



# SCMA NEWS

Proudly Serving the Long Distance Riding Community Since 1968

## Letter from the Chairman

As we round the corner into 2015, many of us are planning our riding year. I hear from many of our members from around the country and Canada who can't wait until the snow melts, the temperatures rise, and they can get back on the road. Many of these riders have already signed up for the SCMA Premier rides, which include the Best 15 USA Road Challenge, California Missions and Parks, the USA Four Corners, and the Three Flags Classic. If you haven't given it some thought, I encourage you to consider one of these long distance rides and browse the web site.

For your SCMA volunteers this is a very busy time of

year as we produce the items necessary to supply finishers with the products they earn for having completed these phenomenal riding experiences. Not that the experience isn't enough, but we really enjoy adding to the experience by certifying these rides and making cool stuff.

This month I want to focus on the 2015, 40<sup>th</sup> Annual, Three Flags Classic which I am



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### Upcoming Events:

Sweetheart Ride	Feb 14
PMC Poker Run	Feb 22
Awards Banquet Ride	Mar 7
Annual Awards/Appreciation Banquet	Mar 21

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honored to Chair this year. Our committee is very busy preparing for a great 40<sup>th</sup> annual ride. The ride runs from September 3<sup>rd</sup> through the 7<sup>th</sup> but you'll need to sign-in in San Diego on the 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Registration for this ride opened at midnight on New Year's Eve. Instead of standing next to a loved one at midnight, many SCMA members were waiting to click their mouse in order to obtain a low rider number. And click they did. In the first 35 minutes of the New Year there were 39 registrants. I have to confess I was one of those people and still couldn't get a lower number than six! I am number 6, cool!

As I type this there are now 225 of 300 registrants, a testament to those before me who created a truly special ride 39 years ago.

In 7 days (or less) we will publish the route, along with the hotels for the Start, Finish, and checkpoints. As many of you know, we've already announced the ride runs from San Diego to Victoria B.C. and ends at the Empress Hotel. Route planners are entering the route data into a program to share with registrants. Unlike last year where riders only got information on the forum, we'll send out e-mails to bring registrants up-to-date.

Everyone will get information at the same time and you won't need to read every forum comment to be current. We still encourage you to participate in the forum as riders are always sharing great information.

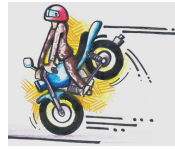
This ride is filling up quickly so we encourage those of you thinking about doing it to register before it's too late. At this rate the ride could fill up well before the deadline (May 31, 2015).

I look forward to meeting you at the Start hotel and encourage you to make reservations a day or two early because you'll be near a lot to see and right across the street from San Diego Bay and within walking distance to Little Italy and the Gas Lamp District! Take advantage of all San Diego has to offer by getting there early. If you're a registrant look for our e-mail soon and I will see you in September!

***"We don't stop riding because we get old, we get old because we stop riding!"***



# THE BIKE STOPS



# HERE

By Steve Shulman #24462

## USA FOUR CORNER TOURS

**Hello, I'm interested in doing the USA Four Corners this summer and need further information. What is the difference between the USA Four Corners and the TRUE X. Do I need to tell the SCMA which ride I want to do before I begin?**

**Chris – Boston, MA**

Chris,

Once you register for the USA Four Corners you can do either of the rides and no need to advise the SCMA (Dannie Fox, Ride Chair) in advance. Here is the difference between the two.

The regular USA Four Corners consists of visiting: Blaine, WA; Madawaska, ME; Key West, FL; and San Ysidro, CA. in 21 days or less. (About 6,000+ miles not including travel to first corner and ride home)

The USA Four Corners, TRUE X is a variation of the regular Four Corners and is far more challenging. You must begin at one of the Four Corner destinations then travel to Lebanon, Kansas in between each corner, visiting Lebanon a total of 3 times. You have 26 days to complete this 11,000+ mile ride not including travel to first corner and home.

The cost of each ride is the same, \$125. All other rules remain the same and are available on the SCMA website ([www.SC-MA.com](http://www.SC-MA.com)) and in the Starter package once you register for the ride. Packages for early sign-ups in January will go out in late February or the first two weeks of March.

---Steve

## Three Flags Classic

**I recently came across the Three Flags Classic and I'm considering this as my first long distance motorcycle ride in September. I'm a little concerned about the distance. Are all riders "long distance riders" and how big a bike do I need to do this?**

**Justin – Ogden, Utah**

Justin,

There is a lot of information I don't know about your skill level or the motorcycle you will be riding so the answer is a little difficult to answer. I would certainly not discourage you from doing the ride, but I would suggest riders with moderate to advanced riding skills take this on. I would also suggest riders take reliable motorcycles given much of the ride is back roads. The higher your skill level the easier it would likely be to navigate a "smaller" motorcycle. I would be familiar with some route planning, but you are provided a turn-by-turn route sheet. In addition, I suggest reading a few books on long distance motorcycling and also familiarize yourself with clothing appropriate for very cold and very hot weather. This particular ride can see both extremes, so better than average riding jacket, boots, and gloves are

Submit questions to:  
[Steven1050@aol.com](mailto:Steven1050@aol.com)

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# THE BIKE STOPS HERE

By Steve Shulman #24462

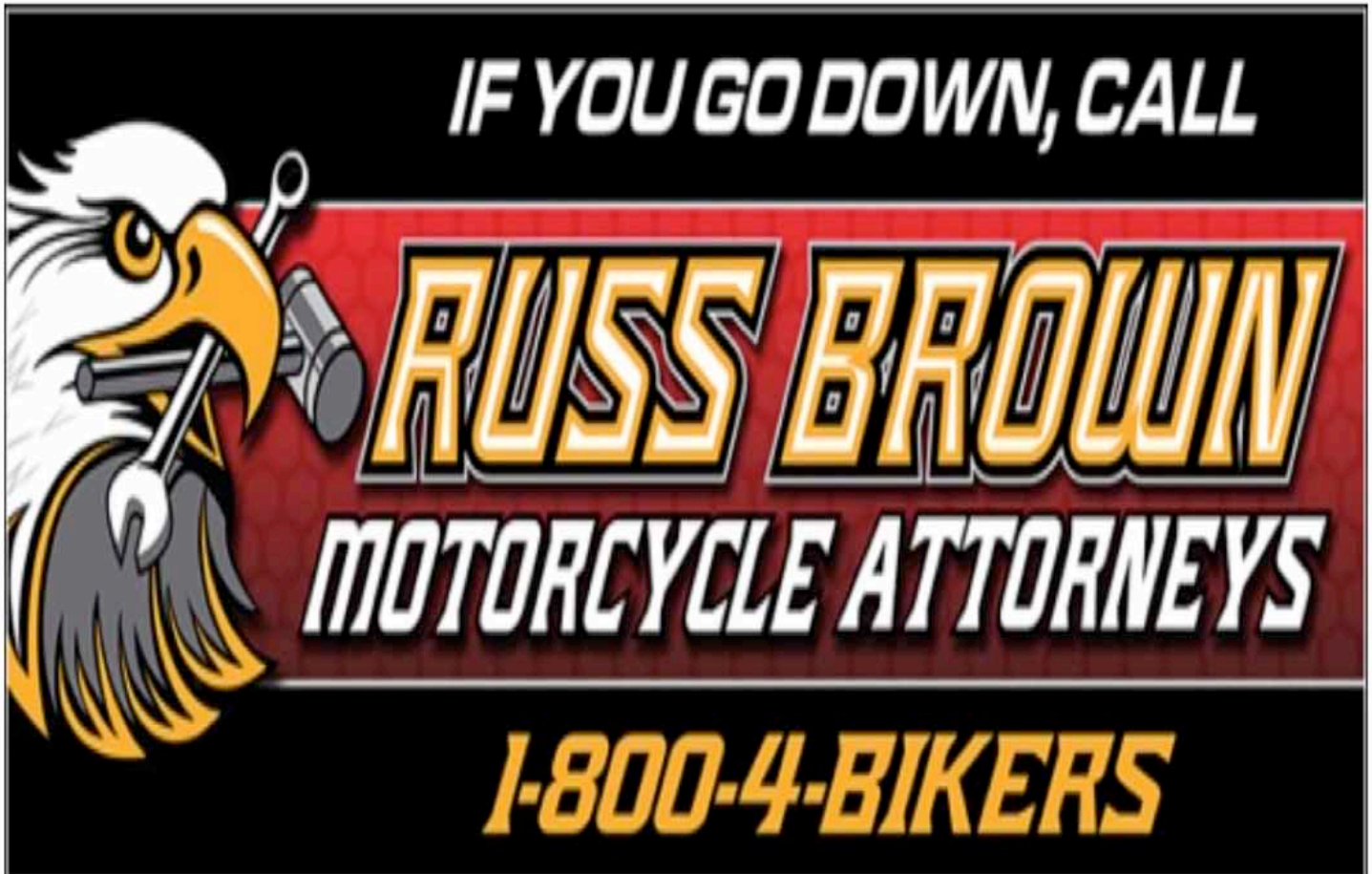
**continued from Page 3**

important. A good pair of riding pants are recommended but not critical. If you don't already belong to a motorcycle riding club, join one. You'll undoubtedly meet riders with a great deal of experience. They love to talk about their rides, so ask a few questions and you'll get lots of advice. Also check the SCMA forum under Three Flags Classic for some great information. I recall starting this ride with a fellow who only took a sweatshirt on the ride. Once in the Rockies he had to stop to buy some warmer clothing and gloves. Plan in advance!

Registration closes May 31 for this ride unless full ahead of time, but you'll have ample opportunity to ride 200, 300, 400, and 500 mile days between now and September in preparation for a ride of a lifetime. I hope to see you in September!

---Steve

(Editor's note: As of this date there are only 75 openings left for this ride)



**IF YOU GO DOWN, CALL**

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# SCMA 2015 SWEET Ride



When: February 14<sup>th</sup>

Where: Jinky's Café

1447 2<sup>nd</sup> St  
Santa Monica  
(310) 917-3311

Registrations: 7:30-8:30 am

Fee: Ladies 14 cents  
Men \$10

Ladies gifted a cup of HOT CHOCOLATE by SCMA at Jinky's Cafe

Contact Lori at  
562-598-5832 before ride  
562-754-7325 day of ride

Great event for lady riders and two-up teams. **Ladies get a free cup of HOT CHOCOLATE at Jinky's!** Join fellow SCMA riders for a Ride thru the Santa Monica Hills, enjoying ascending and descending twists and curves with the final destination at **Neptune's Net** for a group lunch.



## **Annual Awards and Appreciation Banquet**

**March 7, 2015**

SCMA's annual Awards and Appreciation Banquet is scheduled for March 7, 2015 at the Embassy Suites in Santa Ana, located on Dyer Road next to the Costa Mesa Freeway (CA-55). Tickets are \$50 and reservations can be made on the form located on page 9. Mail the form and your check to: SCMA, c/o AVI Pat Julien, 531 Main Street #133, El Segundo, CA 90245. Deadline is April 24

A block of rooms have been reserved for attendees. Call the Embassy Suites at (714) 241-3800 to make your reservations and mention the SCMA banquet to obtain the discounted rate. The **block of rooms will be held up until this Friday, Feb 13<sup>th</sup>**.

This year's banquet will feature riding awards for:

- California Mission Tour
- California Parks Adventure
- USA Four Corners Tour
- Best 15 US Roads Challenge
- Triple Crown

We will also provide appreciation awards for our 2014 board and committee volunteers and will present SCMA's Legacy Award to an SCMA member who has provided a significant impact to our association and to the long distance motorcycling community.

**The day will start with a local morning motorcycle ride.** It is free and all riders are welcome. It is a qualifying Traveler Award riding event. Gather at the Embassy Suites and register between 7-8am. Kick stands up at 8am. Plan on being part of a group brunch at a Mt. Baldy eatery

Everyone is welcome. SCMA members, their spouses, partners, friends and family members will find this to be an enjoyable banquet and ride. Riding colleagues and friends from other motorcycling organizations are also welcome to join us for fellowship and a great meal.

Dinner entrees will include steak, chicken or pasta (see page 7) so most folks will have a choice that they will like.

Gonzo, Mike Barber and Pat Julien are co-hosting this year's banquet and are exploring methods to arrange seating for groups of 5 or more. Questions? Please email Gonzo at [gonzocrossusa@gmail.com](mailto:gonzocrossusa@gmail.com)



## ***Awards Banquet Dinner Choices***

***March 7, 2015***

In reading the banquet registration forms and trying to determine what exactly to order for my meal, I realized that the form is NOT very descriptive of the choices and the various side dishes that will be served. Hopefully the below will help you decide which plate to order.

Plated Dinner Selection:

**-Sliced Roasted NY Strip Loin** with Mushroom Bordelaise Sauce, Oven Roasted Potatoes

**-Chicken Picatta** with Citrus Burre Blanc/Capers, Rice.

**-Vegetarian - Penne Pasta** with freshly diced Asparagus and Tomatoes tossed in Pesto Cream, topped with Shaved Parmesan.

All Plated Dinner Selections include **Romaine Salad with Garden Vegetables**, Freshly Baked Rolls and Butter, and Fresh Seasonal Vegetables

Dessert: Serve yourself choice of **NY Cheesecake** or **Ultimate Chocolate Cake**.

Ice Water, Iced Tea, Signature Coffee, and Selection of Tazo Tea upon request

Questions? Please email Gonzo at [gonzocrossusa@gmail.com](mailto:gonzocrossusa@gmail.com)





**SCMA Annual Awards and Appreciation Banquet**  
**March 7, 2015**  
**Highlighting the Achievement of the**  
**Triple Crown Award Participants**

**California  
Adventure**



**USA 4 Corners  
Motorcycle Tour**



**Three  
Flags Classic**



**When:** Saturday, March 7, 2015  
 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 \$119 plus tax for king;  
 \$139 plus tax for double Queens  
 Parking and breakfast are complimentary  
**Cut-off date for discount rate is February 13, 2015**

**Banquet:** Cost is \$ 50.00 per person. **Cut off date for banquet reservations is February 28, 2015.**

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 ([www.sc-ma.com/Newsletter](http://www.sc-ma.com/Newsletter)) or contact Gonzo at [GonzoCrossUSA@gmail.com](mailto:GonzoCrossUSA@gmail.com).

A special ride that also qualifies for the Traveler's Award, is scheduled to start in the morning on the day of the Banquet. Check in is between 7-8am in the hotel Lobby. The length of the ride will be 150 miles or less depending on weather conditions.



**SCMA'S AWARD AND APPRECIATION BANQUET  
HIGHLIGHTING THE TRIPLE CROWN AWARD  
RESERVATION FORM**

**March 7, 2015/**

**California  
Adventure**



**USA 4 Corners  
Motorcycle Tour**



**Three  
Flags Classic**



**\$50.00 per person.**

**Payment by check or money order, please complete the following and enclose with your payment to SCMA. Mail to:**

**SCMA  
C/O AVI, Ms Pat Julien  
531 Main Street, #133  
El Segundo, CA 90245**

**1<sup>st</sup> Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email or Phone # \_\_\_\_\_**

**Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_**

**Dinner Choice: \_\_\_ Sliced NY Strip Loin \_\_\_ Chicken Picatta \_\_\_ Vegetarian Pasta**

**2014 Events Completed \_\_\_ Traveler's Award**

**\_\_\_ 15 USA Best Rides**

**Meal Description on Pg 7**

**\_\_\_ California Parks Adventure Meal Description on Pg 7**

**\_\_\_ California Missions**

**\_\_\_ Four Corners Motorcycle Tour**

**\_\_\_ Three Flags Classic**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email or Phone # \_\_\_\_\_**

**Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_**

**Dinner Selection: \_\_\_ Sliced NY Strip Loin \_\_\_ Chicken Picatta \_\_\_ Penne Pasta**

**2014 Events Completed \_\_\_ Traveler's Award**

**\_\_\_ 15 USA Best Rides**

**Meal Description on Pg 7**

**\_\_\_ California Parks Adventure**

**\_\_\_ California Missions Meal Description on Pg 7**

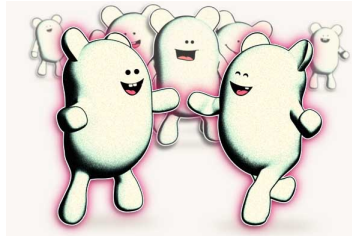
**\_\_\_ Four Corners Motorcycle Tour**

**\_\_\_ Three Flags Classic**

**If you have an interesting story that you would like to share at the banquet, please Email your story to [GonzoCrossUSA@gmail.com](mailto:GonzoCrossUSA@gmail.com) or call at 949-588-5433. Dependent on the number of responses, your story may or may not be selected from those received. Thank you.**

## PEOPLE YOU MEET ALONG THE WAY

By Jim Fischer #26000



There are a lot of great things about riding the Three Flags event and last year I was reminded of one of the best. I was riding alone because my

riding buddy had a family scheduling conflict. I was disappointed, it's always more fun traveling with friends, but I knew I would meet a lot of interesting people along the way.



At 3:20am the hotel lobby was surprisingly busy. A lot of people were coming and going, loading up their bikes and checking out of the hotel. Not much chatter though, everybody seemed to be focused on hitting the road. But then again maybe it was me. I'm not a morning person. If you asked my schedule I'd tell you I'm never late for a 10am meeting so I was out of my element by almost half a day. But 100 miles down the road in Globe there was a McDonalds and I knew they'd have breakfast and coffee waiting. At 3:20am I dropped my



start-card and was rolling by 3:26am.

The local communities must have heard there were 300 bikers heading their way that morning because every

**People You Meet continued on Page 11**

### SCMA Board of Directors

Chairman  
Steve Shulman  
949.769.1726  
steven1050@aol.com

Vice Chairman  
R. "Gonzo" Gonzalez  
949.588.5433  
GonzoCrossUSA@gmail.com

Treasurer  
John Mickus  
818.893.7409  
JDMickus@gmail.com

Recording Secretary  
Lori Anttila  
562.598.5832  
lori.anttila@gmail.com

Referee-Risk Manager  
Insurance Coordinator  
Steve Howe  
562.298.6263  
steve\_howe@sc-ma.com

Member Services Director  
R. "Gonzo" Gonzalez  
949.588.5433  
GonzoCrossUSA@gmail.com

Mail us at  
SCMA  
PO Box 487  
Norwalk, CA 90651-0487

Email Us at:  
admin@sc-ma.com

**People You Meet continued from Page 10**

little burg along the route had some patrolmen sitting on the roadside, drinking coffee and munching donuts, oblivious to the difference between bikers and motorcyclists. The



SCMA group is definitely more of the latter. I took some amusement in that and shared a good-morning wave as I rolled past, at five under of course.

The stoplight just before Globe was at the top of a hill and I could see the golden arches below. It felt like I was out early but as I approached I could see there were already twenty-some motorcycles in the lot. The late-night skeleton crew was overwhelmed and before long the line was out the door but standing there we soon became fast friends.

We shared a table and over breakfast compared our hotel plans and hopes for the ride. New friends, new roads, we were off to a good start.

At Globe I strayed from the published route and headed northeast towards Holbrooke and Mexican Hat. I rode the Moki Dugway on my way to Hanksville and finished day one at the first checkpoint in Torrey.



An earlier trip that summer had me coming south from Torrey on UT-12 so I took the chance to get my first look at the Glen Canyon NRA. I was at an overlook when another rider pulled in. He was new to touring. His wife and babies were visiting relatives for the weekend and he decided to try something new and adventurous.

We traded cameras and took the requisite photographs of each other near our motorcycles and overlooking the canyon. I told him about the Three Flags. He was amazed that so many people would ride so far but I could see that he was thinking about it. The seed had been planted.

And then there was the couple, also riding the Three Flags, which I stopped from leaving an overlook at Hells Canyon with their keys still in the unlocked latch of their topbox. We traded pleasantries but they were ready to roll. We didn't talk long there on the roadside but did get to reconnect at Tuesday's banquet in Harrison Hot Springs BC.

**People You Meet continued on Page 12**

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And then there was a guy in Scottsbluff last year during the 2013 Three Flags run up to Winnipeg. One of my riding buddies started leaking air out of his rear valve stem. We were at the last stop light just outside of town when we realized he had a problem. We put a compressor on it but it just wouldn't hold air long enough to proceed so we retreated to the nearest gas station. Our options were pretty limited because it was Sunday night, it was a Labor Day weekend and well, we were in Scottsbluff. And it was getting dark with our hotel room still another 100 miles down the road. In desperation we called an 800 number for emergency tire repairs, truck tires that is, farm equipment and semis, the big toys.

A young man answered. He was probably the rookie at the shop, stuck covering the emergency line on a holiday weekend. He was polite and listened to our plea but I could hear the television and children playing in the background. He explained he really didn't know much about motorcycles. We countered that all we needed was to borrow his machine to break and reset the bead. We were three blocks from his shop. He told us to meet him there.

He was a real nice guy, a heartland reminder of everything that is good about this country, and happy to help. A quick 90 minutes later we were back on the road and rolling with full tires and a new valve stem. We finally got to our hotel something after midnight but tipped a beer in our new friend's honor, said our thanks and called it a night.

It really is all about the people you meet along the way.



*Editor's Note:* Jim only took up motorcycling in 2004 but a trip to Alaska the next year got him into long-distance touring and he has been hooked ever since. We look forward to receiving more articles in the future from Jim.



37TH ANNUAL  
*Pasadena* MOTORCYCLE CLUB



# POKER RUN

## ★ URBAN COWBOY ★

<b>FEBRUARY 22<sup>ND</sup> 2015</b>	<b>RAIN DATE:</b> MARCH, 1 <sup>ST</sup>	<b>RIDER FEE:</b>         <b>\$20</b>	<b>DISCOUNTS:</b> \$1 MAIL-IN \$1 AMA SCMA
<b>START: 07:00 AM - 09:00 AM</b> ROSE PARADE FLOAT BARN 835 S. RAYMOND AVENUE, PASADENA, CA 91105	50/50 charity raffle - ride pins coffee and donuts at start discount to legends classic diner	 Traveler's award ride	 SANCTIONED

**TO REGISTER:** Send your completed form with payment to PMC Poker Run, PO box 694, Glendora, CA 91740 (one form per participant please). Mail-in deadline is February the 14th (cash only on day of)

**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS - INFORMATION: GEORGE (626) 818-2450**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ RIDER OR PASSENGER? \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CELL PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_ SCMA # \_\_\_\_\_ AMA # \_\_\_\_\_  
 STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ EMERGENCY CONTACT: \_\_\_\_\_  
 EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_



[WWW.PASADENAMC.COM](http://WWW.PASADENAMC.COM)



ALL RIDERS WELCOME

CELEBRATING OUR 108TH YEAR!



# NO WAY !!!!

(Twilight Zone Event ??)

by Joe Haliford #26182

As Fort Worth lay under a thin layer of ice, 70-year-old Joe Hallford was dreaming of his next ride while he toured the SCMA web site. In the confines of his warm home he signed up for the Three Flags Classic, the Four Corners, and the Best Fifteen. As he began to plan, the magnitude of what he had signed up for set in.

Riding the Four Corners in June he stopped by home in order to change the oil and filter on his 06 Wing as well as replace a burned out low beam. After two good home cooked meals and a great night's sleep in his own bed he was off to regain his place on his scheduled route on I-10 in Van Horn, Texas. Somewhere around Pecos he noticed another Wing behind him and that it had a burned out low beam. Reflecting back on when he was riding through Florida toward Key West, his cousin had joined him on his new Harley. It was his cousin who noticed his low beam was burned out.

**"No Way" continued on Page 15**



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**NO WAY!!! continued from Page 14**

Reminded of that, Joe thought it would be good if he returned the favor for the rider behind him on I-20. Shortly after merging with I-10 the rider accelerated to Joe's right and pointed to his fuel tank as he exited. Joe slowed and made the exit behind him. Soon they had made introductions and friendly conversation ensued between two proud Wing owners. The other rider's name was Barry. He was a firefighter and retired Navy vet from Southern California. He had just purchased his "new" 10 year old Wing in Arkansas having flown there to pick it up and ride it back to San Diego. He was concerned about the low beam and other possible issues with his new purchase but Joe assured him the bulb was a ten-minute fix he could do and, for the most part, Wing owners take good care of their bikes! So his purchase was probably sound.



Approximately 40 miles later the two stopped in Van Horn to find "the" auto supply store that probably had the only two H 7 bulbs in town. After Barry successfully changed his bulb the two had a celebratory bottle of cold water from Joe's ice chest. Having exchanged e-mail addresses Joe headed to the luxurious accommodations of Van Horn and Barry would ride on to Deming, New Mexico for the night.

Fast forward three days and Joe is sitting in a KFC for a quick lunch in Cottage Grove, Oregon. With the end of the Four Corners in sight (Blaine WA), it was a relaxing lunch and a break from the heat.

As he enjoyed his lunch a spotless Harley pulled in and parked beside what might have been the world's dirtiest Wing. The rider removed his helmet and gazed at the dirty wing with the Texas license plates. Upon entering, the Harley rider spied Joe in the corner and introduced himself as "Ron". The two riders shared a table during lunch and exchanged stories. It seems that Ron had left Washington DC and traversed Canada while Joe traversed the Southern US. Ron was headed south and Joe north...seems they were

**"No Way" continued on Page 16**

**NO WAY!!! continued from Page 15**

somewhat doing the reversal of the other's ride.

As they exchanged tales of the road, Joe began telling the story of meeting the rider on I-10 and the low beam replacement. Ron became very quiet and had a concerned look on his face. He asked Joe to stop the story as it was eerie. He then said he had already heard this story. Joe smiled but continued when Ron insisted he had heard this story on the phone the night before from his cousin in Southern California. Joe interrupted his story. A thought was mulling in his road weary subconscious. He extracted his cell phone, scrolled through the pics on it, and found the one he had taken of Barry. Showing it to Ron he asked, "Is that him?" "That's my cousin Barry!" Ron exclaimed.

Ron then pulled out his cell phone and dialed Barry's number. He said, "Barry there is someone here I want you to talk to." Soon three lone riders sat in disbelief as they pondered the likelihood that the three of them could meet under those random circumstances so many miles apart and so far from home.



They remain e-mail friends to this day and Barry has had many enjoyable miles on his "new" Wing. Perhaps someday they will all ride in the TFC. Ron owns and rides a Harley, Wing, or Victory whichever suits his mood. He also wears his Wing jacket when riding his Harley and vice versa!!! He is a long distance rider who keeps his bikes showroom clean no matter how long he has been on the road.

Life is full of surprises and friends if we just take time to notice!

Editor's Note: After completing his Four Corners ride at Blaine, Joe went on to complete the California Mission Tour and qualify for the Triple Crown.



### Three-Month Running Calendar (qualifying \*Traveler Award Events in Red)

February

- 7 SCMA General Membership Meeting, 9am, Marie Callendar
- 14 \*Sweet Heart Ride 7:30am Jinky's Café 1447 2d St Santa Monica
- 22 \*Pasadena MC Poker Run (Rain date is 1March)

March

- 1 PMC Poker Run rain date
- 7 \*Chairman's Ride, Awards and Appreciation Banquet
- 7 Annual Awards/Appreciation Banquet, Embassy Suites, Santa Ana
- 14-15 \*Shamrock's St. Patrick's Day Run
- 21 SCMA General Membership Meeting, 9am, Marie Callendar

April

- 3-5 \*Alien Invasion Tour, AZRATPack
- 11 SCMA General Membership Meeting, 9am, Marie Callendar
- 25 \*Pasadena MC, Greenhorn Ride

Here's what's on the road ahead. For more information, check the SCMA website [www.SC-MA.com](http://www.SC-MA.com) and the websites of our affiliated clubs. Club websites have more information on their events and are listed elsewhere in this newsletter. ALWAYS consult them for last-minute changes before a ride.

**COMFORT X SAFETY**  
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# 2015 SOUP RUN

By Gonzo #25051



It was a cold, dark and rainy morning. Gonzo, Soup Run Ride Chair, called Steve Howe, Risk Manager, for his version of the weather from his location. "Can't see across the street" was the reply.

Looking out his bedroom window, Gonzo could see darker clouds approaching. "OK", he said, "I'm going to guess that very few riders will show today. In view of that, and the fact that the route will be over roads that may be impacted by runoff, I'm going to cancel the ride."

"What about an alternate route," asked Howe?

"Oops, I didn't plan one out, hence, there's not a printed alternate" sez the "Gonz".


"OOOOOOOkay," sez Howe, "'I'll refrain from issuing my usual sarcasm at this point."

"Yeah, guess I learned a lesson about planning a ride in January," said Gonzo, "and thanks for disconnecting the sarcastic brain from the loose tongue. I'll go to Bravo Burgers and greet anyone that shows up for the ride. Ciao."

The second arriver at Bravo Burgers was Steve Shulman, SCMA Chairman. His warm "Good Morning Gonz" turned to the ex-cop stare when Gonzo informed

**Continued on Page 19**

**IF YOU GO DOWN, CALL**



**RUSS BROWN**

**MOTORCYCLE ATTORNEYS**

**1-800-4-BIKERS**

**Soup Run continued from Page 18**

him he was cancelling the ride.

Next arrival was Mike Barber, looking like a wet dishrag having ridden 65 miles south on I-405 through downpours. His response was, "Oh, is that what I came here for?" "Good, I'm getting sick so I'll just head back home and go to sleep"

The next stalwart rider to arrive was the "Deer Slayer" Dan Hilton. He was wet, but not as soaked as Mike since he only had to ride a third of the distance as Mike did to reach Bravo Burgers. After ordering breakfast he looked at the route sheet and exclaimed, "I think I'll go ahead and ride the route and let you know how things went!"

The last arrival was a non-member who saw our ad for the ride listed on Motorcycle Monster website. Despite Gonzo's frantic searches he couldn't find where he had written the rider's name for future reference. This rider had ridden his Harley Ultra in the rain from the north LA area with the plan of visiting family in north San Diego County after finishing the ride. Quite impressive for a Harley Rider! (ok, I'm joking!! I know many a Harley rider, I being one of them, who gets their bike dirty riding in the rain).

We all were enjoying our Bravo Burger breakfast when Mitch Friedman arrived. Mitch is our Traveler's Award Chair, and he brought the new 2015 TA Cards with him to issue to TA registrants. Registrants can earn a recognition plaque for achieving Bronze, Silver, Gold, or Platinum levels in completing all or partially completing the 16 scheduled TA rides in 2015.

**Continued on Page 20**

**SCMA'S Affiliated Clubs**

Antelope Valley Riders  
[www.avts.av.org](http://www.avts.av.org)

AZRatPack  
[www.azratpack.com](http://www.azratpack.com)

BMW Club of Southern California  
[www.bmwcocs.com](http://www.bmwcocs.com)

BMW Club, South Coast Riders (aka South Coasters)  
[www.scbmwrc.com](http://www.scbmwrc.com)

Pasadena Motorcycle Club  
[www.pasadenamc.com](http://www.pasadenamc.com)

Victor McLaglen Motor Corps  
[www.thevmmc.com](http://www.thevmmc.com)



**Soup Run continued from page 19**

A little after 1 pm or so, Gonzo received an email from Killer Dan (the Deer Slayer) stating he had finished the ride and was able to ride the dirt/gravel road despite it being a mess. He also stated that it rained on him the whole time, but other than the dirt road all the roads were fine.



Hmmm, a dirt/gravel road was not on the route. But Gonzo knew exactly where Killer Dan had missed a turn because he also had ridden that road (in dry weather) just because Sophia, his Harley Road King wanted to check it out.

The road that Killer Dan missed was Couser Canyon and Rice Canyon....the two roads that would experience the most mud, sand, and stone run off from the rains.

“Oh well,” Gonzo reflected, “cancelling may have been the right decision after all, especially since only three riders showed up for the wet event.”

Let's hope for a better weather scenario next year and a fun lunch get together at Hell's Kitchen on Ortega Highway at the end of the ride.

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## 2015 Triple Crown and Best 15 US Roads

By Gonzo #25051

Befitting for the 2015 New Year, the Board of Directors approved including the Best 15 as one of the rides that qualifies for the Triple Crown Award.

The Board acknowledged the traditional intent of the Award was to recognize those riders who accomplished riding three of the majors in a given calendar year (i.e., Jan 2015 thru Dec 2015). In 2008 Riders qualified for the Triple Crown if they completed the Three Flags Classic, USA Four Corners, and the CA Parks Adventure. At the time these were the only Major riding events sponsored by SCMA.

The idea of the Triple Crown, initially proposed by **Mitch Friedman** (#24102) who joined the SCMA in 2007, was championed by **Jan Staws** and other key members of SCMA and was first awarded in 2009. At some point the Missions Tour was added to the list of major events and included as an option to the CA Parks Adventure to qualify for the Triple Crown.

In the spring of 2011 SCMA added the Best 15 to its roster of major events. Our first finishers that year were **Kathy and Larry Lamarche** of Kamloops, Canada. Since inception, the event has only had eleven members, who have successfully finished the event sixteen times, a testament to the difficulty of the ride.

In acknowledging the mileage involved in completing the ride, and the inherent challenge incurred when riding each of the 15 roads, the Board unanimously approved, beginning with 2015, to include the Best 15 USA Challenge as an option to the Parks or Missions tours. Either of those three can be combined with the USA Fours Corners and Three Flags Classic to qualify for the Triple Crown.

To be eligible for the 2015 Triple Crown Award, awarded at the 2016 Awards Banquet, riders must complete the USA Four Corners, Three Flags Classic, and either one of the CA Parks Adventure, CA Missions Tour, or the Best 15 USA Roads Challenge.

Good luck to all in your pursuit of the 2015 Triple Crown!



# Join Us and Ride the



Southern California Motorcycling Association's

## 15 Best US Roads



**Entry is \$60.00 and ride must be completed between Jan 1 & Dec 15.  
For Information and Rules Visit:  
[www.sc-ma.com](http://www.sc-ma.com) and Register On-Line.**

For more Information,  
Contact Bob Roger, Chairman, 15 Best US Roads at (330) 857-8131 or [rsroger03@gmail.com](mailto:rsroger03@gmail.com)



## 2015 Best 15 US Roads Challenge



We are offering the Best 15 US Roads Challenge for the 5th year. The challenge started spontaneously in the spring of 2011 when the American Motorcyclist Association published its Best 15 Roads article. We looked at the list and said, "Hey, that sounds like a challenge! Game on!"

Two riders took the challenge that year: Kathy and Larry Lamarche from Kamloops. We adjusted the challenge roads in 2012 and made one change in 2013. In 2013, eight riders signed up and six completed the ride. The 2015 list of roads is the same as the 2013 list.

You can tour all 15 in any order, any direction and at any time during 2015. Riders may complete the challenge in segments but all miles back and forth to home and on the roads themselves must be on a motorcycle, trike or motorcycle with side car. Gas receipts and photos are required to document your tour. All 15 rides must be completed in the same calendar year (i.e., Jan 2015 to Dec 2015).

**Beginning this year, 2015, the Best 15 qualifies for the Triple Crown as an option to the Parks Adventure or Missions Tour.**

1. NH 112, "Kancamagus Highway" with a side trip up the Mt Washington Auto Road, New Hampshire.
2. US 212 and WY 296, "Beartooth Pass" and "Chief Joseph" Highways, Red Lodge, Montana to eastern terminus of WY 296 in Wyoming.
3. CA 1, "Coast Highway", Monterey to Morro Bay, California.
4. US 12, "Lolo Pass", Lewiston to Lolo, Idaho.
5. TN 165, NC 143, US 129, "Cherochala Skyway" and "Tail of the Dragon", Tellico Plains, Tennessee to near Robbinsville, North Carolina to Maryville, Virginia.
6. Going to the Sun Road, Glacier National Park, Montana.
7. US 550, "Million Dollar Highway", Durango to Montrose, Colorado.
8. Blue Ridge Parkway, Any 150-mile continuous segment, North Carolina, Virginia.
9. WA-20, "North Cascades Highway", Concrete to Omak, Washington.
10. VA-16, "Back of the Dragon", Marion to Tazewell, Virginia.
11. Texas Ranch Roads 335, 336 and 337; "The Twisted Sisters", Texas.
12. US-16, Custer to Mt Rushmore, South Dakota.
13. US-191, "Coronado Trail", Springerville to Three Way, Arizona.
14. UT-12, "Journey Through Time Highway", Torrey to Bryce Canyon, Utah.
15. US-50, "The Loneliest Road in America", Ely to Carson City, Nevada.

SCMA Rides, Events,  
Communications and Resources

SCMA's USA Four Corners Tour  
Dannie Fox, Chair  
usa4c@sc-ma.com

California Adventure Series  
Dennis Even, Chair  
dennis\_even@sc-ma.com  
661.298.0000

2015 Three Flags Classic  
Steve Shulman, Chair  
steven1050@aol.com

SCMA Best 15 Roads Challenge  
Robert Roger, Chair  
rsroger03@gmail.com

Travelers Award  
Mitch Friedman, Chair  
mitcho399@gmail.com

2015 Awards & Appreciation  
Banquet  
R. "Gonzo" Gonzalez  
GonzoCrossUSA@gmail.com  
Mike Barber, Co-Chair  
innovations3@earthlink.net  
Pat Julien, Co-Chair  
pjulienavi@earthlink.net

SCMA Newsletter  
Publicity Director  
R. "Gonzo" Gonzalez  
GonzoCrossUSA@gmail.com  
949.588.5433

Quarter Master  
Alan Hirst  
310.753.2603  
ozhirsty@hotmail.com

Ride Chief  
Steve Howe  
562.298.6236  
steve\_howe@sc-ma.com

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

# Notarized Signatures Required !!!!



Our Risk Manager, Steve Howe, has perhaps the most interesting position in our Association. His task is to ensure that our rides are properly insured. Currently we are insuring rides through the American Motorcycling Association (AMA) who provides us the opportunity to be insured and provides the rules and guidelines to ensure that our waiver and release of liability (ROL) process is as robust as possible. This ROL process, in fact, is one of the cornerstones of the structure that allows us to offer great motorcycling events and challenges.

AMA requires all participants in an event to supply a notarized ROL unless there is a starting point sign-in where a Board member is a witness to the ROL such as we have at the Three Flags Classic and at the Travelers Award rides.

This means SCMA requires a notarized ROL when registering for Four Corners, 15 Best, Parks, and Missions. When preparing your registration forms for any of these four major events, please take the blank ROL (in color) to a Notary Public. Fill in the form as follows:

**Charter Name:** Southern California Motorcycling Association

**Location:** Norwalk, CA

**Sanction #:** use the appropriate Sanction Number

Four Corners is 44723,  
15 Best is 44724,  
Missions is 44725,  
Parks is 44726).

**Date(s):** 01Jan2015-15Dec2015.

Print and Sign in the presence of the Notary, and obtain their notary documentation to be submitted with your application. Your notary is your witness when the appropriate notary documentation is submitted.

We understand the inconvenience this creates, and share the pain. Thank you for your understanding, patience and participation.

By Gonzo  
With edits by Steve Howe  
and Steve Shulman







Presents

# ST PATRICK DAY RIDE

March 14 -15, 2015

Saturday & Sunday



SIGHTS ALONG THE WAY: OLD ROUTE 66, NATIONAL TRAILS HIGHWAY, APPLE VALLEY, HAPPY TRAILS HIGHWAY, OLD WOMAN SPRINGS ROAD

START: 07:00 - 08:00



7599 Indiana Ave., RIVERSIDE

**ENTRY FEE: \$25.00**

Travelers Award Event

Sanctioned Event

All Motorcyclers Welcome



**FIRST DAY END:** Westerns movie set from the 1950's at Pioneertown

**FIRST DAY OVERNIGHT:** Hotel room at Pioneertown & Yucca Valley

**SECOND DAY FINISH LOCATION:** Malcolm Smith Motorsports - Riverside

For Information: (661) 298-0000 - (805) 529-4245  
Shamrock Road Riders - c/o DAVE HAWKER  
42706 20th St. West - LANCASTER, CA 93534

# Wheels on the Road

By Gonzo #25051



## Membership Services Committee

We welcome **Dean Sarrocco #28000** to the Committee. Dean will be researching methods to produce our membership cards in an automated fashion. Dean brings a solid IT background to the committee and his contribution is greatly appreciated.

## We Want Your Stories !!

We are always looking for Articles from our riders that showcase their travel experiences or events, unique perspectives about equipment or maybe your account of a ride.

Please send your story to "Gonzo" at [GonzoCrossUSA@gmail.com](mailto:GonzoCrossUSA@gmail.com)

## Three Flags Classic registration now open

As of Feb 9th there were 225 registered riders for the 300 spaces in the 2015 Three Flags Classic.

Log onto [sc-ma.com](http://sc-ma.com) to register.

## TRAVELER'S AWARD INFO

As of this date, we were only able to schedule 15 Traveler's Rides for 2015. And that number is at risk of having two rides cancelled. We hope to design and schedule a full sixteen rides so that we can continue with Dennis Even's "Suite 16" event like was done in 2014. Keep an eye on our website ([sc-ma.com](http://sc-ma.com)) and this newsletter for updates



## 2015 Travelers Award: January Update

The 2015 Traveler's Award rides are open for signups. Registration is open thru Mar14 after which the event is closed to be eligible for TA recognition, though you are welcome to ride each event without registering for the Traveler's Award.

1. January 11, SCMA Charity Soup Run
2. February 14, SCMA Sweetheart Ride
3. February 22, PMC Poker Run
4. March 7, SCMA Banquet Day Ride
5. March 14-15, Shamrock's St. Patrick's Day Run
6. April 3-5, AZRATPack Alien Invasion Tour
7. April 25-26, PMC Greenhorn Ride
8. May 23-25, SCMA Grand Tour
9. June 21, SCMA Summer Solstice Ride
10. July 18, SCMA Dog Days of Summer Ride
11. October 3-4, SCMA Blazing Saddles
12. October 10, BMWCOSEC Park 'n Ride
13. October 24, SCMA Cemetery Tour
14. November 14, SCMA Turkey Run
15. December 19, SCMA Almost Winter Solstice SS1000 or an SCMA Traveler's Award ride.

### Award Levels

#### Bronze Award

7 completed events\* earns a Traveler's Award Pin

#### Silver Award

10 completed events\* earns a pin and a specially designed trophy.

#### Gold Award

13 completed events\* earns a pin, a trophy, a free March banquet ticket and a chance at a \$100 discount certificate for the 2015 TFC to be drawn at the March 2015 Awards and Appreciation Banquet. Winner need not be present.

#### Platinum Award (aka "The Suite 16")

Complete all 16 events with NO substitutions and earn everything already listed plus a \$100 discount certificate for the 2015 Three Flags Classic plus a surprise. Not planning on attending the 2015 TFC? In that case, \$100 cash will come your way instead.

#### \*Substitutions

This year, SCMA makes it easier than ever to achieve the award levels listed above. One of SCMA's Premier Events can be substituted for our Bronze, Silver and Gold award levels. However, substitutions cannot be used for the Platinum "Suite 16" award level. It stands alone without substitution

We are offering a new "Triple Crown Bonus". If you complete the Triple Crown in 2014, then you can use ALL THREE of its premier rides to count toward your Traveler's Award for the Bronze, Silver and Gold levels. However, the Platinum level "Suite 16" cannot be substituted. That level will still require all 16 listed qualifying events.

### How to Sign Up

Signing up was easy for current SCMA members. Sign-up was at any event through the March 15 St. Pat's Day Run through Mitch Friedman, Traveler's Award Chairman. For an annual fee of \$20 you are registered and a wallet card to maintain your riding record. Your rider fee pays for SCMA's administrative costs--including the cost of the awards listed above.

### Other fine print

- Sign the rider's sheet and the release of liability form provided at the start of each qualifying event.
- Report to the Traveler's Award Chairman (TAC) at the start of each event and receive his initialed endorsement on the wallet card that you received when you registered for the Traveler Award Program.
- Complete the entire qualifying event on a motorcycle, trike or a motorcycle with sidecar.
- Show evidence of your visit to any checkpoints established for the event.
- Complete the event in the time specified by the organizer, if specified.
- Report to the TAC at the end of the ride in accordance with his requirements announced at the start of the event.
- If a qualifying event is cancelled because of rain, you will receive qualifying credit unless a "rain day" had been previously announced and calendared by the organizer. In that case, participation on the rain day is necessary to receive credit.
- If a qualifying event is cancelled in advance for a non-rain related reason, the TAC, in consultation with the SCMA board, may schedule and announce a replacement event that requires participation to receive credit. You will receive qualifying credit if a replacement event is not scheduled.
- All decisions of the TAC can be appealed to the SCMA Board of Directors in writing and submitted at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the board.
- Decisions of the board are final.

### Traveler's Award Chairman (TAC):

Mitch Friedman  
 Contact him at  
 (310.345.9799  
[mitcho399@gmail.com](mailto:mitcho399@gmail.com)



Mitch

## SCMA's Help Wanted

1. **Ride Chairs for 2015.** Start thinking about the 2015 riding calendar. Are you ready to jump in as volunteer? How about designing and presenting one of our one-day or weekend rides? Do you have a dream route or idea that you would like to share with your fellow riders? Make start and finish arrangements, design the route, pre-ride it to prove it, create a flyer and manage the sign-in at the start.

*If you are interested in these volunteer possibilities, call or email or talk to Steve Shulman or any member of the SCMA board of directors*

\*\*\*\*\*

### Sell It Here...

*2011 Harley Davidson* \$14,800, ONLY 2,275 miles, Black Heritage Softail, perfect condition. Contact Steve at [Steven1050@aol.com](mailto:Steven1050@aol.com) or 949.769.1726

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

*The two motorcycles below belonged to Blake Anderson, former SCMA Chairman, who passed away Oct 14<sup>th</sup> and are being sold by Steve Shulman, for Giovanna Piazza-Anderson, Blake's wife. They may have options not listed here. Both bikes have been well maintained. You may **contact Steve at 949.769.1726** for more information.*

2001 Honda Gold Wing, Pearl Yellow, 146,368 miles, custom seat, TPMS, luggage rack, highway pegs. Asking \$10,000 (KBB lists \$10,015)

2008 BMW R1200RT, sand beige metallic, 65,653 miles. Asking \$9,000 (KBB \$9,645)



## SCMA's Help Wanted (cont'd)

**Publicity Chair:** List upcoming rides in M/C websites, social media, and other venues.

**Membership Services Committee:** Assist in registering members and handling member support. Become Director when and if interested.

**Three Flags Historian:** Collect stories of past rides and assemble the history of the Three Flags Classic.

The next General Membership Meeting will be at 9am on March 21st at:

**Marie Calendars Restaurant  
3117 Garvey North, West Covina, CA**

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.



## *SCMA's Premier Events*

### **USA Four Corners Tour/USA Four Corners True X Tour** *(an AMA "Extreme Grand 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". Starters shall receive a numbered towel, pin, hat and t-shirt. Certified finishers receive a plaque, patch and finisher's decal. Visit our website for complete information and online registration for this World Class event. More people have topped Mt. Everest than have completed this challenging long distance pinnacle. Dannie Fox is chairing this event.

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

*The planning for the 2015, 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Three Flags Classic is gaining momentum. The ride will finish in Victoria, Vancouver, British Columbia. The ride will be 5 days in duration (anniversary rides are always longer than normal year rides. Stay tuned !! A lot of exciting things are happening and its shaping up to be a doozey of a time !!!*

### **California Adventure Series**

The California Adventure Series includes two different rides: The California Parks Adventure (CPA) and the California Mission Tour (CMT). Completing one or the other helps to qualify for the Triple Crown award. Dennis Even is chairing this event.

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 2015, 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 in a single calendar year. Rules, application information and details can be found on our website. Charlie Coyner is chairing this event in 2014 and Bob Roger will chair it in 2015.

### **The SCMA Triple Crown Award**

Imagine completing the USA Four Corners Tour, the Three Flags Classic AND either one of the California Adventure tours or Best 15 Challenge in a single calendar year (Jan to Dec of the same year). It is a rare achievement--completed 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: A Triple Crown Winner. Gonzo will be chairing the selection committee in 2014.

### **The SCMA Grand Slam Award**

Complete the USA Four Corners Tour, the Three Flags Classic, California Parks Adventure, California Mission Tour, The Best 15 US Roads Challenge and the Travelers Award Gold Level in a single calendar year. Gonzo is the event chair.

### **Annual Awards and Appreciation Banquet**

Triple Crown Awards and others awards are presented at SCMA's Annual Awards and Appreciation Banquet at the Embassy Suites in Santa Ana, California. The next banquet is March 7, 2015.

### *Some Valuable Fine Print (REALLY !)*

Articles and advertising must be received by the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month in order to appear in the next published issue of the SCMA News.

Newsletters are circulated electronically and posted on the SCMA website. Send written correspondence to: Southern California Motorcycle Association, PO Box 487, Norwalk, CA 90651-0487

Email Newsletter submittals to:  
**GonzoCrossUSA@gmail.com**

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 the SCMA and no support of any kind should be construed.

SCMA's website is always your best source for complete and current information on our rides and events. Our membership application is there. For more information go to

**www.sc-ma.com**, applications and other resources. Links to all our affiliated clubs are there also.

Articles, letters or materials printed in this or any other SCMA publication are the opinion of the authors or contributors and are not the policy or opinion of the SCMA Board of Directors unless expressly noted therein.

All material appearing herein can be used freely and without limit, but we ask for the courtesy of attribution.

Advertising space is provided to our members only. Regular membership is \$30 for one year and \$50 for two years. Want ads are free for regular members. Sponsoring corporate membership is \$600 per year and included a 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.



We Want to Hear From You  
Contact Us:

SCMA  
PO Box 487  
Norwalk, CA 90651  
[www.sc-ma.com](http://www.sc-ma.com)