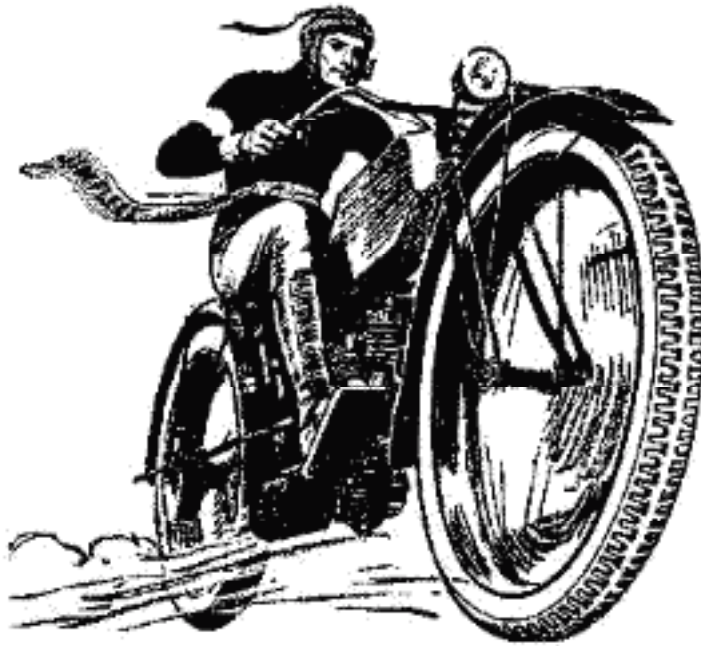


So Cal Chapter



***Antique Motorcycle
Club of America***

***Summer Newsletter
August 2008***

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The SoCal Chapter Newsletter is published quarterly and is distributed to Chapter members, Editors of other related Club publications, and the Directors and Officers of the Antique Motorcycle Club of America. Membership in the SoCal Chapter of the AMCA is open to all members in good standing with the National AMCA.

Local Chapter dues are \$15.00 per year for full membership, which includes a subscription to this quarterly newsletter, all Club announcements and a Club membership card. **Chapter Dues should be mailed directly to the Treasurer of the Club.** The Term of the Membership Dues is from January 1st until December 31st of each year.

The AMCA SoCal Chapter Is on the World Wide Web
Marc Gallin, Webmaster

You can view our SoCal Calendar, as well as a Special West Coast Calendar and the National AMCA Calendar. You can read updated reports on Runs & Meetings, send email to us, or link to other MC sites.

Visit Our Web Site: <http://www.socalamca.org>

Presidents Report

By Tim Graber

Greetings from the SoCal AMCA (mid) Summer Newsletter ! As usual I am late. I do not feel too bad though, because all of our board members and all of the contributing club members are late also. So, I am writing my thoughts. I will report what I know about the past events and update the calendar for the remainder of the year. The club has held events every month with minimal participation. This is the time of year to really get those old machines out and about, so I hope you are able to do that on your own or with local friends. In my case, I have parked my truck (diesel is *VERY* expensive and it broke the \$5 barrier way before gasoline) so I have been riding my modern bike to work and my Chief on the weekends and evenings. What a joy it is to ride to work instead of driving my truck, cell phone in hand. Instead, I have the wind in my face, engine roar in my ear, and my cell phone in my pocket. Thank GOD for the high price of diesel!

The National Board has requested that the chapter handle the Death Valley Road Run on an annual basis. This will be the first recognized Annual International Road Run. We have committed to do this as an annual regional event and this designation gives us a medium to put some more money in our treasury for club purposes. It is our blush to go ahead and do this. Please call or email if you want to discuss it. We have also been attempting to negotiate the ability to partner up with private companies to put on El Camino and other local swap meets. We would like to have an official AMCA judging event at El Camino for the local AMCA members. The recent changes in the structure of the National seem to allow this sort of affiliation or sponsorship. Please give us a call or write us with your opinion on this important matter. I will be attending the Presidents meeting in Davenport this year, so let me know how you think on these items.

We have some important events coming up in the next few months. We need your assistance, attendance, and camaraderie. Please check your schedule and see if you can lend a hand to *YOUR* antique motorcycle club. Keep 'em polished side up and leaking oil! *Tim*

Estate Sale: Dave Cook's family has decided to sell 4 of Dave's bikes. They are being offered for sale to club members before they are released to the general public. They are a 1959 Ariel Square 4 (built by John Stanley); a 1958 Ariel Square 4 (built by Chuck Walton); a 1956 HKH Harley, and a 1956 HKH Harley "Bobber." Call Tim for details at: 949-254-6551

Wanted: Club members' input for this newsletter.

SoCal AMCA
2008 Report on Rides and Activities of the past quarter
By Tim Graber

May 4 - Well, May 1st was my birthday and no one offered up a ride plan, so there was no run, bummer.

May 8-11 - Sedona, AZ ride: Bob & Carolyn Musgrove put on another fabulous event in Arizona. They were assisted by the Arizona contingent of the SoCal Chapter. I was unable to attend. I am told that about 17 riders showed up and enjoyed the great roads and superb weather.

May 17 - Hanford Show and Swap by Bator International: This was another fine event put on by Deni and Glenn Bator. The gas prices and the economy certainly slowed down the attendance but those that were in attendance enjoyed great weather and camaraderie. This is the last year the Bator's will be able to put this meet on, and they are looking for someone to take over the venue and continue its 40 year history of accommodating antique motorcycles. SoCal AMCA had a booth at the show and many of our members stopped by for shade and conversation.

June 7,8 - Perris Motorcycle festival show: I have no reports on this event.

June 20 - Dixon Meet presented by the Fort Sutter Chapter (near Sacramento). This event was presented in great weather and was a full AMCA sponsored swap meet and show. I have no information on happenings at the event.

July 6 - I had 3 people call and ask where the road was for this event. One caller was a newbie that wanted to ride, so we found him some road. Frank Colver, Hokan Morrtesenn and I met the new guy for coffee and off we went. We traveled North on Highway 1, up through Huntington Beach, Long Beach, and on to San Pedro. We went up to the point above the LA harbor entrance and had coffee and a fried egg sandwich. We were met there by Lovejoy, Hart and Hart. Total round trip was about 70 miles, with only one breakdown requiring a hazmat permit and a truck home...

July 20 - I am doing what I can to get this newsletter out...

Treasure's Report

By Tom Hart

Happy 4th!

You will all be pleased to know that I, your Treasurer, have kept safe the club funds and that those funds now range somewhere between 2 dollars and a few thousand. Want to know how much? Well, come to the September meeting and find out. That way you can also vote for next season's board of directors, which will also include my coveted position.

There's always room for fresh blood, I mean new blood and fresh ideas. That means ideas for new rides and how to spend the club money. With soaring gas prices we need to talk about funding the trouble trucks on a serious basis. We need to talk about the club's website and newsletter and how they can be made better and what we are willing to pay to accomplish that. These costs have risen sharply since Jim and Dave's passing. They did a lot more work for the club than was fully realized until now.

We are in good financial shape now but these costs (newsletter and website) far exceed the revenues collected in yearly dues. The Borrego Springs and Death Valley rides basically support most of the clubs other events throughout the year, besides paying for themselves. The club dues are little more than a token gesture in comparison. Do we want to consider increasing the dues? Double or nothing; that could mean maybe as much as \$1800 a year for 60 members, which I believe is our average for regular paying members. I think \$30 a year isn't much in today's market. That will almost fill a sport scout gas tank.

I would write more important information for this newsletter but I have to ride my bike to work and I do not want to be late. Oh yeah, did I tell you that I am working in Washington DC next week? I'll disclose more at the annual meeting. Please do not forget to call in your lunch order ahead of time.

SoCal AMCA 2008 Calendar

- Aug 3** Ride date is available, call Tim with your plan
- Aug 5 - 8** Stevens Idaho Memorial. Boise, Stanley, Cascade, and back. A great experience. Plan early and RSVP, its a VERY BUSY SEASON! Call Pat for details (208) 344-0726. Call Tim for a flyer with updated information.
- Aug 28-31** Davenport National Meet and Board of Director's meeting. Send any questions, concerns, or statements to Tim for presentation at the Board meeting.
- Sept 21** SoCal Annual Chapter elections and meet. Call Tim for meeting location, but it will probably be at Frank Colver's place. Lunch will be catered for all in attendance.
- Oct 6-8** Death Valley Ride. Furnace Creek (760) 786-2345. This will now be an Annual International Road Run sponsored by the SoCal Chapter. Max is ride captain.
- Oct 18, 19** Carpentaria Road Run: This is always a great ride sponsored by Craig Dillmann. This should be the 1st Dave Cook memorial ride.

Nov 2 Annual Hansen Dam Run, sponsored by the Norton Club and very well attended.
This is a must do for the serious rider of old iron.

Dec 7 Gunther's Yard Meet

Dec 12, 14 International Motorcycle Show

Dec 14 Annual Club Holiday Banquet

Note: All dates are subject to change. More info, call Tim Graber (949) 642-9682

Rumors, Remarks, and Sick Call

Chuck Vernon got pretty sick on his annual hiking trip into Mexico. He is recovering fine at home and would probably welcome phone calls.

Larry and Jenifer Ramos are expecting their first child in Sept!
CONGRATULATIONS!

John Eagles is doing very well! He got angry at that '39 Indian 4 case that was staring at him, all banged up, and decided it was time to rehab it (and himself). Johnny fired the welder back up after doing a special jig dance, and he conquered that ole '39 Indian 4. It was last seen idling along the streets of Orange waiting for the owner to pick it up. Seven years in the making, but this machine did not conquer the best Indian mechanic in Southern California! The owner called me last night and bragged about how nice it had run during a Sunday afternoon ride in the heat. *NICE* job, John!

The Death Valley Road Run is now an Annual International Road Run. The National Board decided that since there is so much fun to be had at this event and that there are always international travelers there, that this run should be the first named an Annual, and the first to be called an International! It will eventually be called the Max Bubeck International Memorial Run, but Max does not want to hear that! Set your calendars.

Did you hear about the recent sales at Auction?

Monterey - 7/12/08: A 1915 Cyclone Board Track racer went for \$520,000, plus commission.

Tustin, CA, Joe's Garage - 6/14/08: 1953 Indian Chief Roadmaster \$39,000; 1937 Indian Scout \$34,000; 1937 Harley EL Knuckle \$31,000; 1915 Indian Big Twin \$60,000; 1912 Yale Belt Drive \$41,000; 1911 Flying Merkel \$75,000; 1921 Harley Racer \$47,000; 1940 Indian Four \$45,000; 1948 Indian 648 Big Base \$150,000; 1939 Crocker Big Tank \$275,000; 1908 Indian Camelback \$55,000; 1941 Indian Dispatch Tow \$57,000.

Red Rock Run for the SoCal AMCA by Ken Mulholland of the Arizona contingent!

In May 2008, Carolyn and Bob Musgrove offered a well planned adventure to riders of antique motorcycles in the Sedona Red Rock region of Arizona. The distributed information packet included not only the requisite map, directions, and schedule but also history, attractions, and facilities.

Three days of riding provided challenge for man, woman, and machine along with a small taste of local color. All rides were capped with a social session at the motel occupied solely by participants.

The short Thursday ride took us to Montezuma's castle, a 1200 year old cliff dwelling that had nothing to do with Montezuma!

Friday's travel led us up Oak Creek Canyon (a riders delight) and on past Lakes Mary and Mormon. The lakes had improved H2O quantities this year. No elk were sighted. Lunched at the lodge and returned. The canyon looks different in this direction.

Saturday's route yielded a varied sample of Arizona. We traveled the rocky zones, desert, crossed a busy freeway, and on to the winding mountain pine country. Our destination was Strawberry lodge (strawberries in Arizona?). We stopped at a convenience market with gas pumps in Camp Verde. Some of us met an old timer who did his shopping on horseback (He didn't exactly ride his horse into the store)! The return was approximately the same route. We fully appreciated the hospitality hour back at the motel.

Mechanical incidents were not exactly unknown. One spiffy Triumph shed its drive chain, but miraculously, roadside repairs were successful. Not so successful was the repair of the machine ridden by the welder's son. Arc welding (12 volt DC) depleted the battery. The side car complicated recovery, but it was accomplished.

Dinner reservations for a large group in Sedona during busy times seemed a bit shaky. Strong words toward the restaurant manager brought about quickly arranged accommodations. It was a fine gathering enjoyed by all.

Sunday A.M. saw the send off of long time and new friends. All agreed that it was an event worth repeating.

Congratulations to the Musgroves.



A proud John Eagles with his newest restoration, a 1939 Indian 4, relaxed and comfortable in his work space.



A top view of the finished product. This is the block that was not capable of being fixed. Can you see the inserted piece or the welds?



Inside every *real* man there hides a little boy
who wants to come out and play.

Those who want to ride find a way.
Those who do not want to ride find excuses

Whenever I tear my bike down and rebuild
it, I have a few extra pieces. If I do that
enough times, maybe I'll have two bikes!

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FIRST CLASS