



Letter from the Chairman

While those on the east coast are beginning to thaw out, those of us on the west coast are finding temperatures moderate to downright hot. While riding weather is typically year-round in the west, many start to bring out their motorcycles as we come into spring. This is an excellent time to brush up on perishable riding skills and take special care in checking safety items on our motorcycles.

It's also a good time to self-assess the type of rider you are. Are you a defensive bike rider, aggressive? Do you ride with the flow of traffic or do you find yourself riding faster than traffic? Do you split traffic (California)? Are you riding as safely as possible?

When was the last time you checked your fluid levels, headlights, turn signals, and tire wear? How often do you check your tire pressure, once a week, once a month, every day? Have you considered the only thing between you and the asphalt are your tires?

I was going to discuss lane splitting, or driving between vehicles on the roadway. California is the only State in



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Upcoming Events:

General Membership Meeting (GMM)	Mar 21
AZRATPack Alien Invasion	Apr 3-5
General Membership Meeting (GMM)	Apr 11
PMC Greenhorn Ride	Apr 25-26

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the US that allows it. (The Motorcycle Safety Foundation indicates there are others, but I'm not aware). The basic rationale is California allows lane splitting because motorcycles are safer between vehicles than behind them (rear-end collisions). I don't have an opinion about the safety issue concerning lane-splitting other than common sense tactics dictate safer ways to lane split. If you go too fast, you have a greater chance of a collision. If the lanes are too narrow you have a greater chance of clipping a car. If traffic is going fast there is a greater chance of a collision due to a rider's inability to avoid a collision. I lane split when traffic is heavy, very slow, or stopped. I don't like doing it, but I don't like sitting in traffic, especially on very hot days.

There were recent studies by the CHP which ultimately determined lane splitting wasn't more dangerous than sitting in traffic and getting rear-ended. They ultimately came out with safety recommendations. A few other States are now considering changing their lane-splitting laws. So enough about lane splitting.

What really caught my eye when doing the research on lane splitting were the statistics from the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS), Highway Loss Data Institute (HLDI), the California Highway Patrol (CHP), and the National Highway Transportation Administration (NHTSA) regarding motorcycle fatalities in general.

I gained a great deal of respect for these organizations because in another life I used to write grants for NHTSA administered by the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS). These folks really do an excellent job in their analysis of collisions and gathering meaningful statistics. By the way, don't ever call a "collision" an "accident" when discussing drunk driving collisions or you'll lose a finger. The California Office of Traffic Safety clearly wants it known DUI driver collisions are not accidents. I never made the mistake a second time.

So here are some interesting statistics from which you can draw your own conclusions. I found them quite interesting. The statistics come from IIHS and HLDI.

From 1975 to 2001, 17% or more of the fatalities involving motorcyclists were 50 years or older.

From 2002 to 2008, 20% or more of the fatalities involving motorcyclists were 50 years or older.

From 2009 to 2013, 30% or more of the fatalities involving motorcyclists were 50 years or older.

This tells me there is a rise in the percentage of fatalities among older riders. Either older riders are losing their skills, older riders are starting to ride later, and don't develop skills; or older riders are really unlucky. I think the latter is likely not the answer.

Here are a couple of other interesting

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statistics though I don't believe you can draw too much from these numbers.


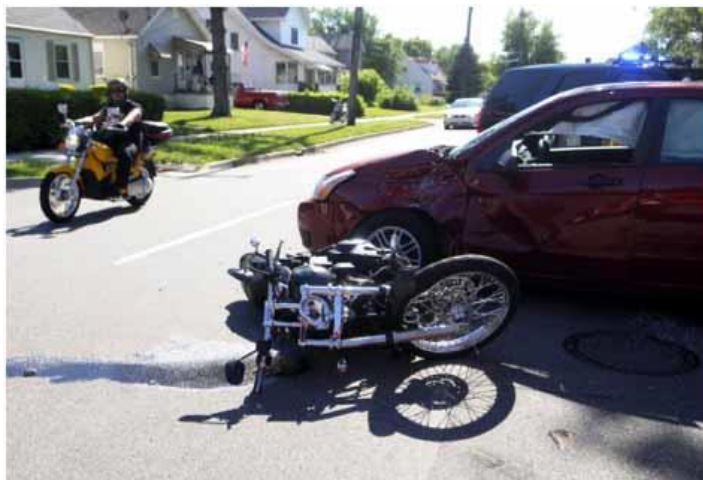
The number of motorcycle fatalities in the previous 5 years are listed below:

2013 – 4,381
2012 – 4,695
2011 – 4,403
2010 – 4,324
2009 – 4,286

There are too many motorcycle fatalities. The factors for the fatalities vary greatly. Some of the motorcyclists were at fault and many of the fatalities were the cause of other drivers. What is particularly interesting about these fatalities is that about 40%+ are typically solo collisions not involving other motor vehicles. I concluded that many fatalities are caused by the skillset or factors within the control of the rider. It would be fair to say it is in our best interests to maximize our odds by increasing our skillset, taking care of our equipment, and riding within our limits.

Please be safe out there as I look forward to waving as I pass you going the opposite direction on the highway.

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



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Award Recipients

2014 Service Awards (with positions held in 2014):

Blake Anderson	SCMA Chairman of the Board, Newsletter Editor, Membership Services Director, Website Manager, Chair Three Flags Classic, SCMA Ambassador at Large
Mike Barber	Chair, Technology Committee, Co-Chair Awards Banquet Ride, Co-Chair Winter Solstice Ride, Three Flags Classic Support, SCMA Ambassador at Large
Victor Casteneda Jr.	Awards Banquet Committee, Three Flags Classic Videographer, SCMA's Goodwill Ambassador to Arizona
Robert Chew	Awards Banquet Committee, Banquet Videographer and Photographer
Rodney Chew	Awards Banquet Committee, Newsletter Design/Layout Re-Creator, Technology Committee, Organizational "Idea" Man, Arizona's Grand "Nose Picker", SCMA Goodwill Ambassador at Large
Charlie Coyner	Chair Best 15 USA Roads Challenge, SCMA's "Mile High" Guy
Dennis Even	Member of the Board, Treasurer, Chair Parks Adventure, Chair Missions Tour, Chair Blazing Saddles Ride
Darlene Fong	Quartermaster Committee, Cooling Neckband designer, SCMA "Ms. Enthusiasm"
Mitch Friedman	Chair Traveler's Awards, SCMA's "Bounce Back" Guy
Barbara Fox	Member of the Board, Secretary, Ride Pins Manager, The Board's "Sounding Board"
Dannie Fox	Chair USA Four Corners, Legacy Award Selection Committee, SCMA's "Mr. Snowman"
Brent Gatecliff	Co-Chair, "Touch the Fence" Ride - Three Flags Classic
Chuck Gatecliff	Chair, "Touch the Fence" Ride - Three Flags Classic
Gonzo	Member of the Board, Vice Chairman, Membership Services Director, Newsletter Editor, Chair Awards Banquet, Chair Publicity, Chair Turkey Ride, Chair Legacy Award Selection Committee
Kenn Hatke	Chair Grand Tour, Awards Banquet committee, Three Flags Classic Committee, Legacy Award Selection Committee

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Award Recipients

Phyllis Hatke	Sunshine Lady, Interim Secretary, Grand Tour Committee, Awards Banquet committee
Alan Hirst	Quartermaster, Ride Morale Booster
Steve Howe	Member of the Board, Referee and Risk Manager, Ride Chief, Chair-Awards Banquet Ride, Chair Cemetery Tour, Co-Chair Winter Solstice Challenge, Legacy Award Selection Committee, SCMA Board's "Voice of Reason"
Pat Julien	Co-Chair Awards Banquet, SCMA Ambassador at Large, SCMA's "Birdwoman"
Jack Knorst	IT Support, eBlast Rocketeer, SCMA's "Always There" Guy
Mike Lawson	Three Flags Classic Committee
Mark Mayo	Chair, Sweetheart Ride
John Mickus	Member of the Board, Treasurer, Legacy Award Selection Committee, SCMA's "Green Shade" Banker
Lori Anttila-Ogden	Member of the Board, Secretary, Co-Chair Cemetery Tour, SCMA's "Most Spirited"
Steve Ogden	Co-Chair Cemetery Tour, SCMA's "Left Hand" Man
R. Roger	Awards Banquet Committee, SCMA's Ambassador to Ohio
Steve Shulman	SCMA Chairman of the Board, Vice Chairman, Assistant to Chair USA Four Corners, Vice Chair, 2014 Three Flags Classic, SCMA's Top Marketer and Salesman, SCMA's "Go To" Man

2014 Legacy Award

Blake Anderson

2014 Triple Crown Winners:

Norm Barnard	Richard Behounek	Jim Fischer	Danny Graham
Les Gullery	Joe Hallford	Charlie Hart	James Kingdon
Brian Kunzelman	Charles Lamb	Eleanor Stevens	Daniel Velderrain

2014 Best 15 USA Roads Challenge:

Joe Hallford	Charlie Hart	Brian Kunzelmann	James Kingdon
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Award Recipients

2014 California Adventures – Parks Adventure

Dan Burt	William Dippel III
Les Gullery	Charlie Hart
David Kent	Brian Kunzelmann
Mark Mayo	Edward Westlund

2014 California Adventures – Mission Tour

Norman Barnard	Richard Behounek
Victor Casteneda Jr	Rodney Chew
Monica Colby	Jim Fischer
Darlene Fong	Danny Graham
Joe Hallford	Charlie Hart
Alan Hirst	Phillip Jackson
Allen Kelley, Jr	David Kent
James Kingdon	Edward Kuzikowski
Charles Lamb	Barry McGrath
Howard Meiseles	Eleanor Stevens
Daniel Velderrain	Ellen Welter

2014 Travelers Awards

Platinum: Mike Barber, Steve Howe

Gold: Jim Bullen, Darlene Fong, Alan Hirst

Silver: Dan Hilton, Bill Schmidt, Blake Anderson, Dannie Fox, Mitch Friedman, Lori Anttila-Ogden, Steve Ogden.

Bronze: Michael Cooke



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Thank You Banquet Support Team !!

Darlene Fong and Alan Hirst: Assembling the 98 badges and designating the meals

Phyllis Shaw-Hatke: Smoothly checking everyone in, issuing badges, and welcoming all to the event.

Kenn Hatke: Getting the Banquet Room arranged and doing his best to keep Gonzo within bounds and on schedule.

Barbara and Dannie Fox: Getting photographs of folks, working on award inscriptions, making calls on my behalf, advising,you covered so much territory I'm sure I missed something.

Dennis Even: Arranging the CA Adventures Plaques and assembling attachment rings. Huge help for us award distributors !! Excellent "After Action" reporting.

Rodney Chew: Event photographer, video and slide show display, collecting our photo history!

Victor Cansteneda Jr: Creating the video, photographing the event, and running the evening's video and slide show.

Charles Lamb: Helping with the room set up and take down, packing, and not hitting my bourbon! (We know you had an early business flight but we missed your bourbon drinking company)

James Kingdon: Alphabet master who helped arrange the awards when we unpacked them. This will probably be the last time James will ever wander into the room during set-up ☺ .

Mitch Friedman: Being caught by surprise and having to address the audience....ya done good.

Steve Howe: Arranging one of the best Banquet Rides ever !!! Helping the end of night take down, packing, loading, and return to storage. And re-introducing us to Wild Turkey Rye ☺.

Charlie Coyner: Best presentation of a premier ride! Charlie, we're going to miss your wonderful, down home style of treating everyone so graciously and making all feel good! Thank you for helping with the evenings set-up.

Danny Fox: 2nd best presentation of a premier ride !! (I hope you're laughing at this one ☺).

Mike Barber: Arranging our sound system, providing great music !! Thank you for assisting in distributing the awards, packing up after the event, loading the truck, and plying me with Rye at evenings end !!

Pat Julien: From day one, being there to help organize! Attendance registration, data collection, mail box runner, funds depositor, advisor on all, check-in, raffle tickets, awards distributor....I'm sure I am missing something!,

Steve Shulman: Accomplished public speaker, crowd control master, best off-color joke teller, aspiring male stripper, but most of all, infusing the evening with style and class.

Landon and Cristine Hall: My wonderful daughter who supported me at home by pulling me away from the computer to eat, and my wonderful son-in-law who pulled me away from the computer to drink wine. Thank you for putting up with me and my escapades.

My apology if I have missed someone; there were so many that contributed in making this banquet so memorable. Please let me know whom I missed so I may make amends.

--- Gonzo



February Sweet Heart Ride



On Valentine's day, February 14th, twenty-nine riders came into Jinky's on 2nd Street in Santa Monica to sign up for this ride. Eight of the riders were non-SCMA and it was a real pleasure meeting them. Thirteen lady riders enjoyed their cup of Hot Chocolate, courtesy of SCMA, while Jinky's prepared breakfast orders for the group.

Ride Chair's Lori and Steve Ogden were busy recording everyone's names on the ROL's, collecting \$10 from all the men and 14 cents from all the ladies ☺. Slowly the large SCMA crowd began to dwindle as individuals and small groups finished their meals and headed out on the route.



The last group to depart Jinky's was Gonzo's group of six bikes. Gonzo was a little challenged to get off in the right direction. First he missed the turn onto Santa Monica Blvd and made a left at Wilshire. Upon reaching Ocean Ave he made a left instead of a right. Realizing his error, he did a complete loop, passing Jinky's one more time, and finally was on course for the day's ride.

Riding north on PCH was thoroughly enjoyable. The early morning traffic was negligible and the ocean's cooling breeze brought the scent of the sea with it. Soon the group turned right onto Topanga Canyon Rd and headed into the Santa Monica Mountains. The roads were perfect for easy riding all the way to Top of Topanga Overlook where the group stopped to admire the view of the valley and Woodland Hills, Canoga Park, Chatsworth.



Back on the road they turned onto Mulholland Hwy riding the hills and enjoying the vistas and views of unique properties. Making a left at Stunt Rd they began leaning into the climbing turns leading up to Saddle Peak Rd where they stopped once again to enjoy the magnificent view of the Pacific Ocean.



Descending on Saddle Peak Rd they then turned left onto Tuna Canyon and rode their way through Fernwood to Old Topanga Cyn Rd. This road turned out to be another wonderful climbing and descending turns and switchbacks until making the 9th left hand turn onto Dry Canyon Cold Creek to get back to Mulholland Hwy and onto Stunt Road once again.



Later, we found out that Steve and Lori had designed this route to follow the anatomically correct shape of the human heart.....all in honor of Valentine's Day !!

Taking Schueren Rd and Piuma Rd the group made a left turn on Las Virgenes Rd to head back to the base of Mulholland Hwy, the start of some serious twisties and switchbacks. Gonzo, however, sensed that the group could use a rest and took them instead to the Visitor's Center at the corner of Mulholland

and Las Virgenes Rd. The Visitor's Center is located on the Gillette Ranch and is the gateway to the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area. This is also one of the stops on the SCMA CA Adventures Parks Tour.



At this point the group realized it was getting late for lunch at Neptune's Net but there was still another 43 miles of mountain roads left on the route! The group quickly reached a consensus and decided to head back to PCH via Las Virgenes and ride directly north to the restaurant. And a good thing we did!

A number of riders had already had lunch and were heading home when the group arrived at Neptune's. But there was still a sizeable group waiting for all straggling riders. The social fun began with chat of the ride, the SCMA, backgrounds of riders, etc. Lunch was great as always, being the Neptune way of fried seafood! It was here that we found out the route design of a human heart was really accidental. How did we find out? We asked why the route had 536 left turns.....the answer? Yep, you guessed it, Steve Ogden is a leftie!

Out in the parking lot Mike Barber and Pat Julien had parked in the same spot where,



two years ago, Blake Anderson had parked. This was where they asked him about two stickers on the trunk of his Gold Wing. One sticker was "IBA" and the other was "SCMA" (...and that is how they got into both organizations!).

As déjà vu would have it, a young couple came up to Mike and Pat at their Triumph, parked in that same spot, and asked them,

"What is SCMA?" Interesting how the world turns, isn't it?

It was time to call it a day head home before the freeways became locked with traffic. Lori and Steve arranged a great ride that was hugely successful with a great turnout of riders enjoying a fantastic venue of breakfast, route, and social lunch.

Congratulation Steve and Lori Ogden, YA DONE GOOD!



Editor's note: Steve (#31647) and Lori (#31648) joined the SCMA in Jan 2014. This ride was the first ride that Steve and Lori organized for the SCMA



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Awards Banquet Ride

(Also known as the "Chairman's Ride")

This year's Banquet Ride was a perfect day for riding with cloudless skies, bright sun, and temperatures reaching into the high 70's by mid-day.

Seven riders checked into the start at the Embassy Suites Hotel and were signed up by Steve Howe, this year's Awards Banquet Ride Chair. Mitch Friedman checked the riders on the Travelers Awards list and then everyone was out the door with their route sheets.

Steve Howe, Mike Barber, Jay Yanick and Bill Dippel formed a riding team and, per the route sheet, headed southwest to Pacific Coast Highway, thru the coastal towns of Corona Del Mar, Laguna Beach, Dana Point (routing around the parade) and into San Clemente to connect onto I-5. Continuing south on I-5 they then exited CA76 and headed to College Blvd and N. River Rd.



The riding joy began when Steve made the left turn onto Sleeping Indian Road and began climbing and twisting through the avocado and orange farms. Adding to the joy of the ride was the occasional vista across valleys and seeing interesting properties nestled into sides and tops of hills.



Passing through Fallbrook, the group then headed north on Sandia Creek Drive and a few miles later they were



bearing left onto De Luz Rd. De Luz presented them with climbs, descents, curves, dips (some with a water runoff from the rains), and some sprinklings of loose sand. The best part was the occasional wooded sections where tree branches on both sides of the road created a canopy covering the road, making it look like they were riding through a tunnel of green.

Riding into Murrieta the group then turned onto Grand Avenue and passed through Lake

Banquet Ride continued on Page 13

Banquet Ride continued from Page 12

Elsinore to get on the Ortega Highway (CA74). This eastern start on Ortega begins with a fun, twisting and climbing ride to reach the plateau where they



stopped to take a breather, admire the

view, and have a bite to eat at the "Lookout" cafe.



Heading home on the final stretch the group flew down Ortega Hwy and rode through Rancho Santa Margarita and Dove Canyon to get onto Trabuco Canyon Rd/Live Oak Canyon



Rd. At Cooks Corner they then headed north on Santiago Canyon Rd riding into the City of Orange where they returned to the Hotel via CA55.



Well done Steve Howe, you put together another fun ride with a great route and gave us an awesome morning in the ocean breeze under the California sun!

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Day 1

We'll meet at Go AZ Motorcycles in Scottsdale, AZ at 8:30, have a rider's meeting at 8:50 and blast off at 9:00 am.

Day 2

We'll take a short trip to the White Sands Missile Range for a once a year tour of the Trinity Site where the first nuclear bomb was exploded as part of the Manhattan Project. We will then head to Roswell, NM and the International UFO Research Museum. We'll end the day in Las Cruces, NM.

Day 3

Our last day on the road will take us home via some of the nicest roads southwestern New Mexico has to offer.

This ride is part of the SCMA Traveler's Award and for those of you coming in from out of town, there is a local hotel close to the start point:

Extended Stay America
15501 N Scottsdale Rd
Scottsdale, AZ 85260
(800)658-6760

Rate is currently \$58/night on Hotels.com.

On Thursday, April 2nd, we'll have a meet and greet starting at Go AZ Motorcycles - Scottsdale and join them on their World Dinner Tour. Meet at the shop at 6:00 pm and side stands up at 6:30 for a ride to dinner.

The difficulty level of this ride is INTERMEDIATE. This ride will have a moderate but entertaining sport touring pace with roads providing some challenge. Be prepared for possibly cool temperatures early in the day and hotter temperatures in the afternoon. This will be a great ride for beginner/intermediate touring riders as well as cruisers and people riding two-up. Average mileage per day is 380 with 1,150 miles total.

Please arrive with a full tank of fuel! For a GPX file for your GPS please email victor@azratpack.com.

For hotel information, up to date details, downloadable maps and route sheets, visit www.AZRATPack.info

by Steve Fuquay #26167

Prescott AZ Ride - January 2015

Yes, once again your road raconteur and rogue, Trash, and his loyal Goldwing trike, Olde Skool, have cheated death. This time it was on a solo ride to explore the historic Prescott and Sedona AZ areas. The ride was about 550 miles, plus sightseeing. The temperatures were in the mid 40's to mid 50's range. No problem for



hard-core - take no prisoners riders.



Thursday, Jan. 8 - Las Vegas to Prescott AZ = 295 miles

It was an easy 120 miles down to Kingman AZ and then 115 miles SE on familiar Hwy 93 to the Prescott turnoff. At the turnoff at Hwy 89 ("The West's Most Western Highway") I headed NE into some low

mountains as Olde Skool went into Battle Attack Mode. As I travel the 60 miles to my motel, I noticed this country seems a little too tame. I decided that I needed to form a **Wild Bunch Rider Gang** to pillage and sack unsuspecting towns and villages along the way --- nothing will be left in our wake but smoking ruins and wanted posters. Now I need to find like-minded riders to form this posse of desperados.



Prescott is known for its western history and cowboy feel. In 1864 Prescott was designated as the capital of the *Arizona Territory* and today has about 40,000 people. The immediate region around Prescott has about 105,000 people with other small towns. Prescott is home to the downtown historical area known as **Whiskey Row**, until 1956 a notorious **red-light** district. Prescott also has a place in western folklore with the fact that Virgil Earp, Wyatt Earp's older brother, lived in Prescott in 1879 and told him of the boomtown in Tombstone, Arizona. It is also rumored that Doc Holliday spent some time in Prescott just before heading to Tombstone (SE 285 miles) and the OK Corral, Oct. 26, 1881. What is interesting too is that Wyatt Earp was in Tonopah and Goldfield NV just north of Las Vegas at various times in the early 1900's.



After checking in at my base camp, the Comfort Inn, I head over to the nearby Cracker Barrel for a nice meal. It was an end to a perfect ride day as darkness settled in.

"Prescott Ride continued on Page 21

Friday, Jan. 9 - Layover Sightseeing Day

Today I head NE 60 miles to see Jerome, Cottonwood, and then to Sedona. But first after the motel breakfast I went on a short ride south to the **Arizona Trike Shop**. This is a large builder-retail facility with a vintage museum with over 70 motorcycles. What fun to visit this facility and all the rides --- wow! I saw some bikes from my youth and they sure looked small now --- they must have shrunk.



Jerome was so interesting being built on the side of a mountain, where the mines were. I arrived finally at Sedona and was overwhelmed. **It is just breathtaking.** I want to live there when I hit it big at the slots. The red rocks form a popular backdrop for many activities, ranging from spiritual pursuits to the hundreds of hiking and mountain biking trails.

After the ride it was back to Prescott and the Cracker Barrel for dinner. Then it was to the motel for a meritorious combat nap and some tube watching.

Saturday, Jan. 10 - Prescott AZ to Las Vegas NV = 270 miles

I had a small starter motel breakfast and then headed out in the dark at 6:45PM in sub-40

“Prescott Ride continued on Page 22

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degree weather. I headed north 55-miles to interstate 40 as it started a cold rain. I was fine and not cold with my gear. Then it was 97 miles to Kingman AZ for a Cracker Barrel breakfast, where the rain stopped. From there it is only 120 miles to home. The idea was to get home before the NFL playoff games started.

Conclusion



This was a good ride, but I wished I had spent more time in the AZ area. It would have been nice to have stayed one day just for Prescott and one day for Sedona. I would like to go back to Sedona for a separate trip someday. The iPhone 6+ and the Bose noise-canceling earplugs worked amazingly well

as I hammered down the road. I had the iPhone loaded with my ride tunes. The old-time history and rascalism of this country fit me perfectly. In AZ I did not see too many other riders. I guess they were at home afraid of a little January winter weather and the big bad wild-west country!



Accurately recorded and respectfully submitted ---
Your obedient servants and road rascals,
Trash and Olde Skool the Trike

"We often live our lives in chains and never know we have the keys."



Three-Month Running Calendar
*(Qualifying *Traveler Award Events in Red)*

- March
- 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
 - 25-26 **Pasadena MC, Greenhorn Road Tour*
- May
- 9 SCMA General Membership Meeting, 9am, Marie Callendar
 - 23 **Grand Tour, 3-day, 2-night ride*

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 on their events and are listed elsewhere in this newsletter. ALWAYS consult them for last-minute changes before a ride.

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2015 Triple Crown and Best 15 US Roads Challenge

By Gonzo #25051

Befitting for 2015, the Board of Directors approved the inclusion of the Best 15 as a qualifying ride 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 those rides 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 finisher's 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 Four 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.



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 and Register On-Line.**

For more Information,
Contact Bob Roger, Chairman, 15 Best US Roads at (330) 857-8131 or 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. U.S. 212 & WY 296, Beartooth Pass Highway and Chief Joseph Highway, Red Lodge, MT to north of Cody WY*
2. California 1, Pacific Coast Highway, Monterey to Morro Bay**
3. U.S. 12, Lolo Pass, Lewiston, Idaho to Lolo, Montana
4. "Cherohala Skyway" & "Tail of the Dragon", Tellico Plains, TN to Deal's Gap to Chilhowee, NC
5. Going to the Sun Road, Glacier National Park, Montana.
6. U.S. 550, "Million Dollar Highway", Montrose to Durango, Colorado
7. Blue Ridge Parkway, Any continuous 150 mile segment
8. Washington 20, Concrete to Omak
9. Virginia 16, "Back of the Dragon", Tazewell to Marion
10. Ranch Roads 335, 336 and 337, "The Twisted Sisters" or "The Triple 3", Texas***
11. U.S. 16A, Custer to Mt. Rushmore and then to Keystone, South Dakota****
12. Kancamagus Scenic Byway and Mt Washington Auto Road, RT118 east from Warren, NH, to east on RT112 North Woodstock/Lincoln NH becomes the Kancamagus Hwy, to Conway NH, north on RT16 to the Mt Washington Auto Road.
13. U.S. 191, Springerville to Three Way, Arizona
14. Utah 12, Torrey to Bryce Canyon Turnoff
15. U.S. 50, "The Loneliness Road in America", Ely to Carson City, Nevada

SCMA Rides, Events,
Communications and Resources

SCMA's USA Four Corners Tour
Dannie Fox, Chair
usafc@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
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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



Wheels on the Road

By Gonzo #25051



CA Missions Tour

Unlike the CA Parks, the CA Missions Tour does NOT require a visit stamp. This requirement is waived because most missions do not have a stamp and also have limited operating hours. Hence, the only evidence of proof required by the Chair is a photograph of you and bike in front of an easily recognizable section of the Mission.

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

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) and this newsletter for updates

Three Flags Classic Open Slots are Diminishing!!!

As of March 11th there were 271 registered riders for the 300 spaces in the 2015 Three Flags Classic. Log onto sc-ma.com to register.



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, BMWCOOSC 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.

-- Mitch Friedman

Traveler's Award Chairman (TAC):

Contact Mitch at
(310.345.9799
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 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 14th 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, 40th 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. Bob Roger is chairing this event in 2015 and can be contacted at rsroger03@gmail.com

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 25th 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 includes 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:

chairman@sc-ma.com

or

GonzoCrossUSA@gmail.com