



ROLLING THUNDER

September 2015
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Next Meeting:
September 10 , 2015
Publishing Deadline for
October . RT is September.
30, 7:11 pm.



President's Message

Lou Piano

I wanted to go to Sturgis this year but everyone talked me out of it. Oh, well!

Following is a little info garnered from a news article about the 2015 rally.

Jeff Newton of Great Falls, Mont., has been coming to the rally for years and admits he's never seen it this crowded.

DOT spokesperson Kristi Sandal also refused to mutter the M-word, but estimated significantly higher attendance than normal based on soaring traffic counts based on early numbers gathered from 22 traffic counters scattered throughout the Hills.

Sandal said trip counts have been rising steadily since July 24 when the traffic counters, cables stretched across a roadway that tally the number of passing vehicles, were first installed.

Garbage collection also may indicate a larger crowd. Since Friday, the Sturgis Public Works Department collected 353 tons of garbage, compared to 259 for the same time period last year, a 36 percent increase.

"Retail sales are up \$500,000 a day in Deadwood," the mayor calculated. "Free parking on Main Street has extended the rally by a week and last week, you didn't even know the rally hadn't already started we were so busy."

Based on several other articles I read about the 2015 Rally this was the most attended rally ever. Looks like over 750 thousand bikers & babes and maybe as many as 1 mil showed up. WOW! Now that's a party.

A planned trip is definitely in order next year!

Unfortunately this year also set a record for the most number of biker fatalities. 12 people 'bought the farm' this year. Also 2 more in Wyoming but this was outside the statistical area of Sturgis mortality. The fatality rate per NHTSA is 56 per 100,000 motorcycles which makes the Sturgis rate far below the national average. NHTSA does not say over what period of ownership time.

Ride a lot and ride safe. Ed.



SCHRA Summer Party

Jerry & Judy Bruce - Hosts

Summer Party Narrowly Escapes Simi Valley “Rustic” Brushfire

By JB - Host & Activities Chairperson

It was around 3:30 PM on Friday, August 14, and David and I were driving home on the 101 Freeway, having just done last-minute shopping at Westlake COSTCO, when the fearful cell call was received. “Where are you” Judy cried, “come home - the back-hill is on fire and we may have to evacuate!” Not the sort of phone call you want to receive the day before a major party; or anytime for that matter!

At that moment I glanced toward the north and was shocked when I saw a huge, ugly, menacing, black smoke cloud emanating from the hills between Simi Valley and Thousand Oaks. By the time I got home and past the police blockade, there was already much activity going on. The top of the hill immediately behind our house was ablaze and being heroically attacked by a group of miniature firefighters (or so it appeared from my backyard below). Water-dropping helicopters, bulldozers and power saws were already hard at work trying to purchase control before the flames got any closer; at that point being only 50 - 80 feet from our property line.

Within two hours, the blaze and the hot-spots were all but gone and the fire was heading north in direction of Simi Valley and a lot of other up-scale homes and horse-properties. By late Friday evening we were told that the “Rustic” (named for our street?) fire was now contained. Work continued throughout the night and the same 8 fire-trucks were present at dawn on Saturday - party day! The street was swarming with firefighters coming and going into the hills for “mop-up” operations.

By 7:00 PM party time on Saturday, one could hardly tell or smell that anything unusual had oc-

curred here during the previous 24 hours. The party must go on; and go on it did! The oppressive heat of the day had melted into the mid 80”s and was balmy and delightful.

Despite the 28 guests who had previously RSVP’d, my count indicated that at least 32 guests actually showed up. Some present actually began arriving slightly before the 7:00 PM start time and included: Fred & Rossana Rubin, Duane & Pauline Harte, Stan Myers, Lee & Anita Blackman, Lou PIANO, Jerry & Cindy Stern, David Ramos & friend Kathy, Mike & Ruthann Levison, Ron & Sandy Lynn, Richard Slobin, Bob Thompson & friend Anna, Jack & Nanette Launius, Debbie Watson, Ralph Bermudez & friend Judy, Dean Selimos, George & Lori Wejbe, and JB & Judy Bruce, hosts. Also making an unexpected appearance were Judy Farber and Lenny & Jeanne Weinberg.

The yard (recently re-landscaped) looked lovely and the outdoor lighting was dramatic. Many guests did not realize that the lawn they were standing on was actually newly installed synthetic turf. The setting was perfect for a mid-summer soiree.

Following appetizers of homemade guacamole and salsa, the main part of the dinner (catered by Wood Ranch BBQ) included herbed-chicken, tri-tip, peanut coleslaw, roasted potatoes, fiery green beans, and an abundance of garlic rolls. Dessert consisted of fresh watermelon, assorted cookies and praline pecans.

So, there you have it. Started out looking like a disaster-in-the-making, but everything turned out just fine. Here’s to next year (wonder where the party’s going to be?).



Upcoming Events

JB - Activities Chairperson

September & October 2015

August is half over with one highly successful event, the Summer Party, just concluded and the ride to Orcutt's Far Western Restaurant yet to come.

An unexpected hillside blaze almost "tanked" the Summer Party, if not for the heroic battle brought forth by Ventura and LA County Firefighters. The burn came to within 50 feet or so of our property line in Simi Valley.

Despite the upheaval and the unknowns of the mopping-up operation, the party on Saturday, 8/15, took place on time and produced a total 32 members and guests who enjoyed a catered dinner prepared by Wood Ranch BBQ.

On Sunday, 10/30, the event originally scheduled for "Ports 'O Call" then reset for "Jalama Beach" and now re-reset for Orcutt's Far Western Restaurant is anticipated. RC Lee Blackman (and navigator Anita) are preparing for the scenic trek north; but don't hold your breath because a re-re-reset may be in the making. Just be hungry and then follow the leader; you'll all be fed.

SEPTEMBER:

Saturday, 9/12 - Big Bear Lake & Lake Arrowhead: Ron L. or JB, 8:00 AM, Millies

The idea for this day-ride germinated during a conversation with member Ron Sarian. When he disclosed that the family had a vacation home At Lake Arrowhead, I knew we had the makings of a new ride itinerary.

This will be a full day-ride which will take us to Big Bear Lake (by way of Lucerne Valley) where we will have lunch in The Village at a funky new place called 572 Social Kitchen. After lunch, Ron Sarian will lead us to Lake Arrowhead where we will enjoy some dessert and further socializing before we return to sea-level by way of Rim of the World Hwy. and the 210 Freeway.

Read the further details in the recently-released

Event Alert, and be sure to send JB an email if you plan to attend, as we need a head-count for lunch and for dessert.

Saturday, 9/26 & Sunday, 9/27 - Great American Melodrama: JB, 9:00 AM, Kanan

We've packed a lot of stuff into a rather short ride. First, we'll do our usual short stop at Santa-Monica off-ramp. Then we'll have a nice gourmet lunch at Café Quackenbush in Los Alamos.

On arrival in Pismo Beach, we'll try to forget that we're actually set to stay the night at the Motel 6; a decision made totally with respect to everyone's pocket-book. The mid-summer room rates in this area are ridiculous.

At 6:30 PM we will pick up our tickets at the theater box office in Oceano, and then proceed to the snack-bar for something to eat. Following the performance of "Frankenstein's Bride" we can seek out a coffee shop and enjoy a late evening snack.

On Sunday morning we'll stop for coffee and then proceed south to Santa Ynez for our next gourmet lunch stop at the Vineyard House Restaurant. From there we'll cross San Marcos Pass and head back home, leaving plenty of time for Sunday chores like washing the car or cutting the grass. (Who has grass?)

OCTOBER:

Thursday, 10/1 to Sunday, 10/4 - Las Vegas Bike Fest: (Information only)

Saturday, 10/10 to Monday, 10/12 - Cambria Scarecrow Festival: (TBD)

Well folks, this is the trip which was too tough to die. Originally calendared as a club-ride, the timing (in relation to some other trips) was thought to be too tight, so the event was dropped. Unbeknownst to club management (whoever they may be) there were still some folks who planned to attend, hence we now "pimp the trip."

At last count, I believe there were 6 club members who plan to attend. If you're interested you should get in touch with "the Main Man - Duane Harte" whose feisty persistence we can thank for the trips narrow escape from oblivion. We're staying at The Creekside Inn in Cambria (805.927.4021) and the nightly rate is \$124.00.



The "Saturday" Report For August

By JB - Activities Chairperson

Saturday, 8/1

(Written by Lou P., Sometimes-verbose Guest Storyteller)

The first day of August 2015 and the weather was beautiful in the Valley. Five hearty, but aged, bikers showed up at the regular meeting place, ready for another 'day in paradise.' Vern, also showed up and chatted for a while (This is the guy who had the bike accident several weeks ago near Ojai - article in the June issue of R/T). He has healed, physically and mentally, and is going to bring his bike in for repairs, and will be riding again soon.

We finally set out for our lunch ride with Lou (me) as the chase dog. I took the usual route along Mulholland to Kanan, back to Mulholland to the 23, back to Mulholland and then to Little Sycamore Canyon Rd. which goes into Yerba Buena and to PCH. This is the road right next to Neptune's Net, where we stopped for a quick 'comfort' break. The general consensus of our small group was that it was an interesting NEW road and we should be sure to NEVER take it again! As it turned out, it wasn't exactly a straight well-paved road. Oh, Well!!!

Continuing up PCH to the Ventura Harbor, I picked a restaurant at the end of Spinnaker Dr. (the harbor road). Harbor Cove Beach Café turned out to be a small place where you walked up to the counter, ordered your food, then found a place inside or outside to eat. The ambiance was nice but the food a little pricey, and after observing a couple of meals from the kitchen we decided it was nothing special and headed to the Italian restaurant below Brophy's. It was a good choice and I was partly forgiven for the rough ride over Yerba Buena.

A good lunch, during which we solved most of the world's problems, and discussed in detail all of our friends not in attendance; then we all headed home in different directions. The weather re-

mained perfect and it was another great Saturday ride which also included Mitch P., Fred R., Mike L., and guest Steve C.

Saturday, 8/8

Today our number got into double digits, with a total of 10 members and guests enjoying a High Desert lunch at the famous watering-hole and biker-hangout called The Rock Inn.

Our route today included a short eastward stretch on the 101 and then a northern piece up the 405, finally heading eastward again on CA-14 to Sand Canyon. After following today's leader, Lou P. up into the mountains along Bouquet Canyon, we stopped briefly for a moment of memory and reflection at the spot where our late member Lloyd met with his deadly accident. From there we continued up Bouquet Cyn. To Spunky Cyn., past a nearly full Bouquet Reservoir, and then finally to Lake Elizabeth Rd. and the always dependable Rock Inn.

Those attending the ride on this comfortable balmy day included (counter-clockwise around the table) Mitch P., Fred R., Jerry S., guest Steve C., Lou P., Ron L., guest Rich ?, Glenn J. (who just happened to show up not knowing we would be there), Mike L., et moi - JB. The return trip home down the mountain was along Lake Hughes Rd. (past Castaic Lake, which also had a fair amount of water for the boaters and bathers).

Saturday, 8/15

(Written by Guest Reporter Lou P. while JB was at home setting up for a party)

On this date, four hearty riders showed up including myself, Jerry S., Ron L., and guest Steve C. Departure was an early 9:57 AM and the group was led by Jerry. We began at Mulholland Hwy. and eventually ended up on PCH. From there we went to the Ventura Harbor where we had lunch at Milano's Restaurant.

We took the beach route home over Malibu Canyon. The weather was hot but we did have a nice ride.

Saturday, 8/22

At last, a cool morning on which to enjoy our Saturday ride. Nine guys showed up; each with his own idea as to where we should go. Ojai seemed to be getting the most votes but when Deer Lodge was mentioned as a possible lunch location it immediately became unanimous.

Although nobody was particularly happy about it, Lou volunteered to lead. Oh well, someone to blame it on if things go wrong. They didn't. Our route took us to the 101 Freeway north, then the 23 Freeway, also north, and finally over Grimes Canyon and the back-country to Santa Paula. After the potty-stop we continued over Highway 150, through Ojai and finally to SR-33 and Deer Lodge. The BBQ pit was in readiness.

Also attending the ride were Mike L., JB, Fred R., Jack L., Jerry S., Mitch P., Ron L., and guest Steve C.

Saturday, 8/29

(Written by guest writer Lou P.)

Five hearty riders braved the heat of the valleys to drive to the beach via 'Hidden Valley.' The riders were Lou p., Mitch P., Fred R., and guest Steve C.

Jerry led the ride along several backroads which paralleled the 101 Freeway. We went through Hidden Valley and reached Potrero Rd. About ¼-mile past the Rocking Horse Stables, where the road gets very twisty downgrade, the cars in front came to a dead stop.

After waiting a couple of minutes, Jerry and Fred made some very difficult U-turns. Lou, Mitch and Steve waited another minute and just before heading down the road to find out why everyone was stopped, the traffic suddenly started to move again and the road was magically cleared.

Steve led the three of us to our destination which was Toppers Pizza in the Channel Island Marina. Jerry and Fred showed up within 2-minutes of our arrival. Lunch was great, the weather was great, and the ride home was great. Lovely Saturday.

Think About It - Laugh For The Day

The federal government, which has "Tomahawk" cruise missiles and "Apache," "Blackhawk," "Kiowa" and "Lakota" helicopters - and used the code name "Geronimo" in the attack that killed Osama bin Laden, officially objects to the name of the Washington Redskins.

Really?

Both optimists and pessimists contribute to society. The optimist invents the aeroplane, the pessimist the parachute.

George Bernard Shaw

meetville.com

Men's Logic

She was outside pulling weeds on a hot summer day when her husband walked up and asked her what they were having for dinner.

Irritated by the thought of him sitting in the air conditioned house while she labored away on the weeds, she snapped, "I can't believe you're asking me about supper right now! Pretend I'm out of town, go inside and make dinner yourself!" So he went back in the house and fixed himself a big steak, potatoes, garlic bread, and a tall beer.

His wife walked in just about the time he was finishing up and asked,

"Where's my dinner?"

"Huh? I thought you were out of town."



Orcutt Lunch Ride 8/30/15

Lee Blackman - R/C

August 30 Lunch Ride: Ports O' Call? Nope!

Jalama Beach? Nope Again! Orcutt? You Bet!

By Lee Blackman, RC

The original destination for this lunch ride was Ports O' Call Village in San Pedro. It was later changed to Jalama Beach in Santa Barbara County. For various reasons (known only to and held in confidence by the RC, Activities Chairperson and President), it was ultimately decided it would be Far Western Tavern in Orcutt, an award-winning Western-themed restaurant, and one of our all-time favorites. Where's Orcutt, you ask? Well, it's not too far south of Santa Maria, and a couple of miles west of the 101.

Our group of ten met up a 9am and left promptly from McDonald's at Kanan and the 101 Freeway. They included JB, with his son-in-law David as passenger, Duane H., Jack and Nanette L., Pres./RT Editor Lou P., Mitch P., Fred R., and Lee and Anita B.

In perfect weather, RC Lee first led us up the 101 to our usual comfort stop at Santa Monica Road in Carpinteria. When we arrived, we were surprised to see Ron and Sandy L. waiting to greet us! It seems they were spending a week camping at the beach in Carpinteria, and decided to get away for a bit in order to spend some time with their SCHRA friends. Wow, are we a friendly club!



After saying our good-byes to Ron and Sandy, we rode through Santa Barbara, and then exited the 101 for a scenic trip over SR 154 (unofficially the San Marcos Pass Road), then back to the 101 to the Orcutt turnoff. From there, it was a short ride to Far Western Tavern, Open Table 2015 Diners' Choice Winner.



Jeff and Stacey G., who have a second home in Santa Ynez, had planned to meet us at the restaurant, but at the last minute couldn't make it due to an emergency with one of their horses. The horse's foot had been injured by an ill-mounted shoe (not done by them), and they were stuck at home waiting for the vet to arrive. Jeff called again just as we were on our bikes, engines running, ready to leave the restaurant. He said the horse had been treated, should be fine in a few days, and that they were set to leave home to join us, if just for some conversation. Unfortunately, we were also about to leave, but for home!

The food and service in our private dining room at Far Western were excellent as always, even though on this visit no one in our group was adventurous enough give their famous Mountain Oysters a try!

After our delicious lunch, we mounted up for the ride back home by way of Highway 101. Around Santa Barbara, it began to get quite warm, and from there all the way back to the Valley, we encountered numerous pockets of stop-and-go traffic. A couple of riders took off before we reached Ventura for our fuel/comfort stop, but those of us who did stop enjoyed the welcome cool-off before returning to the highway for the rest of the trip home on what we hope was an enjoyable day of riding and dining for those who attended!



SCHRA Boutique

?Glen Jace - VP /OAL

The SCHRA members boutique is now open for online and telephone orders! The summer riding season is quickly upon us and you'll want to refresh your supply of miscellaneous SCHRA logo items. We have in stock a wide variety of shirts, patches, pins & hats. Simply decide what you need and place your order via email at VP@schra.org. We'll either bring your order to the next meeting or arrange delivery in some other fashion.

Also in stock are large and small club logo patches suitable for sewing on your jacket, vest, or shirt.

Club hats in black and orange with embroidered SCHRA patch.

Club logo pins with two-post mountings that can be easily switched among garments, hats, etc.

Also available at no charge are commemorative patches honoring members who have passed. Foss, Whitey, Julie. These patches are suitable for sewing on your jacket or vest or directly on your biker scarred body. Miscellaneous items are in stock as well. Don't hesitate to inquire. Call! Operators are standing by.

All Shirts are \$15.00

Black Short Sleeve

Small	3
Medium	3
Large	1
Ex. Large	6
2XL	3
3XL	0

Black Long Sleeve

Small	5
Medium	4
Large	0
Ex. Large	3
2XL	5
3XL	1

White Short Sleeve

Small	0
Medium	0
Large	2
Ex. Large	0
2XL	0
3XL	0

White Long Sleeve

Small	1
Medium	0

Large	0
Ex. Large	2
2XL	0
3XL	3

Dark Blue Short Sleeve

Small	5
Medium	0
Large	0
Ex. Large	4
2XL	0
3XL	0

Lt. Blue Short Sleeve

2XL	1
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Last Update 3/1/15



<u>Hats</u>		
Black w/Logo	14	\$10.00
Orange w/Logo	4	\$10.00
Black w/SCHRA Logo	7	\$10.00
<u>Patches</u>		
Extra Small Patch	9	\$ 7.00
Small Patch	46	\$ 7.00
Large Patch	25	\$25.00
Pins	95	\$5.00



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SCHRA Road Captains

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Starbucks
Ventura & Topanga Canyon

Solley's
4578 Van Nuys Blvd., Sherman Oaks

Millie's
10318 Sepulveda Blvd., Mission Hills

Denny's Sand Canyon
15401 Delone St., Santa Clarita

McDonald's
Kanan Rd., NE corner behind Shell Station

SCHRA 2015 Calendar- September

Day(s)	Date(s)	Event	Meeting Place	Road Captain	Time
Sat	9/12	Big Bear Lunch & Dessert (maybe)	TBA		7:30 (Dinner 6:30)
Thur	9/13	Monthly SCHRA Meeting	Four 'n 20 Pies	Show up to find out!	7:30 (Dinner 6:30)
Sat/Sun	9/26-27	Pismo & the Great American Melo...	Mc'd's @ Kanan	JB	9:30 am
		Re: Above- JB is NOT Frankenstein's Bride			

SCHRA 2015 Calendar - October

Sat - Mon	10/10-12	Cambria Scarecrow Festival	TBD	DH	TBD

Classifieds



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