



ROLLING THUNDER

December 2010
WWW.SCHRA.ORG
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Next Meeting:
Mike & Ruthann Levison
December 11, 2010
Saturday 7:00pm

President's Message

Mike Levison



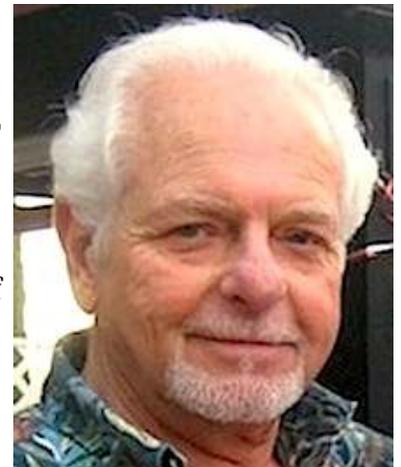
The annual SCHRA elections have taken place, and happily we announce most of the officers and Board have accepted another term of service. The two exceptions are the new Vice President, very longtime member "justinootherbob" Bob "Quite-tall" Thompson. We were unable to stifle his enthusiasm for high office any longer. However, as he harbors no detectable hidden desire to be Prez, I now feel very secure that someone is really seriously watching my back!



For Officer at Large we now have also very longtime and much appreciated member, "marvioso" Sweet Marvin Feuerman. He is always there when needed, with his consistent sense of humor and positive attitude.

On behalf of the entire membership, our gratitude to Jerry Stern, who is temporarily leaving the Board. He always steps up to the plate when called, does whatever is necessary in an interesting manner, and usually brings with him his most valuable asset, Cindy.

Steve Cowan deserves a thank you also, for accepting the responsibility of OAL, but fortunately he was not required to fill in for anybody unable to serve. It has been a very fast and fun year for SCHRA, without any significant bike accidents experienced to my recollection or knowledge. That is just the way we like it!



We have had a rash of medical situations take place with a bunch of members this year, many very serious in nature. Most all our guys seem to be recovering quite well I can report.

However, we have a situation with one old pal that suffered a severe stroke this past September, Ken Catbagan. He was an elected club VP a few years back, and was required to finish the term of the resigning president. He did so without complaint, even tho living in the city and being geographically inconvenient. Ken's partner and SCHRA member also, Natalie, is putting forth tremendous effort in now making his life as comfortable as possible. Our prayers for his recovery and their well-being are heartfelt.

We are including their picture so newer members will recognize them.



Hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving, consuming enough turkey and stuff to make me proud, and keeping our reputation intact! Live to ride ~ Ride to eat! Our pitch-up holiday cocktail and hors d'oeuvre party is almost here, so knock our socks off with your contribution. Wishing all a fun, safe, and healthy Holiday Season and Merry Christmas! Know that I consider it a privilege to serve as club president for such a great group of people..... Mike

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## Meet Your Member *Sumbdy*

It is a combination of deserved recognition on his part, and a little admitted laziness on Sumbdy's part, that this month I've decided to re-introduce our hard working and productive fellow member, SCHRA Editor Lou Piano. (This will come as a complete surprise to Lou!) We did an article on him several years ago, so this saves me having to do another extensive interview. Just have to update the old info on hand, and because I'm certain no one will remember the details from the original anyway, only this confession will push the recall button. Have just finished reading it, and found it was like seeing it for the first



time. And I was the one who wrote it!

Lou has been quietly around the club for a number of years, but agreed to become a Road Captain about 4 years ago. Since that time he has gradually become more and more an integral part of our organization, leading rides more frequently, including this past weekend's successful Progressive Breakfast event. To our considerable appreciation, a year and a half ago he volunteered to try his hand as editor of Rolling Thunder. It has been a most positive involvement and endeavor, with the monthly issues becoming larger and more interesting than ever before.

Sumbdy's pal has been a biker since 1970, shortly after his discharge from the

Marines. With a year served in Vietnam, a motorcycle was well deserved. He purchased his first H-D and second bike, a well used 1954 with a



mousetrap clutch, which he proceeded to chop. He may hold a club record for the quantity of bikes owned and operated, mostly Harleys. At the present time he has only two, a beautiful 2008 orange/silver Screaming Eagle Ultra, and an anniversary edition '03 Deuce. These would bring his total ownership to an estimated near 2 dozen. These bikes are on the road often, with Lou averaging over 12,000 miles annually. He buys 'em and he rides 'em! Numerous trips to Sturgis contribute greatly to his mileage count of course.

Lou was born in Leominster, Mass. in March of 1947, and came to California at the impressionable age of 7. His folks, though divorced for years, sadly passed on while he was serving in Vietnam. He grew up in the Van Nuys area, attending that named high school. The Marines got him and trained him as a radio telegraph operator. He was stationed at Camp Pendleton while stateside, becoming familiar with the pleasures and delights of the San Diego vicinity.

Presently divorced and happily single, he has 2 sons and a daughter, and 8 grandkids. He has adjusted to the single lifestyle with no budding romances on the horizon. Mr. Piano has owned and operated his burglar and fire alarm business for 35 years, with SCHRA being the beneficiary of his current circumstances. Our Pianoman proudly earned a black belt in the martial arts division called Moo Kwon, so be nice to him! We know his judgment also to be good, for his favorite SCHRA rides are Paso Robles and Tahoe/Kottler's. Sumbdy sure agrees with those, and on behalf of our club says many thanks to Lou for his friendship, sense of humor, efforts and involvement! Our cool editor should include a bunch of the great photos sent in with this article, picturing him with many SCHRA congenial members.





Lou circa 1970-71



Lou on the left w/friend Earl Holmbeck (rip)

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Lockwood Loop

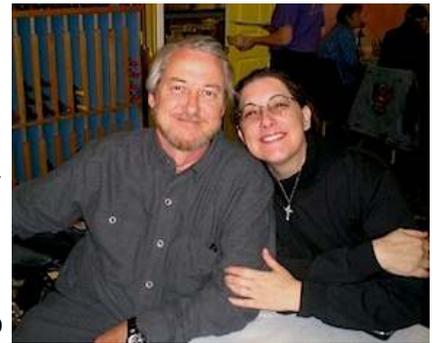
Jerry Stern

It seems hard to believe, at least it does to me, that the 2010 riding calendar which began with a lunch ride to Los Alamos last January, has come to an end for this year. Wasn't it just a few months ago that our riding season started, and here it is the Holiday season again. I am extremely grateful that it was a successful, safe, and totally fun-filled calendar. By my estimate we had 28 riding events, which when the aggregate distances are added up, totals around 10,000 plus miles! And that's not including our monthly Club meetings, or our wonderful summer and holiday parties, nor does it include our guys Saturday show-n-go rides from Starbucks. Seems unbelievable, right? That's what I said, but putting rounded off mileages next to each ride on the calendar, that's what it totals up to. Of course, no-one can claim to have done 100% of the rides, but the Levisons & Bruces have probably done 95%, with several others running close behind. Does it get much better than this? We have to take advantage of every riding opportunity that comes our way, 'cause it won't last forever.



It was my pleasure to be the road captain for the final ride of this season, which was a big loop up to Frazier Park on the I-5, up Frazier Mountain to Lockwood Valley Road, west to Highway 33, then south to Ojai for lunch. Fourteen riders met at Millie's on Sepulveda for the departure of the first leg to Frazier Park. The weather, which had been forecast to be chilly and windy, was in fact quite pleasant and fortunately not all that windy. Nothing

makes riding up the Grapevine more uncomfortable than blustery winds, (maybe snow is worse) but today was just a perfect Autumn day, clear and crisp, with the sensation of the air being heavily laden with clean oxygen. JB and Judy caught up with us at the Flying J, having made an unscheduled stop at the Simi H-D

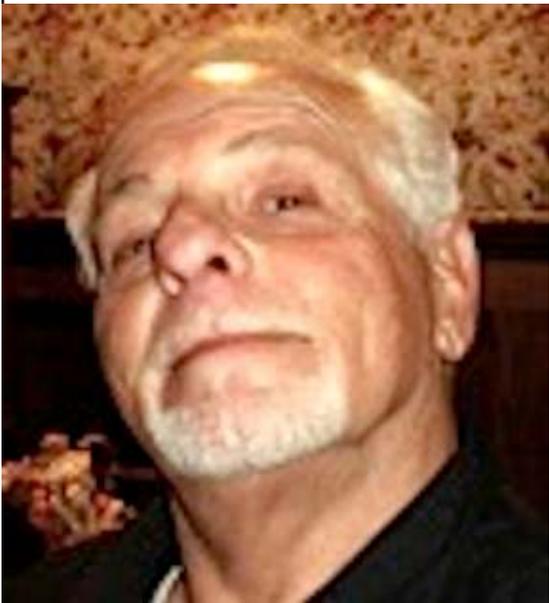


service department to detach some nefarious gremlin that had hitched onto their bike. Departing the gas station, we headed up the mountain and then turned onto Lockwood Valley Road. I think we were all alone on Lockwood Valley Road, and somehow the road seemed straighter and shorter than I remembered it. Even the several streams which cross the road were co-operating, with two of them being dry and the last one having only minimal water. Before long we were turning onto Hwy 33 where we were treated to some beautiful Fall foliage colors. Again we were pretty much alone on the road - I don't think I saw more than 6 cars - and the temperature was actually going up as we rode along. We had to make a stop at a roadside turnout to wait for Jack and Nanette - his trike tossed a heel shifter so he went back to look for it and he actually found it. We re-attached it and meanwhile everyone



took the opportunity to strip off a layer or two of clothing before continuing to Ojai.

Our Saturday bunch had eaten at the Ojai Café Emporium on S. Montgomery a few times, and it was there that I had made reservations for lunch on the patio. We got there almost exactly on schedule and were quickly seated and served. Lunch was terrific and conversation flowed freely. We spent almost two hours there, just hangin' out, jabbering and palavering, before mounting up and headed over the mountain to Santa Paula where the Santa Clarita gang took off for parts north. The rest of us rode over Hwy 23 into Moorpark before disbursing in all directions for home before dark and the start of the USC game.

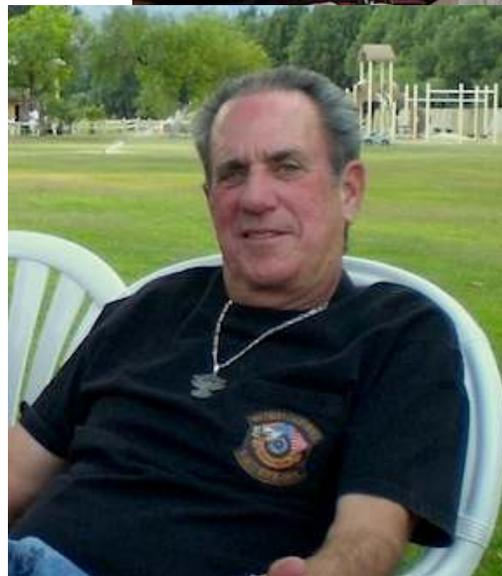
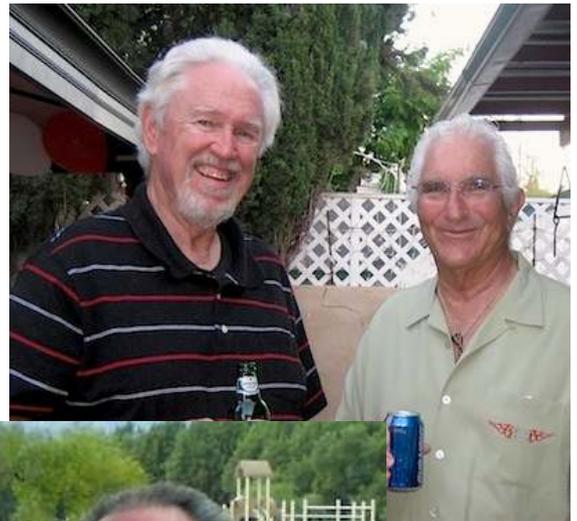


Thanks for a wonderful riding season and to all the good friends that come out for the

rides, giving us all the opportunity to forget about our troubles and get happy for awhile. And thanks to everyone who came out for this ride - Prez Mike, JB & Judy, Jack & Nanette, Cindy, Mitch, Richard, Marvin, Lou, Robaire, Bob T, Lloyd, Bob and Caroline, and new member Randy "Chatterbox" Rahm.

Jerry Stern

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## Product Corner

Ron Lynn

### LUMA

## MOTORCYCLE DISC LOCK

Disc locks are small convenient security devices for those situations which arise when you are parking your other, significant other (Harley) in an area where you might be concerned about theft. Alarms are great, but disc locks add that additional deterrent which may dissuade the thief's effort to add your bike to his collection. You just might experience a safer feeling using it when your bike is parked in your garage while you are at work or on vacation. I do!

Most disc locks require a key to access, but not this one. Don't we have enough keys to keep track of and lose and you certainly don't want to attempt to cut a disc lock off of your rotor after losing the key. Well this custom program-yourself combination disc lock is just the solution. This is a very sturdy (a little heavy), highly visible, brightly colored, orange disc lock, which comes with its own carrying pouch to attach or store on the bike.

I would also suggest that anyone using any disc lock also purchase a "Disc Lock Reminder Cable". This is a very visible bright orange colored polyurethane coated coiled steel stretchable cable, which attaches between your disc rotor and your handle bar. This should prevent you from attempting to ride away prior to removal of the lock; an unforgettable experience which usually only happens once.

HINT: Glue one end of the cable to the disc lock so they are always together and then you only have to slip the other end to the handle bar.



Disc Lock  
Reminder

Add a little security when you travel with or store your motorcycle and try this small inexpensive piece of protection.

Available: Luma Lock:  
Aerostitch: Rider warehouse.  
\$42



Luma Disc  
Lock

Disc Lock Reminder Cable by Kryptonite:

Amazon.com or Harley Dealers \$3-\$6.

*Remember: If you see something  
you like, buy it!*

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Coming Activities

JB Activities Chairman

Saturday, December 11 - Holiday Party; 7:00 PM @ Levison - Mike & Ruthann

This year-end event is typically one of the best attended. If you've had to miss a lot of activities during the year, this is the one you should plan to attend because everyone is gonna be there!*

As in the past, this is our annual "Hors D'oeuvre" extravaganza; a club-sponsored party, but with a price-of-admission. The admission price is either a "cold hors d'oeuvre" a "hot hors d'oeuvre" or a "dessert." We hope each member (or couple) will consider preparing a sample of their favorite *home-made* item from the three categories above. Each should be sufficient to feed about 15 - 20 people. If you can't decide or are not sure what to bring, just ask your hostess, Ruthann.

Now, the important part. Your host/hostess needs to know beforehand, what you plan to bring. It is likely that more than one person (couple) will want to bring something which someone else has already volunteered. In this case you may be asked to bring something different.

Next, because the party is on December 11, it is important that you notify Mike or Ruthann of your choice, no later than December 4. This is because your club is going to fill-in on the items which our members don't bring, guaranteeing a wide range of delicacies and desserts.

This is the final social event of the year, and "everybody who is anybody" is going to be there. *Even the Schmeltzers are gonna be there! This will also be the venue for our last and shortest club meeting of the year; your opportunity to acknowledge and thank your officers and volunteers for all they have done during 2010.



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## Biker Funnies

### Why Men Wear Earrings

Did you ever wonder why earrings became so popular with men?

A man is at work one day when he notices that his co-worker is wearing an earring.

The man knows his co-worker to be a normally conservative fellow, and is curious about his sudden change in "fashion sense"

The man walks up to him and says, "I didn't know you were into earrings."

"Don't make such a big deal, it's only an earring," he replies sheepishly.

His friend falls silent for a few minutes, but then his curiosity prods him to ask, "So, how long have you been wearing one?"

**"Ever since my wife found it in my truck."**

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### Caution! Potential Internet Virus

**If you get an email titled "Nude Photo of Nancy Pelosi,"**

**Don't Open It . . . . .**

**It contains a nude photo of Nancy Pelosi.**

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**If you had purchased \$1,000 of shares in Delta Airlines one year ago, you would have \$49 today.**

**If you had purchased \$1,000 of shares in AIG one year ago, you would have \$33 today.**

**If you had purchased \$1,000 of shares**

**in Lehman Brothers one year ago, you would have \$0.00 today.**

**But, if you had purchased \$1,000 worth of beer one year ago, drank all the beer, then turned in the aluminum cans for recycling refund, you would have received \$214.00! Based on the above, the best current investment play is to drink heavily and recycle.**

**It is called the 401-K. A recent study found that the average American male walks about 900 miles a year. Another study found that Americans drink, on average, 22 gallons of alcohol a year. This means that, on average, Americans get about 41 miles to the gallon. Makes you proud to be an American!**

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Everyone seems to be in such a hurry to scream 'racism' these days.

So, the customer asked, "In what aisle could I find the Polish sausage?"

The clerk looks at him and says, "Are you Polish?"

The guy (clearly offended) says, "Well, yes I am. But let me ask you something. If I had asked for Italian sausage, would you ask me if I was Italian? Or if I had asked for German Bratwurst, would you ask me if I was German? Or if I asked for a kosher hot dog would you ask me if I was Jewish? Or if I had asked for a Taco, would you ask if I was Mexican? If I asked for some Irish whiskey, would you ask if I was Irish?"

The clerk says, "Well, no, I probably wouldn't!"

With deep self-righteous indignation, the guy says, "Well then, why did you ask me if I'm Polish because I asked for Polish sausage?"

The clerk replied, "Because you're in Home Depot."

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**SCHRA Boutique**  
*Jerry Stern*

- Black short sleeve logo t-shirts in all sizes, S to 3XL
- Black long sleeve logo t-shirts—same sizes
- White long sleeve and short sleeve logo t-shirts, S to 3XL
- Some dark blue short sleeve t-shirts in assorted sizes (ask). Only a few available.
- Most t-shirts have a pocket.

**DEAR FELLOW CLUB MEMBERS**

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, etc. Simply decide what you need and place your order via email at [sternzx3@att.net](mailto:sternzx3@att.net) or call Jerry at (818) 703-7570. If no answer, leave a message. We'll either bring your order to the next meeting or arrange delivery in some other fashion. We have:

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

Club baseball hats in black with embroidered SCHRA lettering in gold. Orange club baseball hats with black club 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....? Miscellaneous items are in stock as well. Don't hesitate to inquire. When you call us (Jerry, anyway) we haul ass! Operators are standing by.





# Classifieds

- To place an advertisement here, contact [editor@schra.org](mailto:editor@schra.org)
- To place an advertisement on our website, contact [webmaster@schra.org](mailto:webmaster@schra.org)
- Free for SCHRA members for personal items. Ads will automatically be removed unless renewed after 90 days.

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## Motorcycle Cargo Trailer-Starlight

Motorcycle trailer: Gloss Black-lined with auto carpeting. For details on the specifications; Go To: "neoshottrailers.com" and choose the Jupiter model which lists for \$895 in white without shipping. I need local storage! I will maintain it and you can use it anytime you want. I have only used it twice a year in the past, it tracks very well and you hardly notice it when riding. Storage location must be within 15 miles of Topanga and the 118 FWY. NOTE: You will need a trailer hitch and electrical connections and I have an extra electrical jack.

Ron Lynn 818-772-7288  
[rlynncpa@socal.rr.com](mailto:rlynncpa@socal.rr.com)



Publishing Deadline for the Jan. RT is Dec. 30, 6:00pm



Jack & Nanette Launius are offering \$50.00 off your initial pest control service and \$50.00 off any termite treatment to all our SCHRA friends and families.



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We are proud to be members of .....



**We have been fortunate this year to have received the Angie's List SUPER SERVICE AWARD and the Greenopia DISTINGUISHED BUSINESS AWARD. Recently, we were also accepted as members of the National QUALITY PRO & QUALITY PRO GREEN program through the National Pest Management Association. The standards of acceptance are business ethics, application techniques and chemical selection that far exceed most compa-**