



# ROLLING THUNDER

December 2018

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***Next Meeting***  
**December 15, 2018**  
**@The Holiday Party**

**Publishing Deadline:**  
**For January RT**  
**December 29, 2018**



## **Arizona/Tucson**

*Jack Launius - RC*

Jack has done a beautiful job of writing and preparing this article about his ride to Arizona. The pictures are great and well placed. I am not able to duplicate it in this newsletter due to non-matching formats in this and word. So in order to do his article justice it is forwarded with this newsletter as a pdf.



## Saturday Ride w/SVHD

*JB - Activities Director*

# A Great Saturday Ride With Some New Friends

**O**n a recent Saturday, my friend Ralph Hathaway (SVHR-HOG) invited me to attend a ride with several of his friends, some of whom are members of the SVHD-HOG chapter which I wrote about in the November newsletter. Ralph indicated that a few members of this group planned to be on this ride so I thought it a good opportunity to meet some of them.

The group met near the 118 Freeway in Simi Valley, then we picked up a few others just off the I-14 Freeway in Santa Clarita. The only two SCHRA members were Lou Piano and me. Unfortunately, Lou was encountering some severe mechanical problems with his bike and had to exit in Palmdale where he barely was able to get to Antelope Valley HD.

Unfortunately AVHD was extremely busy so Lou opted to have the bike towed to Top Rocker. The details of Lou's debacle may appear elsewhere in this issue, so I won't disclose any further developments.

Meanwhile, the rest of the group proceeded north on I-14 and then headed west to a community called Quartz Hill. We arrived at the residence of one of Ralph's friends who was to lead the balance of the ride; but not before we were treated to fresh pastries, juice and coffee. How nice!

We continued on a route which took us due north through the desert and eventually into the hills to view the myriad of wind machines. By myriad, we're talking about thousands of the three-bladed beasts, most of whom were having a fine time due to the excellent breezes floating throughout the area. What a spectacle.

Having passed through the wind-farms, we were now only minutes away from CA-58 and the town of Tehachapi, where we topped-off our tanks before proceeding further west on CA-58 toward the San Joaquin Valley. Just before the Arvin turnoff, we exited at a road-marker with the name Caliente. Turns out that this is the same route SCHRA has taken in the past, when travelling south from Kernville, Lake Isabella and Bodfish.

This day, however, we did not ride to Bodfish, but headed east on a narrow backroad which took us through open range cattle grazing. This was a loop which took us through the tiny hamlets of Loraine and Twin Oaks, before re-connecting with Bodfish Rd., where we again resumed a southerly direction back to Highway 58. The terrain on this seldom-used road through the Sequoia National Forest was as challenging as it was gorgeous.

By now it was about 1:30 PM and we had still not stopped for lunch. Because I had a previous engagement later in the day, I decided to leave the group and head west to Arvin and then home by way of Wheeler Ridge, Grapevine and I-5.

On I-5 I met the usual stop-and-go traffic, causing me to get home late, thereby missing the movie for which we had purchased tickets in advance. Oh well. I finally met up with Judy and our friends in time for a nice dinner at Lazy Dog.

Even though I was not able to complete this ride with the group, I must say that they were very friendly and very compatible. I liked the way they handled themselves on the highways and they rode in a courteous and safe manner.

Meanwhile, they are continuing to assess their options for continuing as a club, even though SVHD is discontinuing sponsorship in 2019. Only time will tell, but I still sense some possible merger opportunities. At the very least, they may be a good resource for some future rides or events. We shall see!

## Boys, Toys, Noise

*Fred Rubin*

**A**t some time in your life I bet all of you have thought about the differences between boys and girls. I am not referring to the obvious ones. That I discovered when I was 5 years old with my 5 year old girlfriend next door. I am talking about the differences we have to discover as we grow up. One difference I discovered is that women like quiet. Quiet surroundings, soft spoken voices, relaxing sounds. Rossana confirms that. Men seem to be just the opposite. Give me a good chainsaw, run a D6 bulldozer, startup my industrial tablesaw. Ahh. Beautiful. You get the point.

So when did this all start. I was raised in New York City until I was 6 years old. Noise was all around 24 hours a day. The sounds of traffic, the noisy school kids from PS93 across the street, the neighbors talking loudly in the next door apartment or in the hallway. I never really thought about noise. It was always there.

But there are some sounds that stand out as wow. I discovered them when I was fourteen years old and started working on my early motorcycles. I would hold a metal rod to my ear and touch the engine in various places. I could listen to the tick-tick-ticking noise of the valve tappets, the droning noise of a bearing, or the grinding sound of a bad bearing. But the best noise I discovered was the roar when I removed my first muffler. Now that was a noise worth waiting for. That was a noise that the neighbors probably wanted to hear so to be sure I would rev the engine up in the garage off the alley, again and

again. I even figured the neighbors down the block probably wanted to hear this so I rode around without my mufflers. Hmmm. Nobody seemed to come out, wave and thank me. Skip forward to my first Harley Davidson. A 1994 Dyna with an 88 cubic inch engine. Now that produced some serious sound. Much better than my 650 Triumph. Not only were the decibels up there, but that sweet potato potato potato Harley sound was to die for. Just to emphasize the importance of the sound I replaced the mufflers with Vance and Hines pipes. I told myself (we all tell ourselves) that it was safer to ride with louder pipes. People could hear us a block away. They really could.

By 2002 I added to the noise with a tape cassette with my Ultra so if the bike wasn't loud enough on long trips I could always blast some music. I am sure those people in the small towns we visited appreciated our travelling through, Vance and Hines and music.

As the years rolled on, I found myself migrating away from noise toward quiet. By the time I got the 07 Road king I wanted no radio and stock mufflers. I was willing to accept the "danger" of riding with stock pipes. It still was a Harley so the noise was relative. I wanted to feel the surroundings as I rode and listen to what was going on in my head, not the sound that was coming from the tailpipes. If I wanted more noise I could always pull up closer to Lou and listen to his radio. I had the option. But recently this whole thing about quiet may have gone too far. It may be of concern when I am riding near Dave's GW. Its bad enough that he flies over RR tracks with barely visible vertical movement of the bike which seems to be riding on air. But I cant hear the damn thing even when he pulls up alongside me. I think the GW could use a good pair of Vance and Hines.

Pioneer Town Pictures  
Anita B.



# SCHRA

## Southern CA Harley Riders Assn. 2018 Ride & Events Schedule

### DECEMBER

12/15 (Sat) – Winter Holiday Party  
“Hors d’Oeuvre Extravaganza”  
At the home of the Bruce’s  
Details under separate e-mail  
Please RSVP to JB

(Version #118, I think, – 6/14/18)

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### SCHRA Road Captains

### SCHRA Departure Sites

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  Luna Grill (old Solley's) Van Nuys Blvd. 1 Block South of The 101 Freeway
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## SCHRA Boutique

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

All Shirts are \$15.00

cont)

Last Update 5/10/16

SMALL

SS	White	0
	Blue	5
	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

X-LARGE	
White	0
Blue	2
Black	5
LS	
White	0
Blue	0
Black	2
XX-LARGE	
SS	
White	0
Blue	1
Black	0
3XL	
LS	
White	3



Hats		
Black w/Logo	14	\$10.00
Orange w/Logo	4	\$10.00
Black w/SCHRA Logo	7	\$10.00

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Small Patch	46	\$ 7.00
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