



ROLLING THUNDER

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June 8, 2017**

**Publishing Deadline:
For July RT
June 29, 2017**



President's Message *Jerry Stern*

BONEHEAD STUFF

What do you do if you're on the freeway and you see a car that's a few lanes over making a squirrelly move in your direction?

I ask because by now you've probably seen the video of the Harley rider with his helmet-mounted Go-Pro camera riding in the HOV lane on a California freeway suddenly being cut off by a car that illegally entered the HOV lane and then rear-ending that car. He vaults over the handlebar and lands on the car's trunk with his video camera still rolling. The driver of the car finally brings the car to a stop and the rider slides off the trunk onto the pavement, and begins to address the driver while still in traffic lanes!! The whole scene is totally scary.

If you missed the video, let me know and I can re-send it to you.

Now, there's no doubt that the driver of the car made a major bonehead move, crossing two lanes and then the double-yellow lane barrier illegally into the HOV lane. The car has Illinois plates, and the driver appears somewhat bleary-eyed - maybe stoned, maybe tired, maybe texting, (see phone in lap), maybe just surprised. Who knows?

But, observe the video from the

rider's perspective. He's in the HOV lane, traffic's not very heavy, and he appears to be clipping along about 75-80, faster than the other cars outside the HOV lane. The rider should be able to see the car coming from his right; the camera sure does but he never turns his head, even slightly, and then notice - he never rolls off the gas nor does his hand make any move toward the brake, and he continues to accelerate right into the back of the car. Whaaat??

Now, thank God the rider seemed relatively uninjured. It's a miracle when a rider can still walk after any car/motorcycle collision on the freeway, or any collision anywhere for that matter. He made several mistakes, and we should take a lesson from his mistakes. Encounters like this happen with increasing frequency and there are many things to be considered to avoid disastrous consequences, such as: Always keep your eyes moving; Know what's going on around you; Glance often at your mirrors, but don't fixate; Keep a bubble of space around you; Watch for brake lights far down the road; Be ready to react if something's just not quite right. At least roll off the gas and slow down till you know what's going on. And remember all the other rules and caveats not mentioned here that go along. Sometimes you have to make split-second decisions, so be ready. And make sure you don't do bonehead stuff, anywhere!

Stay safe out there.



Death Valley

Jerry Bruce - Road Captain

Death Valley Astounds As SCHRA & RCHR Meet @ Longstreet; Rhyolite Is A Big Hit; New Best Friends Are Made

OK folks, let's deal with the "New Best Friends" part right from the get-go. This was serendipity at its best.

We had just arrived at "Longstreet Resort & Casino" and were standing in line to check into the hotel. Being of a gregarious nature I decided to engage the young attractive couple waiting in line behind me. Thus commenced the "new best friends" saga.

The gent is a 49 year-old Brit named Shaun and his bride of one year is a 33 year old Vietnamese lady named Thu (sounds like Too). He travels the world working for a multinational company and she is engaged in putting on international trade shows. They both reside with her parents in a family compound in Ho Chi Minh City (formerly Saigon) and they also maintain a residence in Houston TX where he has been on assignment for several years. He is a hunk, and she's a doll. Family is planned for the very near future.

Anyway, as our conversation flourished I was taken by the fact that their Death Valley tour itinerary almost exactly matched ours. As we continued to compare notes and I continued to blather on and on about the beautiful places which need to be seen both inside and outside the park they decided to follow us on our journey.

Having finally registered we went to our rooms to get nested in, then met for liquid nourishment at the lounge in the casino...where we again encountered Shaun and Thu. At around 7:00 PM we adjourned to the upstairs Nebraska Dining Room where we had reservations for 14. That quickly became 16 when we realized our new friends were already seated and dining alone, but immediately joined us.

From that time forward Shaun and Thu became a part of our group, following us in their rented car to the various points of interest and joining us for virtually all meals for the duration of the 4-day trip. At one point I asked Thu if she would like to be my riding partner and she eagerly accepted. Judy gave up her helmet but gained an air-conditioned seat in Shaun's car. Thu loved the ride. The next day she rode again, this time as Kris Olsen's passenger.*

We all gave our farewells on the last day, but the party isn't over yet. Shaun and Thu are continuing their CA. trip in the Monterey area then are then heading south

as they make their way to visit some family living in El Cajon. But.....yes but.....they are making a three-day stop at Casa Bruce in Simi Valley where Judy and I will become their official Los Angeles tour guides. There's even a little dinner party planned for those from SCHRA who met them in Death Valley.

This year makes the 8th or 9th time that SCHRA and RCHR have successfully created an outstanding joint event. If anyone has kept an accurate list of each, I would very much like to have it. Oh yes, before I forget, our 2018 event will likely take place somewhere in the Central CA wine country near Templeton. Guess I've got another trip to plan.

To recap, we did enjoy two full days of sightseeing beginning on Saturday morning with a short stop to check out the Amargosa Opera House located at Death Valley Junction. You might remember our own evening there a few years back when Marta Beckett came on stage and we were expecting her to dance....which is what she does.....or what she used to do.....and by the way she did pass away a few years ago. As the saying goes, we "were a day late and a dollar short" as Marta had suffered a stroke just a month or so before our visit so we never saw her do anything except sit in a chair on stage and narrate a slide show of her illustrious career.

Next stop was the visit to the spectacular Dante's View, followed by a stop at Zabriskie Point where the hills appear to be covered with paint. This was followed by lunch at Furnace Creek Ranch (only the buffet was available) then a gas-up before heading into the Valley proper. At this point the temps were beginning to squeak past the 100 mark as we headed to Artists Drive and a short stop at Artists Palette. Because of some heat concerns some folks decided to return to Longstreet following the shortest route back. Those who remained were treated to a tour of the entire valley, including a stop at BadWater and returning to Longstreet by way of the Shoshone entrance/exit.

Sunday morning our tour plan took us east into Amargosa Valley and then north on US-95 to the town of Beatty, NV where we visited the nearby ruins of Rhyolite and some of the ghostly art sculptures. We then returned to Beatty for lunch followed by another gas stop and a mandatory visit to Death Valley Ice Cream and Candy Co. Need I say more?

As always, it is a challenge....but a pleasure to design a ride which others seem to really enjoy. Special thanks to all those who made the effort to participate in our annual tradition. Thank you Dave, Lou, Cindy & Jerry plus JB and Judy. Thanks also to Greg & Sue, Fred & Marsha, Felix & Sue, Kris, and Terry from River City who went many miles further than we did in order to enjoy the trip.

Ed Note: * Chris Olson is a member of the RCHR group



Upcoming Events

JB - Activities Director

Upcoming Events: June, July, August & September 2017

So I'm just back from the Death Valley Ride and in process of getting my priorities in order; you know, stuff like paying the bills, cutting the grass, etc. Just my way of saying I don't have anything on which to expound so I'll get right to business with the upcoming activities.

JUNE:

Friday 6/9 thru Sunday 6/11 - Cambria: Sternz, Kanan McD, 9:00 AM

Each month the road conditions along CA-1 seem to get worse. Last time I looked it was only a bridge which needed repair; now it's practically an entire new peninsula which has buried the road and eliminated some seashore. This road ain't never gonna be open again anytime soon me-thinks.

Anyway, children, don't fret. There will be a fine ride to attend and J & C are hard working on some creative substitutes for the traditional coast ride. If you're already committed, that's great; you won't be sorry. Expect to be pleased.

Wednesday 6/21 thru 6/25 - Nevada: JB, Roxford McD, 8:00 AM

If you enjoy our joint adventures with River City Harley Riders (RCHR) you'll be right in your comfort zone. This is an itinerary which is half mine, and half theirs. It's a long story but I have wanted to return to the Nevada Big Basin area for some time. The Nevada itinerary was the fulfillment of that wish.

Then, while perusing the RCHR website a few months ago I found that they too plan to visit NV on the same weekend as our trip. That's when I decided to co-join ours and theirs and thus was created our 4-night, 5-day itinerary. What a great combination of NV State Park visits followed by treasure mining in Tonopah! At last glance we've got 5 members participating with the 20+ from RCHR so if you miss our Sacramento friends, here's another chance to hang out with them.

JULY:

Sunday 7/9 - A Day at Big Bear: Lou, Time? Place?

Big Bear is a great place to be this time of year; it's just a pity that we must drive through part of the dessert to get there. Sorry I can't give you a departure time or place but I'm sure it will be revealed sometime before July 9. In the meantime, the Village at Big Bear has some fine restaurants and some good-looking people to stare at, particularly if you're horney.

Meet at Mickey D's at Roxford - 8:30 am

AUGUST:

Sunday 8/6 - Solvang Danish Village: David, Time? Place?

This'll be Dave's first shot at leading a club ride so he deserves all the support we can muster. It's hard finding good people to do nice things for our club so the best way to acknowledge that fact is to show up for the event.

Solvang is a lovely destination with good dining choices and lots of tempting unnecessary things to snack on or to horde in your favorite hiding places at home or in the glove box of the car.

Saturday 8/19 - Midsummer Party: Casa Bruce/Wood Ranch/Simi Valley, 7:00 PM

We're still undecided about the menu for this event; a lot will depend on how many people make an RSVP. Currently under consideration is Indian Cuisine, catered by a good restaurant, or possibly doing an on-site BBQ here at the house. As everyone already knows, nobody goes hungry or thirsty at Casa Bruce and this year will be no different. Mark the date.

SEPTEMBER:

Friday 9/8 thru Sunday 9/10 - Things to do in Lone Pine & Bishop: Sternz, Time?, Place?

Still a bit in the future, we're not totally sure how this itinerary is going to lay-out; just rest assured that this is a fabulous area (along Hwy. 395) and the choices are numerous. Stay tuned at the next few meetings when our road captains can provide more details plus accommodations information.

2016 - 17 Officers and Board Members

President	Jerry Stern	Pres@schra.org
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Jerry Stern - JS Lee Blackman ~ LB Jerry Bruce ~ JB Joe Gubbrud ~ JG	Ron Lynn - RL Lou Piano ~ LP Cindy Stern ~ CS	Starbucks Ventura & Topanga Canyon McDonald's 11015 Sepulveda Blvd., Mission Hills Denny's Sand Canyon 15401 Delone St., Santa Clarita McDonald's Kanan Rd., NE corner behind Shell Station

SCHRA Boutique

Ask a board member for more info, prices or to purchase Some of this highly gifted stuff.

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	Black	3
LS	White	1
	Blue	0
	Black	5

MEDIUM

SS	White	0
	Blue	0
	Black	0
LS	White	0
	Blue	0
	Black	2

LARGE 0

cont)

<u>X-LARGE</u>	
White	0
Blue	2
Black	5
<u>LS</u>	
White	0
Blue	0
Black	2
<u>XX-LARGE</u>	
SS	0
White	0
Blue	1
Black	0
<u>3XL</u>	
LS	0
White	3



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