, \$5, \$25 or \$50 value. The drawing will be held in the Pala Casino Spa & Resort's Food Court before lunch when riders arrive.

We made this ride a Saturday so that riders can make it a weekend outing by reserving a room at the Pala Hotel. Try the casino, attend a concert, and enjoy an evening's dinner. Group rates for SCMA will be available if more than 10 rooms are reserved.



Before returning home, riders can continue south and visit local areas of interest such as Palomar Observatory (via S6, a tight-twisting road, climbing 2500' in 7 miles), Julian for apple pie, or continue an hour's ride south to local attractions in San Diego and

spend a night there. The possibilities are nearly endless.

November's Turkey Run will be a great opportunity to ride new roads and enjoy a fun weekend with friends and significant others! So make your plans now and block out the weekend of the 16th. This is a ride designed for a two-up weekend.

**SCMA Rides, Events,
Communications**

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2013 Three Flags Classic

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SCMA Best 15 US Road Challenge

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Traveler's Award

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**2013 Awards & Appreciation
Banquet**

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We Get Letters

Rider's Safety: Night vision in older riders.

Great job on the newsletter! The July "Ride Safe" article on night vision is very apropos.

For your information, the California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) now tests for "Contrast Sensitivity" along with the Snellen visual acuity test. It is referred to as the "Fog Chart". Older drivers/riders taking a driving test now are subjected to the test.

There is a point where a California driver may have a driving restriction placed on his/her license that disallows night driving. I cover this in a Driver Safety Class I teach from time-to-time for seniors, but not to the depth of the article.

And while I am at it, remember that my offer still stands: I would be happy to teach a day-long DMV-certified drivers course for senior drivers (riders) if there is enough interest registered by our members.



Gaylord "Huey" Ward

Huey Ward

A Big Thanks to a helpful dealer and a helpful online parts house.

We appreciate and praise our local motorcycle dealer and service shop, Paul at Highland Cycle in Highland, California. Highland is one of the cycle dealers that support SCMA riders like us. They help keep our bike running reliably.

We recently had a mishap and needed a special part for our 1998 Goldwing. We tried all over the Country, utilizing every known supplier and website, but we were unable to locate this specific discontinued item. We finally found our much needed part at Cyclemax in Valley City, Ohio. www.cyclemax.com They patiently verified that the part we needed was exactly like the item portrayed on their website and that they did, indeed, have it in stock. We received the item within the week.

In the event that you should need a part that is not available elsewhere, remember Cyclemax. He may have bought out the entire stock of the discontinued item, as was the case with our part.

Leroy Hart



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A Madawaska Hotel Worthy of Mention

By Steven Marsolek, USA 4 Corners Rider

Last year I completed the USA 4 Corners Tour and received the recognition merchandise for completing the event. It was great. This year I went back to see the Madawaska Four Corners Park red paver I purchased for the accomplishment. I have to say there is something very special about returning to a spot far from home and seeing your name permanently memorialized. I recommend it for everyone.

And speaking of recommendations, I have a hotel to mention. As many USA4C riders know, good lodging is slim here. Martin's Motel is nice but sells out early. Avoid the Gateway

Motel. I had the good fortune of finding a new place to stay while there. It is called the Inn of Acadia and its a converted Catholic convent. It is beautifully redone and the atmosphere is fantastic. I talked with the owner, Jonathon Roy, and he has agreed to offer discounts to folks who are participating in the "Four Corners Tour"

It is worth a stay. Please get the word out to all that go to Madawaska that this a great place that deserves our business. Find them at <http://innofacadia.com>



Steve Marsolek

USA Four Corners Tour: Here is Something to Write Home About!

By Bill Allen, USA4C Chairman for 2013

3 riders are noteworthy so far this year. Two are the Lamarches. After finishing a True-X Gold (True X pattern in 21 days), they took a day off and did a reverse route from Madawaska to Blaine for a conventional USA 4 Corners Tour. They did this one in 16 days. It must have felt like a walk in the park compared to the previous route.

But all of this pales in comparison with Hugh Miller (sorry, Larry and Kathy). A lot of riders try to impress me with what they did on their ride, but I really had to dig to uncover Hugh's accomplishment. He did a conventional USA 4 Corners Tour, Blaine to San Ysidro to Key West to Madawaska. His total mileage was 6,751 miles.

That, in itself, was no big deal. We had a couple of telephone conversations before he left because he had difficulty getting registered. I figured Hugh was just "another old geezer" (of course I can say that since my forum nickname most places is OIGeezer). With his finisher's documentation, he also included a little write-

up about the ride. Usually, I quickly pass over these. This time, I caught a glimpse of his experience when he arrived in Madawaska. He described meeting a couple. He told them about his ride and the couple was amazed that he did his ride on a250! A Honda CBR 250! Nice looking bike, but it's a 250!

Then, it dawned on me. "Doesn't Hugh live in Anchorage?" Yep, Anchorage, Alaska. Of course, I fired up Streets and Trips to calculate the distance from Madawaska to Anchorage to Blaine in order to figure out the minimum number of miles he had to ride before and after his tour. That comes to another 7,136 miles! More than his 4 Corners Tour! On a250! The amazing thing about this is that he didn't make a big deal about it. That's my kind of rider.

So here I am to declare that I am impressed--words you seldom hear from me. In fact, I am impressed times three. Wow!



Bill Allen

The 2013 Three Flags Classic Handbook: What to Expect This Year
By Blake P. Anderson

CHECKPOINTS #2 AND #3 HAVE BEEN MOVED!!

Checkpoint #2 has been moved 160 miles west of Valentine to Chadron, Nebraska. Checkpoint #3 has been moved a short distance in Bismarck. See the new locations on the following page.

THE START HOTEL IS NOW CALLED A QUALITY INN

Our start hotel is now called a Quality Inn located at 4600 E. Pine in Deming. The location has not changed but the name has. All reservations under the old name, Holiday Inn, have been automatically preserved and are still good under your original nightly rate. There is nothing to sweat.

TICKET RE-SALES

You can still buy a ticket even if you missed the April 15 deadline and the May 15 extended deadline. Welcome to the world of ticket re-sales.

Riders that are trying to sell a ticket and riders that want to buy a ticket can do so on the SCMA Three Flags Classic forum. You can find the forum tab on the top of the SCMA website home page found at www.sc-ma.com. Everyone can view the website but only SCMA members can register for rides or post on the forum.

Because only SCMA members can post on the forum, you can be relatively confident that the offer is legitimate. SCMA doesn't get in the middle of the transaction, but we can verify information about the person on the other end of the deal if you have any concern. Re-sales have worked this way with confidence for many years. We do urge buyers to pay no more than the \$260 face value of the ticket.

When you buy a ticket you must let the TFC committee know so it can change its records. Find

more information by clicking at the Three Flags Classic photo on the home page of the SCMA website.

Watch the forum for available tickets. You will see a few tickets for sale in June or July. Early August is usually more active when sellers finally relent and realize 2013 just ain't their riding year.

It is a bit of a gamble, but occasionally riders show up at the start without first having purchased a ride ticket. It normally works. Chances are, there will be a ticket or two up for sale at the start.

WHEN YOU GET TO DEMING ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 29 TO SIGN-IN

As a condition to participate in this event, all registered riders, passengers and TFC volunteers are required to sign a release of liability form at the Deming check-in on the afternoon of August 29. The release of liability is required by our insurance carrier, the American Motorcyclist Association (they sanction this ride) and the SCMA board of directors. It is commonly required at most motorcycling events conducted by motorcycling organizations like ours. It completes the registration process.

Registered riders and registered passengers (that is, people who have purchased a rider ticket) receive a starter package. Non-registered passengers do not receive a starter package but are welcome to participate after signing the release of liability form. Non-registered riders are "free riders" and are neither authorized nor welcomed to participate in this SCMA riding event.

The starter package includes some TFC merchandise. More important, it contains the "start card", the final route sheets, the TFC passport and a 24-hour emergency number

continued on following page...

*The 2013 Three Flags Classic Handbook: What to Expect This Year
(continued from previous page)*

THE OFFICIAL ROUTE

Every year an official route is designed, tested with an on-the-ground pre-ride and then published. It is the route that the TFC recommends. It is researched and selected to get the best riding possible. But remember that the route you ultimately take is your choice. The only obligation you have to be a finisher and receive the limited edition belt buckle is to visit the three checkpoints and the finish within the times listed in the official TFC Passport you will receive in Deming. This means that if you want to pick up a Best 15 US Challenge road (like US 550, the “Million Dollar Highway”) or visit your aunt Millie off route, it is possible. Just show up at the checkpoints on time.

Having said that, here is [the link to the official 2013 Three Flags Classic route](http://sc-ma.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/2013-Three-Flags-Route-Winnipeg-June-30-2013-Route.pdf):

<http://sc-ma.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/2013-Three-Flags-Route-Winnipeg-June-30-2013-Route.pdf>

DO NOT pay attention to the days and hours and overnight stops shown on the mapping program. They are artifacts of the assumptions and preferences that are embedded in the mapping program itself. What IS important are the distances and turning directions that will guide you from Deming to Winnipeg. You will get route sheets in Deming.

THE START ON FRIDAY, AUGUST 30 IN DEMING, NEW MEXICO

A pre-ride meeting will be called to make any last minute announcements.

Registered riders and registered passengers must fill out the start card and hand it in on Friday morning between 3AM and 6AM in the lobby of the start hotel in Deming. The start card provides the TFC committee vital up-to-date information that is useful to SCMA to know who to contact in the event you go

missing. It also provides fun statistics that are announced at the Tuesday banquet

24-HOUR EMERGENCY NUMBER

There will be a 24-hour emergency number that will be posted in the TFC passport. Use that number if you have an accident, encounter a road closure or decide to quit the ride.

THE THREE CHECKPOINTS FOR 2013 (All times are local time)

Checkpoint #1, 655 miles from start: Best Western, 903 Main St., Delta, Colorado, Friday, August 30, noon to 8PM and Saturday, August 31, 6AM to noon. Mountain Daylight Time

Checkpoint #2, (NEW LOCATION), 1326 miles from start: Best Western, 1100 W. 10th St., Chadron, Nebraska, (308) 432-3305, Sunday, September 1, 6AM to 8PM and Monday, September 2, 8AM to noon. Mountain Daylight Time.

Checkpoint #3, (NEW LOCATION), 1811 miles from start: AmericInn, 3235 State St., Bismarck, North Dakota, (701) 250-1000, Sunday, September 1, noon to 8PM and Monday, September 2, 8AM to 2 PM. Central Daylight Time.

The checkpoints are set-up to provide refreshments, allow you to relax and meet the other riders, to receive any updates on road conditions ahead and to verify your progress on the ride. Your TFC passport must be stamped and dated at each of the three checkpoints and finish. The checkpoints and the finish must be visited during the posted hours.

Finish, 2201 miles from start: Canad Inn Polo Park, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Monday, September 2, noon to 9PM. Central Daylight Time.

continued on the following page...

The 2013 Three Flags Classic Handbook: What to Expect This Year (continued from previous page)

Finishers receive a limited edition belt buckle and a pin. Wear it with pride. It marks you well.

THE BANQUET IS ON TUESDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 3

The banquet is held at the finish hotel, Canad Polo Park, on Tuesday evening, the day after the finish. All registered riders and registered passengers receive a banquet ticket. It is included as a page in your TFC passport.

Bring your passport to the banquet in order to achieve entry into the banquet.

All banquet tickets are transferrable.

Extra banquet tickets will be sold during the ride—normally, at the start and at the finish. There is no pre-sale of banquet tickets. Normally, they are sold for about 50 bucks. When you get to Deming, ask a TFC committee member about who has the extra banquet tickets for sale. Banquet tickets are available for non-registered passengers and other guests that are meeting you in Winnipeg. Free riders will not be sold banquet tickets.

Additional Advice and Information

The Three Flags Classic forum contains a wealth of information that you will find useful. Ask questions there. <http://sc-ma.com/forums/premier-events-group4/three-flags-classic-forum5>



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The Southern California Motorcycling Association Proudly Presents



THE 38TH ANNUAL THREE FLAGS CLASSIC



AUGUST 30, 2013
THRU
SEPTEMBER 2, 2013



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- A 2013 THREE FLAGS CLASSIC COMMEMORATIVE BELT BUCKLE

**Ticket sales closed on May 15.
But re-sale of tickets goes on.
Check the TFC forum to find a
seller. If you want to ride, you
can find a ticket!**

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**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

*Tips from the Road**By Steve Shulman*

In June I completed the USA Four Corners - TRUE X Tour. I did this on my not very cool, but extremely reliable, 2010 Goldwing. Debating "cool" versus "comfortable" motorcycles may be worth discussing, but it's not the subject of this series.

What I really want to talk about are the things I learned while doing my Four Corners Tour. Many of you have been riding much longer than I, ridden more miles, and have owned more motorcycles. Many of you are far better riders than I. That said, I learn something each time I take a long ride and I'm hoping the things I learned may benefit some who are thinking about taking some long distance rides. I hope my observations provoke thought, prevent an accident, or help someone be better prepared. So, this is the first of two or three articles that will appear in SCMA News from time-to-time.

Planning Your Day

I'm not a rider who knows where he will end up at the end of the day. I don't like booking hotels in advance and I love the freedom of not knowing where my day will end. I do, however think it important to have an idea how many miles you will ride so you don't end up in an area that doesn't have hotels or campsites when you decide to call it a day. On my first Four Corners Tour, in 2010, I camped part of the ride. These days I stay in hotels because I often ride into the evening and I don't like selecting a campsite in the dark.

Sometime around the middle of the day I check a paper map and give myself a few options for stops. It doesn't need to be a large urban area, and I prefer it not be, but for me it needs to be large enough town to find a clean, reasonably priced, hotel. If doing the TRUE X, you run the risk of being in the middle of nowhere such as I was leaving Lebanon, Kansas late in the afternoon. It was very hot that day coming from New Mexico and the heat took a toll on my

endurance. This is where I made a conscious decision to plan my day better. The TRUE X requires riders to spend more time on country roads, than on the regular USA Four Corners Tour. For those that like country roads, this adds a tremendous new dimension to the ride. More farms, more cows, more manure, more odors, but fewer options for hotels.

Dealing With Heat

We've all read articles about staying hydrated, and I can't emphasize how important drinking water is on hot days. If you're a soda drinker I suggest switching to water, particularly in hot weather. It's not critical on cooler days. Also carry an extra liter of water if you can. If you break down, you'll need it. I'm not going to spend a lot of time on this subject as there are many articles available on the topic. If you have not read any, do so. Don't learn the hard way like I did on a ride to Laughlin from Los Angeles several years ago. I was probably 5 minutes away from being in a critical state because I didn't drink enough water when I wasn't thirsty.

What I want to emphasize is if you ride long days, you will become far more fatigued riding in hot weather than in mild weather. A 12-hour riding day with 6-7 hours of very hot temperatures will feel like a 16-hour day. This means you will be less alert and more fatigued faster. Be aware of this when planning your riding distance so you can call it a day and not extend your day farther than is safe. More than once I've felt like I could ride for four hours and one hour later I've been ready to call it a night. Don't arrive in Lebanon, Kansas, for instance, thinking you'll ride for several more hours only to find there are no hotels you'd stay at for 200 miles. On the other hand if you run into one of the locals in Lebanon, they just might put you up for the night.

Next Month: Short Sleeve Shirts, Checking Tire Pressure, Starting Your Day Early and more...

After Action Report: California Missions Tour, Part One by Trash and Olde Skool the Trike

Let me introduce myself. I am a road raconteur and part-time weaver of road tales. Accompanied by my faithful companion, Olde Skool the Trike, wife and dog, I have once again cheated death. This time our adventure was on your California Missions Tour. This is part one of a two-part ride report. We visited 10 missions on this trip and will do the other 11 in September. I will report on that half as well.

On this ride you visit all 21 Spanish missions near the California coast from San Diego to just above San Francisco. The daily distance, if you visit 3-4 missions each day, is only about 100-130 miles--horse distances. If you join the SCMA and pay a ride fee, you will get credit for the ride and a certificate for completing it in one calendar year. This is also part of the SCMA's "Triple Crown Award" that includes completing the Three Flags Classic over Labor Day weekend and the USA Four Corners Tour in a single calendar year.

My wife, Yolanda and our dog, Max, followed in the SUV and I was on my trike. On our first day we traveled from Las Vegas to San Diego and visited the Mission San Diego. We stayed at the tropical Crowne Plaza Hotel that night.

The next day, Tuesday, we went up the coast to visit Mission San Luis Rey (in Oceanside), Mission San Juan Capistrano, and Mission San Gabriel. Each mission has its own character and history. Yolanda enjoyed her and Max enjoyed the and old manicured grounds and plants. That night we stayed at the Hilton San Gabriel. This was a surprise to us, since it is oriented for Asian



customers. It is a nice hotel, but we thought it would be an old Spanish looking place.

Day three, Wednesday, June 5 saw us on the road to our fifth mission, Mission San Fernando Rey (in Mission Hills). What is so interesting about this mission is this is where Bob Hope and his wife are buried in a memorial garden. We wanted to take a

side trip to the famous Rock Store Cafe on Mulholland Drive in the Santa Monica Mountains, but it is only open Friday-Sunday, so it is still on my



bucket list. Then we visited Mission San Buenaventura (in Ventura) and finally Mission Santa Barbara.

After the last mission we went to the dog-friendly Canary Hotel in downtown Santa Barbara. This was such a great place, we stayed 2 days. Plus, we needed to rest and relax from all the riding and mission visiting.

On Friday we headed out on our last day of mission visiting: Mission Santa Ines (in Solvang), Mission La Purisma Concepcion (in Lompoc), and Mission San Luis Obispo. We lodged at the Holiday Inn Express in San Luis Obispo.

The next morning, we headed back to Las Vegas by way of Bakersfield and Barstow. I had a cooling vest, cold water, and a neck cooler on the trike, but the triple digits did me in. So, we made an unplanned stop at the Barstow Holiday Inn Express. It was heaven to walk into the air conditioned room. The next morning, Sunday, we

California Mission Tour (continued from previous page)

were on the road at 7 AM and in Las Vegas by 8:30 AM. Even so, it was above 90 degrees when we arrived home.

Observations and comments:

- When we do the second part of this ride in September, we will do only two missions per day. That will be an easier and more relaxing pace.
- The temperatures along the coast were great for trike riding. It was mostly in the 70's.
- This is a great ride to do the 21 Spanish missions along the coast. It is well worth the effort, but may be best in September and October when the kids are back in school and the traffic clears.
- The heavy traffic of metropolitan San Diego and Los Angeles County made the ride less fun.

Happily, most of the missions are out away from heavy congestion, but some are busy.



- Most of the missions are active parishes and very well kept with gift shops and museums.
- From the time we left Las Vegas to our return, we put 1,101 miles on the trike. We look forward to the last 11 missions in September.

Editor's Note: Steve Fuquay has recently returned to riding after a 22-year hiatus. He started riding in 1966 on a used Honda 50. He is quickly becoming an SCMA regular we will be seeing a lot.



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The Advantage of Doing the True X Version of the USA Four Corners Tour

By Gonzo

Last year when doing the USA Four Corners for the first time, I did the "Box" pattern and began the ride in Blaine, Wash., turned south to San Ysidro, Calif., headed east to Key West, then rode north to Madawaska, Maine. In the process I got caught in two horrendous storms (in Louisiana and Florida), which fortunately did not result in a serious accident despite the traffic, lightning, sudden torrential downpours and subsequent loss of visibility. But I completed the ride in a leisurely 18 days, averaging 360 miles a day.

This year I finished the Four Corners in 20 days via the True 'X' version. Despite the increased challenge of more distance under less time (an average of 580 miles a day), it afforded me a strategy of tactical flexibility not available in the Box pattern. Let me explain further.

Comparing the two rides and the way they are designed, one immediately observes the True X as a more difficult challenge. The average distance for the Box is 6,500 miles. Given 21 days to complete the event, riders can successfully finish the ride in 21 days by averaging 310 miles per day. Comparatively, the True X average distance of 11,500 miles requires 415 miles per day to complete in 26 days. Of course, neither event is a real challenge for the IBA'ers out there in SCMA land, but those of you who ride easy like I do (i.e., Gonzo style), that is 300-400 miles a day of slab riding, makes for a very long day!

So for those easy riders like me, doing the Box appears to be the better way to go. But is it? I propose the X may be the better way to go!

This year has shown us some unpredictable weather. Devastating tornados, tropical storms vying to become hurricanes, occluded fronts sitting for days dropping inches of rain over areas, the Northeast being soaked non-stop with never-ending rainy days. I wonder how this unusual weather played out for our USA Four Corners riders who elected the Box pattern? Were they able to finish within the time limit? Did they encounter extreme weather conditions causing downtime?

I know for me, the True X pattern turned out to be the driest 20 days of my summer riding. The alternatives inherent in its (True X) design surprised me, especially on the day I rode out of Trinidad, Colo., toward Lebanon, Kan. after watching the weather report showing Tropical Storm Andrea brewing a run for Florida and the East Coast.

My plan was to depart San Ysidro for Lebanon then head to Key West and use up 10 days to allow the Northwest to warm up for my run to Blaine and then finish in Madawaska so I could start riding the 15 Best with the Kancamangus. But when I arrived in Lebanon on June 4th I knew I would be one of Andrea's victims if I headed to Key West. And herein is the flexibility of the True X....I changed plans and headed to Blaine instead of going to Key West thereby avoiding Andrea's landfall, scheduled to occur 5 June with its subsequent drenching of the east coast.

My ride to Blaine was dry and uneventful (other than winds in Yakima) and when I reached Lebanon the 2nd time the southeast was forecasting clear weather for the next 7 days!

Had I been doing the Box pattern I would have encountered 5-10 days of rain storms (Miami received 3"-5" of rain) because the route one selects becomes 'fixed in stone' after starting the ride; it becomes a committed course of action with the only alternatives of 'go' or 'no-go'. Throughout my True X ride I had a brief storm at Orlando and light rain twice between Topeka and Kansas City! Otherwise it was sunshine skies the whole trip!

Riding the X pattern allows you to change directions two times at Lebanon and avoid trouble. The only requirement one needs is the flexibility in one's personal schedule to go in any direction and finish at any corner.

So when planning your next USA Four Corners Event, be sure to give some consideration to the True X and the flexibility it will offer you!



Gonzo

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

*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. 220 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.



**THE ORANGE COAST H.O.G. CHAPTER
WITH ORANGE COUNTY
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INJURED WARRIOR APPRECIATION RUN



Friday, November 1st

Registration opens 7:30 a.m. Escorted ride departs Orange County Harley-Davidson at 9:30 a.m. and ends at

Injured Warrior Facility at Camp Pendleton

Presentation Ceremony • Lunch with the Warriors • Commemorative Ride T-Shirts, Pins and Ribbons

★ All Bikes Welcome ★
Register online at www.injuredwarriorride.com

100% of the proceeds benefit the combat wounded, ill and injured warriors at Camp Pendleton

Help Wanted

SCMA posts open volunteer positions here. Looking forward to 2014, are you interested in chairing one of the rides? Let us know.

Sell It Here...

1998 Honda ST1100 \$3800 New tires, new battery and new alternator. Clean. Super bargain. "Three Flags Classic Ready". Well-maintained. See in San Clemente. Contact Bernie at kraut928@gmail.com

Sahara Highway Pegs \$50. Fits certain R1200RT, R1200RS and R1200GS BMWs. Bolt to valve covers in place of plastic spark plug/coil covers. Fold out when needed. Clean look when folded back against valve cover when not in use. Over \$300 new. Orange County. BlakePAnderson@gmail.com

Custom Bates Leather Motorcycle Jacket \$350. 4XLT-5XLT with 38" arms. The chest measures 64" and the sleeve length 40". Full, quilted, zip-in liner, elbow and shoulder armor, upper shoulder vents, lower back vents, two side zippered pockets and one interior zip pocket. Mandarin style collar, gusseted sleeve zippers. Race weight leather weighs 15 pounds. Over \$1000 new. Excellent materials and craftsmanship. Orange County. REFFI@aol.com

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. 10am Start

We generally meet once per month on Saturdays beginning at 10 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:

- August 17
- September 21 **CANCELLED**
- October 19
- November 16 (including drafting the 2014 riding calendar)



*Three-Month Running Calendar (with qualifying Travelers Award Events in Red)***SPECIAL NOTICE: OUR GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS NOW START AT 10 AM**

August

- 2-4 *South Coasters 7 Passes Ride**
- 11 *South Coasters GMM & Ride*
- 16-18 *BMWCOOSC Winery Tour*
- 17 *SCMA Board of Directors, Coco's Covina, 8AM*
- 17 *SCMA General Membership Meeting, Coco's Covina, 10AM*
- 29 *SCMA Three Flags Classic Check-in, Deming, NM, in the PM*
- 30 *SCMA Three Flags Classic Start, Deming, NM, 3AM-6AM*
- 31 *SCMA Three Flags Classic Continues*



September

- 1 *SCMA Three Flags Classic Continues*
- 2 *SCMA Three Flags Classic Finish, Winnipeg, Noon-9PM*
- 2 **Labor Day**
- 3 *SCMA Three Flags Classic Banquet, Winnipeg, Evening*
- 21 *SCMA Board of Directors, Coco's Covina, 8AM*
- 21 *SCMA General Membership Meeting CANCELLED*
- 27-30 *South Coasters Octoberfest Ride*
- 28 *BMWCOOSC Park N' Ride**

October

- 11-13 *South Coasters Fall Colors Ride*
- 12-14 *SCMA Grand Tour**
- 14 **Columbus Day**
- 19 *SCMA Board Meeting, Coco's Covina, 8AM*
- 19 *SCMA General Membership Meeting, Coco's Covina, 10AM*
- 25-27 *BMWCOOSC Gold Country Tour*
- 31 **Halloween**

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 have more information and are listed elsewhere in this newsletter. 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.

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Advertising space is provided to our members only. Regular membership is \$30 for one year or \$50 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.