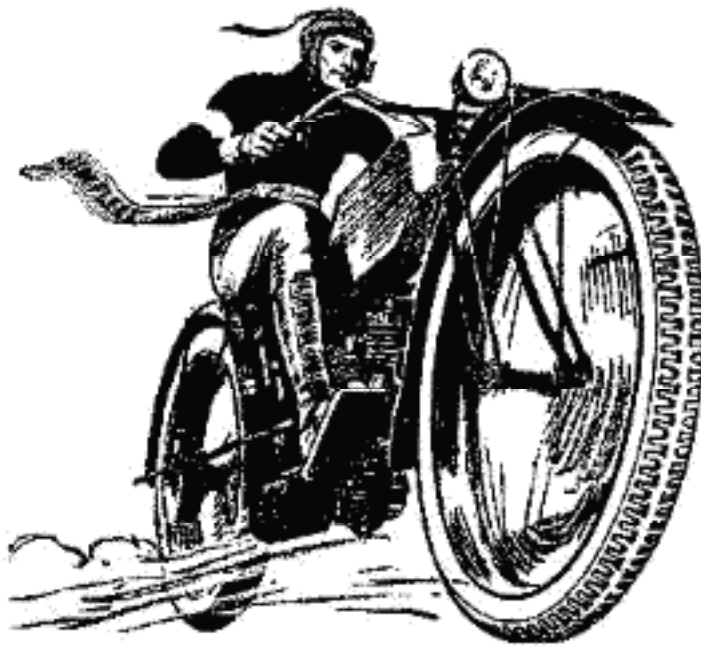


# ***So Cal Chapter***



***Antique Motorcycle  
Club of America***

***Fall Newsletter  
November 2008***

## **Southern California Chapter** *Officer Listings - 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 \$30.00 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>**

## **President's message, Fall 2008**

**Tim Graber**

**H**ello to all, hope you and your's are well! It is November and I am late with the newsletter. I hope to get this to you this week. The SoCal Chapter has been very busy and very short-handed. We have put on some great events and maintained our individual positions in this exciting economy! We had a very nice annual club meeting at the home of Tom and Jill Hart that was attended by about 30 members. The members barely made a dent in the fabulous food provided by Jill and Tom. With no requests for a new driver of the club direction, the same ol' slate of officers was elected for the next year. We will do all we can to provide great events and camaraderie for the members wishing to attend and enjoy. This is why the chapter and the National exist: "To promote the preservation and use of Antique motorcycles in a family oriented environment." We as a chapter are looking for active members to lead and to follow! As usual we ask you to contribute where you can and enjoy the opportunity to gander at and play with the fun two wheeled machines of the past. Call the directors and offer your help and/or suggestions for rides or gatherings. There are way too many two-wheeled gearheads in this region for there to only be 65-80 paid members annually of this chapter. How can we increase these numbers?

**I**n this issue you should find some brief overviews of past events and some lengthy stories of the same. There will also be a calendar of events for you to post at your work bench or calendar to remind you of riding and show opportunities.

Chapter dues were increased by a unanimous vote at the annual meeting. Dues of \$30 for the 2009 year can be sent at any time to the Treasurer at the address listed in the inside front cover. All dues received from Nov 1 on will be applied to 2009 and 2009 dues should be paid by March 1 2009.

Best regards, thanks for reading, and I hope to see you soon!

## **The Death Valley Road Run**

### **What would you do?**

The SoCal Chapter recently hosted a regional road run in Death Valley. This is an annual event which the SoCal Chapter took over at the request of Max Bubeck. The Chapter has hosted the ride for the past 4 years, the ride has been held for 22 years! It is slated as an AMCA International Road Run in Oct of 2009. This year's event played to fantastic weather and road conditions! 45 riders enjoyed dry weather at 88 degrees with no wind and beautiful clear skies! One of the best we have ever experienced. The camaraderie was great and all but one had a great time enjoying the hospitality of the area and "movies in the pool" at night.

This road run is sponsored by the SoCal Chapter and Max is our Ride Captain. The chapter makes some money to pay for ongoing operations and the National provides liability insurance for registered riders. The chapter has a written contract with the hotel for food and protected rooms at a special price. Food is paid for in advance. The ride flyer requests pre-registration only.

This brings up a few questions that I want to place in front of you for your consideration.

1) **What would you do** if you discovered 5 riders in a group that did not preregister and did not register during the 1st day's registration schedule?

I noticed on my arrival at the facility that a 24 foot trailer clearly marked as an antique motorcycle hauler was parked on the property in a premium spot. I knew they were not preregistered. I figured they would register during registration and I would find room for them at the dinner and provide shirts if available.

They did not come up and request registration.

**What would you do?**

2) On Tuesday morning I walked down to the trailer and asked the

leader how many riders he was going to register. I informed him that I needed to provide a dinner count and get my expenses covered. He informed me in a very nasty manner that he was going to ride the event and that he and his 4 companions were not going to pay.

**What would you do?**

I informed him that this run was sponsored by the SoCal Chapter and that I would appreciate him paying up. He refused.

I informed him that The National provided liability insurance for the event and that AMCA registered riders and guests were covered. He stated that he had not paid his AMCA dues anyhow and was not going to so he did not care. These are public roads.

**What would you do?**

I asked him to leave the premises that had been reserved for club members. He refused. He arrogantly bad mouthed the event, foully told me what to do with myself, and stated that he had no need for the club.

**What would you do?**

3) I informed the national board members in attendance of the situation and informed them that I would not tolerate the participation of a freeloader and/or a band of freeloaders at a SoCal sponsored event. We volunteer too many hours to put on great, hospitable events a couple of times a year. It is disrespectful to us and to the other participants to allow freeloaders to participate in an event especially when they disparage our events and functions.

**What would you do?**

I informed the National Board Members that if the freeloaders attempted to participate in the field events that I would cancel the events. The National Board Member and Max spoke with the freeloader.

4). The leader of the freeloaders promised Max and the national board members that he would have his bookkeeper send a cashier's check via

Fed X the next day if the freeloaders were allowed to participate in the field events (not to register for the ride). The offer was accepted and they were allowed to participate. The check has not arrived 4 weeks later. Max Bubeck has spoken by phone to the leader of the freeloaders 3 times since the event. Max even sent the freeloader a personal check in the hope that the freeloader would send a check to SoCal AMCA. It has not arrived.

### **What would you do?**

I write this email to all chapter presidents and members of the Board. What would you do if presented with any or all of these scenarios?

The SoCal Chapter of the AMCA hosts at least 2 major rides every year. We will not tolerate freeloaders. We will do our best to refund pre-registrations for folks that need to cancel at the least minute. We will do what we can to refund meals of folks who need to depart prior to the banquet if we can sell the meal. We enjoy the camaraderie that occurs at our events and the Thank You's provided by most attendees.

Please let it be known that freeloaders, especially belligerent, mouthy freeloaders are not welcome at SoCal AMCA events. They should not be tolerated at any AMCA organized event. The parties that caused this commotion at Death Valley are not welcome to any SoCal event even if they attempt to preregister and are paid members of the AMCA. They have lost their privilege to participate with this wonderful group of volunteers. It is a privilege to partake of the labor of others in the name of motorcycling.

### **What would you do?**

***This response is approved by the full Board of the SoCal Chapter of the AMCA.***

Tim Graber  
President, SoCal AMCA  
[info@socalamca.org](mailto:info@socalamca.org)

## **Hansen Dam Ride**

**By Craig Dillmann**

Some astute members of the SoCal AMCA joined the Norton club for the Annual Hansen Dam Ride. I told the usual suspects to meet at my house in Chatsworth at 9 O'Clock sharp and we would ride as a group to the event. I roll out of bed at 7:45 AM, swaggered to the kitchen for coffee, and all of a sudden I hear a Triumph pull up. What the heck! There's Mark Leiss, ready to roll. He'd forgotten to set his clock back the night before. I invited him in for breakfast. He wolfed his food down like he hadn't eaten in weeks! Some guys will do anything for a free breakfast. At 9 AM, the rest of the gang showed up. Mike Menzies, Ed Breiner and .. what a surprise .. the absolute first time ever .. unbelievably .. Dr Philip Sammy Wayne Shore called and said he'd be running late! Upon arriving at Hansen Dam, we met up with Tim Graber, Little Dave Williams, Paul Graber, Homer Knapp, Vic Cohen, Dave Arther, Walt and Laura Riddle, and about 350 other riders. A great turnout with beautiful machines.

We wound our way thru Little Tujunga, thru Acton and back around via Big Tujunga Canyon. Lunch was at Don Cucos. We have our own little gang who meets there every year for lunch. Lunch was great, with the only hitch being that our President, one Timothy Graber, was taking tip money to pay for his meal. Since he's not working full time any more, he figured it's only fair to redistribute .. taking his tip from the President Elect! Good idea, Tim. Everyone arrived back at the dam safely. A good time was had by all.

## **SoCal AMCA 2008 Calendar**

### **Past Rides and Activities Report**

Aug 3: We had a nice ride up PCH and over to Walker's café at the end of the San Pedro Peninsula. Great coffee and meatloaf sandwiches for those that attended.

Aug 5 thru 8: Stevens Idaho Memorial. Boise, Stanley, Cascade, and back. A great experience. I am told that about 25 riders showed up. Grace McKean made it as she passed through from her East Coast tour. Great weather and accommodations were provided by the Stevens' family.

Aug 9: Santa Monica Mountain Road Run: About 20 riders showed up for this including most of the members hailing from the San Fernando Valley. Another great day riding machines up the coast to Pepperdine and then up across the Santa Monica Mountains with incredible views. There was a lone breakdown of a couple packing double, but the trouble truck got to them before the wolves could and all ended well! Thanks Road Captain Craig.

Aug 28 thru 31: Davenport National Meet and Board of Director's meeting. I drove my trusty Dodge to this event accompanied by Bob Clift. We had a nice ride both ways only stopping West of Denver for 6 hours of rest. I was disappointed with the attendance and discussion of the Presidents meeting and with my discussions with National Board members. We were looking for open discussions in reference to the needs of the SoCal Chapter. We will continue to address these issues in other formats.

Sept 21: SoCal Chapter Annual Elections and Meet. Great day, great food and drink (free) and a good general discussion on club activities by the members on hand. See the two reports included herein for detailed information.

Oct 6 thru 8: Death Valley Ride. Furnace Creek (760) 786-2345. 45 riders attended what has become a 4 day event. This year's

weather was the best ever. Max kept commenting on how wonderful it was, something he is not sure he has experienced in all of his visits out there. Weather was 88-92 during the day with no clouds and no wind. Nights dropped down to the mid 70's. With the exception of freeloaders crashing the event, this was a real fun event. T-shirts and collar cups are available for a minimal cost to those who ask.

Oct 18-19: I have no report on this. I think it was cancelled

Nov 2: Annual Hansen Dam Run sponsored by the Norton Club: Dave Williams and I drove up in the rain with the Cook Ariel's in tow. We set up the SoCal tent and had a great time. I rode one of the Ariel's and Dave road his Triumph. We were joined by Dillmann, Menezes, Shore, Riddle, Knapp and a few other SoCal members. The ride was quick and dry. This event is put on by an unorganized/organized group every year. There were about 400 riders in attendance this year, which is down from 600 last year.

## **Power Plus Bobber**

### **By Chuck Vernon**

Needing a motorcycle for my old age, I decided to "bob" something to fit! I wanted a light weight machine, with low saddle height, good brakes, and a self starter. By searching the nooks, crannies, and rafters of my garage, and by doing a little trading, only the transmission and clutch had to be purchased.

Here are the details: The engine is a 1918 Power Plus with Daytona cams, Venolia pistons, a 101 carb, Baby Bosch mag and headers tuned @ 2500 RPM. The seat (height is 25") and oil tank are from a 1918 Indian, the tail light is off an Indian 101, front forks are from a 1925 Prince, handlebars are 1936 Crocker, instruments are 1935 Chief, tool box is from a 1935 Harley. The frame, wheels and brakes are from an Indian Vertical Twin. It has a rigid rear fender and the gas tanks are modified to mount on the vertical twin frame. The brakes are excellent, the engine starts right off, the clutch and tranny are smooth and this fine machine cruises @ 55 MPH. We successfully rode the entire Borregop Springs Winter Road Run without incident!

## **2008/9 SoCal AMCA Upcoming Rides Calendar**

December 7: Gunther's Yard Meet. 10:30AM

December 5,6,7: International Motorcycle Show Presented by Cycle World. We will be showing bikes at this event this year! They have an expansion of classic motorcycles at the public's request! Call Steve Sorenson for more information.

December 14: Annual Club Holiday Banquet; Join your fellow SoCal AMCA members for a Christmas lunch banquet. Same place as last year, Finbars address is: 620 Pacific Coast Highway, Seal Beach, CA 90740. Their telephone number is (562) 430-4303. The club will be assisting in the payment of meals. Members and guests will be charged \$20 per meal including drinks. Arrival anytime after 11:00 with lunch starting at 11:30. Get your date on the back seat and get there!

December 28: 1st Sunday after Christmas is the Pasadena Christmas tour by the HCCA. Call for particulars. 949-642-9682

January 1, 2009: Holiday ride on the coast. Leave from Tim's house @ 10:00 am. Meet up on the road by phone appt!

February 2, 2009: To be announced. Any ideas??

March 5,6,7: Borrego Springs Winter Road Run  
Borrego Springs Resort (1-888-826-7734)  
SoCal AMCA 949-642-9682

April 5: To be announced

NOTE: All dates subject to change. Tim Graber 949-642-9682

**SoCal AMCA Chapter Minutes**  
**September 21, 2008**  
**By Steve Sorensen, Secretary**

This year's meeting was held at Tom Hart's house. Thank you Tom, Jill and Becky for hosting a great event. We enjoyed your newly remodeled backyard. Keep your dues coming; there are more renovations to be done at his house, like a basement or a new Harley.

The meeting started out with officer introductions:

Tim Graber – President  
Larry Ramos – Vice President  
Tom Hart – Treasurer  
Steve Sorensen – Secretary  
Tom Lovejoy – Historian  
Marc Gallin – Webmaster  
Chuck Vernon – Sergeant at Arms

The minutes from last year were approved.

Tom Hart gave the treasury report: Current balance is about \$7,000.

Club Expenditures:

- Printing and mailing the newsletter
- Website
- Borrego Springs Ride
- Death Valley Ride

Current dues do not cover the anticipated club expenditures. A discussion was then held about raising the dues. Vic Sucher made a motion to raise the club dues to \$30 per year. This motion was seconded and approved. If a surplus of money is collected, those funds will be spent on expenditures for the monthly rides.

The second piece of business discussed was increasing club membership. The club Easy-Up canopy with the club logo is available for functions to promote the club and sign up new members. Please call Tim Graber to schedule the use of the Easy-Up. Jeff Moore graciously volunteered to look into placing some ads in local Chapter

publications. As always, you can get club business cards to hand out at any event/function members may attend. Jeff Moore also mentioned that the National also has a big publicity trailer that the chapter can share.

At the time of the meeting, 45 individuals had already signed up for the Death Valley ride, which the National wanted to make an international road run. Tim told them that Max Bubeck has entrusted our chapter to manage the ride and it will not be turned over to the National.

We will be showing club members bikes at the International Motorcycle show in Phoenix, AZ on October 31 – November 2 and in Long Beach from December 5 thru 7. Please contact Steve Sorensen at: 562-577-9864 to make your arrangements to show your bike.

The following upcoming rides were discussed: Death Valley, Route 66, Laughlin and San Gabriel. Check the website for specific details.

Chuck Vernon took the floor to run the elections with last year's board being re-elected with the caveat that Tim Graber would delegate more work.

Let's keep the chapter going strong and have great participation at our 2009 events.



Bob Clift on his new '39 4 rides by to congratulate Bob Boyd, the winner of the Coasting Trophy. It must be noted that Clift prepared Boyd's ride for the win by correctly assembling and greasing all of the little ball bearings in the wheels!

## General Meeting '08

By Thomas Hart

**D**uring these uncertain economic times it's nice to have a secure, responsible, trustworthy, blah-blah-blah treasurer to watch over your hard earned money. I have once again been re-elected by popular vote, bribery and voter box tampering as the SoCal Chapter money bags. Rest assured that I will spend your money wisely. Tim can have the Presidency, Larry the VP spot and Steve the scribe duties. I can hire Sgt. at Arms Chuck Vernon to kick their butts anytime I want. Show me the money, show me the money.

**T**hose of you who attended the meeting now have privileged information about the status of our club's revenues. Those who missed the meeting don't. Kind of makes one feel special doesn't it. Well, not to burst your bubble, but I'm making the club funds known to all. We have somewhere in the vicinity of \$7,000.00 on hold. Death Valley '08 is changing that figure around with pre-registration and costs, but generally 6 to 7K is a good working figure. Tim has advised me that I will be spending a couple of those K's soon on DV '08 and related club business.

**O**ther newsy stuff is my ride to Washington DC in July; 6000 miles in seven days with a two day layover in Virginia for some in-service training. I used my almost new '07 Road king Police to complete the trip. Tom Lovejoy fabricated a really cool detachable backrest support so I could use my old touring seat back rest with the police saddle. That and the fact that I no longer have any feeling left in my ass made the trip very comfortable. The uncomfortable part was fighting off the sizzling temperatures I encountered along the way. The only real bad side effect I had from the trip was severe nerve damage to the thumb and index fingers in both hands. I have only recently recovered from that unusual event. I really missed using those fingers while they were healing, mainly because it's not easy to look cool holding a can of beer in the palms of both hands. The bartender took my first beer before I could even take a taste and announced "I think that's enough for you, pal." My

experience visiting the restroom wasn't any better.

**N**ow on to the meeting; I was pleased to see Grace again. She made it, even though my lovely wife gave her directions to El Toro. Gracie said she was too engrossed in her '50's tunes as she drove 100 miles out of the way to notice her gas tank going empty. If you aren't familiar with my home, it's roughly somewhere midway between Grace's mountain home and El Toro. Personally, I was happy that my wife kept Gracie in the same time zone! I was also pleased to see Chuck V, Johnny E, Ralph K, and Doc V and Larry/Jen and their new person and about 25 others. I decided the menu was going to consist of hamburgers and hotdogs until (wife) convinced me that fajitas and polo was what I really wanted. I had no idea, go figure. Everything went well, but I was surprised to see only about six motorcycles parked in front of my house. Hobo John tried in vain to collect ride-in points by placing a tire and wheel and handlebars in the bed of his truck. I'm pretty sure that won't qualify, but then Frank Colver rode in on a brand new three wheeler called ol' yeller and I suppose he'll want points too. Where oh where have the old bikes gone? I really wanted to impress my neighbors with the deposit of large amounts of caustic chemicals on the street.

Later guys

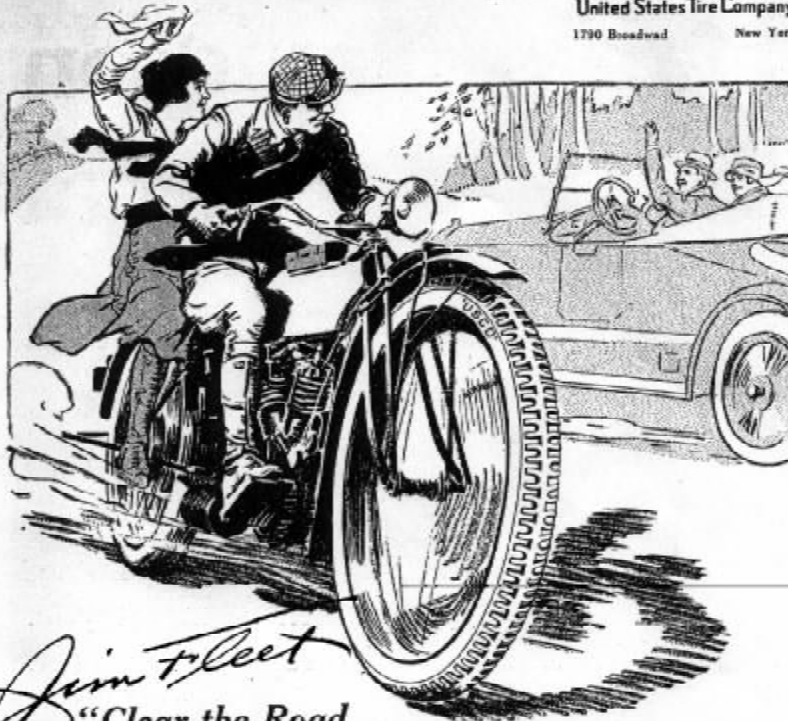
Tom Hart  
Senior Case Manager, West Coast Branch  
National Center for Missing and Exploited Children  
Missing Children's Services  
[thart@ncmec.org](mailto:thart@ncmec.org)  
1.877.446.2632 Ext 3127  
Fax 1.714.832.5139  
ORI VA007019W

July 25, 1918

PACIFIC MOTORCYCLIST and WESTERN WHEELMAN

United States Tire Company

1790 Broadway New York



*Jim Fleet*

“Clear the Road

—to Happiness and Good Health!”

For Sale

\$290 firm

1940 Harley-Davidson EL

1 owner, stored for 10 years

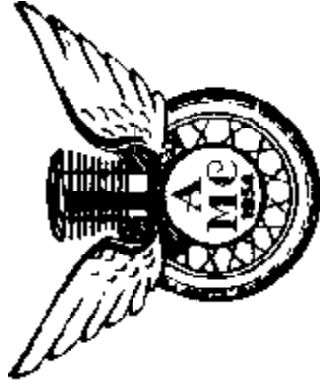
Totally Stock Condition

Runs good, Current License

Owner wants to see this bike go to a good home

I was 16 1/2, had an after school part-time job, and responded to this ad to buy my very first bike .. in 1963! *Trash*

**Southern California Chapter**  
**Antique Motorcycle Club of America**  
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**Tel: 949-642-9682**



**FIRST CLASS**