



SCMA NEWS

Proudly Serving the Long Distance Riding Community Since 1968

CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

Hello everyone,

As the song says, this seems to be the "...happiest time of the year" as we approach the Holidays. We are finishing up our shopping (well, ahem, some of us haven't quite started yet), planning dinners, getting together, and gearing up for the New Year.

No matter how grumpy an act I put on, everyone sees through it as I really enjoy this time of year. It is a time to share warm greetings, spend time together, exchange gifts, reflect on the past year's accomplishments and failures, and plan for next year's goals.

I especially look forward to the New Year's celebration; first and foremost, because I get to uncork celebratory champagne, and secondly, to unleash my optimism for an improved personal life and an improved SCMA.

Thank you for being members of SCMA; your membership and participation is what makes SCMA the best "lil' international ridin' association" in North America.

I look forward to seeing y'all out on the roads on the west coast, across this great **Continued on Page 2**

Upcoming Events

January Members Breakfast – Duarte	Jan	27
Sweetheart Ride	Feb	10
Annual Awards Banquet	Mar	3
St Pat's Day Ride - Shamrocks	Mar	17

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nation, and throughout the three magnificent countries of this awesome continent.

I wish you all a most wonderful Holiday Seasonmost especially, I wish you all the best of 2018.

May the New Year bring you much joy riding your motorcycle exploring new roads, making new friends, restoring old friendships, and enjoying all the little and big things that life has to offer us.

Ride Safe.....Ride Long

Gonzo



The Official Attorney Sponsor Of SCMA

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Questions? Contact a director directly

SOUTHWEST Regional News Section

pages 3 – 22

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,

Well, we finally ran out of membership cards. Meanwhile, the new design commemorating SCMA's 50th anniversary has been approved and is now being worked with the printer software.

We'll resume production in January with the new cards!

Mike Barber
Membership Director

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



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 Annual Awards and Appreciation Banquet
Saturday, March 3, 2018
Highlighting the achievement of the
Triple Crown Award Participants



**CA Adventures or
Best 15 Challenge**



**Three Flags
Classic**



**USA 4 Corners
Motorcycle Tour**

When: **Saturday, March 3, 2018**
 3:30-4:45 PM Registration and Social Hour
 5:00 PM Dinner
 5:30 PM Program

Where: Irvine Wyndham Hotel
 17941 Von Karman Ave, Irvine, CA 92614
 Hotel reservations call (949) 863-1999
 Mention **SCMA Awards Banquet** for special rates
\$119 plus tax for single; \$119 plus tax for double
 Parking is complimentary, Breakfast 20% discount
Cutoff date for block rate is February 4, 2018

Banquet: Cost is **\$55.00 per person.**
Banquet reservations Cut-off date is Feb 28, 2018

Come one, come all. Everyone is invited to enjoy an evening of camaraderie with fellow motorcyclists.

Participation in motorcycling events is not necessary.

Membership **NOT** required.

Reservation forms and meal choices will soon be made available.

NO ride is scheduled for the morning of the Awards Banquet.



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



UltimateMotorCycling.com

A promotional banner for GO AZ Motorcycles. At the top, there are logos for Aprilia, BMW, Ducati, KTM, Triumph, Honda, Ural, Vespa, and Kawasaki. Below the logos is a central shield logo with a sunburst design and the text "GO AZ Motorcycles". The background shows a motorcycle dealership with several bikes on display. At the bottom, a dark blue bar contains the text: "GO AZ MOTORCYCLES | 15500 N. HAYDEN RD | SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85260 | (480) 609-1800 | GOAZMOTORCYCLES.COM".

Witching Cemetery Tour 2017

By Mike Williams #36876

Halloween witches and goblins descend upon us out once a year.....but a few hardy SCMA and PMC riders challenged the Halloween Spooks and rode to a number of old cemeteries....some dating to the mid-1800's.....and visited gravesites at the haunted locations.

There were 20 riders from Los Angeles, Riverside, Orange, and San Bernardino Counties. Of the 20 riders, 13 were SCMA members, 11 AMA members, and 7 of the riders were from the Pasadena Motorcycle Club. All were excited to get on the road as the riding weather was excellent with starting temperatures in the low 50's, clear skies, no wind, and light traffic. Teresa had fun plastic Halloween figures for us to place on our bike to help give us frightful shivers ☺.



Riders would have the opportunity to visit four pioneer cemeteries, see the large Barstow "Fire Helmet" (tribute to New York 9/11 firefighters), Bagdad Café, an abandoned agriculture inspection station east of Daggett, as well travel old "Route 66" to the Ludlow Café where we had a good lunch and conversation before riding back to our home destinations.



We rolled out of the Farmer Bros restaurant on Riverside Ave in Bloomington after enjoying a warm breakfast, made a quick left onto Aqua Mansa Rd and came upon the Aqua Mansa Pioneer Cemetery. This is a haunted cemetery with the first burial there in 1853. The town of Aqua Mansa was washed away in a flood and only the cemetery remains with some tombstones semi-buried.

From there riders rode up to Big Bear along Highway 18 to Highway 38 that swung north of the Lake before rejoining Highway 18 as it dropped down to the upper desert into Lucerne and Apple Valleys. It was a fun ride, with mountain twisty roads that were in good condition and Big Bear Lake was nearly full, providing awesome views.

The route took riders into Victorville onto D street which became the National Trails Highway, previously knows as



Route 66! About 4 miles on Route 66 riders turned into the old mining town of Oro Grande and visited its cemetery also known as Lt Manuel Rodrigues Cemetery who was killed-in-action during WWII. This cemetery is also known to be haunted by lost spirits, and is often visited by paranormal investigators.

Continuing north on National Trails Highway, and passing Elmer's Bottle Tree Ranch, we

arrived in Barstow to see the Big Fire Helmet. This fiberglass helmet was made in honor of the 343 firefighters who lost their lives in NYC 9/11.

Next was to work our way onto I-40 east to Nebo St. and visit the Daggett Pioneer Cemetery. Walter Alf (82 years old) was born in Daggett in 1888, died and



was buried here in 1970.

Also in Daggett was the abandoned Inspection Station....so we stopped there for a photo.

Continuing on NTH (Route 66) for another 43 miles riders arrived at the last cemetery on the tour. Ludlow was founded in 1882 and became a water stop for the railway steam engines.

Eventually the railroads

became diesel and stops were no longer made here. The first burial at the cemetery was in 1923. Route 66 helped the town prosper as a motel and café stop

but once I-40 was built it was the end of town's prosperity.

Although Route 66 was rough at points the last couple miles to Ludlow, it was easily navigable and provided a good glimpse of an area that is fading away. The mileage was 191 miles, probably a little lengthy for some on a monthly ride, but it



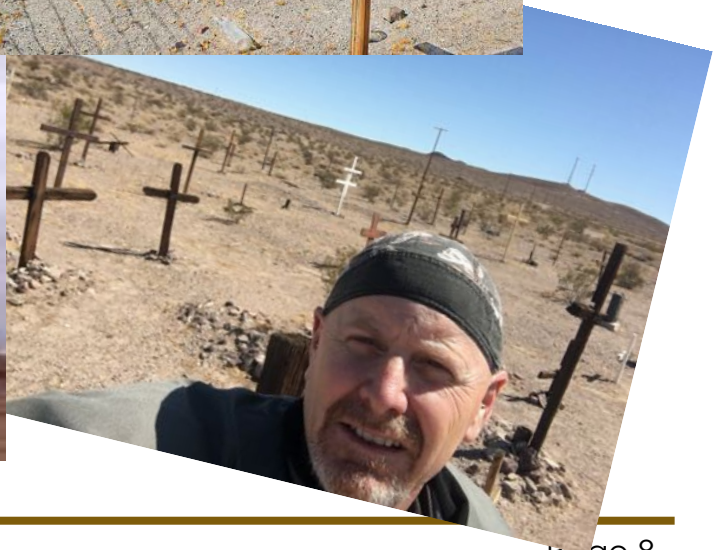
was perfect for this event combining an exciting mountain twisting road with visits to historic sights.



Lunch was held at the Ludlow Café where we were served with delicious sandwiches, awesome fries, the “special” of the day (large slice of excellent meatloaf with mashed potatoes and gravy and green beans!), and ice cold drinks.

Hats off to the PMC riders who livened up the riding group with their awesome energy. The chatter and fun was non-stop resulting in no one remembering to take photos during lunch!!

Mike and Teresa Williams did a great job planning this route, researching the cemeteries, and pre-riding the route numerous times. Rumbling pipes with a big thank you to Mike and Teresa for providing us with this great historical and fun ride.



Red Hot Riding on a Turkey Run

By Gonzo

Anticipation had been building for weeks waiting for the Friday night before the scheduled Saturday event put on by the Red Hot Riders of San Diego.

I say Friday night because a few of us, as usual, were at the Poway Best Western, enjoying Chinese take-out by washing it down with Beer 'N Bourbon!



Bakery located on CA-78.

After getting their pastry fix, riders were ready to roll and were briefly on CA-79N before hanging a left onto Mesa Grande Rd to enjoy the grand riding through the higher elevation terrain and then some of the sweeping curves before joining back onto CA-76W.



Saturday morning we met up with fellow SCMA'ers and RHR's at the Mainstream Bar and Grill for a good breakfast, lotsa chatting, many cups of coffee, and a ride brief by Ron Farkas, RHR Road Captain for the event. Karen Butterfield brought fun toys and hats for riders, and Christine was the consummate rolling photographer

Kick Stands Up at 9:00 am and it didn't take long for the crew to be heading out on Scripps Parkway, onto CA-67N through Ramona, and then onto CA-78E (Julian Rd) for a quick pastry stop at Dudley's



About 2-miles

later we turned onto the East Grade Rd (S7), skirting by Lake Henshaw, and headed for Mother's Kitchen at the base of Mount Palomar. From Mother's we were perfectly positioned to go screaming down S6, the fabulous South Grade Rd with its 7% grade and 7-miles of 20 hairpin curves. After a group photo at Mother's, riders headed down S6 at a good pace then rode CA-76 to Casino Pauma for a fantastic buffet featuring chicken, fish, and beef, loads of veggies, salads and desserts were also on hand. What made this lunch so great was it free price to Veteran's!!

It was a great time at lunch with lively conversations and great suspense to find out who would draw the \$100 poker chip. With mounting fanfare, it was finally drawn by Christine

of the RHR's !!

A "BIG thanks" to the Red Hot Riders, and special acknowledgement to Ron Farkas, for putting on this great event and bringing us all a wonderful day of riding with the Red Hot Riders of San Diego!







SCMA 2018 Soup Meet

SCMA AND AFFILIATE RE-UNION



When: Saturday, January 27th

Where: **Elks Lodge**

2436 E. Huntington Dr
Duarte, CA

Registration: SC-MA.com/Rides

Check-in: 8:30 AM

Breakfast: 9:00 AM

Fee: **4 cans/boxes of food** or
\$5 Check Donation (tax
deductible) to *Families
Forward of Orange County*.

Breakfast provided by SCMA.

AFFILIATES

Come meet other Affiliate Clubs, and SCMA current and pioneer members from SCMA's early years. This is your opportunity to introduce your club and tell us about your rides planned for 2016. Please register at the website info provided below.



Questions? Contact: Gonzo
949-433-0761

SCMA **current and past**

2, 3 or 4 wheels. Meet your

pioneer members of SCMA. Enjoy a breakfast hosted by SCMA.

Bring 4 or more cans of soup or boxes of food for *Families Forward of Orange County*, a charity helping families in need

Members: **Arrive on**

fellow members and

Register at:

<https://sc-ma.com/events/scma-2018-soup-meet/>

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 Devil'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.



2010 Honda Goldwing GL
1800. 85,000 miles **\$10,500.**



2011 Harley Heritage Softail
Classic. 2,900 miles, **\$12,900**

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

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

Sell it here !!

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ST1100 Aux Fuel Tank,
luggage rack, seats.

Asking **\$1,200**

Contact Adolph:

626-253-5367





2014 BMW R1200RT-LC comprising of ultra technologies: ABS, Automatic Stability Control, Cruise Control, Dynamic Electronic Suspension Adjustment, Hill Start Control, Traction control, AM FM Satellite Blue Tooth radio.

Dealer options include Gearshift Assistant Pro, 50L top case.

Many after market farkles: HID low and high beam lights, Powerlet 15A socket, German TUV approved Wunderlich front and rear crash bars, Russel's day long seat (32" inseam), AirFlow tall windscreen with wings, Ilium bar backs, hand grip fillers, Extra heavy handle bar weights, Haynes service & repair manual.

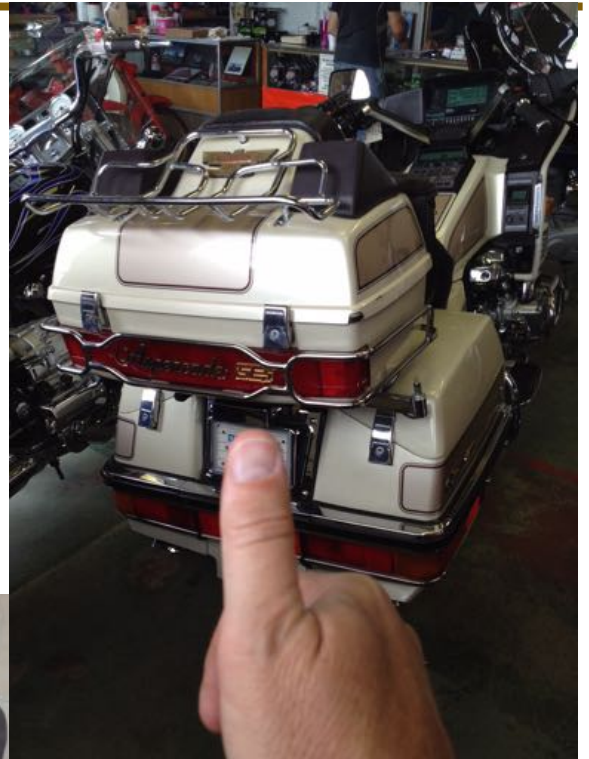
36,000 mile service in October 2017, all recall campaign's done and finished, 3 year brake flush. Garaged, and meticulously maintained.

Bike is located in Olympia WA. \$13,500.00. Please call Thomas at [1\(360\) 280-9087](tel:13602809087) or email LoToofLa@centurylink.net.



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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).





116,000 Flawless Miles, 184,000 more to go

**2002 GL1800
Goldwing -
\$7,499.99**

Is it possible to have better than new? Cleanest and most well maintained bike on the market. Nothing needed, ready to start making trips

AM/FM, GPS, CB Radio, Chrome in all the right places, Driver Backrest, Lower cowling Fog Lights, Two Position Passenger Floor Boards, Luggage Rack, Heated Liner Plug-in, Hard to find color,Just to name a few
Come see for your self. **Call Thom @ 949-584-1799**



Rampage Power Lift – loads a full touring bike (Gold Wing, Harley).

Fits pick-up truck with 6.5' box. Easy to operate. Used 1 time. Asking **\$1,250**. Located in North Platte NE

Contact Bud Kleewein

308-530-4068

Three Month Running Calendar

- Jan **27 Member Breakfast – Duarte Elks Lodge**
- Feb **10 Sweetheart Ride**
- Mar **3 Awards Banquet – Irvine Wyndham**
17 St Pat's Day Ride – Shamrock Road Riders

Information on each ride will be released on the website and via eBlasts.

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 23 – 32

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

RUSS BROWN
MOTORCYCLE ATTORNEYS

FREE BREAKDOWN AND LEGAL ASSISTANCE FOR MOTORCYCLISTS

1-800-4-BIKERS

The Official Attorney Sponsor Of SCMA





SCMA Annual Awards and Appreciation Banquet
Saturday, March 3, 2018
Highlighting the achievement of the
Triple Crown Award Participants



**CA Adventures or
Best 15 Challenge**



**Three Flags
Classic**



**USA 4 Corners
Motorcycle Tour**

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Where: Irvine Wyndham Hotel
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 Hotel reservations call (949) 863-1999
 Mention **SCMA Awards Banquet** for special rates
\$119 plus tax for single; \$119 plus tax for double
 Parking is complimentary, Breakfast 20% discount
Cutoff date for block rate is February 4, 2018

Banquet: Cost is \$55.00 per person.
Banquet reservations Cut-off date is Feb 28, 2018

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Membership **NOT** required.

Reservation forms and meal choices will soon be made available.

NO ride is scheduled for the morning of the Awards Banquet.

Hello SCMA Newsletter readers & Goldwing Riders

It is with a great deal excitement and anticipation I type this to SCMA Goldwing riders. There is a newly designed 2018 Goldwing that was released yesterday by Honda. Honda has made some significant improvements in both technical and styling areas of the bike. While the bike is now about 80 lbs. lighter than previous models, it holds about a gallon less fuel. Honda says the mileage be around 42 miles per gallon while maintaining the 1832cc motor. Some additional features include a 7" screen that contains icons instead of the 50 something buttons from times past. The windshield is now electric and an improved front end suspension and a 6 or 7 speed transmission depending on the manual or DCT mode. Some really GREAT improvements! If you haven't noticed I'm really excited, well I am beaming awaiting these improvements for years!

But the reason for my e-mail is not to write a review of the bike it's to gather an interest list of those interested in buying one, once you've done your research. My intention is to gather a list of people interested in buying the new model and approach a dealer I have dealt with before and know who is interested in making us a great deal on a volume purchase.

The dealer is not "local" so the idea would be to fly to the location, get picked up by the dealer and ride them home. That's what we like to do, ride!

I'd like to gather as many people interested in buying one and see about getting the best deal possible for all the buyers. I am willing to organize the list and negotiate the purchase price for everyone. There is no commitment from anyone until you know everything there is to know about the bike, the color, the options, and of course, the price. Having purchased from this dealer before, I know the dealer's desire is to beat everyone's price. In 2008 I bought a Wing from them and saved over \$2000 over other dealers after deducting airfare, hotels and gas from the best price I could find in California.

If you have an interest, e-mail me at Steven1050@aol.com or call me at 949-769-1726 and I'll keep you posted after I compile a list of people and details about the bikes.

I'm always up to saving a few bucks when I buy a bike and I suspect you are too! There is no obligation and I love putting together this sort of thing to see how much money we can save for SCMA members.

Respectfully,

Steven Shulman (your former Chairman)
Walla Walla, WA
949-769-1726

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.

Riding the Best 15 In Texas

By Chuck Neuman #42264

After the warm glow of a successful and enjoyable 4 Corners Tour in 2016 had started to fade another tour was needed to take its place. Long winters in St Paul, Minnesota leaves plenty of time for planning a big ride and the SCMA's Best 15 Road Challenge definitely qualifies as BIG.

With the large USA map tacked to the wall and a list of the roads from the web site, the locations of the challenge roads were noted. Holy smokes! I wonder if it's not too late to get a refund! After much head scratching and what-iffing a route or series of route emerged. The ride was to be broken into 3 parts; Southwest, East, and Northwest. The Southwest leg consisted of Texas, Arizona, Colorado, Utah, and California. Having almost a full year to complete the ride made it easier to make it work around domestic duties. Departure dates and returns were carefully negotiation with the LSS (Long Suffering Spouse).

Since I am no fan of mind-broiling heat, an early May start date was chosen to get through the deserts of the southwest before the real heat set in. I'd be riding my well-used '99 Goldwing, which has a lot of features, but air conditioning ain't one of them. Of course, the gods of travel are not going to let you get away without paying a price so they sent a cold driving rain and howling wind to accompany me for the first full day and a half on the road. The clouds parted and the sun finally came out as I passed through OKC. I guess the cold rain was just a little reminder to appreciate the good days.

Things were going swimmingly well until just north of Fort Worth when "they" (the Texas DOT) decided this would be a good weekend to completely close the southbound freeway for construction. I and about a million other cars came to a dead stop on an exit ramp that led to who knows where. After creeping along one foot at a time for at least an hour, action was called for. I can't go into too much detail because of the laws and statute of limitations issues, but let's just say a Goldwing will never be mistaken for a BMW GS but it can be driven off road. Before you judge me too harshly, I tell you I wasn't the first one or the only one doing it. Forward progress was resumed.

I was finally able to rest my weary bones just north of Waco. The next morning it was a couple hour ride to first of the challenge roads, The Twisted Sisters, Ranch Roads 335, 336, and 337. Riding west from Medina TX the road starts off with mild sweeping curves but once passed Vanderpool the mean sister comes out. Several spots on these narrow twisty roads remind me of the top of a roller coaster ride where the track falls away so steeply you can't see where it goes. Think of the Sisters like that kind of roller coaster with free-range cattle wandering around for added excitement. Wheee. Gas was purchased and photos were taken for proof of visit. There was also a stop for refreshments and the obligatory T-shirt at the Frio Canyon Motorcycle Stop in Leakey. It was quiet on a Monday afternoon but it wasn't too hard to imagine it would be a very popular spot on a weekend.

I made my way south from the sister to the town of Uvalde TX for the overnight stop before

heading west on US 90. It didn't take long for the desert scenery to take over and the views to get very alien for a rider from the great north woods. The next stop is US 385 into Big Bend National Park. I have tried to make it a habit, when traveling in the sparsely populated west that, if I'm anywhere near a half a tank, to stop and fill up if the opportunity presents itself. Boy I wish I took my own advice when I passed up a gas stop in Marathon, TX. It turns out to be a lot further than I thought from Marathon to the station in Panther Junction in the park. Bullets were being sweat - not from the heat, but from riding along in gas-saving mode that ultimately paid off when I pulled into the station with very little fuel in the tank.

I had scheduled an extra day to take in the sights and they did not disappoint. I highly recommend taking a side trip on the Ross Maxwell Scenic Drive to the Santa Elena Canyon Overlook and also a trip up to the Chisos Basin. The views are stunning. I stayed in Study Butte just outside the park and got up very early to do a little stargazing (also highly recommended). A desert sunrise should not be missed either. The early morning ride on TX 170 to Presidio for gas was along the Rio Grande River for most of the way. Make sure you have your helmet chinstrap cinched up tight. Otherwise your jaw will be flapping in the wind. The first 2 of the 15 roads have been a contrast. Twisty and technical to awesome desert mountain scenery.

I can't wait to see what's next on this Best 15 adventure!

Twisted Sisters RR336



Entering Medina, RR337



Twisted Sisters RR336





Santa Elena Canyon

05.05.2017



Entering BBNP

05.02.2017



Big Bend Sunset

05.02.2017



On the Ross Maxwell Scenic Drive on the way to Santa Elena Canyon (Drift helmet cam)



Trinkets for sale in Boquillas Canyon overlook

Update on Joe LaChance Madawaska Four Corners Park

A few months ago, Joe was diagnosed with cancer and he began radiation and chemo treatments in battling the disease.

At present, he is almost completed with the rounds of therapy and is keeping his spirits up by making a new guitar. Yes, Joe is a wild and woolly guitarist in addition to being a wild and woolly motorcyclist!!

If you get the chance, drop him a note of encouragement and wish him the best for 2018!

Joe LaChance
Madawaska Four Corners Park
P.O.BOX 261
Madawaska, Maine
04756





**Southern California Motorcycling Association
Best 15 US Roads Challenge
Announcing the 2018 Collection**



We are offering the Best 15 US Roads Challenge for the 8th 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. CA-1 will also be replaced for 2018 due to the mudslides that have closed the road.

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

In 2018 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** TO BE REPLACED IN 2018**
<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 NH15 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

International News Section

pages 33 – 40

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 ©2016 Aerostich

2018 Three Flags Classic Update

Hello Everyone,

We are currently working on updating the website and related systems in preparation for the 2018 registration event.

This year's 3FC18 registration is scheduled to open **one second past midnight, Friday, January 26th. (i.e., 00:00:01 Saturday morning)**

As has been previously published, the **start will be in Puerto Penasco MEX** and the **finish will be in Calgary CAN.**

Dannie Fox, long time 3FC rider, has the route about 98% finalized and is working on a few details within the checkpoints.

eBlasts regarding route, checkpoints, and hotel information will be released once the hotel negotiations are finalized and hotel registration processes are established.

I'm looking forward to another exciting Three Flags Classic and seeing y'all in Penasco!!!

Ride Safe.....Ride Long,
Gonzo

Chairman,
Southern California Motorcycling Association

www.sc-ma.com
[949.433.0761](tel:949.433.0761)



Rally Resistencia Bun Burner Gold 2018



Are you looking for an IBA adventure that will give you an international challenge?

Plans are in progress to stage a Bun Burner (and BBGold) to take place in Mexico.

Text **John Cooper** at 818-517-4071 for more information.

Facebook link: <https://www.facebook.com/events/170470700215300/>

John has provided the below link with information in Spanish/English (towards the end). Looks like it will be a very unique Bun Burner!!

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1vXGQsW5g6RbP3qjOjpbxvIqd6fVq7DC6/view?usp=sharing>



SCMA Annual Awards and Appreciation Banquet
Saturday, March 3, 2018
Highlighting the achievement of the
Triple Crown Award Participants



**CA Adventures or
Best 15 Challenge**



**Three Flags
Classic**



**USA 4 Corners
Motorcycle Tour**

When: **Saturday, March 3, 2017**
 3:30-4:45 PM Registration and Social Hour
 5:00 PM Dinner
 5:30 PM Program

Where: Irvine Wyndham Hotel
 17941 Von Karman Ave, Irvine, CA 92614
 Hotel reservations call (949) 863-1999
 Mention **SCMA Awards Banquet** for special rates
\$119 plus tax for single; \$119 plus tax for double
 Parking is complimentary, Breakfast 20% discount
Cutoff date for block rate is February 4, 2018

Banquet: Cost is \$55.00 per person.
Banquet reservations Cut-off date is Feb 28, 2018

Come one, come all. Everyone is invited to enjoy an evening of camaraderie with fellow motorcyclists.

Participation in motorcycling events is not necessary.

Membership **NOT** required.

Reservation forms and meal choices will soon be made available.

NO ride is scheduled for the morning of the Awards Banquet.

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. This award was presented to all finishers at the 2017 Awards Banquet.

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

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 2018 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 2018, 43rd Annual Three Flags Classic is gaining momentum. The ride will start in Puerto Penasco (Rocky Point), Sonora Mexico, and head north for a finish in Calgary, Alberta Canada. 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 24 of the 25 National Parks and Monuments in California as identified in the rules. 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 2018, 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 Adventures 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 2017.

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 two awards (i.e., the rides used to qualify for a Premier 5 award cannot be used to qualify for the Grand Slam Award).

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.

Businesses interested in sponsor membership advertising of 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, should contact the Chairman.

We Want to Hear
From You
Contact Us
at:

Chairman
[@sc-ma.com](mailto:Chairman@sc-ma.com)

or

ViceChair
[@sc-ma.com](mailto:ViceChair@sc-ma.com)

