



SCMA NEWSLETTER

Founded 1968

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Questions? Contact a director directly.

Chairman's Intro - October 2023

I hope everyone enjoyed the 46th Three Flags Classic this year and the riding to the start and back home. My wife and I enjoyed seeing old friends and making new ones. We did have a wide range of weather this year and that's another reason the tours are different every year.

As a reminder, please ensure to wrap up all the other SCMA rides you have started this year as they close November 30. If you signed up for Four Corners or the Great Lakes Cabot Trail, those registrations are good for two years but you have to complete them in the same year you start.

The weather has cooled off and we should have some nice weather to ride in the next two months before our northern members have to put their bikes in their garages for the winter.

Over the winter we will be working on version 3 of our website. We've received a lot of positive feedback and suggestions on what we can add and change to better serve the membership. If you have any experience in website design and development, content creation, and graphics we would welcome your assistance to join the handful of volunteers working on this new initiative. We will be moving to WordPress and would appreciate the help of a few more people, a couple of hours a week in this endeavor. Please drop me a note at chairman@sc-ma.com if you are interested.

Now is the time to grab your 2024 calendars and start thinking about which, if not all, of our tours you are going to tackle next year. Even if you have ridden them before, they are always different and you will be glad you did. Long distance motorcycle touring is a sport you will not always be able to do. Do it now so you have the experiences and pictures to enjoy for a lifetime.

Ride often and Ride safe,

Mark Burdick
Chairman, SCMA



Mark and Candice in Why, Arizona

TFC Experience – Excerpts from Brent Gatecliff’s Log

October 2023

Editor’s Note: Brent wrote a daily log during the entire ride to start the TFC and return home. The folks on the distribution list I spoke with were all entertained by the stories. We have included a few days from the log here. To read the entire log you will need to go to this link. <https://tinyurl.com/3kcefnb8> I included all the photos but had to optimize the file due to space constraints. Enjoy the ride.

MOTORCYCLE RIDE 2023 - THREE FLAGS CLASSIC RIDE DAY ONE FRIDAY - AUGUST 25, 2023

Once again, the good Lord has granted us, dad and I, the opportunity to spend some time together and do it while sharing a passion of riding our Iron Horses, Road Glide Harley-Davidsons around this great Country of ours and Mexico and Canada. As the years continue to go fleeting by, the words are continuing to escape me to properly describe how fortunate/opportune we both feel to be able to do these trips together. Fortunate, lucky, privileged, honored, just don’t seem to capture the true feelings that we are sharing. Not sure that there is a word in the English language to properly describe how well we understand how blessed we are to be able to be doing these rides together. I have not ridden since our ride this spring when we completed the US-41 Hwy ride. Because my bike was left at mom (Alice Gatecliff) and dad’s (Chuck Gatecliff) home in Florida from our last ride, I flew down to Orlando today. Dad on the other hand has ridden his bike down, left on Wednesday and arrived to the Florida home on Thursday, yesterday, afternoon. Dad has probably close to 11,000 miles already this year. The family pet name for dad is, “The Ever-Ready Bunny” because he just keeps Going and Going and does not just enjoy the riding, but craves it! I think that it is an addiction for him. There are many worse addictions that one could have.

The “Plan” is to ride in what I will call three segments or phases. The first is from Florida to Puerto Peñasco, Mexico. Puerto Peñasco, Mexico will be the start of the Three Flags Classic (TFC) Ride sponsored by SCMA (Southern California Motorcycling Association). From here we will ride to Calgary, Alberta, Canada which is the end to the TFC Ride where we will have a banquet and an awards party. This is what I am calling the second segment/phase. The third segment/phase will be the ride home and currently “home” will be mom and dad’s Florida home. We are anticipating a total of approximately 7,000 miles on the three segments/phases. You may remember that I have had a deposit at three (3) different dealers for a new 2022 and now a 2023 Road Glide CVO for almost two years. In April, one of the dealers called and one had come in. To my good fortune, 2023 is Harley Davidson’s 120th Anniversary and they made the CVO (Custom Vehicle Operations) Road Glide with a special anniversary color and there is only one (1) per dealership. I took delivery on it, but just could not put the miles on it that this trip was going to require. With that and the trade in value that they were going to give me, I made the decision to keep my 2015 for the “Road Bike”.

So today was a travel day, via Spirit Airlines to Florida to meet dad and get reconnected with my 2015 Road Glide H-D. The flight was good and arrived on time, however that is where the smoothness of the day ended. The bags were coming out from the back room onto the carousel and it would become jammed. A worker from the back room reached from the back room and freed the bags but this was a breach of security and the luggage belt was stopped and had to be cleared by security. It took over twenty minutes to have security to come to the “double top security breach” to allow the belt to resume its intended mission to bring us our bags.

This delay caused me to miss my shuttle to The Villages, but another van was coming soon according to the office when I called. This much was true however Mark, the driver alerted me that the vans air conditioning

was not working “properly”. I entered the van feeling its greenhouse effects from all the glass windows. He waited almost an hour for other travelers whose flights were late (why did they not do that for me). After he collected the other passengers, we started heading for the Villages but Mark says he has one more stop at the other terminal to pick up just one more passenger. Ugggg.

So, the seven of us loaded up in the mobile greenhouse without A/C and headed for the ride up to The Villages. Of course, I was the next to the last one to be dropped off at almost 7 pm after landing at 1:45 pm at the Orlando Airport. I took a quick shower to get refreshed and so that I did not offend anyone, or myself, at the restaurant. We drove their car a 430i BMW Convertible (top up and air on) to Arnold Palmer’s Legacy Restaurant in the Villages as I did not need any more heat today. Dad had the Rack of Lamb with a salad and I had a Filet Mignon with a salad. Since many of you consider these rides a little crazy, and trying to keep in the theme we shared a bottle of Freakshow Cabernet. Madison was our waitress and it seemed that she was handling the majority of the customers in the restaurant. She was doing a wonderful job and was very attentive to us.

We returned back to their home and organized our luggage and partially loaded the bikes. We would head to bed at about 10 pm. We agreed to leave at 5 am in an effort to beat some of the heat of the day that was forecast for tomorrow along our intended route.

MOTORCYCLE RIDE 2023 - THREE FLAGS CLASSIC RIDE DAY FOUR MONDAY - AUGUST 28, 2023

We were awakened by the alarm at 5:15am as our plan today was to drive to Van Horn Texas and stay at the El Capitan Hotel. Neither one of us sleep well as our circadian rhythm has been disrupted or it could be that we were over hydrated as we both got up several times to pee in the middle of the night. We had not planned on having breakfast because it was posted that it did not open until 6:30am, but to our surprise it was open at 5:45. Not everything was out but we found enough to fill the void of our stomachs. We then loaded up the Iron Horses and pulled out of the parking lot at 6:10am in the dark. The temperature was 74 degrees.



The temperature would stay below 80 for a couple of hours. Sunrise came about 20 minutes later than yesterday, as there was some cloud cover, we could see once daybreak occurred. We are also further west so naturally it would rise and set later. It was almost 7am before I would say that we had true good light. The actual sunrise did not occur until about 7:15am today at our location. Photo of our sunrise from a rest area that we stopped at to rid ourselves of the excess hydration. I guess there is no such thing as too much hydration, but as they say what goes in must come out.

I noticed a Praying Mantis in the oddest of locations. He/she was “praying” to the trash can gods. I can say that I am glad that I am not a male Praying Mantis as after the mating ritual the female bites the head off of the

male and kills him. Just how bad is that copulation that would require such an outcome? The way she was looking at me made me very nervous so I did not hang around long after I took the picture.



Another hour or so down the highway we could see what looked like rain clouds bubbling up on the horizon. They were a long way away so we just kept rolling on down the highway. Eventually we did catch up to the rain front but I was looking and there appeared to be a window or gap between the two heavy cloud bases that maybe we might just get lucky and slip between them. Well for the most part we did, however we did get rained on but never enough to stop and put on the rain gear. The rain lasted about ten (10) miles and we dropped the speeds while it was raining and just kept moving on! We did not get wet but we got a little damp. It would quickly dry in the heat and wind.

There was one section of the highway I-10 that had the right lane closed for paving. That lane was completed but we were not “allowed” to drive on it as we had to drive in the left lane that had been milled in preparation for paving. The milling process left grooves in the remaining pavement which felt like we were driving on the Mackinac Bridge in the grating section. Our bikes kept tracking/wondering left and right so once again we backed our speeds down to accommodate the differing road conditions. This construction zone was for about ten (10) miles and made for some stressful driving.

The good news all day was that there was virtually no traffic for all of our driving on the highway in either direction. We stopped in Fort Stockton, Texas to feed the horses, (fill them up with gas). When dad went to start his bike up it did not start the first time and made a big clunk. Then he restarted it again and it started fine. I was pulling away and a man was waiving us down, so we shut the bikes down and he asked if we knew what the sound was. Then he went on to explain that he thought that it might be the Compensator. We have both had these go before and when they do you cannot start the bike. We had about 100 miles to go to get into Van Horn, Texas as this was our scheduled stop for the day. We arrived into Van Horn without incident and filled the bikes up and discussed the fact that we should get the potential problem looked at and fixed if necessary. Then I made a call to Barnett Harley which was another 120 miles in the direction that we were going (West) and they were open so dad talked to them and explained the issue and confirmed that if that was the problem, that they had the part in stock. They in fact did and we called sadly the El Capitan Hotel and cancelled our reservation that we had so looked forward to. In fact, this was the only reservation that we made for the entire pre-ride.

We arrived at the Barnett Harley Davidson Dealer at 12:30pm MST and Jacob whom dad had talked with on the phone greeted him right away as he drove into the service isle. We would set up “camp” in the waiting room which was named the Two-Headed Bull Customer Lodge.

It was here where dad was trying out one of the new models, in case they could not get his bike fixed. Not sure he will be able to keep up a proper pace, but if things are not working out, we will have enough bacon to get us by.

A couple of hours later Jacob came to tell us that they had replaced the Compensator and wanted dad to come back and listen to hear if he heard anything else wrong. Which he did, but I was thinking would he even know if anything else was wrong? Then the serviceman said that he wanted to take it for a test ride. So about



twenty minutes later he came back from the test ride with not entirely good news. He thought that he heard some other noises now, but they were coming from the transmission. He does not feel that the problem is eminent and if they were to tear into the bike, it might be Friday before he would have us on the road. With the understanding that we should be able to complete our ride including getting back to Florida we decided not to go further with the additional repairs/investigations. He did advise to start the bike in neutral without engaging the clutch. Also, he expects that if the transmission goes it would be 5th gear and dad could just shift from 4th to 6th to get the bike home for a proper tear down and repair.

Once again, we were challenged with overcoming hardship and building character. By the end of the ride, we should be two full-fledged Characters.

The gentleman that helped us out was several hundred miles down the road by now. I am glad that we trusted his suggestion and got the bike in for repairs. It once again just reaffirmed my belief that most people are good! I am sure (before navigation systems) that we have all asked a stranger for direction and we trusted them, that they were not sending us in the wrong direction. We believed in him and put our trust in him even though we never met him before in our lives. It did help that he was driving a Chevrolet pickup with a trailer and in the trailer was a Harley Davison of course. Commonality helps breed trust!

While we were in the Barnett Harley Davidson Dealer, we made a plan to ride to Las Cruces, New Mexico and dad found a Drury Inn so we did not need to look for a restaurant as they serve a meal and have cocktails in the lobby. I ordered a red wine and I did not see what the bottle was but I had to have red wine as today is "National Red Wine Day." Dad broke with following the rules, such a rebel, and had a Manhattan. They had meatballs, nacho chips, hot dogs, mash potatoes and salad.

We met a gentleman when we were parking the bikes and he rode in on a 2023 Road Glide right behind us. He was wearing his Army fatigues and he would tell us that he was now in the National Guard and he was down here for some training.

We would later visit with him for over an hour during the dinner hour and he was very intrigued about our ride and wanted to learn more. I gave him the website (sc-ma.com) and showed him (Johnathan (Juan) Vallejos) some of the rides besides the TFC ride that we are heading for. He reassured us that it was safe to ride into Mexico, that he does it several times a year and has a place near where we are staying.

We would retire to bed about 8:30pm as we planned on getting up and leaving by 5am again to beat some of the heat tomorrow that is forecasted to be 108 by noon with the high expected to be 113.

Odometer Reading – Start	41,547
Odometer Reading – End	42,088
Total Miles Driven Today	541
Total Miles to Date	1,746
Kick Stand Up	6:10am CST
Kick Stand Down	16:30pm MST
Hours in the Saddle	7.5 (3 hours in Harley Dealer)
Average Speed	72.13
States Travelled	Texas and New Mexico
Major Roads Travelled	I-10

MOTORCYCLE RIDE 2023 - THREE FLAGS CLASSIC RIDE DAY FIVE - TUESDAY AUGUST 29, 2023

I awoke ahead of the 4:15am alarm and I was very stuffed up from the very dry air so I took a warm steamy shower to help clear the old nasal passages and it seemed to help. When I came out of the shower, dad was up packing up his stuff. I quickly followed suit and gathered up my belongings. We were on the first floor and I walked out a couple of my bags while dad was putting the rest of his stuff together. I did not take a room key as he was still in the room, but when I tried to get back into the hotel it was locked and required a room key to get in. I called the front desk but no one answered so I called dad and he let me back in.

The reason no one answered was because she was multitasking and setting up the breakfast for the onslaught of hungry travelers. Not much was ready but dad had toast and I had a bagel with cream cheese.

We made a quick stop at the gas station across the street and filled up on Gatorades, three (3) 28oz bottles each. We filled our Camelbaks, which we had put some ice in before leaving the hotel, and the spare Gatorades were put in our saddle bags.

We left Las Cruces, New Mexico at 5:15 am MST under dark and cloud filled skies. The temperature was 75 degrees and we could see what appeared to be heat lightening in the skies.

It was not long and we were directed off the highway to a Border Patrol Check Station but, as we rolled up to the agent, he quickly waved us through so we did not even have to stop the bikes and answer a bunch of intimidating questions.

A little while later we could smell the rain in the air but it was still dark so we could not know if we would be driving into it or not. The road was partially wet but the shoulder was wet and the rumble strips were filled with water. We never actually would run into any of the rain and in fact as we continued west and when the sun rose at 6:40 am we would only see blue skies. The picture below shows the beautiful skies but it also shows

just how early it was. If you look closely at our shadows, you will see they are VERY LONG with the sun at our backs.

For the first two hours the temperatures would bounce between the 75 degrees which we started at to a low of 67 degrees and then up to 80 degrees. When the temperature was down at the 67, I was thinking of stopping and putting on the leather coat, it did not stay there very long so I did not have to stop. This would have been the first time on the whole trip that I had put on the leather jacket but it has not been worn yet.

Between 7 am and 8 am the temperature would go up into the 80's. We were coming into eastern edge of Tucson, Arizona at 8 am and before we came out on the western side at around 9 am the temperatures would have jumped up 15 degrees into the mid 90's. You know when it is 95 at 9 am that it is going to be a HOT day! In fact, the radio was calling for an "Excessive Heat Warning" day.

I was listening to the radio when a song came on that I had not heard in a while that seemed very timely and fitting for the ride. It's a song by George Strait from 1990 titled, "Love Without End, Amen". Below is the lyrics that hit home with me.



I got sent home from school one day
With a shiner on my eye
Fightin' was against the rules and it didn't matter why
When Dad got home I told that story just like I'd rehearsed
Then stood there on those tremblin' knees
And waited for the worst

He said, "Let me tell you a secret about a father's love
A secret that my daddy said was just between us"
He said, "Daddies don't just love their children
Every now and then, It's a love without end, amen
It's a love without end, amen

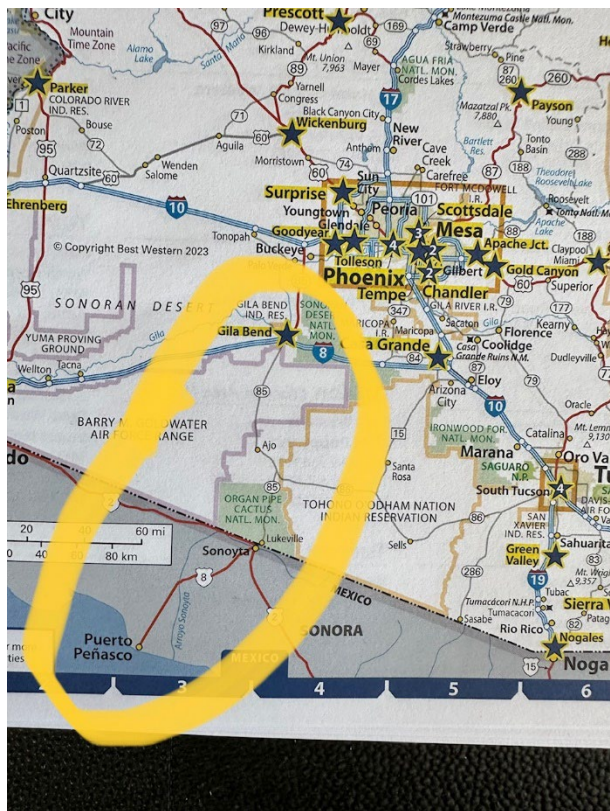
Sure, I made my share of mistakes along life's journey, but I never NOT felt my father's love. (Did you catch the double negative here? Another way of saying I always felt his love even if I screwed up.)

We got off the expressway in Gila Bend, Arizona and filled up the Iron Horses and the temperature was 105 degrees at 10am. There was a lady on a full dresser and her personal license plate read "GRANY". She told us that she stopped because her grandson had called her and she wanted to Facetime with him as there were some iron dinosaurs out front that she wanted in the background when she called him back. By the way gas was \$6.00 per gallon for Premium that we use in our bikes at the Shell station.

We arrived at the Best Western Space Age Lodge hotel at 10am and were told our room was not ready. Well, that was not going to work as it was already 105 with a forecasted high to be 115. What were we supposed to do, just sit outside on our bikes in the blacktopped parking lot and wait? I called another hotel and they had a room available now if we wanted to come down. Meanwhile dad was investigating to see if in fact our room was ready or not. The front desk lady told us the room number, 122, we would be in and as dad walked by the room he looked in and could see the room was cleaned and ready. After some confirmation on behalf of the staff we were allowed to gain admittance to the room.

While I was waiting for this circus to play out another rider came in looking to check in. I told him what was playing out behind the scenes so he waited for the front desk lady and dad to return. When the both of them returned dad says, "Well Hello Steve." Steve Shulman is a friend of dad's and past president of Southern California Motorcycling Association (SCMA). I have spoken with Steve on the phone on a couple of occasions, but I had never met him so that is why I did not recognize him.

We agreed to shower as we were already sweaty even though it was only 10 am. After our showers we met in the restaurant that is attached to the hotel for lunch where we shared some stories and I got to know Steve a little better. Steve is a retired police officer and has done this ride several times before and has agreed to ride into Mexico with us. This along with Johnathan's comments of last night are easing our mind and taking away our apprehensions about entering Mexico.



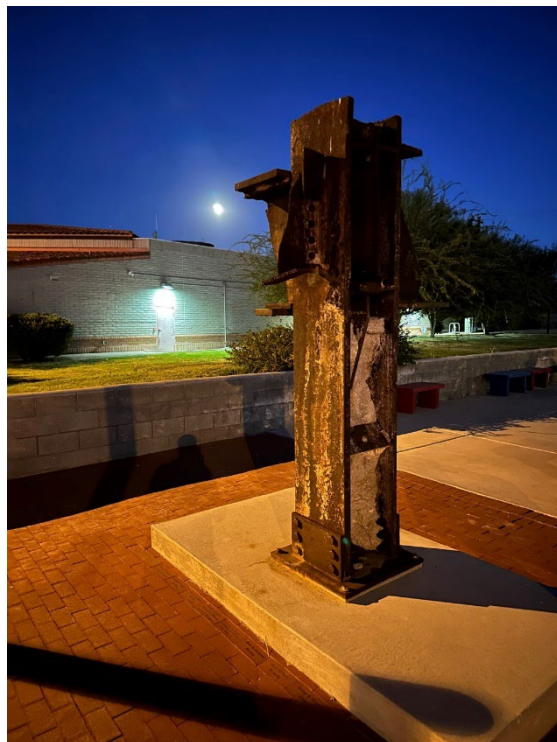
We returned to our respective rooms and laid down for a couple of hours. We agreed to meet back at the restaurant at 5:30pm for dinner which we did. Dad and Steve each had the broasted chicken where Steve gave dad all of his dark meat and dad gave Steve his white meat. Dad and I each had a Margarita on the rocks with salt.

Here is a map showing the route from Gila Bend, AZ to Puerto Peñasco, Mexico which is on the Gulf of California. It is approximately 145 miles with 60 miles of that being in Mexico.

After dinner I went for a little walk in the 109-degree heat at 8pm to start the digestive process of my enchiladas and I would see a 9/11 Memorial and the full moon was illuminating a

piece of the World Trade Center mounted in a small park right on Main Street (Pima St).

Odometer Reading – Start	42,088
Odometer Reading – End	42,487
Total Miles Driven Today	399
Total Miles to Date	2,145
Kick Stand Up	5:15 MST
Kick Stand Down	10:00 am PST
Hours in the Saddle	5.75
Average Speed	69.39
States Travelled	New Mexico and Arizona
Major Roads Travelled	I-10 and I-8

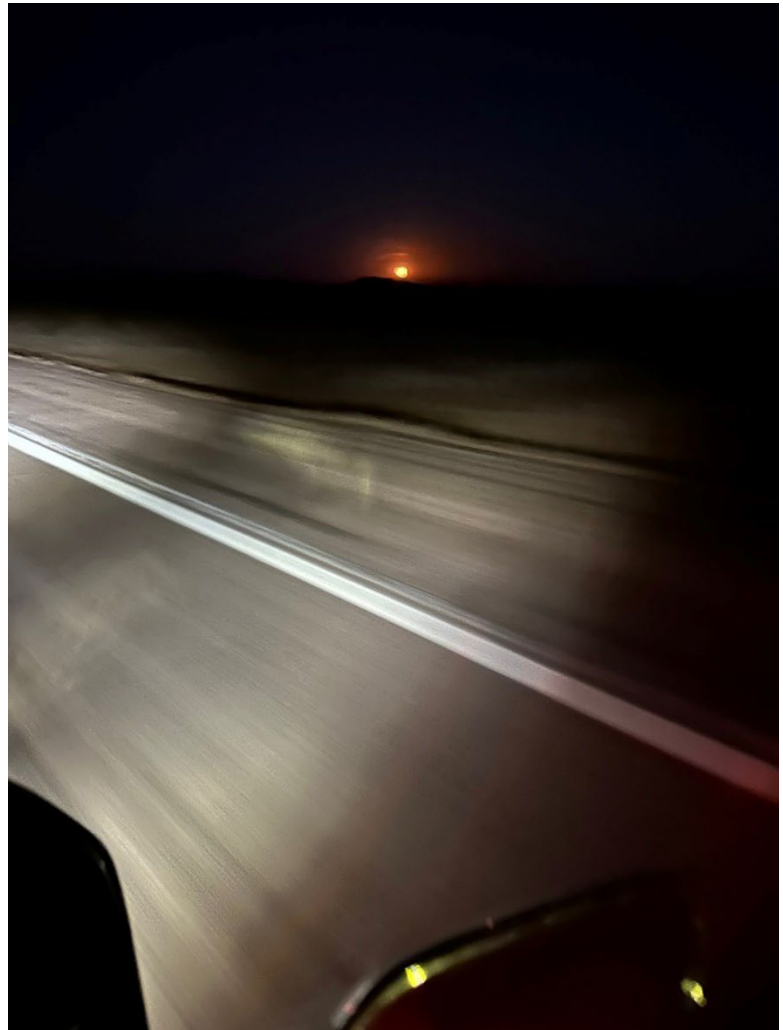


MOTORCYCLE RIDE 2023 - THREE FLAGS CLASSIC RIDE DAY SIX - WEDNESDAY AUGUST 30, 2023

I did not sleep much last night as the Enchilada was causing some heartburn and not allowing me to sleep. The other problem could have been the lack of air conditioning as the room never really cooled down for me. Or possibly it could have been the infiltration of insects, mostly crickets chirping during the night that were in our room. I think I killed over 9 of them throughout the night.

Dad and I both agreed to get an Escort Service,... not that kind!... But, Steve agreed at dinner last night to lead us into Mexico and to the Playa Bonita Resort as he has done the route before and has been to the Resort previously. I put the address into my phone but I cannot see it when it is in the bike and I am driving but I could not get the Resort address inputted properly to the GPS on the bike. I was able to get the city but not the physical address so we were glad to have him as our Escort Service.

Well because of the above lack of sleep I mentioned I was up early and showered to help wake myself up and refresh myself. The plan was to leave at 5:30am with Steve Shulman, Dad and myself riding as a group. Security in numbers was our thought process. I was loading up my gear at 4:45am thinking that I was going to be really early and I looked over my shoulder and here comes Steve walking down the parking lot. He did not sleep well either as he had a large spider as a bed mate when he woke up and he was ready to leave early. Dad was checking with some of their neighbors in Florida to see how bad the hurricane Idalia rain/damage was as she was coming ashore this morning. The neighbors were reporting only rain and that was great new to hear. So, he hung up with them and packed up his bike and we rolled out of the Best Western at 5:10am under a full moon that was setting in the west and the temperature was already at 87 degrees at 5am. The highway AZ-85 was only about a mile from our hotel so we were rolling south towards Mexico in no time at all. As the moon continued to set, she would become Yellow, to Orange and finally before setting she became fiery Red. This is my best attempt to capture a photo of the moon setting through the darkness.



Shortly after the moon set in the West, on our righthand side, darkness was giving way to the rising sun in the East, on our lefthand side. Temperatures would go as high as 95 before the sun rose. This was only for a short time and the temperatures would hover in the mid to upper 80's the rest of the way into Puerto Peñasco, Mexico.

As day light continued to intensify, we were treated to mountains, cactus and beautiful countryside.

We would stop in Why, Arizona. Why you ask would we stop in Why? Because we calculated that if we filled up here in Why, Arizona we could get into Mexico and back out of Mexico without having to actually fill up in Mexico. If this was a little confusing the actual town name is Why, Arizona. It got its name because AZ-85 and AZ-86 connected/intersected here at the Y intersection and the founders of the town called it "Y" Arizona. But government (Arizona Department of Transportation) once again interjected itself and made life more difficult as they require all city names must have at least three (3) letters. Subsequently, the founders relented and renamed their simple little town Why. And now you know how Why, Arizona got its name.

Shortly after filling up with gas, we would drive through Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument where we would see cactuses as far as the eye could see and they would remind me of the snowflake analogy. "No two snowflakes are alike" and this was true of the cactuses as none of them were alike and took on many unique shapes and configurations.

Then we arrived at the Border Crossing in the town of Sonoyta, Mexico. Our escort service told us that "they always" just wave you through. Well throw "always" out the window as all of us were redirected into an Inspection Lane and were required to produce Passport, Mexican Proof of Insurance and Registration for my bike for me and a combination of two of these for dad and Steve. Thankfully full body cavity searches were not required! They checked that our Registrations matched our bikes and the Mexican Insurance was valid. We were required to purchase Mexican Insurance as our standard US Insurance does not cover us and is not accepted to cover us in Mexico. We had purchased this about a month ago so it was not a problem but we would see many billboards and business advertising that they sold just such Insurance as we would get closer to the Border. We would later talk about this situation and agreed that it appeared that they had some new guards and they were in training as a "Bossman" was standing in the background pulling the puppet strings.

There were also many monuments or memorials along the side of the roadway of varying sizes and shapes but most appeared to have some sort of religious connection. We speculated that maybe they were memorials to people that may have perished on the highway? But we truly do not know what they are all about.

There were many warning signs to alert us of possible wildlife. For the most part they were nondescript and did not tell us what to specifically be looking for other than "Wildlife". I would only see turkey vultures, smaller ground birds and a dead snake. There was one sign that did alert us to Prong Horn Antelope but fortunately we did not see any of these on the roadway.

I ran out of any US radio stations, but the seek function found a Mexican radio station. The music had a lot of horns, Squeeze Box (Accordion), and of course Maracas. It had a good beat so I listened along as we continued south towards Puerto Peñasco, Mexico. During the breaks of music, they would of course be speaking Spanish and I thought that this would be a good time for me to brush up on my Spanish. I would recognize some words and I knew when they said something funny as they would all be laughing. Truly who was I kidding the only Spanish I know is "Una cerveza mas, por favor" (One More Beer Please). I think this will literally serve me well while we are here for the two nights.

We would have a few scary moments coming to the resort through town as I saw a car pull out right in front of Steve and moments later, I saw one pull out behind me but directly in front of dad. Either they could not read Spanish, Alto (Stop) or they were trying to collect on our Mexican Insurance that we purchased as we clearly had the Right of Way.

We did safely arrive at the Playa Bonita Resort at 8:10am PST without incident and checked into our hotel and unloaded our Iron Horses. We would take our belongings to the room and unload them. The room was HOT as the A/C was not turned on in the room. We really were not hot before getting into the room but while sitting in the room we began to sweat which required us to take a shower before going to the Registration for the Three Flags Classic ride.

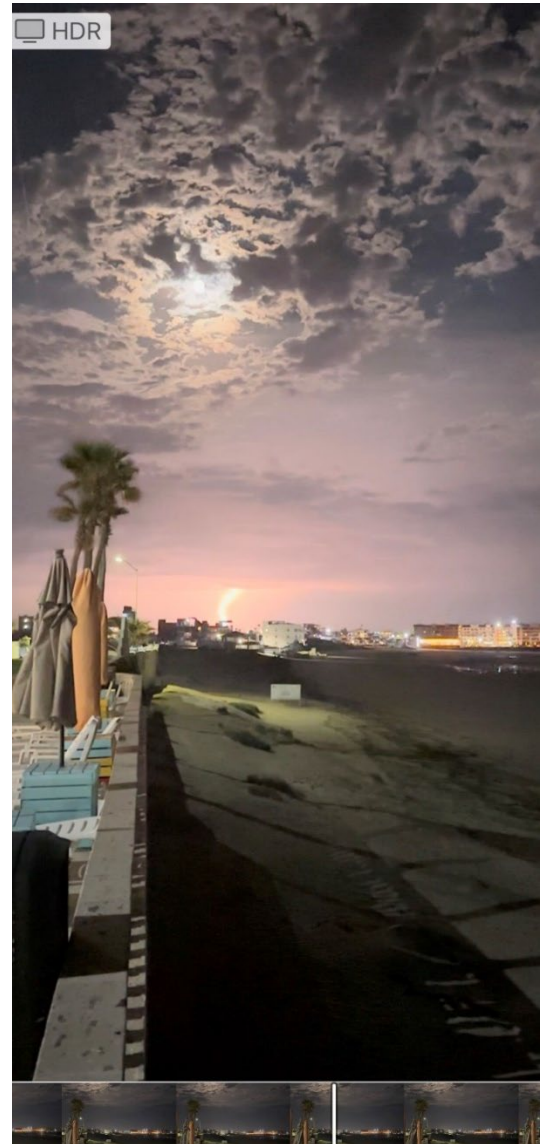
The registration went smoothly and we collected our information packets and the Passports issued by the TFC Committee that we are required to have stamped at check points along the way. They stamped our Passports to show that we registered and are prepared to start the ride. We would mingle with some of the fellow riders and organizers of the event. Steve, dad and I would go to breakfast at the restaurant attached to the hotel.

Dad and I laid down for a while to catch up on some of the sleep that I/we lost last night. After that we went to the pool for about an hour and swam in the pool with fellow riders and hotel guest alike.

The moon tonight is called a Blue Moon because it is the second full moon occurring within a month. The term "Once In a Blue Moon" has been around for hundreds of years but did not become popular until recent history, about twenty years ago. We saw many colors of the moon this morning from White to Red but even though it is called a Blue Moon the color won't be Blue. There was some cloud cover so we did not get to see the moon rise but when it did rise above the clouds, I captured a picture of the moon with a lightning bolt coming out of the storm clouds.

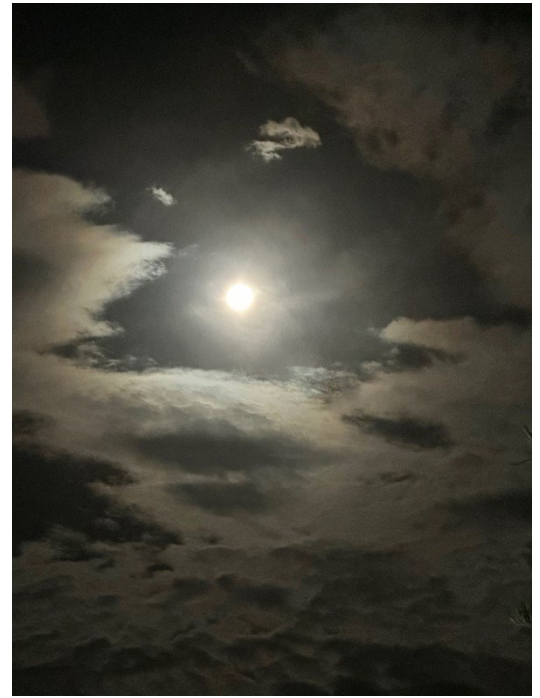
The banquet went well and the food was good. We were able to meet some new friends and get reacquainted with some old friends before retiring to bed.

Odometer Reading – Start	42,487
Odometer Reading – End	42,634
Total Miles Driven Today	147
Total Miles to Date	2,292
Kick Stand Up	5:10PST
Kick Stand Down	8:10 PST
Hours in the Saddle	3
Average Speed	49
States Travelled	Arizona and Mexico
Major Roads Travelled	Hwy AZ-85 and Hwy 8 in Mexico



MOTORCYCLE RIDE 2023 - THREE FLAGS CLASSIC RIDE DAY SEVEN - THURSDAY AUGUST 31, 2023

I would wake up at 4:00am and work on cleaning up some of my email addresses as some have been bouncing back to me and work on my diary. I went out on our deck and could see the last of yesterday's Super Blue Moon as it was still high in the sky. It was so bright, and it was casting shadows from the Palm Trees outside our room onto the ground below our deck. You could walk around as if it was daylight. The moon even looks like the sun in the photo below but trust me this is the Moon.



Dad and I were talking with mom on a conference call yesterday afternoon and talking about the pending Super Blue Moon rise. She was looking for it back in Michigan, but it had not risen there yet when we were talking. While we were talking about the fact that that this would be the last Super Blue Moon until 2037 mom would comment that this is why she really wanted to see this one as she would not be around for the next one. Then dad chimed in and said that he would not be around either. This just reinforced why we are doing what we are doing and again how fortunate that we are to be doing this and the other rides that we have done. They, mom and dad, did not physically throw any punches but it was a one two gut punch to me for sure as I do not like looking into the future where they both are not here with me/us anymore. The pain will be great at their loss!!! Mitch Albom wrote, "Death ends a life, not a relationship." Therefore, for now I live with the fact that the relationship that I have with my mom and dad will not end. We would meet Steve again for breakfast. We went down to the restaurant at 7:30 only to find out that they did not open until 8 am. Things are a little bit more laid back down here in Mexico. They allowed us to sit in the restaurant and have some juice and coffee while we waited for them to open.



We went up to the station to pay for breakfast as it is all buffet style, a little bit before 8 am. I am glad we did because literally two minutes after we went up to pay, the line grew and was at least fifteen people long and continued to grow while we were getting our food and having our omelets prepared. We stayed and visited with Steve and many other riders until 9:30am. The way they made the omelets was interesting as you can see from the photo below. He was preparing three (3) at a time and then cut them and folded them into individual omelets and placed them on our plates. I had ham cheese and spinach.

They offered a bike wash which helped support the local Fire Department of Puerto Peñasco, Mexico and even though the parking lot is covered with sand and dust and we knew the wash would not last long, we took our bikes over to the washing station and had them wash our bikes. We donated \$20.00 US Dollars per bike which is approximately a million Mexican dollars (actually ~700 pesos). The Iron Horses after all did have almost 2,300 miles of what any entomologist (Bug Collectors) would be proud and be willing to display. We were ready to have our display washed away and start a new collection of bugs tomorrow. They had about

eight (8) people, firefighters washing and drying the bikes and did a great job. Here is dad and I with one of the Firefighters after they completed washing his bike. We were glad to have them washed and “donate” to the local Firefighters to help them out.

After this we went to the pool for a couple of hours where we would swim and mingle with many of the other riders all with the shared excitement of the commencement of tomorrow's start of the Three Flags Classic ride. They ranged from first time riders to one rider that I have not met as of yet but she, yes, she has done the ride 42 times/years in a row. This is dad's third ride and this is my second Three Flags Classic Ride.



We returned to the room to rest and work on our stories. We organized a few of our belongings and showered in preparation to go out to dinner. We are going to go out early for dinner, 5:30pm so that we can get to bed early as we will be setting the alarm for 3:30am so that we can pull out at 4:30am. This is anticipation of being at the Mexican/USA Border Crossing around 6am. The Border is not like the ones that we have in Michigan that are open 24 hours a day 7 days a week. This specific location (Sonoyta, Mexico) is only open at 6 am and closes at 8 pm daily so it just does not make any sense to leave earlier as we are about an hour and a half from the Border and we are anticipating that it will be very busy with the onslaught of approximately 200 of us rebels coming across tomorrow morning.

Steve Shulman, dad and I took a taxi cab to Melecon which is an area filled with trinket shops, fish markets and restaurants. We ended up sharing the taxi with Tim, Sherri and Gloria. I mentioned earlier the gal that was doing her 42nd TFC and it was Gloria, so we did finally get to meet her.

We walked up and down part of the strip and would settle on Pedros Restaurant located on Rocky Point where Josa was our waiter. Dad had shrimp with cinnamon and bacon, Steve had shrimp with bacon and mozzarella cheese and I had Ahi Tuna. They were all very good. Because of the pending ride in the morning none of us had any alcohol, just sodas. Then we took a taxi ride that was more thrilling than any amusement ride that I have been on in a long time. Shortly after getting into the taxi cab the driver had to stop and he handed out a sleeve of red solo cups to one of the food stands on the side of the road, then the vendor handed the passenger in the front seat some money. Steve and I were pretty sure that we were an accomplice to a drug deal. On the way back to the Resort I counted nine Stop (Alto) signs that he blew right through. Tailgating was the norm when he would come up on a car that he felt was not going as fast as he thought they should be going. And we got to experience this all for a total of \$10.00 US for the three (3) of us, that works out to just \$3.33 each. Talk about cheap thrills!

We were treated to another beautiful sunset while at dinner. I even was able to get a seagull flying through the sunset.

Odometer Reading – Start	42,634
Odometer Reading – End	42,634
Total Miles Driven Today	0
Total Miles to Date	2,292
Kick Stand Up	
Kick Stand Down	
Hours in the Saddle	NO SADDLE TIME
Average Speed	
States Travelled	STAYED AT PLAYA BONITA
Major Roads Travelled	NO TRAVEL



MOTORCYCLE RIDE 2023 - THREE FLAGS CLASSIC RIDE DAY EIGHT - FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 1, 2023

I am going to start with a summation of today, WOW, it was a full day! So, you can stop reading now and that is all you need to know, or you can grab a coffee or wine depending on the time of day or your personal preference. Just remember you can drink all day if you do not start early in the morning!

The challenge of this ride was not enough by itself, so I decided to make it a little more challenging by waking up at 1:45am, of course to get rid of one of the two Sprites that I had at dinner. You know how it is when your brain engages in the middle of the night and no matter how hard you try you just cannot catch neutral and disengage the brain. That was me last night as I kept playing mind games with myself. If I fall asleep now, I can get _____ amount of hours of sleep. Well, I played the game so well that I did not get any sleep after I woke up at 1:45am.

Once again, I found myself in the shower trying to wake myself up in preparation for the start of the 3FC ride. I never turned on the hot water valve and the water was still too warm for me as the heat here has been quite high and I can only assume that the water storage tanks are above ground and absorbing the heat of the day and heating the water within the storage tanks.

We went down to the lobby at about 3:45am and many of the riders had already gathered and were mulling about. Some packing their bikes, some sharing ride strategies and route plans, and some of us were just eating the donuts that the SCMA provided. The latter would be me and dad. I am still only drinking coffee occasionally, but today should have been one of those days but I choose to still pass in spite of the fact that I would get very little sleep.

Our ever willing to please Escort Service (Steve Shulman) agreed to lead us to the Border and then to GO AZ Motorcycles to collect our SWAG at the first stop. We pulled out and said Let's Go! (Vamos!) out of the Resort ahead of our own schedule at 4:15am, under the waning moon and partially starlit skies as there were some clouds around and the temperature was 87 degrees. Even though I had the beginning of a Sleep Deprivation Study going I felt very invigorated to start the ride. Steve must have thought that we needed to see some of

the newer developments to the north of Playa Bonita Resort as he took us on an approximate 7-mile sight-seeing side trip, remember it was still dark, along the coast which was out of the way, but we left early so we just enjoyed the diversion. There was one other rider that took this route too as we stopped on the road once and talked with him as we were trying to figure out what “tricks” our GPS’s were trying to play with us this early morning. I think David Copperfield was here because he made the entire road disappear.

Steve was leading but I could see two (2) very large Jack Rabbits that tried to find their way between his tires and the road but thankfully Steve diverted around one and the other ran away before the intersection occurred. I had to take a mild diversion to avoid a Kangaroo Rat that was out doing its nocturnal activities in the middle of the road this morning too.



As we drove through town Steve would catch up to some other riders and I noticed the rider in front of him not slowing down for a speed bump and he hit it pretty hard. His trunk flew open and I saw something fly out, so I stopped and all I found was a can of spray sun screen. I picked it up and when we got to the line of other bikers I walked over and handed it to him. He was surprised that I stopped and picked it up but I reassured him that nothing else flew out that I saw. He checked and had forgot to lock his trunk so he was glad to learn that and get it locked for the rest of the ride today.

We arrived at the Border at 5:40am and pulled into line behind approximately 15 other SCMA Riders as we waited for the large steel gates to open. Maybe we should have looked for a different location to cross as I have read and seen on tv that it really is not all that difficult to cross in to the USA and thousands are coming across every day. I guess that is unless you are trying to do it legally. The Mexican Officials did open the gate exactly at 6:00am so they do get an “A” for punctuality.



It was kind of like a cattle round up as we were directed to about four different Border Agents where we produced our Passports and answered a few questions before being cleared to return to our Homeland, the good ole US of A. About the only difference is that we did not have to get branded like the cattle would have. In spite of all the pre-ride concerns about going to Mexico our time in Mexico was enjoyable and I would not be as concerned as I was before the trip about coming back to Mexico at this location. We were clear of the Border inspection process by 6:20 am and heading North Bound on AZ Hwy 85.

We stopped at the Chevron Gas Station in Why, AZ and filled up the Iron Horses and were soon back on the road.

We were back tracking our trip coming down so we went through Organ Pipe Cactus, then we would go through Why, AZ, then we would drive by the Barry M. Goldwater Air National Guard Base. We would drive through Ajo, AZ where we would see the tailings that stood several hundred feet high paralleling the road from the New Cornelia Copper Mines. The mine is shut down now but the circular pit that remains is approximately 1-1/2 miles across and 1,100 feet deep.

We would see well over 50 trucks pulling their side by sides heading south for the Labor Day Weekend of fun. There were also a lot of Jeeps heading south to have their own version of fun.

We rolled into GO AZ at approximately 9:00am to pick up our SWAG Bags. It included a plaque, tee shirt and a hat all with the route on them. It was here that we relinquished our Escort Service and told Steve "Thank You" and that we would see him in Calgary, Alberta, Canada in a few days.

Dad (Chuck) and I would stop and fill up in Camp Verde, AZ where the gas price was \$6.25 per gallon. Then we filled our gullets with a Subway sandwich before returning to the roadway.

We started at Sea Level and we would see elevations at about 7,000 feet along the route today which means that we are over 1.3 mile above sea level since leaving this morning. When we left Mexico, it was in the dark but we did not miss much as we saw it in the daylight coming down. As we crossed into the USA, we drove through Organ Pipe Cactus National Park and we would see all of the various cactuses. As we continued on, the cactuses were gone and we would start to see more trees and then high plains that had no trees and just low scrub brush.

We could see a long way off in the distance and it was not looking good. A large storm front was building. We could see the lightening and we could see the rain being released from the clouds. We continued to get closer until it appeared inevitable that we were going to get wet. We pulled off and there was another rider that came to the same conclusion that we did. He was already in the process of donning his rain gear. We began doing the same. I noticed that he was struggling to put his "rain boots" on so I offered to help. He declined. And I continued to put my rain gear on as the sprinkles were starting to disseminate upon us. I was done and he was still struggling so I insisted that I help him. He would tell me that he has had five (5) back surgeries and is unable to bend over and this is all related to serving in our Armed Forces. He finally allowed me to help him put his boots on and I would thank him for his Service, to which he said, "It was my Honor." I was humbled thinking of what he gave up to give me the Freedoms to do the simple things in life like this Ride! I learned that his name was "Terry, Terry from Texas". A picture of what we were witnessing from where we stopped at Marble Canyon- Bodaway. After we suited up, I looked at the MyRadar App and to my amazement it looked like we might actually miss most of the storm. I showed dad but I do not think he believed me that we would miss the storm.



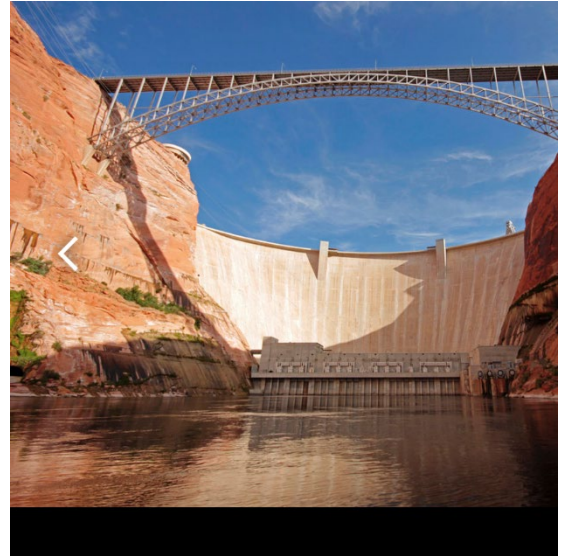
We would actually end up dancing around the major parts of the storms and never ever really get wet but the rain suits helped keep us warm as the temperature would drop down to 61 degrees.



Shortly after this we turned on to Hwy- 89 and we were treated to many great vistas.

We continued on out of Page, Arizona and would cross the Glen Canyon Dam Bridge which is holding back the Colorado River with a 710-foot-high dam. It would take them ten years, 1956-1966 to build the dam and this is what has created Lake Powell. We would see many, many trucks pulling boats, mostly Wakeboard and Pontoon style, all the way on our ride into Kanab, UT and they were going south while we were going north. Obviously, they were heading for Lake Powell for a long Labor Day weekend of fun on the Lake. Here is a picture

from below the dam that I grabbed from the internet showing the dam and the bridge that we travelled across on.



We arrived at the Convention Center at 5 pm and went inside where the Christian Motorcycle Association stamped our Passport and confirmed in fact that we had completed the First Check Point as required by the “Rules of the Ride”. They had snacks and drinks, non-alcohol, for us too. I would see Terry from Texas sitting with his friends, so we went over and sat with him for a few minutes. He told his friend’s, “This is the guy that helped me put my boots on!” To which I told him that is where my commitment ended, I am not coming over to your room to help you get undressed. We all had a chuckle.



We checked into the Aiken’s Lodge, picture of one of the beds (there were two but mine was already full of my “stuff”) in the room.

When we were checking in, I would notice a sign in the lobby referencing the fact that Nicolas Cage filmed a movie here in 2018 titled Looking Glass. The town of Kanab, UT is “Little Hollywood” due to its history as a filming location for many movies and television series, prominently westerns such as Lone Ranger, Gunsmoke, Daniel Boone, Buffalo Bill, and many more including Planet of the Apes.

They had placards all along the sidewalks with pictures of actors and actresses alike. However, the picture I took was of a Virgil Riggs because that is my mom’s maiden name and I needed to look it up and see if I have a family history here. These were the typical signs that dotted the sidewalks for our viewing pleasure.



My niece Kaitlyn has been to this town with her mother (Karen, my sister) and her grandma and grandpa, my mom and dad and they went to Best Friends, an animal rescue sanctuary, which is home based here.

Dad wanted to go to the Rocking V Café so after we unloaded the bikes and showered, we walked down there from our hotel only to find that it was a 45-minute wait to be seated. I think dad was looking forward to eating here and was starting to settle in and wait. I looked up other restaurants around me and would see Houston's Trail and we walked down there and it looked good but I also saw a restaurant called "Iron Horse Restaurant and Saloon". Was it not evident where we should be eating? I told you we were riding our Iron Horses and as proof here they are tied up outside the restaurant where we would dine tonight.



Clay was our waiter and we had a great meal where dad had pulled pork and brisket (50-50 combo) and I had salmon and both of our meals were great. We would share a bottle of Meiomi Pinot Noir.

During dinner I looked up and noticed at the table next to us some pretty shady characters wearing masks and playing cards.

Odometer Reading – Start	42,635
Odometer Reading – End	43,202
Total Miles Driven Today	567
Total Miles to Date	2,859
Kick Stand Up	4:15 am PST
Kick Stand Down	17:15 pm PST
Hours in the Saddle	13
Average Speed	43.62
States Travelled	
Mexico, Arizona and Utah	
Major Roads Travelled	
8 (Mexico) Hwy-85 (AZ), I-8, I-10, 101, I-17 and Hwy -89	



Chairman Makes Risotto Dinner in Puerto Peñasco for the 46th TFC Committee - October 2023

In January 2023, during a preplanning session at the Playa Bonita Resort for the 46th 3FC Classic, Oscar and the team learned that my other favorite hobby is cooking. You can tell by looking at me I must love to cook a lot. One of my favorite dishes is risotto. There are many ways to create a unique risotto dish. I caught myself going on and on about the different flavors you could conjure up when it occurred to me that I was sounding like Bubba, Forrest Gump's friend, describing all the ways you could prepare shrimp.

I paused. Oscar and a few others suggested I whip up a chairman's dinner of risotto for the 3FC committee and Board members who arrive early to help prepare for the rider check-in and the other start events.

I have attended culinary classes and worked in a few commercial kitchens in my early years, but I've never been a "real" chef.

Nonetheless, I jumped at the chance once Oscar assured me the resort restaurant director, head chef, and the kitchen crew would welcome me into the kitchen on a slow Tuesday night. Puerto Peñasco has fantastic seafood and is especially known for her shrimp. I've served creamy mushroom risotto with shrimp in my kitchen and it's always been a hit. When I got home, I did the math for serving all my team and guests and added servings to cover all the kitchen crew and sent the ingredients list to Oscar. His team sourced everything.



Tony, Efen, Jesus, Roberto, Johvanna, Mark, Francisco

I arrived in the late afternoon in the kitchen and was planning to do a quick inventory of the ingredients, quantities, and workstation where I would prep and prepare the risotto. I was welcomed by all the staff and pointed to my workstation where everything was waiting for me. The thought occurred to me that some might be thinking who is this gringo who knows 10 words of Spanish and why does he think he is going to cook in our kitchen. The inventory all matched my requested list but all the prep work was done for me. Green onions, onions, mushrooms, garlic chopped, sliced, and minced. Beautiful 12 count shrimp peeled, deveined. A perfect pot for making risotto ready to be fired up with four gallons of stock prepared and ready to go. I wish I had this kitchen staff at my house to do all this prep work. I thanked everyone for prepping, then headed to the bar for a couple Mexican skinny margaritas while I waited for the clock to advance to the time to start cooking.

An hour later and in a pretty good mood, I slipped my head cover on, put on an apron and shuffled over to my workstation. Risotto is easy to make: follow the steps, manage the heat, but **never, ever** walk away from it as it demands constant attention and stirring, like other things in our lives that I won't mention. Cooking risotto for 30 is not like cooking for 8. The constant stirring is a ton of work for a party of 8, much less one for 30. Like I said, risotto is like other things in life; it's not ready until it is darn well ready to be served no matter how tired you are from stirring.

So, at my station I set everything out on the stainless-steel table by order of usage. I take a deep breath preparing for the work at hand and Johvanna shows up and stands in front of the pot on the burners and announces she will help in the tone of a drill sergeant. Everyone working in the kitchen is looking at me for my reaction. Yes, muchas gracias, I responded (two of my 10 Spanish words) and everyone goes back to their task at hand. We start sautéing the onions, celery, and garlic in copious amounts of olive oil in this huge pot then add the 15 pounds of dry risotto rice in the pot. Lupita says she never has eaten or cooked risotto. I describe how we want to toast the risotto then we will add the stock. The restaurant made the stock from scratch - I'm too lazy to do that at home. When the risotto is toasted, I add some stock and ask her to stir until that stock has been absorbed then we do the same thing over and over until the risotto is soft and creamy.



Johvanna

I don't tell her this much risotto will take about an hour and a half of constant stirring as I'm worried about her slapping me over the head with the huge metal spatula she holds with two hands. We repeat this process for about 30 minutes then I politely ask if she minds if we switch positions and let me stir while she adds stock. I get a look from the kitchen staff to see if I get hit or not. She acquiesces and I stir while everyone looks back down. We continue the process and eventually all the kitchen staff stroll by to check out our station and monitor the progress. We get a small serving spoon and I tell her she gets to decide when the risotto has completed cooking. She tastes and said, "NO". We continue and switch the stirring process back and forth. About 1.5 hours in, sure enough, she tastes a small sample and smiles, it is soft but firm and creamy. We add the butter, mix in all the sautéed mushrooms and fold in the Parmesan shredded cheese slowly. After about 15 more minutes and it is just about perfect. We repeat the whole staff tasting and the Chairman's risotto is almost ready. I fold all the butter sautéed shrimp into the risotto and it's ready to go.

The waiters who have delivered the salad are alerted. They serve the plated risotto topped with chopped green onions 8 servings at a time. The diners have consumed a few adult beverages and are hungry so most responses are positive and no dishes are thrown back to me. I eat mine then return to the kitchen to check on the leftovers, which there are none, and everyone is smiling telling me that they are now risotto lovers too.

I really want to thank Oscar and Roberto for allowing me to work in their kitchen, to Johvanna who really prepared and cooked the shrimp and mushroom risotto, the kitchen staff and our servers and to the SCMA team who ate the dinner and didn't call out for Domino's instead.

Editor's Note – I took a lot of pictures but I have none of the risotto. It did go fast. The taste and texture were divine. Risotto has a special weight heavier than pasta and the depth of flavor was great with the fine shrimp from the resort.



Alexis, Francisco, Mark, Adrian, Colleen, Lupita in red, and Aaron Pazos on knee

Big Thanks to All the Staff at Playa Bonita Resort - October 2023

By Karen Butterfield, Start Volunteer, Newsletter Editor

I wanted to share congratulations and a heartfelt, "Thank You to ALL the Staff at the Playa Bonita Resort" in Puerto Peñasco, Sonora, Mexico, the Start Hotel for the 2023 46th Three Flags Classic Ride. The TFC Committee spends some time at the Start Hotel preparing for the beginning of the riding event as riders start showing up. The process of reconnecting with old friends and making new ones ramps up while we are all gearing up for a one-of-a-kind experience of four or five days of riding. Riders add to the time getting there and finding the way back home. Clarice Marker, wife of Max Marker, explained to me that in her view the TFC is an annual family reunion of about 200 people.

We started showing up at the Playa Bonita in small groups by Sunday, August 27, 2023 or so. The largest batch of riders arrived on Wednesday, August 30, 2023 in time for the Start Banquet that evening with a beautiful full moon and some lightening in the distance after dinner.



Welcome into the Puerto Peñasco Lobby
- Pilar Alarcón

I heard about all of the changes the TFC has been through during the 1st annual and the 46th annual. I wish I could remember all of the details from one chat in particular in the lobby, where I heard about all the ways the ride has morphed from bringing in food vendors to the parking lot where the ride started, to convening at a Start Hotel for a Banquet. We will probably get to writing down the old stories people remember, so I am all ears if you want to send in your stories to newsletter@sc-ma.com.

We figured it would be hot, and it was. Resort staff and volunteer riders stationed at the hotel lobby front door supplied ice cold water to incoming folks and enthusiastic help with the luggage trolleys. The registration staff was ready for many riders coming at once. A nearby sink and restrooms in the lobby were all helpful to wash up and put a wet towel on your head if necessary. The lobby also became the hang out on and off during the time we were there. This ride included a rest day after the Start Banquet before the first day of the ride. This was a new idea we thought we would try for a few reasons related to recovering from the trip in and preparing for the long riding days ahead. There was also the notion that people would like to spend time together and from what we heard, people did enjoy hanging out time and it was a good thing overall.



Welcome to Registration, now ready for Halloween
Nabor Vázquez y Fernando Rojas



Aracely Hernández - Gift Shop and Notions



Litzy Gabriela Zazueta - Pool Bar

In addition to many chats, there were memorable meals supplied by the kitchen staff, wait staff and dining room staff. One of the TFC Committee members recognized a waiter (Adrian) from a photo taken the last time we were in Puerto Peñasco. We looked at the photo on a phone and the banter continued for the rest of this trip. The breakfast buffet had something for everyone. The large buffet at the Start Banquet had a lot of variety and many things to go back for more.

During the banquet, I took the opportunity to thank two of the people at Playa Bonita that have contributed greatly to the SCMA in the past in addition to hosting the Start this year.

We have been translating key TFC documents to Spanish since 2022. In 2023, the newsletter was restarted and is being translated to Spanish for our growing group of Mexican riders. Translation is an important and considerable effort that Yasmely Chávez Ponce, the General Manager's Assistant, delivers in a spectacular manner. In addition, there isn't a Staples or Office Depot nearby you may have noticed. We sent some of the rider materials to the resort but we needed help printing more 2-sided copies of the route summaries for riders and editing an important document that was a pdf. Yasmely's superior skill on both tasks created what was needed and saved a lot of time and effort. Most of us remember highly skilled administrative help in our career that were easy to work with, and she is both.

Oscar Palacio is the General Manager of Playa Bonita, and has served as the Mexican Liaison for the SCMA for years. Oscar is the one who has helped get the swag across the border in the past, work with other hotels, and get riders across the border into Mexico then out of Mexico all at once on the first day of the TFC. I was part of the process with Oscar when we wanted to arrange a police escort to the US border and a dedicated gate for the last start in Mexicali. It's the fastest safest way for the group as a whole. The process where small groups of bikes were escorted by police cars directly to the lane dedicated for us, was all his work. His knowledge, reputation, skills and contacts provide key assistance for the SCMA riders. We will continue to count on both of these people.

It was a good time for a surprise gift of appreciation for both of them at the Start Banquet. I thought a nice pen would be appropriate for Yasmely, a management assistant and translator. I let Oscar know about a pen for Yasmely engraved with her full name, but I didn't mention we had a thank you pen for him too, engraved simply with "Jefe" which means "Boss." I think he was genuinely surprised when the pen was presented at the Start Banquet.



Karen Butterfield and Oscar Palacio with Gifts



Start Banquet



Mariachis and Howard Segal



Oscar Palacio and Yasmely Chávez



Engraved Pen Gift

Some thoughts from Yasmely: This is the first year that I got to work with Karen Butterfield and the wonderful SCMA team, doing the translations for the TFC 2023 event. For a person who knew absolutely nothing about motorcycles, I must admit that I learned a lot from reading all of your articles. You would think that going out for a ride or traveling on a motorcycle would be something very simple, but in reality, it takes a whole process of preparation for both the rider and the motorcycle. I thank everyone who shared their experiences and advice, because I know that this was of great help to many. It was very nice to know that despite the adversities that sometimes arise, you do not give up because you really enjoy what you do. On the other hand, I want to thank the SCMA team for making me part of this wonderful event and for such a beautiful gift. See you next year!

We are not able to thank everyone by name here, but Yasmely sent a few photos to share of some of the places and staff faces from the 2023 Three Flags Classic event at Playa Bonita.

Until next time! . . .which for some might be in the early spring next year for a weekend visit!

A TFC Rider Thank You Letter from Bud Kleewein - October 2023

Good Morning - I am writing to Thank you, SCMA, for another Great ride (3 Flags). Another great year as usual, with a lot of great scenery and good roads. I know it takes a lot of work for the people who set this up each year, but this year I have a special Thank You for Tim Wanamaker along with the 2 ladies with him who helped me in Mexico. I had lost my carrying bag with ALL my clothes, phone charger, medications and my prayer books somewhere between Tucson Az. and Mexico. When checking in for 3 flags I had told Tim about my ordeal, he then said I will be off work at 3pm come back by then and he would get me a ride to a store to help me out. I went back at 2:45pm and Tim was there with the 2 ladies to help me! I cannot read or speak much Spanish, so this was such as a blessing to have the help, or it would have been quite a mess. They helped me find the right size clothing, (Tim held shirts up to my back and said this one will fit) lol. We found pants and 3 shirts 6 pack of socks and 4 pack of shorts to help me finish out my trip. Later, I found out that Tim was in charge of checkpoint operations. I am Grateful and want to Thank him for doing an excellent job!

I am upset with myself that at the Closing Banquet I did not publicly Thank him along with the 2 ladies (which I do not remember their names) they truly went out of their way to help me.

This was my 20th 3 flags ride, and I am not sorry I did ANY of them, I have met some really good people and friends along the way.

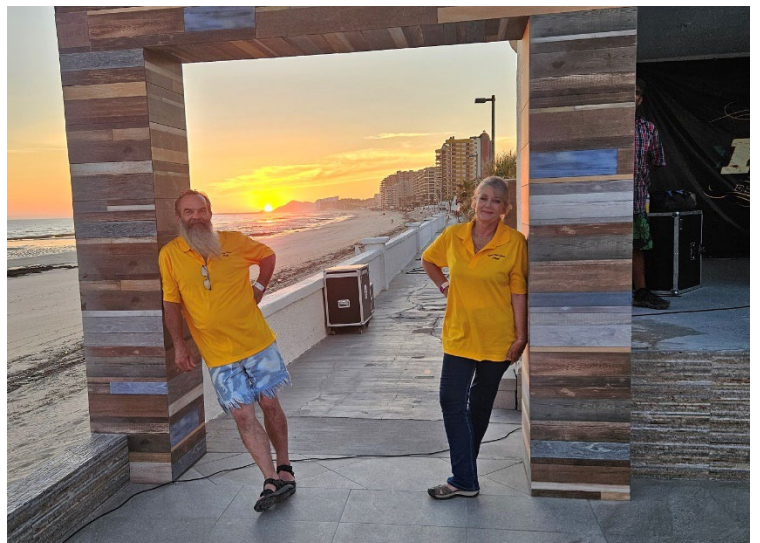
I want to thank all the volunteers that have helped put on the 3 flags rides, KEEP IT UP!!!

Thanks Again, Respectfully
Bud Kleewein
North Platte, Ne

Editor's note – Bud later learned Gloria Amesqua and Sherry Sutherland were with Tim helping with the run to the store, and the notable fact that Gloria holds the record now for the most TFC rides at 43.



Tim Wanamaker and Gloria Amesqua



Tim Wanamaker and Sherry Sutherland

20 of the Best Motorcycle Rides in the USA October 2023

By US Best 15 Rider Steven Jackson

I completed the Best 15 US Roads Challenge several years ago, and this year, since 20 roads were on the list, decided in early spring to schedule the time to complete all 20 of the roads. The USA Four Corners Challenge takes riders to the extreme ends of the contiguous United States and is a real long distance riding challenge. Much of this Four Corners ride, however, involves long stretches on the country's interstates in order to cover the distance in the time allotted. The Best 15 US Roads Challenge, on the other hand, takes riders mostly on back roads through parts of the country that we would not usually see. Almost all of these "Best" roads are in rural areas with beautiful scenery, culture, and people.



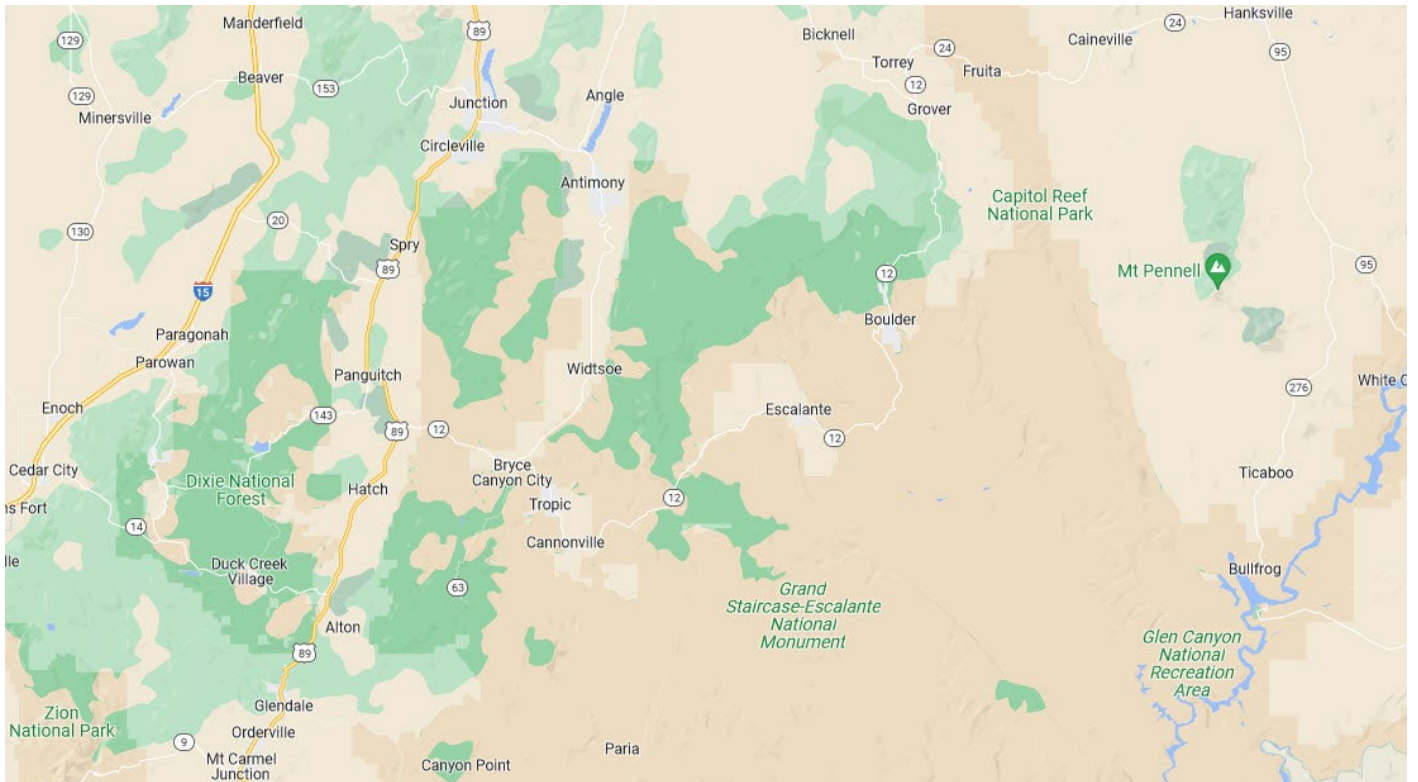
Here are my impressions of some of what I consider the best of these best.

The **Grand Staircase Escalante, Dinosaur Diamond Prehistoric Highway, San Juan Skyway Colorado Monument Valley Arizona, and Coronado Trail Arizona** are five roads clustered together in Utah, Colorado, and Arizona that can be completed in just a few days. Scenery ranges from the high mountains of Colorado to the amazing red rock and deserts of the southwest.

The **Pig Trail in Arkansas** and **Back of the Dragon in southern Virginia** are roads every rider should enjoy if you like the twisties. An easy connection to the Back of the Dragon is the amazing **Blue Ridge Parkway through North Carolina and Virginia**. This parkway offers over 300 miles of some of the most beautiful mountain scenery in our country, lots of twisties, and very limited traffic. You can enter or exit the parkway easily for gas, food, and lodging as needed. Be cautious of the frequent fog and rain that often hugs these blue mountains.

Beartooth Pass/ Chief Joseph Scenic Byway in Montana and Wyoming takes riders to breathtaking heights (11,000 ft) – be prepared to down shift to second gear for many of these high-altitude hair pin turns. **Northern Cascades** Highway across highway 20 in Washington offers similar mountain riding with more forgiving curves.

Hope to see you out on some of these best roads in the future.



TOUR OF HONOR
benefiting **VETERANS AND FIRST RESPONDERS CHARITIES**

50 states.
500 memorials.
You, your motorcycle,
And a good reason to ride.

This is a motorcycle tour we wanted you to know about. From their website - [“The event is a season-long, self-directed ride to memorials and monuments around the continental U.S., Alaska and Hawaii. Beginning April 1, visit as many sites as you want, with any route you choose.”](#)

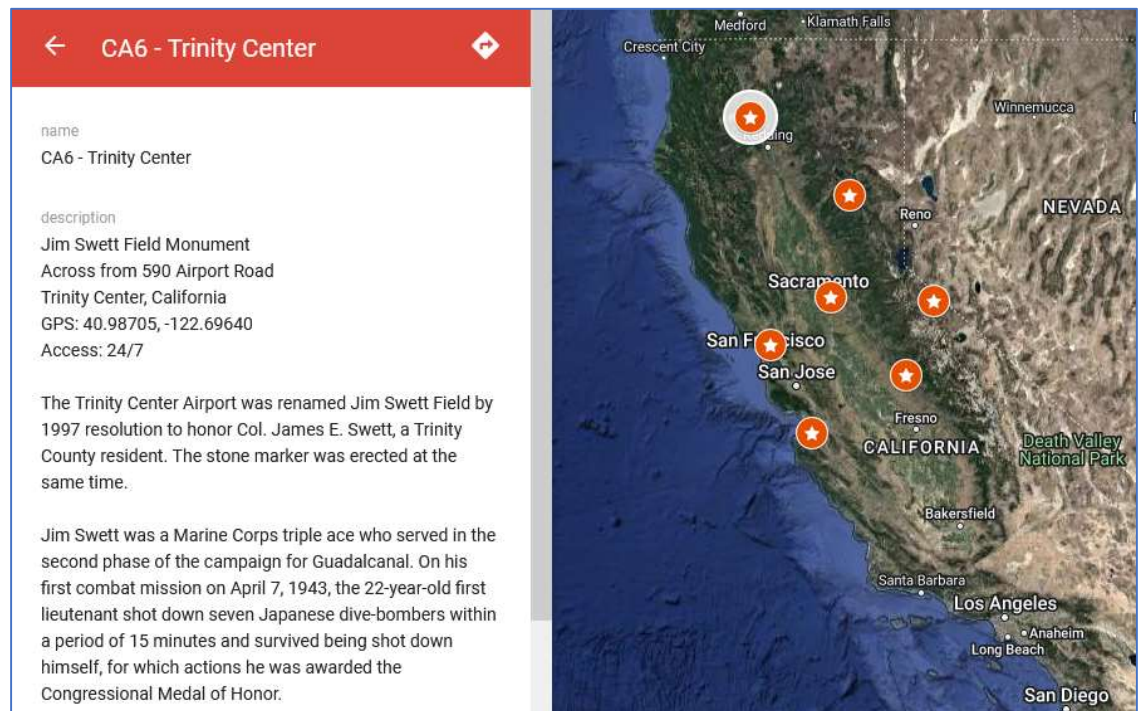
There is an impressive map page to search for 2023 memorials by state and view some information about the memorial.

In 2023, a tribute will be made to honor all Vietnam War and Vietnam-era veterans and their families.

I encourage you to follow the link below to see the details of the ride and additional rides, plus all the great folks the Tour of Honor has as partners.

Have a look. You can always see what memorials you will be close to any time soon and watch for the tour in 2024.

<https://tourofhonor.com/>



Dick Wolff Pictures from the California Adventures Series
Missions and Parks Rides –
October 2023



2023 CALIFORNIA ADVENTURES SERIES UPDATE

- October 2023

The California Adventures Series consists of '3' Rides:

- 1.) CA Missions Tour - **21 Missions**
- 2.) CA Parks Adventure – **24 Parks**
Parks/Monuments/ Preserve/Seashore/
Historic Sites/ Historic Parks
- 3.) CA Best-15 Roads Challenge: Series 'A', 'B', 'C' & 'D'
Consists of **60 roads**; Northern, Central & Southern California



CONGRATULATIONS !

William Wilson

2023 CAS – TRIPLE CROWN FINISHER
Missions, Parks & Roads

Mitchell Cohen

Michelle De La Cruz

Kenneth Trass

2023 CAS – MISSIONS TOUR

Ken Whetstone

Ed Monsour

2023 CAS – ROAD CHALLENGE

Summary lists of roads and destinations are below, and for **all the details** on the rides follow this link to the series on sc-ma.com. <https://coyote-heron-7x64.squarespace.com/california-adventures-series>

WHO'S ON THE ROADS THIS YEAR:

* Going for the CA Triple Crown

FINISHERS in Blue

Missions Tour:

1.	Shareef Assadiq *	Boerne	TX
2.	John Parker	Fallbrook	CA
3.	Robert Govier *	Santa Ana	CA
4.	William Wilson *	Camarillo	CA
5.	Kenneth Trass	Bowie	MD
6.	Albert Wolff *	Napa	CA
7.	Michelle De La Cruz	Santa Ana	CA
8.	Mitchell Cohen	Santa Ana	CA
9.	Matthew Griffin	Yorba Linda	CA
10.	Mark Nechodom	W. Sacramento	CA

Parks Adventure:

1.	Robert Govier *	Santa Ana	CA
2.	Pradeep Kundur	San Ramon	CA
3.	Albert Wolff *	Napa	CA
4.	Maruthi Emany	San Ramon	CA
5.	Rambabu Uppu	San Ramon	CA
6.	Ragen Borra	San Ramon	CA
7.	William Wilson *	Camarillo	CA

Roads Challenge:

1.	Robert Govier *	Santa Ana	CA
2.	Gary Whitehead	Grand Terrace	CA
3.	Ben Greenwood	Laguna Niguel	CA
4.	Albert Wolff *	Napa	CA
5.	Doug Wilson	Henderson	CA
6.	William Wilson *	Camarillo	CA
7.	Kenneth Whetstone	West Valley City	UT
8.	Edward Monsour	Laguna Niguel	CA

October UPDATE:

Series 'A' Roads Closed;

CA-33 – Landslide, CA-190 - Landslide

Series 'B' Roads Closed - NONE

Series 'C' Roads Closed;

Nac/Fer - Landslide, CA-155 - Landslide

Series 'D' Roads Closed;

CA-1 - Landslide

Roads: PTR/IVR 'marked closed' BUT one can make it.

Parks:

Devils Postpile – Stamp located at the Mammoth Lakes Visitor Center.

Missions:

San Miguel Mission – Gift Shop Closed, stamp at Parish Office

Les Gullery

2023 California Adventure Series

Chairman

California Adventures Series Summary Lists

The California Missions:

1. San Diego de Alcalá, San Diego
2. San Carlos Borromeo de Carmelo, Carmel
3. San Antonio de Padua, Jolon
4. San Gabriel Arcángel, San Gabriel
5. San Luis Obispo de Tolosa, San Luis Obispo
6. San Francisco de Asís, San Francisco
7. San Juan Capistrano
8. Santa Clara
9. San Buenaventura, Ventura
10. Santa Bárbara
11. La Purísima Concepción, Lompoc
12. Santa Cruz
13. Nuestra Señora de la Soledad, Soledad
14. San José, Fremont
15. San Juan Bautista
16. San Miguel Arcángel, San Miguel
17. San Fernando Rey de España, San Fernando
18. San Luis Rey de Francia, Oceanside
19. Santa Inés
20. San Rafael Arcángel, San Rafael
21. San Francisco Solano, Sonoma

The California National Parks

1. Cabrillo National Monument
2. Channel Islands National Park
3. Death Valley National Park
4. Devil's Postpone National Monument
5. Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument
6. Fort Point National Historic Site
7. Golden Gate National Recreation Area
8. John Muir National Historic Site
9. Joshua Tree National Park
10. Kings Canyon National Park
11. Lassen Volcanic National Park
12. Lava Beds National Park
13. Manzanar National Historic Site
14. Mojave National Preserve
15. Pinnacles National Park

16. Point Reyes National Seashore
17. Redwood National and State Parks
18. Rosie the Riveter WWII Home Front National Historic Park
19. San Francisco Maritime National Historic Park
20. Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area
21. Sequoia National Park
22. Whiskeytown National Recreation Area
23. Yosemite National Park
24. César Chávez National Monument

California Best 15 Roads

Series A

Northern California:

- CA-3** Weaverville to Yreka.
- CA-108** Sonora to Junction of CA-395.
- CA-120** Junction of CA-108 to Benton.
- CA-139** Susanville to Adin.
- Gazelle-Callahan / Callahan-Cecilville Rds** Gazelle to Cecilville.

Central California:

- CA-35** "Skyline Blvd." Junction of CA-92 to Junction of CA-17 (Patchen Pass).
- CA-190** Porterville to Kernville.
- CA-198** Coalinga to San Lucas.
- CA-245** Junction of CA-198 (Visalia) to Junction of CA-180.
- Caliente Bodfish Rd.** Caliente to Lake Isabella.

Southern California:

- Woodford–Tehachapi Rd.** Junction of CA-202 to Keen.
- CA-33** Junction of CA-150 (Ojai) to Maricopa.
- CA-74** Hemet to Palm Desert.
- CA-76** Oceanside to Lake Henshaw.
- S1** "Sunrise Highway." Junction of I-8 to Junction of CA-79 (Julian).

Series B

Northern California:

- CA-4** Angels Camp to Markleeville.
- CA-70** Oroville to Quincy.
- CA-299** Redding to Arcata.
- NF-15** Junction of CA-97 (Macdoel) to Junction of CA-89.
- Mattole Rd.** Ferndale thru Petrolia & Honeydew to Redcrest.

Central California:

- CA-25** "Airline Highway" Junction of CA-198 to Hollister.
- CA-168** Big Pine to Junction of CA-266.
- CA-178** Junction of CA-14 to Bakersfield.
- Santa Rosa Creek – Old Creek Rds.** Cambria to Cayucos.
- Vineyard Canyon Rd.** San Miguel to Parkfield.

Southern California:

- CA-38** Redlands to Big Bear Lake.

CA-74 San Juan Capistrano to Lake Elsinore.
CA-94 Campo to Junction of CA-54.
CA-243 Banning to Mountain Center.
Lockwood Valley Rd. Junction of CA-33 to Junction of Frazier Mountain Park Rd.

Series C

Northern California:

CA-89 “Volcanic Legacy Scenic Byway” McCloud to Greenville.
CA-36 Red Buff to Fortuna.
CA-1 “Shoreline Highway” Marin City to Leggett.
CA-49 “Golden Chain Hwy” Auburn to Loyalton.
CA-88 “Carson Pass” Jackson to Alpine.

Central California:

CA-49 “Golden Chain Hwy” Oakhurst to Jamestown.
Preach Tree / Indian Valley Rds. San Miguel to Junction of CA-198.
Nacimiento-Fergusson Rd. Fort Hunter-Leggett to Junction of CA-1.
Sherman Pass Junction of Mountain Highway 99 to Junction of US-395.
CA-155 / Granite Rd. Wofford Heights to Junction of James Rd. (Bakersfield).

Southern California:

Foxen Canyon – Tepusquet Rds. Los Olivos to Junction of CA-166.
NF-95 Frazier Park to Junction of CA-166.
CA-18 Big Bear to Junction of CA-210.
Lilac Road Junction of Camino del Rey (Bonsall) to Junction of S6 (Valley Center Rd., East Grove).
S2 “Great Southern Overland Stage Route” Junction of CA-79 to Ocotillo.

Series D

Northern California:

CA-96 Willow Creek to I-5.
CA-44 Redding to CA-36.
CA-29/175 Hopland to Calistoga.
CA-20 Marysville to I-80.
Morman Emigrant Trail Pollock Pines to CA-88.

Central California:

CA-180 “Generals Highway” CA-198 to Kanawyers.
CA-190 Olancho to CA-127.
CA-1 “Cabrillo Highway” Carmel to San Luis Obispo.
G-14 King City to Paso Robles.
CA-58 McKittrick to Santa Margarita.

Southern California:

CA-154 “San Marcos Pass” Santa Barbara to US-101.
CA-150 “Casitas Pass” Santa Paula to US-101.
Amboy/Kelbaker Rd. Twentynine Palms to Baker.
CA-79 Temecula to Santa Isabel.
S22 “Montezuma-Borrego Hwy/Borrego Saltón Seaway” Hwy 2 to CA-86

Have questions? Contact Les Gullery, Ride Chair for the California Adventures Series at adventures@scma.com .

Great Lakes Cabot Trail Tour (GLCTT) Update - October 2023

2023 Registrants of the GLCTT

- **New registrants**
- **Finishers**

1. **Ken Trass**, Bowie, Maryland
2. **Gary Ballou**, Gahanna, Ohio
3. **Charles Lamb**, North Prince George, Virginia
4. **Mark Burdick**, Houston, Texas
5. **Dennis Mitchell**, Fort Myers, Florida
6. **Trina Williams**, Los Angeles, California
7. **Susan Bithell**, Ivins, Utah
8. **Rick Lane**, Newport Beach, California
9. **James Valentine**, Capistrano Beach, California
10. **Doug Wilson**, Henderson, Nevada
11. **Lloyd Doyle**, Okotoks, Alberta, Canada
12. **John Barrow**, Granite Bay, California
13. **Ian Fergusson**, Carriere, Mississippi



For more details on the GLCTT tour – www.sc-ma.com/great-lakes-cabot-trail-tour

2023 Great Lakes Cabot Trail Tour Checkpoints

1. **Perry Monument Presque Isle Peninsula**, Erie, PA
2. **Niagara Falls Either side**, New York, or Ontario
3. **Lake Placid**, Summit of Whiteface Mountain
4. **Ferry across Lake Champlain**, Port Kent, NY to Burlington, VT
5. **Kancamagus Scenic Byway**, RT112 Lincoln, NH to Bartlett, NH
6. **Cabot Trail Cape Breton Island**, Nova Scotia HWY19
7. **Madawaska**, Maine The Four Corners Park
8. **Quebec City or Montreal** the walled cities
9. **Sudbury, Ontario the Giant Canadian Nickel** at the Dynamic Earth Science Museum, 122 Big Nickel Mine Road, Sudbury
10. **Kakabeka Falls**, TC11 20 miles west of Thunder Bay Ontario
11. **Two Harbors, Minnesota**, MN61 Split Rock Lighthouse
12. **Mackinac Bridge** to Mackinaw City, Michigan

For further clarification or questions about this event, contact **Bob Roger**, Chairman, Great Lakes Cabot Trail Tour, at either (330) 857-8131 or email to GLCTT@sc-ma.com or rsroger03@gmail.com .

Three Flags Classic Update - October 2023



Wow! Thank you all for the kind words and feedback I've received after you completed riding the 46th Three Flags Classic. Many, many riders came to me and sent me emails about their positive experience along with a few suggestions for making it an even better event.

The Three Flags Committee, the Start and Finish chairs and their volunteers, the CMA Checkpoint teams, and the great staff at all of our host hotels came together to make the event fun and memorable for all participants. They deserve all the credit for making this one of the best Three Flags Classic rides, so far.

I loved how the buckles, hats, shirts, pins, stickers, patches turned out. We had a new vendor - a long term motorcycle rider himself, whose production team executed the order flawlessly. Our Vice Chairman, Rodney Chew provided all the oversight on this order and with the help of volunteers from the AZRATPack and GO AZ dealership packaged up all the bling and managed the distribution at the quick stop in Peoria, AZ.

It takes a ton of time and work for the volunteers to put together and execute an event of this size, spread out over three countries.

I sent a survey to the riders for your feedback on the event. Thanks in advance for taking the time to participate. We want to continue to make incremental changes to improve the event for our riders and to make it easier on the 3FC Committee and volunteers to plan and execute.



The 47th Three Flags Classic Committee will hold its first meeting in October to start organizing the Harrison Hot Springs to Tijuana ride. We've identified the start and finish hotels and several potential routes - some new roads and some old twisties we have ridden before. And no - we won't be entering Tijuana from San Diego! We have a much better scenic route to get you across the border to our hotel in Tijuana.

We will have some high-level information on the website, Facebook, newsletters and detailed instructions I send to the Registered Riders communications.

Respectfully,

Mark Burdick
47th Three Flags Classic Chair
SCMA Chairman

USA Four Corners Tour Update – October 2023

The USA Four Corners Tour™ is the most challenging SCMA ride to specific destinations in the Four Corners of the United States in 21 days or less: San Ysidro, CA; Blaine, WA; Madawaska, ME; and Key West, FL; using any route and sequence you desire. You do not have to return to the first corner to finish the event.

The ride is approximately 7,000 miles (depending on your route), not including your travel to the first corner and your ride home from your final corner.

The True X version of the tour is to ride from one of the Four Corners of the United States to the geographical center of the country in Lebanon, Kansas. Then ride to one of the remaining three corners and back to Lebanon, Kansas. Then ride to one of the two remaining corners and then back to Lebanon, Kansas and finally ride to the fourth corner to complete the ride in 26 days or less.



The details and registration for this ride are here - <https://www.sc-ma.com/usa-four-corners-tour>

The riders currently signed up to ride in 2023 are listed below.

NOTES

Before starter boxes can be mailed out, we need the Release of Liability (ROL), shirt size, sleeve length (short or long sleeve); the year, make, and model of the motorcycle to be ridden on the Tour: age and birthdate for bragging rights after completing the Tour.

Tony Campbell should be back in Maine by 30 July after riding the Four Corners this year. He is offering up a place to stay for riders and some northern hospitality. He is 200 miles south of Madawaska in Bangor and reachable at this phone number 207-852-8509.

2023 Registrants

Finishers are in blue

RIDER #	First Name	Last Name	City & State	True X	Reg	Order
1	Shareef	Assadiq	Boerne, TX	X		KLSLMLB
2	BJ	Hallquist	New Bern, NC	X		KLBLSLM
3	Carl	Harris	Hopewell, VA			BSKM
4	Anthony	Campbell	Kenduskeag, ME		X	MBSK
5	Dean	Aukes	Sherman, TX		X	SBMK
6	Gary	Ballou	Gahanna, OH			
7	Harry	Knerr	Blandon, PA	X		KLBLSLM
8	Dan	McGee	Rockwall, TX			
9	James	Hawkins	Newnan, GA		X	KSBM
10	Avril	Phillips	Stockbridge, GA		X	KSBM
11	Rudy	Payne	Huntsville, AL			
12	Bryan	Bailey	Auburn, WA		X	BSMK
13	Joel	Evans	Fairview, TX		X	SBMK
14	James	Salter	Ingram, TX		X	KMBS

15	Lee	Roberts	Dallas, TX		X	SBMK
16	Melisha	Cilien	Lakeland, FL			
17	Gary	McDowell	Manchester, GA			
18	Ansel	Whatley	Cataula, GA			
19	Kim	Mack	Terrell, TX		X	KLSLMLB
20	Robert	Barker	Hampden, ME		X	MBSK
21	Sinco B.	Steendam	Old Saybrook, CT		X	MKSB
22	Ralfie	Fonseca	Milford, CT			
23	William	Hayes, II	Old Saybrook, CT		X	MKSB
24	David	Allen	Providence, RI			
25	Edward	Monsour	Laguna Niguel, CA			
26	Don	Later	Burlington, WI			
27	Paul	Whelan	St. Augustine, FL			
28	Jack	Winternheimer	Evansville, IN			BSKM
29	Randy	Lepper	Webb City, MO			SBKM
30	Michael W.	Robson	Anmore, BC Canada		X	KMBS
31	Kent	Forsythe	Duck Creek Village, UT		X	
32	Victor N.	Daly	Red Deer, AB Canada		X	BSKM
33	Mark	Netti	Reno, NV		X	SBKM
34	Greg	Strickland	Metter, GA		X	KMBS
35	Dean	Seigrist	Santa Maria, CA			
36	Ron	Carreira	Springvale, ME		X	MKSB
37	Thomas	Franks	Farmington, NM			
38	Charlie	Wojcik	Fairfax, VA		X	KSBM
39	Charles	Lamb	N Prince George, VA			
40	Bill	Waller	Louisville, KY		X	BSKM
41	Paul	Smeal	Mechanicsburg, PA.		X	MLBLSLK
42	Cynthia	Black	Billings, MT		X	BSKM
43	Steven	Thillen	Ellerslie, GA			
44	Sandra K.	Sack	Lewistown, MT		X	BSKM
45	Stephen	Ryan	Pinehurst, NC		X	KSBM
46	Jeanne	Stone	Cheyenne, WY		X	BSKM
47x10	Chuck	Marble	Lauderdale, MS			
57	Chad	Jordan	Rockford, MN			
58	Charles	Sweatman	Spring Hill, FL			
59	Dorothy	Bradley	Anderson, NC		X	SBMK
60	Dave	Bennett	Cherry Valley, IL			
61	Bryan	Klein	Bangor, PA		X	MBSK
62	Kline	Price	Superior, CO			
63	Charlie	Aprahamian	Dracut, MA			
64	James	Helms	Jacksonville, FL			
65	Cory	Vrolijk	Mosinee, WI			
66	Erick	Caldwell	Charlotte, NC			
67	Edwin	Clark	Lady Lake, FL			
68	Carl	Swanson	Swatara, MN			
69	James A.	Swanson	Swatara, MN			
70	Nancy	Harris	Milpitas, CA			
71	Charles	Harris	Milpitas, CA			

2022 Registrants in Their 2nd Year

First Name	Last Name	City & State	True X	Reg	Order
Lyle	Cooper	Middleboro, MA		X	MKSB
Charles	Lamb	North Prince George, VA			
Dave	Bennett	Cherry Valley, IL		X	KSBM
Peter	Szulewski	Pine Bush, NY		X	MKSB
Paul	Szulewski	Fillmore, NY		X	MKSB

Have questions? Contact Dannie Fox, Chair, USA Four Corners Tour™ at usa4c@sc-ma.com

[Also visit our USA Four Corners Tour™ Facebook page.](#)

Best 15 US Roads Challenge (B15) Update – October 2023

2023 Registrants of the B15

- Finishers

1. **Ken Trass**, Bowie, Maryland
2. **Albert Wolff**, Napa, California
3. **Carl Harris**, Hopewell, Virginia
4. **James Bowen**, Centennial, Colorado
5. **Charles Lamb**, North Prince George, Virginia
6. **Jeff Kramer**, Las Cruces, New Mexico
7. **Bob Roger**, Dalton, Ohio
8. **Mark Burdick**, Houston, Texas
9. **Noel Henderson**, 150 Mile House, BC, Canada
10. **Ken Whetstone**, West Valley City, Utah
11. **Thomas Strobbe**, San Diego, California
12. **Bella Michel**, York, South Carolina
13. **Edward Monsour**, Laguna Niguel, California
14. **Tone Handy**, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
15. **Lynn Jackson**, Hopkinsville, Kentucky
16. **Jay Yanick**, Mercer Island, Washington
17. **Tameka Singleton**, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
18. **Steven Jackson**, Lindon, Utah
19. **Rick Lane**, Newport Beach, California
20. **James Valentine**, Capistrano Beach, California



For more details on the B15 tour – <https://www.sc-ma.com/best-15-us-roads-challenge>

2023 Best 15 U.S. Roads Challenge

1. **Blue Ridge Parkway Virginia and/or North Carolina** - Any 150-mile segment.
This ONE is required ... to get you east of the Mississippi River!
2. **Pig Trail Arkansas Rt23** - Ozark to Eureka Springs - 80 miles.
3. **Twisted Sisters Texas RR335 - RR36 RR337** - 155 miles.
4. **Big Bend National Park Texas US385** - Ross Maxwell Scenic Drive Maverick Drive to Santa Elena Canyon - 33 miles out and 33 back.
5. **Coronado Trail Arizona US191** - Three Way to Springerville - 130 miles.
6. **Monument Valley Arizona US163** - Kayenta to Mexican Hat - 43 miles.
7. **San Juan Skyway Colorado CO-145** - Cortez to Placerville - 83 miles.
8. **Dinosaur Diamond Prehistoric Highway Utah UT128** - Moab to I-70 - 45 miles.
9. **Grand Staircase Escalante NM Utah UT12** - Torrey to Bryce Canyon exit - 102 miles.
10. **Loneliest Road in America Nevada US50** - Ely to Fernley - 285 miles.
11. **Feather River Scenic Byway California CA70** - Quincy to Oroville - 79 miles.
12. **Northern Cascades Highway Washington WA20** - Concrete to Okanogan - 148 miles.
13. **WA129/OR3** - Clarkston Washington to Enterprise Oregon - 84 miles.
14. **Lolo Trail US12** - Lewiston Idaho to Lolo Montana - 206 miles.
15. **Beartooth Pass/ Chief Joseph Scenic Byway US212/WY296** - Red Lodge Montana to Cody Wyoming - 112 miles.
16. **Bighorn Scenic Byway Wyoming US14** - Greybull to Ranchester - 80 miles.
17. **Theodore Roosevelt National Park** - Medora North Dakota Park Loop - 35 miles.
18. **Great River Road Wisconsin WI-35** - LaCrosse to Prairie du Chien - 63 miles.
19. **Triple Nickel Ohio OH555** - Zanesville to Little Hocking - 62 miles.

20. **Back of the Dragon Virginia VA16** - Tazewell to Marion - 32 miles.

It's still the Best 15 US Roads Challenge, but with a little twist for 2023. There are 20 roads listed, all of which have been on a Best 15 US list over the past twelve years. **Number One above, the Blue Ridge Parkway, is the only Road that must be included on your list.** The registrant can choose 14 of the remaining 19 roads to complete his/her list of Best 15 US Roads for the Ride Log. I have included all of these roads on one continuous loop around the country so that 20 roads could be ridden. Ride 15, or ride'em all, it's up to the ride planner. Just remember to include the BRP! For further clarification or questions about this event, contact **Bob Roger**, Chairman, Best 15 US Roads Challenge, at either (330) 857-8131 or email to Best15us@sc-ma.com or rsroger03@gmail.com .

Affiliates and Sponsors

