

1971 – 2011

40th**Anniversary****Special Interest Articles:**

- Officer's Reports
- Borrego Springs – The Beginning
- AMCA Presidents Letter
- Road Run Reports
- Upcoming Events

****NEWSFLASH****
The Santa Monica Mountains Ride has moved to Aug. 13.

Send Articles to: SOCALAMCANEWSLETTER@YAHOO.COM

President's Report – Tim Graber

Hello to SoCal AMCA Chapter members and others! This newsletter was a long time coming and we hope that you use the information here to plan to participate in upcoming events and maybe to offer up events your selves. The calendar is wide open and the plan is to host as many rides as possible so that we can share the fun of riding and polishing Classic and Antique motorcycles. As usual the chapter board members have been busy with life and with activities here in SoCal. You should see some write ups on events that have occurred the first few months of this year, We are also including a calendar of events and a flyer for Death Valley 2011.

Yes, it is going to happen! You should also find a memo outlining the idea behind the Borrego Springs Road Run.

Most importantly, we are planning a venue change and event for the annual meeting which should be middle of September. Please let us know if you have a date conflict with the 2nd Sunday which would be the 11th of September. We are planning to hold a small swap and show and feed all members that attend. We need your input and participation.

The National organization has asked us to host a national Meet in October or November of 2012. I am asking for volunteers to assist and I am asking for ideas for venues. We should

have a 3 day event so we are looking for an area that will allow camping, is close to hotels, and has plenty of parking for attendees and for vendors. PLEASE, call and let us know what you think on this issue. It is a large undertaking that will require volunteers if we are to do it. SoCal should be able to host an annual meet!

As usual, we look forward to your participation and look forward to the next event.

Cheers,

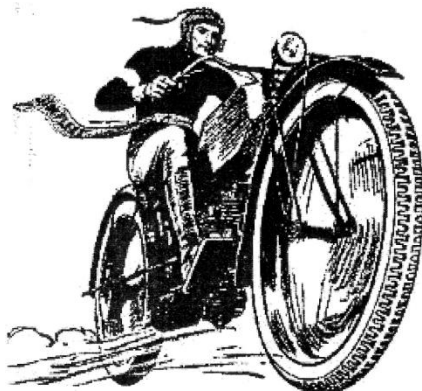
Tim Graber

Treasurer's Report – Tom Hart

Chapter Members: As of this month we have about \$7,011.00 in the bank. I will provide more info for the next newsletter.

Editor's note: Tom is having his 1939 Indian Chief restored by John Bivens. We've seen what John has been doing and we can say that the bike is

looking fantastic and we can't wait to see the finished product!!



Vice President's Report – Larry Ramos

In Praise of all Things Old

With the summer rapidly coming to a close, just 4 weeks till classes resume, I would be remiss if I didn't mention how terrific the antique meets were. First off, Hanford was a great success for all in attendance with the vendor spaces sold out before Saturday drew to a close. This made for some interesting purchases in my circle of friends ranging from period correct chopper pieces to some N.O.S. bits that hadn't seen the light of day in over half a century. Rich Hardmeyer brought out some of his huge Indian parts inventory and had quite a crew on hand to help out. There wasn't a time throughout the weekend when I didn't see at least 10 people scouring parts from his many tables of goodies.

My buddies from the San Fernando Valley found everything from dual-carb knucklehead heads to chopper forks that haven't been made in over 30 years. Custom paint gas tanks (from the 60's and

70's) were big this year and were bringing good money as well. It's always neat to see old custom parts making their way back on to new projects.

Dixon, also, was a huge success thanks to all the hard working people in the Fort Sutter Chapter. These folks always do a top notch job in providing for all in attendance a good time with quality food and events throughout the weekend. The seminars led by George Hood were informative and thought provoking as always. This year, in addition to the great judging staff led by our West Coast Chief Judge - Red Fred Johansson we were happy to have our new A.M.C.A. President Richard Spagnoli in attendance as well. I had the pleasure of judging at both meets and can tell you that the one thing that ties all of us together, no matter how different our personal lives may be is our shared love of antiques. Whether two wheeled or four, we all share a deep respect for

the integrity and ingenuity the manufacturers of our favorite makes and models shared.

My friend Rick Najera from the Yerba Buena Chapter splits his time between Ford roadsters and Harley Davidson's. Red Fred is known for the Hap Jones '32 Ford pickup he drives as well as some really nice Indian's. I myself traded a '50 Harley Davidson for a '29 Ford roadster, the day before Dixon, which many of you tried to buy! It was still in pieces on a trailer there, which led to some great and informative conversations with other club members about the ones they used to own. Listening to older club members talk about the good times past, it would be hard to deny that a love of antiques wasn't shared by us all. Myself included. Please remember to mark your calendars for next years Hanford and Dixon meets, you'll be glad you did.

Editor's Note:

We are looking for photos and information regarding the early years of our club. If you have photos or information to share, contact: Steve Sorensen.

Socalamcanewsletter@yahoo.com

Secretary/Newsletter Editor's Report – Steve Sorensen

The last 3 months have been busy. We've already had many great events with several more planned in the coming months. Please check the calendar of upcoming events on page 5.

The general meeting September 11th will also be our 40th anniversary

celebration. Please bring your bikes out for this great celebration.

As Tim mentioned in his report, we are also working hard to prepare for a national meet in 2012. We are looking for ideas and input for this event. Please email or call one of the board members.

I can't emphasize enough how beneficial it is to have members of our club provide articles for this newsletter. Please feel free to submit articles for this newsletter any time.

Thanks,
Steve Sorensen

THE BORREGO SPRINGS WINTER ROAD RUN

The Beginnings: 1990-1991-1992

By Chuck Vernon and Gary & Heidi Breylinger

In May of 1989 Gary and Barbe Breylinger bought a vacation home in the Roadrunner Mobile Home Park in Borrego Springs. The following fall, Gary realized that the combination of climate, scenery, good accommodations, and superb traffic free roads would provide an excellent venue for antique motorcycle friends to shake off the winter blues. The last weekend in February was chosen as the average weather was usually good then. Secondly, the date would still allow travel time for those going to Florida for the AMCA National Winter Meet and Daytona race week in early March.

Gary and Barbe invited a group of about fifteen friends to come down to the desert for a little ride, starting off with a simple chili and sangria buffet supper at their Roadrunner home on the Friday evening before the ride. The next morning everyone met at what became the "regular place" on a spacious unpaved area off Christmas Circle in beautiful downtown Borrego Springs. After a short rider's meeting the gang blasted off for a fun filled weekend.

Prior to that first Run Gary had stopped in the local Sheriff's two-Deputy office to explain what was planned. He mentioned that the group would be composed of a bunch of old geezers riding even older motorcycles, and that they would be lucky to even get them started, let alone rip up the town Saturday night. The Deputies seemed a bit skeptical, but gave a grudging agreement not to look too closely at certain minor equipment infractions such as missing mufflers, lights, mirrors, license plates, brakes, fenders, and good sense. They were as good as their word by making sure they went the opposite

way from our routes each day.

Gary had also alerted his old high school chum, Glenn Odam, the resident California Highway Patrolman. It turned out that Glenn also had a word with the deputies. On the 1990 and 1991 Runs, Glenn led us out of town and accompanied us, riding his Honda Gold Wing.

On that first Run the town of Borrego Springs was having its annual Grapefruit Festival with activities centered around Christmas Circle. Our gathering and departure were well received by the public there. That evening we had a catered dinner at the Roadrunner Clubhouse, and on the Sunday we had another ride, ending in time for people to get home if they choose.

Everyone had such a good time on the first Run that the Breylinger's were encouraged to host another run the next year. The 1991 run was held on Feb., 22 and 23. The list of bikes rose to about 30- apparently a lot more geezers had cabin fever that winter! The Friday evening chili buffet was held at the Breylingers', but for the last time as it got a little hard to serve the increasing number of friends.

Our wonderful and long suffering Club member, Pat Stevens, had volunteered to carry the box lunches in her car to the lunch stop at the Park on the way to Ocotillo Wells on Saturday. The hungry gang was all seated under the shade, chatting happily, when Pat, who was following two riders, blithely drove right past the Park entrance and most of the way to Interstate 80. Her scenic side trip took the better part of an hour. Needless to say, appetites were keen when she finally returned.

Another catered dinner was held in the Roadrunner Clubhouse. The dinner was preceded by Rotten Richard giving a demonstration on how a newly restored Henderson 4 could cut a wake through a flooded street dip near the Roadrunner. He ended up pushing the Henderson out of the water. It was some time before the drenched magneto was restored to action. The Sunday ride was a circle trip through the San Ysidro Mountains.

The 1992 Run riders list rose to 45, with friends coming from several states. The Run followed some heavy rains which flooded the roads out of Borrego Springs to the south. The route was quickly modified to change the destination from Julian to the Salton Sea. A photo of the group sweeping down Palm Canyon Drive appeared in the "Borrego Sun" in the issue following the run.

The Sunday ride was planned a s trip up to the top of Palomar Mountain. About half way up the grade to the pass towards Warner Hot Springs it started to sleet. John Eagles, who was leading the pack, pulled off the road and announced that he really wasn't having a lot of fun riding in sub-freezing temperatures, and strongly suggested that the group return to Borrego Springs. There was no argument. The banquet that year was held at the Palm Canyon Resort.

The 1992 Run was the last hosted by the Breylingers. That fall they sold their desert home and moved to Bigfork, Montana, where they still reside. The Southern California Chapter of the AMCA assumed the role of host for the Run the next year, and it has continued as a very popular event.

Letter from AMCA National President – Richard Spagnolli

Dear Chapter Presidents and Newsletter Editors,

I apologize for the delay in sending the latest newsletter but many things have happened since sending my last one. The Club has a new Treasurer and Advertising Manager. Jim Gaulty was appointed Treasurer by the Board at the Board meeting in Eustis. Jim has extensive financial service experience having specialized in management and tax counseling services for small businesses and professionals. He has been the treasurer of several organizations and is currently the Treasurer of the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Hockey League. The Club's finances are in good hands and we very happy to have Jim on board.

Paul Holdworth, a professional advertising consultant with extensive experience selling advertising for motorcycle publications, was hired as a contractor to be the Club's advertising manager. Paul's job will be to service existing advertisers and also increase the number of advertisers in the Magazine. We are hoping the increase in advertising will allow the Club to have more pages in the current four issues per year and perhaps increase the number of issues down the road. All this depends on increased advertising revenues. I'm sure Paul will do his best in this regard.

I made the decision when elected President to attend all national meets this year and as many Road Runs as possible. So far I have attended every meet

except Viking because it conflicted with Rhinebeck. I can say without reservation based on my attendance so far this year that the Club is alive, enthusiastic as ever and full of people having fun with old motorcycles.

I learned that every National Meet has its own distinct "personality." No two are the same. But one theme prevails: friendship, camaraderie and of course, the search for parts and maybe a few "war stories" about past events on old bikes. Because of the recent Club Survey indicating the average age of our members was 59, I looked around and realized that we are a Club made up of mostly "older" people. However, the older people don't seem to have lost their enthusiasm for old motorcycles and the like. That said, the Board is very conscious of the need to attract younger members. We are sponsoring a pilot program at Wauseon of Children's Field Games where kids will be able to ride bicycles through the same field trials that members ride through on the motorcycles. There will be small bore kick start motorcycles for the kids to start. All done with the hope that our Club's family friendly atmosphere will make an impression on the kids who hopefully will be the future of the Club.

Although National Meets are great, my personal preference are National Road Runs. I just wish more members would try a Road Run. There is no better way to see a part of the country one may never visit other than on a Road Run. And from the seat of an old bike! I

appreciate all the Chapters who sponsor Road Runs and encourage other Chapters to do the same. There is a network of help for first time Chapter sponsors. So please give it some thought.

I have read comments in some of the Chapter Newsletters which raised questions about whether Chapters sponsoring National Meets are treated differently. The answer is generally no with the exception of Chapters starting National Meets and one Chapter that charges admission (Rhinebeck). The Board started a policy a few years ago (to which I agree) to lend money to a Chapter to start a National Meet. After application and thorough review with financial analysis, The Board made loans to the Rhinebeck and Southern Coalitions. All loans and fees have been repaid in accordance with the agreements. Once the loan arrangement is complete, these groups will revert back to the normal arrangements applying to all Chapters sponsoring National Meets. The exception is Rhinebeck which will continue to charge admission because of the cost of the facility and other expenses. Currently, there is a request to a group of Chapters to sponsor a National Meet. Once their proposal is received, it will be evaluated like the others. If any Chapter or group of Chapters wants to sponsor a National Meet, please contact me for details.

After a financial analysis, the Board voted to stop selling Club merchandise at National Meets by hauling the Club trailer to meets and having merchandise manager, Susan Brutus travel to each meet. The Club was paying individuals

Letter from AMCA National President – Richard Spagnolli -

Continued

(members) mileage and in some cases lodging to haul the trailer to each meet. Susan Brutus' travel, room and board expenses were also paid. These costs **greatly** outweighed any profit the Club anticipated from the sale of merchandise. Rather than continue the loses, the Board revised the sale of merchandise to the Internet through the Club web site and two National Meets, Wauseon and Davenport. Sending merchandise to Chapters sponsoring National Meets is being considered. The Board will continue to monitor the sale of merchandise. This is an important facet of the Club and the most cost effective method to sell merchandise will be used.

Because the Club trailer is not going to be used for merchandise sales and the promotional use of it did not materialize, the Board decided to sell the trailer to the highest bidder by a closed bidding procedure. The bids will be opened at the Board meeting in Davenport 2011. Please see the Club web site and Forum for details.

Treasurer Jim Graulty has been working on the Club's financial records and will have a financial report available at the Board meeting in Davenport. This has not been an easy task for Jim. One thing we have learned from the untimely death of Raymond Dhue: appoint an assistant Treasurer so someone will be familiar with the Club's finances if something happens to the Treasurer. We are

working on this appointment. If you know someone with a financial background willing to help, please let me know.

You recently received a revised Policy and Procedures Manual (P&P) from then Secretary Steve Slocombe. After further review of this latest revision, we determined (with the help of some Club members) that the P&P contained several inconsistencies. We then undertook a complete review and revision on this document. Operations Manager Bill Wood was instrumental in the revision which was approved by the Board unanimously at a teleconference on June 26 and a second time by unanimous agreement by Internet vote on July 1. You will be receiving a copy by e mail shortly. Please keep it for future reference. No hard copies will be sent. Only electronic copies.

As most of you know, there have been changes in the operation of the judging system. The Chief Judge (CJ) resigned in April 2011. Assistant CJ, Don Dzurick, took over responsibility for the remainder of 2011. In spite of criticism from certain quarters, I can say from being involved in the judging operation in every meet except Viking, Don and all of the Chapter Deputy Judges and the volunteer judges did an excellent job considering the circumstances. Those circumstances being that certain long standing qualified judges refused to volunteer to judge motorcycles. At one meet in

particular, more judges could have been used but some chose to stand by and watch the volunteer judges on the field do the best they could. Since judging depends on volunteers, the system can't force experienced member judges to judge bikes at National Meets if these judges refuse to do so. I'm not here to argue the reasons for their refusal. I'm just pointing out a fact.

The members involved in having their bikes judged for the most part (not different from judging over the years) were satisfied. Is the system perfect? Of course not, but it never was. And it never will be. But the Club must always strive for improvement but improvement will always be slower if qualified judges refuse to judge. The Club just has to move on. I have met and have spoken with all interested parties in the judging community on several occasions. It may be time to move on with the judging system with those who are on the field and truly interested in making the system better for the membership. I welcome constructive comment on this subject.

Regarding communications with the membership, the Board's discussion about a web cast of Board meetings has been placed on hold for lack of interest from the membership. It will be revived if interest is shown. We are still exploring a Facebook page and that may become a reality soon. Group e mail to the membership is still being explored.

Letter from AMCA National President – Richard Spagnolli - Continued

There are three openings on the Board. You previously received notice from Acting Secretary, Trudi Johnson-Richards. The deadline for applications is July 15. Applications can be sent to me and Trudi by e mail. Voting will be in Davenport. All applicants may be interviewed. We are considering extending the deadline for applications. So please apply after the deadline if you or others are so inclined.

I think I have said enough for now. I welcome your comments, thoughts,

ideas, criticisms etc. But let's keep it civil. If anyone wants to discuss the above subjects in more detail, please feel to call. I welcome your calls. I am on EST. Thanks for listening.

Richard

Editor's Note:

We are looking for photos and information regarding the early years of our club. If you have photos or information to share, contact:

Steve Sorensen.

Socalamcanewsletter@yahoo.com



Max Bubeck

Our long time member and Indian rider Max Bubeck passed away on April 8, 2011. He will truly be missed. We want to let everyone know the Death Valley ride will be named the Max Bubeck Memorial Ride this year. We miss you Max!!

Beach Burger – 13 Feb 2011

Our second club meeting of the year was held in conjunction with the Vintage Bike OC which is held on the second Sunday of every month from 2:00 – 4:00. This monthly event is

free and open to the public. A small group of So Cal AMCA members attended this meeting and discussed upcoming events. A big topic of discussion is the 40th anniversary plans for

our Club. We also had a great conversation with Bob Nichols about Indian Sport Scout Cams. We are always amazed by Bob's knowledge.

Joshua Tree – 9-10 April 2011

Once again this year the weather was fantastic in Joshua Tree. There was a dozen or so riders lead by ride captain Craig Dillman. If you haven't gone on this ride before you simply must make it out next time. Riding through the open roads through the Joshua Tree National Monument is simply amazing. One doesn't often think of the desert being colorful, but in April – it almost always is. And the fun doesn't stop there. We usually ride over to the Salton Sea as well. And this year we had the bonus of it being the "free" weekend at the Monument and there was no entrance fee. Many thanks to Craig for organizing this great ride. Make sure to add it to your calendar of don't miss activities for next year.



John Eagles on his Indian 101 Scout

Joshua Tree, CA

Hanford Motorcycle Show & Swap – 21 May 2011

Marshall Baker from classic cycle events put on the Hanford meet again this year. Tim Graber, Larry Ramos, and Steve Sorensen set up and manned a So Cal AMCA booth again this year. Steve and Larry were once again judges for the classic American bikes (1920s-1950s). The best in show bike was a 1953 Harley Davidson FL owned by Ty Threedouble.

We wish to thank Marshall for providing a space for the club this year. Stop by next year. It's a great event to find some parts for your project or just to come out and see the bikes in the show.



AMCA National Meet at Dixon, CA – 17-18 June 2011



The Ft. Sutter AMCA chapter once again put on this national meet. It was their biggest and best year yet with more vendors than in any previous year. Tim Graber, Larry Ramos and Steve Sorensen set up and manned the So Cal AMCA chapter booth. Larry and Steve were also judges for this event. Several board members from the national

organization were in attendance at the meet. During the banquet on Friday night, the President of the national organization announced some results of a survey that had been sent out to all members. Some interesting statistics that President Richard Spagnoli shared was that the average age of the members is 57. He also

commented that the average number of "bike projects" for each member is a whopping 8!! We think Steve Sorensen has that beat. Other club members sighted at this event were Hokon, Mason and Walt. It's worth the drive to meet with the other motorcycle enthusiasts. It really is a fantastic weekend and one not to be missed.



Born Free 3 – June 25, 2011

Mike and Grant from Cycle Lodge put on the Born Free event. For those of you who don't know about this event, it's a bike show that's free to enter and free to attend. All bikes are allowed to enter the show, it's not limited to antiques but vintage bikes are preferred. They are looking for more old bikes and would love more participation by our club in

the future. Steve Sorensen set up and manned the So Cal AMCA booth at this event. There were thousands of bikes on display and over 10,000 people in attendance. This event took place at Oak Canyon Park in Irvine this year. It's a great venue for a bike show. Many AMCA members were in attendance. So Cal member Hokon won best

knucklehead bobber. We've all admired this bike in the past and it's great to see Hokon and his bike get the recognition it deserves!!

I talked to many folks about our club and the great rides and events we put on. It's a great event to get the word out about our club. See the picture on Page 5 for just SOME of the bikes.



Born Free 3 Bike event

Editor's Note:

*Please send
newsletter articles,
photos or comments
to:
socalamcanewsletter
@yahoo.com*

Calendar of Upcoming Events

August 13, 2011
Santa Monica
Mountain Run.
Contact Craig Dillman
Please note new date.

September 11, 2011
Club Meeting and 40th
Anniversary BBQ.
Details to follow.

September 17, 2011
El Camino Show and
Swap.

October 6-8, 2011
Death Valley Road
Run. Contact Tim
Graber.

November 5, 2011
Hansen Dam Run.
Contact Craig Dillman

December 9-11, 2011
International
Motorcycle Show,
Long Beach. Contact
Steve Sorensen

*“For more information
on these and other
events, please visit our
website at:
www.socalamca.org*

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We're on the Web!

See us at:
www.socalamca.org

About Our Organization...

The So Cal 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 So Cal Chapter of the AMCA is open to all members in

good standing with the National AMCA.

Local Chapter dues are \$30.00 per year for full membership, which includes a subscription to the 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.

SO CAL CHAPTER AMCA

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