

SCMA NEWS



Proudly Serving the Long Distance Riding Community Since 1968



CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

Wow!!! What a year this month has been!

The 3FC committee has been working their tails off wrapping up the numerous details involved in starting and finishing this 3FC17 ride. Chris White is doing a fantastic job and will be at the start and the finish to ensure all these details come together nicely.

Check Point Captains have all received necessary banners and stamps to be ready to welcome you to their towns. All of these checkpoints are manned by local community organizations and are looking forward to being part of this annual migration ☺. Concurrently, many of our members are out on a USA Four Corners tour; a few of them are finishing up in Blaine in time to ride to the start in Abbotsford.

The board of directors has approved Vision, Mission, Objectives and Action statements to guide future SCMA operations. They also began discussions on reviewing SCMA's assortment of rides, to ensure meeting member's interests, and are beginning to plan for **Continued on Page 2**

Upcoming Events

Three Flags Classic Check-in (CAN)	Aug	31
Three Flags Classic ride dates (USA)	Sep	1-5
Three Flags Classic Banquet (MEX)	Sep	5
Cemetery Tour	Oct	28

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next year's 50th Anniversary.

Me? I finally got the "Eagle" (my Triumph Trophy SE) out of the shop and will be taking her on a shake down cruise to ensure no bolts shake loose and the electronics work correctly. The "Eagle" is looking beautiful with its restored paint job done by Spooky Fast Customs in Scottsdale AZ. I'm even getting this newsletter out a tad earlier than usual so I can head north and visit a few parks in NorCal and hopefully qualify this year for another Parks Adventure.

All of you are undoubtedly preparing your bikes for the Three Flags Adventure and probably have packed and repacked a few times. **Remember to bring you current passport!!!** In past years a few members have reached their respective borders only to find they couldn't cross!

This year's **3FC17 "Return To Mexico"** promises to be a memorable ride. I'm very excited to be going on this one and am looking forward to meeting all of you in Abbotsford.

Ride safely getting to Abbotsford...especially those of you that want to treat me to a beer ☺

Ride Safe.....Ride Long,

Gonzo

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Questions? Contact a director
directly

SOUTHWEST Regional News Section

pages 3 – 18

To help our readers track and group the large amount of information provided in this newsletter, we have grouped the articles into Regional, National, and International sections. This section contains info on Traveler's Award rides and local events.

Membership News

By Mike Barber #26168

Hello everyone,

Finally !!!!

The problem with printing the membership cards has been solved. This past weekend we produced 403 cards and will be packaging them for mailing during the coming September.

We also are taking membership packages to Puerto Peñasco to deliver to 3FC Riders in person...a lot better than sending in the mail !!

Thank you all for being patient with us during this time.

Mike Barber
Membership Director

**Guaranteed To Improve
Your Love Life!**
Pre-Order Yours Today

BMW Motorrad
USA
Authorized Dealer



Irv Seaver Motorcycles

607 W Katella Ave • Orange, CA

Between the 57 and 55 Fwys

714 532-3700 IrvSeaver BMW.com

BMW R nineT Scrambler



SCMA'S Affiliated Clubs

Antelope Valley Riders
www.avts.av.org

AZRatPack
www.azratpack.com

BMW Club of Southern California
www.bmwcosc.com

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

Pasadena Motorcycle Club
www.pasadenamc.com

Red Hot Riders of San Diego
www.redhotriders.com

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

Victor McLaglen Motor Corps
www.thevmc.com



SCMA Vision and Mission Statements

The board of directors recently approved the following Vision, Mission, Objectives and Actions Statements to guide SCMA operations. These statements will appear on our website within the next few weeks. The task now at hand is to ensure our operations, events, and activities meet these statements.

SCMA Vision

Be recognized as a leader of Southern California motorcycle organizations in promoting motorcycling to its southwest region, United States, and international membership.

SCMA Mission

Create and maintain a positive community experience for our members, affiliates and alumni via a variety of motorcycle-centric activities and events.

SCMA Objectives

- Mutually benefit the viability of local motorcycle clubs
- Encourage rider and family enjoyment
- Promote safety and rider development
- Recognize rider development and their accomplishments
- Encourage goodwill amongst riders throughout North America.

SCMA actions

- Operate the Association with an all-volunteer staff
- Promote monthly riding and social events held by SCMA and/or Affiliated Clubs
- Offer National and International riding events for member's distance riding experience and enjoyment of North America's wondrous beauty
- Publish a monthly newsletter
- Hold an annual banquet recognizing member's achievements
- Maintain its chartered membership in the American Motorcycle Association

Dog Days of Summer Ride

Our start was held in a nice bit of history at the Original Saugus café, a Newhall restaurant that originated in 1897. (<http://www.scvhistory.com/scvhistory/sauguscafe.htm>). The manager gave us our own room that nicely accommodated the 15 riders checking in and having breakfast before the day's ride.

Ride Captains Di and Jim "Stoney" Stoneman were on hand placing signage at the parking entrance and registering riders as they arrived. Gonzo and Jean arranged the SCMA check-in and the Russ Brown Motorcycle Atty banners between motorcycles parked at the curb. That curb location seemed to work as we caught the attention of a number of bikers riding by. A group of 4 riders stopped to also have breakfast and our SCMA



Quartermaster, Alan Hirst, knew one of the riders having met him on another club's ride over a year ago. Yes, our motorcycling community really gets around in this greater Los Angeles Area of 13 million sapiens!



By 8:00 am we were all on our individual way heading out singly or in small groups to get on I-5 north to turn onto Telegraph Rd (CA-126) west and ride the country and farm roads all around Piru, Fillmore, Bardsdale, and Santa Paula communities. The air was filled with the

scent of lemons, limes, oranges, and good ol' fertilizer ☺. The temperature was perfect, around the mid-70's, and the roads were varied being straight, curved, sweeps, blind curves, and some into the small towns. Stoney had prepared an excellent route sheet.....so well done that Gonzo didn't get lost like he usually does.

After riding all the farm roads and canyon roads, we then headed south on PCH (CA-1) to begin the next part of the ride.....the twisties into and out of the Santa Monica Mtns.

Heading north on Mulholland Drive we then descended down Decker Rd back to PCH. About a half mile south was Encinal Canyon Rd and we ascended back into the Santa Monicas to Mulholland and CA-23. Everyone commented on the fantastic twisties these roads afforded us. In fact, we all believe the tightest descending right hand turn in the world is on Decker Rd!!

Ultimately we all ended the ride in Newbury Park at the BeanoVino Café where we



found the patio tastefully decorated by Di with signage and blue ribbons. Beano was an excellent choice as we enjoyed sandwiches, cold water/soft drinks, and camaraderie. Stoney was presented with a t-shirt that Pat Julien found in Venice Beach; it had "Dog Days of Summer" on it and cartoons of various dogs performing antics.

While at Beano's we had the chance to get to know George Mowry. George rode down from Squaw Valley (this is the Squaw Valley on CA-180 east of

Fresno, not the ski resort farther north). George rides an Adventure bike....I think it is a KTM.

We certainly look forward to seeing him again in the future. George and his wife Linda have a bit of history with SCMA having both ridden 3FC96!!

Helmet salutes to Di and Stoney for a fantastic weekend ride! We all enjoyed the roads and excellent social settings.

Thank you Di and Stoney ☺.





Photos courtesy of Di and Jim Stoneman.

More photos can be seen on flicker at:
[Dog Days Flickr](https://www.flickr.com/photos/135120412@N05/albums/72157686862791805/with/36214530635/)

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/135120412@N05/albums/72157686862791805/with/36214530635/>



California National Parks Adventure Tour

by Dean Sorrocco
Chair, CA Adventure Series

This event is part of the CA Adventure Series and is more challenging than the CA Missions Tour. Whereas the Missions Tour ranges from San Diego north to Sonoma and is primarily along the Pacific coast, the Parks Tour ranges from San Diego to the Oregon border and from the Pacific Coast and on both the west and east sides of the Sierras.

California is home to about 35 National Parks (NP), Monuments (NM), Historic Sites (NHS), Historic Parks (NHP), Recreation Areas (NRA), and National Trails (NT).

The SCMA tour has selected 25 of those sites and requires you to visit 24. You are given an option between Devils's Postpile NM and Eugene O'Neill NHS. The reason for this option is due to the limited time accessibility.

Below is a list of the 25 NP's to help you in developing a plan. You will have the full calendar year to visit all the sites and your completed SCMA Parks Passport must be submitted for validation by December 15th of each year.

Visit the SC-MA.com website for more information on the rules and how to apply.

CALIFORNIA NATIONAL PARKS

1. Cabrillo National Monument, San Diego
2. Channel Islands National Park, Ventura
3. Death Valley National Park, Furnace Creek
4. Devil's Postpile National Monument, Mammoth Lakes
5. Eugene O'Neil National Historic Site, Danville
6. Fort Point National Historic Site, San Francisco
7. Golden Gate National Recreation Area, San Francisco
8. John Muir National Historic Site, Martinez
9. Joshua Tree National Park, Twenty Nine Palms
10. Kings Canyon National Park,
11. Lassen Volcanic National Park, Mineral
12. Lava Beds National Park, Tule Lake
13. Manzanar National Historic Site, Independence
14. Mojave National Preserve, Kelso Depot
15. Muir Woods National Monument, Mill Valley

16. Pinnacles National Park, Paicines
17. Point Reyes National Seashore, Point Reyes Station
18. Redwood National and State Parks, Crescent City
19. Rosie the Riveter WWII Home Front National Historic Park, Richmond
20. San Francisco Maritime National Historic Park, San Francisco
21. Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, Calabasas
22. Sequoia National Park, Three Rivers
23. Whiskeytown National Recreation Area, Whiskeytown
24. Yosemite National Park
25. Cesar Chavez National Monument, Keene



For more information contact Dean Sarrocco, Chair of CA Adventures at:

adventures@sc-ma.com

Sell it here !!

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

***SCMA's Help Wanted***

SW Regional Ride Chief for 2018. Start thinking about the 2018 riding calendar. Are you ready to jump in and help administer it? We need someone to help track TA Riders attendance?

If you are interested in helping us please call or email Gonzo) or any member of the SCMA board of directors



2010 Honda Goldwing GL
1800. \$13,500.



2011 Harley Heritage Softail
Classic. \$12,900

Contact Steve Shulman for more information at:
steven1050@aol.com or (949) 769-1726

Sell it here !!

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

ST1100 Aux Fuel Tank,
luggage rack, seats.

Asking \$1,200

Contact Adolph:

626-253-5367



Sell it here !!

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

Bill Strickland, Member #34143
Pierre South Dakota

2014 Harley Davidson Street Glide, Screaming Eagle
5600 Actual Miles, Beautiful bike
No scratches or Dents, Kept in garage when not riding
Clean Title. Located in Pierre, SD
Asking **\$25,000.00**
Little bag on back does not go with bike
Contact Bill or Donna 605-280-0658





A 2013 BMW K1600 GTL with 37,000 miles is for sale. It has just had its 36,000-mile major service and is ready to go. Has many extras such as bag and trunk liners, Clearwater "Erica" driving lights, GPS, and Battery Bug battery charging system monitor. Also has blue tooth helmet for GPS, Radio, and intercom. This is a real nice machine and is ready to take you anywhere you want to go. \$16,500 and it's all yours. Financing is available through BMW Finance. Bike is located in Casa Grande AZ
Please call Dannie Fox at [\(805-889-5220\)](tel:805-889-5220) or email: twofoxs@pacbell.net or usaafc@sc-ma.com



Harley Davidson Motor Home (only six made 2000)
V10 25,206 miles
Ford chassis, Chinook body
21 ft long. accommodates 2
so many extras
Always garaged, must see
Asking \$32,000
Call Nancy (530) 919 8276



Sell it here !!

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



Interested in owning a HUGE piece of SCMA History??

The above Gold Wing was Joe Usatin's. Joe was the "father" of the Three Flags Classic and he rode quite a few Classics on this bike.

The bike has rebuilt/replaced forks, new rear suspension, and new rear engine seal.

1984 Honda Gold Wing, 144.8k miles, Asking \$4,000.

Contact Doug Hoffelt (Antelope Valley Riders – Lancaster) for more information:

(661) 435-8949 or hoffelt@verizon.net

Sell it here !!

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

2012 HONDA ST 1300 AC

Pristine condition, meticulously maintained and always garage stored with 44,135 miles. Has Russell Daylong seat with passenger backrest and cargo rack as shown. Also, comes with police single seat/rear cowl configuration to revert, dual stock seat and/or Maverick seat also available. Bike is equipped with:

- Transferable Honda 4-year extended warranty valid thru December 2019
- Honda factory heated grips
- Hi/Lo Bi-Xenon headlights
- Soundoff Ghostlight

forward warning lights (white) and rear brake lights

- Front and rear police crash bars with custom modified passenger pegs
- Racetech front suspension
- Fork springs rate at 1.0KG (stock was way under sprung at .860kg)
- Rear suspension is fitted with Progressive 465 fully adjustable shock with Remote Adjustable Preload (RAP).

Must sell; too many bikes to maintain. \$10,400. Ask for Steve (#24141) at [\(707\) 479-0849](tel:7074790849).



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

Aug	31	Three Flags Classic Check-in
Sep	5	Three Flags Classic Banquet Puerto Peñasco, MEX
	16	Run to Lebanon
Oct	29	*SCMA Cemetery Tour
Nov	11	*Turkey Run

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.

COMFORT X SAFETY
 THE 2014 TOURING LINE
25% OFF*
 FOR SCMA MEMBERS
 CONTACT MEMBERSHIP SERVICES AT
 GONZOCROSSUSA@GMAIL.COM

INFINITY GORE-TEX® X-TOUR GORE-TEX® X-FIVE WATERPROOF X-RIDE WATERPROOF

TECX
 FOCUS ON BOOTS

National News Section

pages 19 – 30

This section has articles about the SCMA National Rides: The USA Four Corners Tour and the Best 15 USA Roads Challenge.



ABOUT BAM

Katherine Markowicz
Marketing & Promotions
Brown, Koro & Romag LLP



BAM: Breakdown and Legal Assistance for Motorcyclists

BAM is a unique volunteer organization of bikers helping bikers. Motorcycle Attorney and long-time SCMA supporter, Russ Brown started BAM over 30 years ago when he experienced a breakdown 100 miles from home. Stranded in a remote location with no one he knew nearby that could help him, Russ thought “Wouldn’t it be great to have a fellow biker to call anytime, anywhere you needed help?” And so, BAM was born! Today, BAM’s nationwide volunteer network of roughly 2 million motorcyclists can help provide you with emergency breakdown assistance across the country. If you experience a breakdown or mechanical problems while on the road, call 1-800-4-BIKERS, and we will search our volunteer network and send someone out to help.

Roadside Assistance for Motorcycles

Russ also wanted to provide the support of his legal muscle to every BAM member. Today, Russ Brown Motorcycle Attorneys, and their nationwide network provide free legal advice 24/7 to all its members nationwide. Started by the Los Angeles motorcycle accident attorneys who ride, BAM is the ultimate resource for riders—one that has developed and flourished for over 30 years. As a result, the motorcycle accident attorneys at Russ Brown have developed trusted relationships with the best lawyers across the country. No matter where you ride, you can rest assured knowing you have the very best biker-friendly lawyers ready to help you if you are involved in a motorcycle crash. BAM’s emergency ID card can speak for you if you are incapacitated in a crash: we list your emergency contact person,

medical problems, and blood type. With your permission, should emergency personnel call, we will supply this information and provide donors if necessary.

BAM membership is FREE!

All we ask is that you volunteer to help another member in need of assistance if called upon and only if you are available to do so. In turn, your Los Angeles Motorcycle Accident attorneys are here to advise you whether you need our representation or just some guidance and advice after an accident.

Join 2 million fellow bikers who have the strong backing of each other as well as the original Motorcycle Attorneys. Enhance your SCMA membership with all the added benefits of BAM: get your FREE BAM Benefit card by calling 1-800-4-BIKERS or visiting www.russbrown.com.

It's Parade Time !!!!

USA Four Corners True "X" Center of USA Lebanon KS



A group of us from around the USA and CAN will be at the US Center Motel in Smith Center KS, arriving late afternoon on Friday, September 15th.

We'll ride our bikes in the parade on Saturday, and enjoy the celebration for the rest of the day.

Back in Smith Center we'll figure out where we'll have a social event.

We'll be departing Smith Center Sunday morning after breakfast.

We look forward to seeing all our USA Four Corners riders and True X riders join Lebanon for this fun celebration in the heart of the USA !!

Virginia Tech Motorcycle Accident Study

Motorcycle crashes: Complex topic, scarce information

What do you learn if you pick 100 riders, put five video cameras and data-logging equipment on their motorcycles and record them for a total of 366,667 miles?

This study was done for the Motorcycle Safety Foundation by the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute.

<http://www.revzilla.com/common-tread/what-virginia-tech-learned-about-how-and-why-we-crash-our-motorcycles>

Victor McLaglen Motor Corps

Hello Everyone,

Get your motor running.....it's riding season again!!!! We have a lot to do this year so lets get busy.

Our first practice will be March 5, 9:30AM at Performance Machine INC. La Palma CA. Set aside every Sunday for practice, Easter is exempt, until the Yuma Prison Run on April 22.

Be sure to come out and vote for the nominees for leadership at the first practice.

Here's a taste of what and where we'll be performing this year:

Rides for this year:

Yuma Prison Run – April 22, 2017

Laughlin River Run – April 27-30, 2017

Greatest Escape – May 7, 2017

Santa Maria Elk Rodeo – June 3, 2017

Veterans 4th of July Parade – July 4, 2017

Big Bike Weekend – October 14-16, 2017

Honda Ride For Kids – October 29, 2017

Editor's Note: The Victor McLaglen Motor Corps, an SCMA affiliate, performs as a motorcycle drill team at major events throughout the Southwest. If you've never seen them perform and demonstrate their amazing skills we encourage you to attend one of the events listed to the left and give them your vocal support!

Historical information can be found at this link: <http://www.thevmmc.com/history.htm>

We look forward to seeing you at our shows and our practices and cheering us on!

Scott Griffin

Appeal for Donations

“Welcome Center” Construction Project

Four Corners Park Madawaska Maine

Hello Four Corners Finishers, SCMA'ers and all Distance Riders,

A few weeks ago I visited Joe and Diane LaChance, founders of the Four Corners Park in Madawaska ME. Joe was kind enough to take me to the park to walk the pavers so many of you have commissioned through your donations. We also walked the Acadian pavers. These are pavers commissioned by local citizens of the surrounding community to support the Park and honor their Arcadian history.

It was quite moving to see so many supporters in building and maintaining the Four Corners Park.

Joe then described his dream of building a Welcome Center at the north end of the parking lot. I was very impressed with his ability to squeeze such a center into the available land space.

His plan is to have a place where visitors would have a building to take shelter in from inclement weather while visiting the Park. The center would also contain historical and other info of SCMA in addition to the community. It would be furnished for visitors to rest, and would have restrooms for visitor's use....a big improvement over the current “Port-a-Potty” arrangements.



The challenge to accomplishing this goal is funding. Cost is estimated at \$21,000.

Many of you have contributed in the past with paver donations or direct contributions to the Foundation. Now we are asking once again for your help in supporting the Four Corners Park.

If each of us donated to the Foundation, Joe would be able to move forward with completing this wonderful project. If every **Finisher** of the Four Corners Tour donated \$20, and if every non-finisher **Member** of SCMA donated \$10, the Welcome Center would become a reality!

You will receive an acknowledgement letter for your Tax Deduction. Please use the form on the next page in helping Joe and Madawaska build the Welcome Center!

Ride Safe.....Ride Long,
.....Gonzo

Four Corners Park Visitor Center Donation

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Amount of Donation: () \$10 () \$20 () Other _____

() Check enclosed

() Credit Card Type: _____

CC # _____

Expiration Date: _____

3-Digit Code: _____

OR, if you prefer,

Call Diane LaChance at 207-436-7450 and provide her with your CC information

OR, use PayPal place the below into your browser :

<http://www.madawaskafourcorners.org/WelcomeCenterDonations.html>

(PayPal button is located on left side of page)

Or

Mail to: Madawaska Four Corners Park
C/O Welcome-Information Center
PO Box 261
Madawaska, Maine 04756

The Four Corners Park Foundation is a 501(C)(3) non-profit organization.

You will receive an acknowledgement receipt of your donation for your tax reporting purposes.

Main Street Lebanon KS – Geographical Center of 48 States



Lebanon Community Center on far right side of Main St
Post Office to its left...same side of street
Ladow's Market and Restaurant on the left side of Main St



LEBANON COMMUNITY CENTER / WALL PROJECT

YES, I WANT TO HELP

I do not wish to receive recognition.

I wish to order _____ inscribed bricks at \$100 each.

I wish to make a contribution of _____ toward the Community Center/Wall without designating a brick.

Enclose payment with form. Make checks payable to:
U.S. Center Foundation, Inc. Memo: Community Center/Wall

My Name: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ ST/Zip _____ (Opt)Phone: _____

ALL CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE AS ALLOWED BY LAW.

Anyone who wishes to contribute toward maintenance and upkeep of the Lebanon Community Center facility can also request their name or business name to be added to the "Community Wall". These inscriptions will identify the people and businesses of Lebanon, and its supporters, from yesterday, today and for tomorrow.

Examples of inscriptions: 16 characters/spaces; 2 lines. (Characters limited to keyboard letters, numbers and punctuation.)

JOHN & JANE DOE _____ FAMILY _____

Brick Name #1

FIRST LINE (Please Print:) _____

SECOND LINE: _____

Brick Name #2

FIRST LINE (Please Print:) _____

SECOND LINE: _____

Make copies for more brick inscriptions or use back of form. Forms also available online at:

www.uscenterfoundation.com

U.S. Center Foundation, Inc.; P.O. Box 24; Lebanon, KS 66952 (785) 620-7115 or (785) 389-1501

You are welcome to call for suggestions to fit names on a brick.

"U. S. Center Foundation, Inc.: Community Connection For A Proud Tomorrow"

Thank You!



Neal and Karen Herndon from Lebanon KS were in San Ysidro on their USA4C tour and bumped into Mike Williams just starting his USA4C True X Tour.



Wayne Green from Orange County CA and Charlie Lamb from Virginia were in Madawaska at the same time. Joe LaChance saved film and took one photo for two riders ☺



**Southern California Motorcycling Association
Best 15 US Roads Challenge
Announcing the 2017 Collection**



We are offering the Best 15 US Roads Challenge for the 7th year. The challenge started spontaneously in the spring of 2011 when the American Motorcyclist Association published its Best 15 Roads article. Two riders took the challenge that year: Kathy and Larry Lamarche from Kamloops, BC Canada. In 2016, we updated the list with three new roads and a route change to a fourth road.

For a list of the 6 rules of the ride please refer to the SCMA website: <http://sc-ma.com>

In 2017 the Best 15 continues to qualify for the Triple Crown as an option to the Parks Adventure or Missions Tour, when combined with the USA Four Corners Tour and the Three Flags Classic.

1. U.S. 212 & WY 296, Beartooth Pass Highway and Chief Joseph Highway, Red Lodge, MT to north of Cody WY* <http://www.beartoothhighway.com> <http://www.motorcycleroads.com/75/676/Wyoming/Chief-Joseph-Scenic-Highway-Bighorn-Mountains.html>
2. California 1, Pacific Coast Highway, Monterey to Morro Bay** <http://www.pashnit.com/roads/cal/Hwy1BigSur.htm>
3. U.S.12, Lolo Pass, Lewiston, Idaho to Lolo, Montana <http://www.motorcycleroads.com/75/185/Idaho/The-Lolo-Pass.html>
4. U.S.33, Elkins, West Virginia to Seneca Rocks on to Harrisonburg, Virginia. 100 mile ride. <http://www.motorcycleroads.com/75/656/west-virginia/us-33-through-the-shanendoah-valley.html>
5. Glacier National Park, Montana, Going to the Sun Road. <http://motorcycleroads.com/75/353/Montana/Going-To-The-Sun-Road.html>
6. U.S. 550, "Million Dollar Highway", Montrose to Durango, Colorado http://www.motorcycleroads.us/roads/co_us550.html
7. Blue Ridge Parkway, Any continuous 150 mile segment <http://www.blueridgeparkway.org>
8. Washington 20, Concrete to Omak <http://www.motorcycleroads.com/75/634/Washington/Highway-20-Washington-Pass.html>
9. Big Bend NP, U.S.385 into north gate, out west gate on TX118 to FR170 to Presidio* 120 mile ride. <http://www.bigbendnationalpark.com>
10. Ranch Roads 335, 336 and 337, "The Twisted Sisters" or "The Triple 3", Texas*** [http://www.motorcycleroads.com/75/555/Texas/The-Three-Sisters-\(AKA-The-Twisted-Sisters\)-Ranch-Roads-335-336337a.html#sthash.VtF1zKaL.2OUPjSG.dpbs](http://www.motorcycleroads.com/75/555/Texas/The-Three-Sisters-(AKA-The-Twisted-Sisters)-Ranch-Roads-335-336337a.html#sthash.VtF1zKaL.2OUPjSG.dpbs)
11. U.S. 16A, Custer to Mt. Rushmore and then to Keystone, South Dakota**** http://www.motorcycleroads.us/roads/sd_us16a.html
12. "Kancamagus Scenic Byway/Mt. Washington, Lincoln, New Hampshire to Mt. Washington Summit***** http://www.motorcycleroads.com/Routes/New-Hampshire_105.html
13. U.S.191, Springerville to Three Way, Arizona http://www.motorcycleroads.us/roads/az_us191.html
14. Utah 12, Torrey to Bryce Canyon Turnoff <http://www.scenicbyway12.com>
15. Mount Desert Island, Acadia NP. ME102/ME102A to Bass Harbor Lighthouse. ME102A/ME102 to ME198 to ME233 to Cadillac Mountain Summit. Back down to the LOOP ROAD along the coast. Jordan Rd/ Stanly Rd to ME 3 North to get off the Island.* 75 mile double loop. <http://www.acadianationalpark.com/parklooproad>

*These roads are combined as a single "challenge unit" and all must be ridden

**Southbound has the advantage of putting the ocean and scenic pull-offs on the right

*** To complete this challenge unit we suggest 335 south to Camp Wood, 337 east to Leaky, 336 north to Highway 41, Highway 41 east to US 83, US 83 south back to Leaky, 337 east to Medina. Or the same roads in the opposite direction.

****We strongly recommend taking this road east from Custer to Mt. Rushmore for the awesome views of the monument through the tunnels.

***** NH12, Kancamagus HWY, 23 miles to Left on Bear Notch Rd, US302 W, at Twin Mt US3 N then NH115 E, US2 E to NH16 S to Mt. Washington Auto Road.

Southern California Motorcycling Association

Best 15 US Roads Challenge

RULES

1. The participant must be a member of the Southern California Motorcycling Association.
2. The participant must complete a registration form and pay the associated ride fee.
3. The participant must complete, sign, have witnessed and NOTARIZED an AMA Release and Indemnity Form (ROL) printed in COLOR to clearly show the red watermark, then send it to the Chairman of the 15 Best US Roads Challenge.
4. The participant must provide a GAS RECEIPT clearly showing the date and location at both ends of each road or road group (challenge unit). Also required is a PHOTO of the PARTICIPANT with his or her MOTORCYCLE taken with a SIGN or recognizable LANDMARK to identify the location. The gas receipts and photos must be assembled into a logbook and sent to the Chairman of the 15 Best US Roads Challenge for approval to certify the participant as a Finisher of the Challenge.
5. The participant must ride his or her motorcycle or trike the entire distances to and from home, to and from and along the prescribed roads. The fifteen roads may be traveled in any sequence, breaks in time between roads are allowed and can be taken at the discretion of the rider. In the event of a road closure, ride to the closure sign to take the photo.
6. ALL 15 Roads must be ridden in one calendar year, designated as between January 1 and December 15. There are no time extensions for any reason, including weather, mechanical failures, accidents, illness etc. Participants will have two years of eligibility to complete the ride; the year of registration is considered the first year of eligibility; the following year is the 2nd year of eligibility.

For further clarification, or any other questions about this ride offering,

contact Bob Roger, Chairman, 15 Best US Roads Challenge at:

rsroger03@gmail.com or call at (330) 857 8131



Editor's note: An excellent description of the rides is available on the SC-MA.com website. On the Home page, navigation bar, simply place your cursor on Rides > Best 15 US Roads Challenge > Best 15 US Roads Rules

Best 15 USA Roads – News Update



Charlie Lamb, Kathy Lamarche, Don Strum, and an unknown friend were at Larry Lamarche's memorial site outside of Kamloops BC CAN.

Charlie completed a Best 15 in honor of Larry and Kathy's Best 15 accomplishments.

International News Section

pages 31 – 49

This section has articles about the SCMA Three Flags Classic and information of a general nature for all SCMA members throughout the world.

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Photo: Matthew Kabbash - 2016

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A Three Flags Classic story...

by Chris White #23916

In 1975 I was attending college in Vancouver and used to go for Sunday rides with a local club, the British Columbia Road Riders (BCRR). We'd meet up Sunday mornings for breakfast and then go for a ride. This lasted until the summer of 1977 when I moved up to Gold River on Vancouver Island and started my new job.

In 1976 the Southern California Motorcycling Association (SCMA) started doing a ride from Mexico to Canada over the Labour Day weekend. One of the SCMA's earliest members, Joseph Usatin, came up with the idea and presented it to the club. They liked the idea and the Three Flags Classic (3FC) was born. Sadly Joe passed in 2007, but he will always be regarded as the "FATHER" of the Three Flags Classic.

The SCMA enlisted the help of the BCRR and together they ran the 3FC for the first five years. From 3FC76 to 3FC79 the Classic ran from Tijuana, Mexico to Vancouver, BC. and basically just followed I-5 north to finish up at the Skyline Hotel, close to the Vancouver airport. Going to college in 1976 meant I had no money and working every day possible that summer was critical to get through second year. After graduating with a Forestry Diploma in 1977 and moving to Gold River (now home) it wasn't realistic for me to participate. The old "time and money" thing. Although every time I heard a story about the 3FC I was green with envy.

Then my life changed forever in 1980. Not only did I marry Joanne on Valentine's Day that year but the 3FC80 was going south for the first time and was finishing up in Ensenada, Mexico. It was my first opportunity to ride a 3FC. In those early years the 3FC always started at night. One week of vacation was enough to pull it off so we called it our "honeymoon" and planned to go. Friday morning we left Gold River, caught the ferry to Vancouver, and were registering in the Skyline Hotel parking lot that afternoon. So much excitement in the air, so many motorcycles, and we were all going to Mexico! There was no passport back then, but we did get our picture taken and a few months later we received an album that had all our pictures, a couple of stories and a listing of all the sponsors and club members that helped make it all happen.

The Classic has never and will never "be a race" and there is no acknowledgement of how you place...

You can probably imagine the level of adrenalin that was pumping through my body that night. This was just so absolutely cool! Pitch black out, motorcycles everywhere and on familiar I-5 ground so was driving a bit aggressively. A few of my 3FC stories have a ticket involved and it didn't take long for me to get my first 3FC "performance

award". A Washington state trooper on I-5 caught me within 50 miles of the Canadian border. Me bad. Shortly afterwards I caught up to a couple of BC guys. They were making good time and I didn't want another ticket so I pulled in behind them and followed. After several miles of riding together we met, talked and did the rest of 3FC80 together. My new friends, Gordie and Dale, have been friends ever since. Since 1980, Gordie and I have ridden many Classics together and I'm sure some of you understand when I say, I'm getting goose bumps right now just thinking about some of those stellar rides with Gordie. Have I mentioned how much I love riding the 3FC?

The checkpoints in 1980 were mostly at I-5 rest stops to the Mexican border and then we popped down to Ensenada to finish. Not that it matters, but we were so proud to finish 22nd, 23rd and 24th in Ensenada without even trying. "That was easy" we said to each other, but wow, what an incredibly fun ride we had. Seeing and meeting so many other like minded riders along the way and then having so much fun at the finish, I haven't missed one since. I was now HOOKED FOR LIFE!

In 1980 there were only two riders that had ridden all of the first five Classics and our banquet dinner in Ensenada was a premade "boxed" chicken dinner. I believe they were shipped in from the USA, although I could be wrong. The 3FC81 went to Calgary instead of Vancouver and the BCRR were no longer involved in running the Classic.

In those early years, not only did we start at night, but checkpoints stayed open straight through until closing. It was this way for several years so you can just imagine those poor checkpoint volunteers. They'd be trying to sleep and a rider would roll in at 2:00 am so they'd get up, stamp your passport, go back to bed and then somebody rolls in at 3:25am. All night long this went on. Can't remember their names, but we had one couple with a Winnebago that manned a checkpoint (48 hours straight) by themselves, for years. Checkpoints were pretty simple back then and if you could get a cup of coffee it was a bonus! With a 20:00 start Friday and a 20:00 finish on Monday riders only had 72 hours to ride 1700 to 1800 miles. Nowadays we get almost 86 extra hours to do 2000 miles.

Belt buckles have been given to the successful finishers every year. The first passports were given out in 1981 and this was the last year the photo album was produced. To date it's still my favorite. Album photos, separate from passport photos were of each rider (and passengers if applicable) sitting on their motorcycles. Would be great to do it again sometime in the future. Producing those albums was a ton of work for volunteers, so the SCMA then made the decision to give out plaques instead of the albums in 1982. They've continued since. After a few years of starting Friday night the SCMA changed to a Friday morning departure instead. The routes

were getting longer as we were taken on more interesting highways and finishing in farther away cities. The other significant change was to start closing the checkpoints over night. It was getting harder to find volunteers that would work around the clock and it was felt that by making people stop overnight it also created more opportunities for camaraderie amongst the riders along the way. It is a win-win situation that continues today. For years the 3FC entry tickets were awarded by a lottery. You'd mail in your entry, starting on January 1st and on a pre-determined date they'd hold the draw. This draw was usually well attended and was open to anyone that wanted to go. This was the night that I'd always get my Joe Usatin phone call. He'd let me know if I got a ticket or was on the waiting list. I sure miss that guy. His big smile, always wearing a tie and riding his BMW with those enormous auxiliary lights.

As with everything else these days, costs keep going up and we are all getting older! In 1980 I was one of "the kids" at 24 years old. I'm still one of "the kids" today at 61. In fact, the average age of our riders is now close to 65. The expenses of running the lottery and the logistics to pull it off were making it harder every year so one of the latest changes was to sell the tickets on a first come first serve basis; A real welcome improvement for me. Being on the "waiting list" was no fun although I will say that in all these years, there's always been at least one ticket available to buy at the start.

As mentioned, 1980 was the first Mexico finish. We went to Ensenada again in 1984 and then not again until 1992 when we finished in Tijuana. That was twenty-five years ago and the last time we finished a 3FC in Mexico. That brings us up to this year's 3FC17. We're going back to Mexico with a finish in Puerto Peñasco! Thank-you SCMA!

Three Flaggers are part of my family and I love you all. Let's make this year's ride a very safe and extremely fun time! See you in Abbotsford!

HOOKED FOR LIFE

Chris White is Chairman of the 3FC17 and will be at the start in Abbotsford and the finish in Puerto Peñasco,



MEXICO MOTORCYCLE INSURANCE

For your information, while driving in Mexico you **must** have Mexican insurance. The consequences, you can be ticketed by police for failing to produce insurance papers. Also, if you are involved in any kind of accident and you don't have Mexican insurance, you are considered at fault.

The cost is usually about \$15 for every 24 hours and you can pick the "start" of your 24-hour day. For example: getting insurance from 13:00 on Monday to 12:59 on Wednesday is 48 hours and you'd only pay for 2 days. As with any insurance there are lots of "options" and each of you will need to make your own choices. This insurance can certainly be purchased well in advance and online or it can be purchased at any one of the hundreds of insurance offices along the way to Mexico.

Below are a couple of possible insurance companies that you can contact and obtain quotes:

AAA Geico Progressive Your current USA Insurance Carrier

On my first trip to Puerto Peñasco I purchased insurance from Geico. On my second trip to Puerto Peñasco, Victor and I drove in my SUV. I opted to purchase separate insurance from Sanborn's and was very pleased with their handling and process.

Sanborn's Mexican Auto Insurance can be purchased online at
www.rockypointautoinsurance.com

Or you can stop at their offices in Ajo, a small town about 40 miles north of Lukeville border crossing. Their offices are located on the route as you enter the small town of Ajo, AZ (between Gila Bend and Lukeville). They are located on the right of Hwy 85 (west side) next to the Chevron Gas Station.

2021 N. Ajo Gila Bend Hwy
Ajo, AZ 85321
520-387-6006 or 1-888-713-3312 (ask for Ajo office)

Whether you purchase online, via telephone, or stopping at their offices, you will find the process quite simple and easy to purchase with a credit card.

Searching and shopping online is easy, just google "Mexico insurance for motorcycles". Everything is then up to your choices of amounts of coverage you elect to have above the basic requirements.

It really is a simple process and can easily be purchased.

See you in Abbotsford !!

Sanborn's Mexico town of Ajo Insurance office entering from the north. Located on the right next to Chevron gas station.



Entry to office is last door on the right end of the building.



2017 3 Flags Turn-By-Turn Instructions

by Paul Lax #34610

Patricia Lax #35217

Betty McCloskey #19389

Chris White #23916

Editor's note:

A brief note of explanation if I may: The below turn by turn is a blend of info compiled and worked by the team mentioned above. Chris White actually rode this route twice: once from north to south, and again from south to north. His documentation is what was published in eBlast #5. Subsequent to his work, Betty McCloskey worked at documenting the route via a version of Streets & Trips. And a week or two ago Paul and Patricia were toolin' about the west and responded to Chris' request for help in preparing this turn by turn with confirmation and more detail. **A route in km will soon be released.**

The route being depicted below used the "Team Lax" input as the basis and bounced it off each of the other inputs (McCloskey/White) for validation. Ultimately, corrections, adjustments, and additional detail were gleaned and included for this final route.

Our thanks and appreciation to each of them for working so hard to get this documented.

CAVEATS:

1. Mileage is as recorded from a motorcycle. As we all know there is a variance between GPS, Google, basecamp and what may be reflected on the odometer.
2. Errors: yes, there ultimately will be an error or two. We're just a bunch of volunteers.
3. Changes: **YES!!!! The route is ALWAYS** subject to change and update!
4. **GPS???** Is there anyone out there who can convert this to a GPX file for us???

Miles	INSTRUCTIONS	TOTAL DISTANCE
After 48 ft	Left from motel parking lot	48 ft
After .32 mi	Turn right onto Whatcom Road	.3 mi
After 268 ft	Take the Hwy 1 W / Trans-Canada Hwy West ramp to the right towards Vancouver	.4mi
After 1.93 mi	Take exit 92 to the right onto Hwy 11 towards Mission / USA border	2.3 mi
After 2.26 mi	Cross the border and continue straight onto Hwy 546 (Badger Rd)	4.9 mi
After 10.19 mi	Enter roundabout and take 2nd right to continue on Hwy 546	15.1 mi
After .48 mi	Enter roundabout and take 2nd right to continue on Hwy 546	15.6 mi

After 1.49 mi	Turn left onto Hwy 539 South (Guide Meridian Road)	17.1 mi
After 2.86 mi	Enter roundabout and take 2nd right to continue on Hwy 539 S	20.0 mi
After 1.08 mi	Enter roundabout and take 2nd right to continue on Hwy 539 S	21.1 mi
After 1.04 mi	Enter roundabout and take 2nd right to continue on Hwy 539 S	22.2 mi
After 1.49 mi	Enter roundabout and take 2nd right to continue on Hwy 539 S	23.7 mi
After 6.00 mi	Keep right onto Meridian Street	29.7 mi
After 500 ft	Follow posted signs to take the I-5 S ramp to the right towards Seattle	29.8 mi
After 62.04 mi	Take exit 194 to the right, onto US-2 E (Everett Ave). Stay to the left towards Snohomish/Wenatchee	92.0 mi
After 2.26 mi	Keep right onto US-2 E (Stevens Pass Hwy) towards Snohomish/Wenatchee	94.3 mi
After 21.94 mi	Enter roundabout and take 2nd right to continue on US-2 E	116 mi
After 79.84 mi	Take US-97 S ramp to the right towards Cle-Elum/Ellensburg	196 mi
After 35.19 mi	Turn left to continue on US-97	232 mi
After 13.21 mi	Turn left at the T (dead end) to continue on US-97	245 mi
After 1.23 mi	Turn right at stop sign to continue on US-97	246 mi
After 1.19 mi	Turn right at stop sign (Conoco Station) to continue on US-97 towards I-90 Spokane/Yakima	247 mi
After .52 mi	Take I-90 E / US-97 S ramp towards Yakima	248 mi
After 3.77 mi	Take exit 109 to the right onto Canyon Rd towards Ellensburg	251 mi
After .28 mi	Turn left on WA-821 (Canyon Rd)	252 mi
After 27.99 mi	Take the I-82 E ramp to the right towards Yakima	280 mi
After 4.39 mi	Take exit 31A to the right onto US-12 W towards Naches	284 mi

After 17.22 mi	Turn left to stay on US-12 (Old Naches)	301 mi
After 70.27 mi	Turn left onto Hwy 131 S towards Mt. St. Helen	372 mi
After 2.4 mi	Bear right onto NF-25	374 mi
For 32.68 mi	Follow posted signs to remain on NF-25	407 mi
After 4.31 mi	Turn right to stay on NF-25	411 mi
After 5.47 mi	Turn left onto NF-90 (not marked very well)	417 mi
After 4.17 mi	Turn right onto Curly Creek Rd	421 mi
?After 5.07 mi	Turn right onto Wind River Rd towards Carson	426 mi
?After 27.40 mi	Turn left at T (dead end) onto Hwy 14 (name? #53)	453 mi
After 17.4 mi	Turn right onto Hood River TOLL Bridge (grating bridge)	471 mi
After 1.0 mi	Turn right onto E Marina Dr	472 mi
After 100 ft	Turn left to stay on E Marina Dr	472 mi
After 600 ft	Checkpoint will be set up in the open area	472 mi
	Get on E Marina Dr and ride east	472 mi
After 550 ft	Turn right to stay on E Marina Dr	472 mi
After 100 ft	Turn right onto Button Bridge Rd	472 mi
After 550 ft	Continue straight on US-30 W / OR-35 S towards Government Camp	472 mi
After 38.6	Stay in lane continuing straight on OR-35 S towards US-26 E / Bend / Madras	511 mi
After .30 mi	Take US-26 E ramp towards Bend / Madras	511 mi
After 13.8 mi	Keep right to stay on US-26 E / 97 S #67	525 mi
After 48.6 mi	Turn left to stay on US-26E (splits away from -97 S) #68	573 mi

After 26.1 mi	Turn right onto NW 3rd St (OR 126 / split / Prineville)	600 mi
After 2.5 mi	Turn left onto SW George Millican Rd	602 mi
After 30 mi	Turn left onto US-20 (at the T-intersection)	632 mi
After 102.55 mi	Through Hines/Burns (FUEL) , continue straight onto Hwy 78 (Steens Hwy)	735 mi
<p>This is a decision point Take OR-205 (Frenchglen Hwy) for 221 miles to next GAS OR Continue on OR-78 for 150 miles to next GAS</p>		
Alternate Route OR-78		
After 91.2 mi	Turn right onto US-95 South towards Winnemucca	826.2 mi
After 55.4 mi	Turn left onto S Rd and enter Red Mountain Travel Center	881.6 mi
	Continue on US-95 south to Winnemucca	
OR		
Continue with designed route		
After 1.85 mi	Turn right onto OR 205 (French Glen Hwy)	736 mi
After 199.51 mi	Turn right onto US-95 N (becomes NV-292 in Nevada)	935 mi
After 31.5 mi	Turn left onto W Winnemucca Blvd	967 mi
After .48 mi	Turn right onto E Winnemucca Blvd	967 mi
After .90 mi	Turn left onto Leighton Day Fairgrounds Road (there are 2 Leighton Day Roads as this is a horseshoe road)	968 mi
After .21 mi	CHECKPOINT #2 1098 Fairgrounds Rd	968 mi
	Ride Southeast on Fairgrounds Road	968 mi
After 1012 ft	Turn left onto E Winnemucca Blvd	968 mi
After 1.29 mi	Take the I-80 E ramp to the right towards Elko	970 mi

After 50.56 mi	Take exit 231 to the right onto NV-305 towards Downtown Battle Mountain	1020 mi
After .32 mi	Turn right onto Hwy 305	1021 mi
After 87.05 mi	Turn left onto US-50 at the T	1108 mi
After 67.32	Keep right on US-50	1175 mi
After 81.26 mi	Turn right on US-93 / 50 E (Great Basin Blvd).	1256 mi
After 25 mi (+/-)	Continue straight on – US 50 E	1281 mi
After 31 mi (+/-)	Turn right onto Hwy 487 (BEC UT-21)	1313 mi
After 87.99 mi	Turn right onto S Main St (CONT UT-21)	1401 mi
After 13.61 mi	Turn right on N Center St UT-130 (Minersville)	1414 mi
After 40.50 mi	Turn left onto UT-14 (E Center St)	1455 mi
After 40.46 mi	Turn right onto US-89 S	1495 mi
After 22.44 mi	Keep left to stay on US-89	1518 mi
After 17.29 mi	CP #3 78 South 100 East Kanab	1535 mi
	Ride South on US-89A (S 100 E)	1535 mi
After 92.22 mi	Turn right onto US-89	1627 mi
After 58.43 mi	Enter roundabout and take 2nd right to continue on Hwy 89 S	1686 mi
After 46.74 mi	Turn left onto N Country Club Dr towards I-40 W on ramp	1733 mi
After .33 mi	Take the I-40 W on ramp to the right towards I-17	1733 mi
After 5.09 mi	Take exit 195 to the right onto I-17 S towards AZ-89A	1738 mi
After 1047 ft	Continue on I-17 S towards AZ-89A	1738 mi

After 117.21	Take exit 221 to the right onto AZ-303 Loop S / Sonoran Desert Dr	1855 mi
After .44 mi	Right on Bob Stump Memorial Pkwy	1856 mi
After 34.44 mi	Exit 104B onto I-10 West	1890 mi
After 11.94 mi	Exit 112 onto US 85 towards San Diego/Yuma	1902 mi
After 36.5 mi	Right Turn-CONT US 85 S to Lukeville, AZ	1938 mi
After 40 mi	Ajo – Sanborn’s Mexico Insurance	1978 mi
After 40.33 mi	Cross into Mexico and continue straight BEC Benemerito de Las Americas Hwy 8	2018 mi
After 2.1 mi	Bear left onto Hwy 2/8 South	2021 mi
After .3 mi	Bear right onto Benemerito de Las Americas Hwy 8 to Puerto Peñasco	2022 mi
	After the turn, on immediate left, is "Vasquez" lounge and store. You can cool off inside while waiting for escort to depart.	
After .6 mi	CAUTION - Speed bump in road	
After .2 mi	"Alto" Charity collection. Feel free to donate some pocket change.	
After 59.2 mi from Vasquez	Money Exchange in Puerto Penasco. Located directly across from Sam's Club. Name on building is "Centro Cambiario" Has 4 alternating green and red awnings over entrances. Neon signpost has rates. Go to window to make exchange	
After 61.3 mi	Turn right onto Calle 13 Miguel Hidalgo (large statue of Marlin or Swordfish)	2023 mi
After .5 mi	FINISH Peñasco del Sol at very end with LT to Hotel entrance on right	2084 mi

OBSERVATIONS ON THE ROUTE

Some good, scenic roads

I rode the route twice, once in late June and once in mid-July. It's a good route. Here are some observations from those trips you may want to consider.

Based on my speed, it is a 12 hour + ride from the start to the first checkpoint in Wood River. The route goes through some real beautiful country. You should try to do the route from Yakima to Wood River in daylight. US 12 runs along the Tieton River then over White Pass. The route takes you by Rimrock Lake. National Forest Road 25 is exceptionally picturesque. You may want to stop for the night in Yakima so you can do these roads in daylight. Allow 5 hours for the ride from Yakima to Wood River.

NF-25 has frost heaves in the pavement - Strongly advise riders not to wear sunglasses - Trees over the road throw shadows

We are not kidding about topping up the fuel in Hines/Burns. It is 221 miles from Hines to the next gas. The stretch of OR 205 which becomes NV 147 at the border is the real Loneliest Road in America. My Harley made it with fuel to spare, but I kept the speed down to save gas.

An alternative route to take if your bike has limited range: After topping you tank in Burns, take OR-78 to US-95 south into NV. About 3 miles south of McDermitt is a first class Travel Stop that is a few notches better than the Texaco station in McDermitt. Total mileage from Burns is approximately 150 miles.

The ride from Winnemucca to Kanab is real nice and you can make good time. US Hwy 50 takes you over several summits and has some nice curves in the section we are using. And from Kanab to the finish is a stretch where you can make good time.

WA Hwy. 821 runs along a river on your left and is quite scenic.

For those riders without much knowledge of Arizona except from watching old Westerns, you'll get a different view of my home state when you cross the Utah/Arizona border.

A suggestion

In Kanab, UT I recommend the Trails End Restaurant. Good food and friendly service.

A Personal Opinion

For every rider the reasons for riding the Three Flags Classic are a little different. For me, the route is the best part. The banquet is nice, and the buckle is cool, but riding the route is the best part. For those who follow the route it is part of what we have in common; we took the same ride. We can compare stories of the ride. We remember particularly interesting roads.

Although you ARE required to make each checkpoint within the allotted time, you are NOT required to ride the route. This allows flexibility for those who may want to vary from the route for personal reasons; visiting friends, seeing a preferred sight, minimizing risk, making up time after getting a flat tire repaired, etc.

Please remember this is not a race. Ride the route at your pace and enjoy what the route master has designed for you. You are considered a finisher if you make all the

checkpoints on time. And every finisher gets a belt buckle.

Thank You

My lovely and talented wife, Patricia, gets most of the credit for preparing the turn-by-turn instructions. It would have taken a lot longer if I had to stop to write notes at every turn. She was the ideal passenger. We had some hot weather and got soaked for one afternoon, but even that was fine.

I look forward to seeing you in Abbotsford and Puerto Peñasco!

Paul Lax



View of the Peñasco del Sol Hotel pool area, from the beach on the Sea of Cortez

Curving beach of Puerto Peñasco basked in the setting sunlight



View of the pool area at night from the patio of a room on the 2nd floor

Photos courtesy of Victor Castañeda Jr

More photos can be seen at:
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/135120412@N05/albums/72157684170112213>

PREMIER “5” SLAM AWARD

In 2013, for the first time ever*, one of our riders completed all 5 of SCMA’s Premier Events in a single calendar year. The asterisk is there because we have yet to hear from anyone claiming to have done so previously.

With that precedence set, a few more riders went out and rode all 5 Premier Rides in 2014 and 2015. To date we have four riders who have ridden all 5 Premier Events in a single calendar year. Unfortunately, none of them has received recognition for that extraordinary accomplishment.

In the meantime, the Grand Slam award was established to recognize any rider who completes all 5 Premier Events AND 13 of the monthly Traveler’s Award rides, all in a single calendar year. Last year Dannie Fox successfully completed all 5 and 13 and received the Grand Slam Award at the 2016 Awards Banquet.

Members of the board recognized the challenge of completing all the rides to earn the Grand Slam Award is next to impossible unless a rider resides in the southwest region. Logically, it would seem that many of our members may be able to ride the 5 Events but would be unable to ride to CA every month for a Traveler’s Award event.

Addressing that constraint, the board has unanimously agreed to establish an award to recognize riders who complete all 5 Premier Events in a single calendar year. It will be titled the Premier “5” Slam award and will be retroactively awarded to those who have accomplished that significant event. Completing 5 Premier Events can only qualify for one award....either the Premier “5” or the Grand Slam, in a given year.

We have a partial list of previous finishers of this challenge. If you are a finisher and not on the below list, or if you are erroneously listed, please **contact Gonzo** (949-433-0761) to report your status. We would like to present this award to all finishers at the 2017 Awards Banquet, Irvine Wyndham Hotel on Saturday March 4th, 2017.

Finishers:

2013 Gonzo
 2014 Charlie Hart
 2015 Claudette Fradette
 2015 Jean Fradette

We look forward to presenting this award to past and future finishers who complete all 5 Premier Events in a single calendar year!



Premier “5” Award

Triple Crown Award

When **quality matters,** it's all about **choices.**



LED AUX Lights

The best value in the market,
all lifetime warranted and available
in kits with or without dimming capability



Performance LED Headlight Bulbs

3000 lumen H4



Dirt Bike, ATV and UTV LED Light Bars

Value with no compromise,
give your customers the best
so you don't deal with headaches



800 624 0278 • www.cyclopsadventuresports.com

Wheels on the Road



By Gonzo #25051

Interested in viewing a different type of online motorcycle magazine? Cost is free and no spam! Check out the below link.
<http://www.theroadhawgs.com>

Motorcycle Products

Have you come across an interesting product to be used for riding, equipment care, bike care, etc?????

If so, send it to us with contact information and we'll consider placing it into our newsletter.

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 Chairman@sc-ma.com

RIDE Chief NEEDED !!

A Ride Chief is need for the 2017 riding season.

Please contact Gonzo at Chairman@SC-MA.com or 949-433-0761

SCMA Facebook Posts

Post photos and comments during your Premier Ride

<https://www.facebook.com/scma.main/>

<https://www.facebook.com/SCMA3FC>

<https://www.facebook.com/scma.21.missions/>

<https://www.facebook.com/scma.park.adventure/>

<https://www.facebook.com/scma.4.corners/>

<https://www.facebook.com/scma.best.15/>

Valid Driver's License Required

Beginning in 2016, for the safety of all, our insurer is requiring that we confirm, at the beginning of all rides, that our riders have a valid drivers license.

California Law Update

1. Lane splitting is now legal, with rules
2. If ticketed, you can attend an mc safety course instead of traffic school.

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 have 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 2017, 42nd Annual Three Flags Classic is gaining momentum. The ride will start in Abbotsford, BC Canada and head south for a finish in Puerto Peñasco, Mexico. The ride will be 4 days in duration. A lot of exciting things are happening and it's shaping up to be a great return to our Three Flags roots of riding through three countries!!!

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, in any order and at any pace, visit at least 24 of the 25 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. Visit <http://sc-ma.com/rides/california-parks-adventure> for detailed rules.

CMT: During any single calendar year, 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 2017, 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. This event qualifies as an alternate to the CA Adventure Series in earning the Triple Crown. Bob Roger is chairing this event in 2017 and can be contacted at rsroger03@gmail.com

The SCMA Triple Crown Award*

Imagine completing a three-pack of any combination of USA Four Corners, Best 15, Three Flags, and one of the two CA Adventure Series rides 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 tags you as a very unique long-distance rider: A Triple Crown Winner. Gonzo will be chairing the selection committee in 2016.

The Premier 5 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.

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.

*Riders can only apply a completed ride for one of the three awards (i.e., the rides used to qualify for a Premier 5 award cannot be used to qualify for the Triple Crown or Grand Slam Awards).

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:

Chairman@sc-ma.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. 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.

**IF YOU ONLY
FOCUS ON THE PROBLEM**



**YOU MIGHT
MISS THE EASY SOLUTION**

We Want to Hear
From You
Contact Us
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