



ROLLING THUNDER

July 2010

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July 8

Thursday 7:00pm



President's Message

Mike Levison



My favorite motorcycle publication is without question "Friction Zone". As a matter of fact, five years or so ago, owner-founder-editor Amy Holland was a guest speaker at one of our SCHRA meetings, and was delightful, entertaining and very interesting. I'll check to see if she'd like to do it again. Every month I pick up a current issue from a rack in the back of our meeting room at Four 'N 20 Pies, but the June issue was special. The monthly travelogue by Kate Edwards, always informative good reading, featured Lone Pine and US-395. This struck a very tender chord in me, for I absolutely love that highway!

I have been happily and frequently traveling that incredible scenic highway for over 50 years, always heading to a fun destination like Mammoth for skiing, or hauling my horses up there for a long summer vacation, or to Lake Tahoe or Reno or Virginia City or Smith Valley old friends. The sight of the snow capped rising up feet from the floor, running eral hundred blows me you imagine poor bastard pioneers had their first formidable needed to overcome? I presume it was an "oh shit moment" of biblical proportions.



to visit dear The very beautiful rugged Sierras thousands of Owens Valley north for sev-miles, always away. Can what those wagon-train to think at sight of this curtain they

It has only taken good old Cal-Trans about 45 years to make US-395, the only north/south route in eastern California, a finally mostly 4 lane divided highway, which is a typical performance from our benevolent government at work. There is still a 15+ mile



President's Message

Mike Levison

stretch of only 2 lanes south of Lone Pine, but maybe my grandkids will not have to out-manuever an 18 wheeler at 70mph sometime in the future. Excuse me, for I have digressed.

In all the years and hundreds of trips made, we never ventured west off 395. In the June issue, Kate Edwards described her experience doing so and I was immediately hooked. Before I finished reading about the outstanding restaurants she also found, I was Googling Lone Pine Motels and making a reservation. The proximity being what it is, Lone Pine was always a gas and pee stop, and not much more. That has now changed! Time your trip north to have brunch at Alabama Hills Café, a place not to be missed if one enjoys great breakfasts, lunches, and cinnamon rolls equal to Old West in Pismo Beach.

Ruthann and I did this little adventure alone on June 14th, following Kate's itinerary. My GPS unit helped considerably, as the designated roads were not signed by 395 with the names shown on her map. We left home at 8AM on Monday and arrived back at 5PM on Tuesday. It was the most memorable riding and eating experience ever, and it felt like we had been traveling a week! The Whitney Portal Road we expected to be terrific, due to its heavy use by hikers and climbers. At the road end there are noisy waterfalls a hundred feet high, beautiful 1/2 empty campgrounds, thick vegetation, etc. Parking space plentiful for those hearty souls going to climb the 14,450 ft to the summit. The other roads we



took, following Kate's lead, were more surprising and isolated.

Horseshoe Meadow Road was mostly 2 lanes wide with paving in great condition and a yellow center line, and went up and up and deeper into very rocky mountains for mile after mile.

The road was a shelf cut into the side of the hills, traversing back and forth around hair-pin turns, with un-



barricaded vertical drops not for the faint of heart. Signs posted frequently stated snow and rock removal was only between 8AM to 4PM. As it was a comfortable 80 degrees, snow wasn't a concern but the rocks were.

The mountains were made of large and small loose looking boulders precariously hanging there, waiting for an excuse to come tumbling down. I was happy to have quiet mufflers, thinking the sound of loud pipes could get them moving like a parked car's alarm will activate caused by the noise vibration.

This road with great paving due to a lack of use, went up and in for over 23 miles. It felt like we had penetrated the skin of the Sierras and we were visiting the innards. The campgrounds and facilities at the road end didn't justify the engineering and construction cost of this fabulous road to nowhere. Being alone like we were without another soul or vehicle seen for an hour, my adrenalin was pumping pretty good and I fought the temptation to turn around before reaching the end. Onion Valley Road and Glacier Lodge Road were fabulous and easier to endure. This was motorcycling at its very best!

The frosting on the cake was the dinner we had at the Seasons Restaurant Monday evening. The reviews on this place were outstanding, but the dinner surpassed them all.

It was one of the finest and most memorable meals I've had in years, and it now is one of my top ten all time favorites. Go figure, Lone Pine?! We will definitely be planning a SCHRA duplication of this trip, for my good friends deserve to share first hand this wonderful experience.

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## SCHRA Boutique

*Jerry Stern*

### 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:

- 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.

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 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.





**Guide Dog Rally**  
*Jack Lanius*

## Guide Dog Run.

People in attendance were: Jack & Nanette, Al, Steve, Glen, Michelle, Jeannie, Bill and Bob.

Our first stop was Bear Divide picnic area off Osborne. I wasn't raining; snowing or blowing sand but it was very windy. Our next stop was 49er Bar & Grill off Crown Valley Rd, and the last stop was Old-Road Harley. We then returned to Guide Dogs for food and raffles. No raffle winners, but a good day was had by all.



**Upcoming Picnic Ride**  
*Lou*

## Malibu Picnic Ride

Spring has sprung  
Fall has fell  
Now it's summer and it's  
Hot as hell.

So. Let's get out of the valley and go to the Malibu beach for a picnic. Dinner will be about \$12.00 American this year. I will arrange for Italian sub sandwiches and drinks.

We will meet at the Woodlake Bowl at 5:00pm on Saturday the 10th of July and then take a leisurely ride through the magnificent Santa Monica mountains to the beach. There we will enjoy the spectacular view of the Pacific ocean and seaweed and the blazing sun blinding us severely.

**Time to renew your membership**

**Dues are due by 7/1/10**

**Please do your best**

## Meet Your Member

### *Sumbudy*

Our honoree this month is most appropriate in Sumbudy's opinion. July being the beginning of an anticipated summer riding season, with joyful holiday festivities and goodwill toward men in abundance, a more jovial and good-natured member would be hard to find. A fun loving guy, always upbeat with a ready smile or laugh, I want you to meet our seemingly permanent Club Treasurer and Chief Merchandise

Manager, Ron Lynn. We sometimes refer to him as "Curly" with good reason. It is a fact that for a number of years he wore a super natural looking toupee that nobody suspected, until he suddenly appeared with a smooth pate. He realized, as many of us have, he had reached the age of invisibility.

Ron was born in downtown Los Angeles at California Hospital, no longer in existence, on May 8th, 1942. For you math wizards that makes him 68 years old. He went to Hamilton High School in town, then to CSUN, known as Valley State back then. He came out with a degree in accounting, passed his CPA exam, and was the sole proprietor of an accounting firm, specializing in small businesses for years, until he recently took in a partner to share the workload. Sumbudy feels he has way too much personality for his profession however!

In the late sixties, Curly spent 2 years in the Army. He was stationed back east at Edgewood Arsenal, where he guarded, administrated, and transported nuclear weapons. He did good, for we never heard of any nukes missing under his watch! The Army eventually moved him into an

accounting position, which he much preferred. Sumbudy has never met nor witnessed a male compulsive enthusiastic shopper the equal to our guy! He could be considered the equivalent of Imelda Marcos in Nordstrom's shoe department! Results are we now have our monthly raffles with unusual prizes to look forward to ... his therapy!

Ron's father was a custom clothier and haberdasher, with retail stores. His mom worked in the business as well. Dad loved the game of golf and it's many aspects. When he retired, being a real craftsman, he began making custom golf clubs. Ron was exposed to a lot of

golf, but found it too slow, much preferring the pace of tennis instead. He has only one younger brother.

Ron's first marriage lasted 6 years, with one son now 36 the result. Spending the next 20 years being single, he finally met and married the delightful Sandy, being introduced to her by his ex-wife. They have been happily married (her first) and entwined for 20 years now, with no pets or grandkids at the moment.

Sandy, also a SCHRA member, is from Philadelphia, where they were mar-

ried. She is a registered dental assistant, but prefers working in the capacity of office manager. They live in a condo they own in Chatsworth, which should leave our pal with plenty of riding time (few honeydo's). They were evacuated for a couple days during a recent fire, a semi-annual experience it seems, but had so much fun staying with friends, they were reluctant to return home. That's them ... it was over too soon!

Curly got his first bike at 18, a Honda 150. Following that with a Scrambler, he worked his way up with a variety of used Honda's to a Goldwing. He enjoyed riding, but



not until he rented a Heritage Softail while on a trip to Maui did he begin to LOVE it! Like most of us, the almost magical connection happened with his first H-D experience. He waited 9 months for his '96 Road King Classic, then a common gestation time. It was of course black, and had fringe hanging from every conceivable spot. He replaced that bike with a duplicate '05, and transferred all the fringe and skulls. Our Treasurer is convinced the fringe makes it appear larger and more intimidating. I have trouble determining whether it's a street sweeper or a hovercraft, regardless of perceived size! A buyer coming to see the advertised bike, couldn't tell which was the old used one!

The skulls obsession is another thing, the source of which is our own Cindy Stern. It seems she picked up these little skull sticks

for the raffle, which Curly won. Shortly thereafter, she picked up a skull ashtray, which he also won. Now he's convinced it's his karma! If there's a skull on it, he'll buy it and either wear it or mount it on the bike. Sumbudy likes his philosophy... instead of symbolizing death, it signifies the fragility of life, to be cherished and appreciated every moment.

Ron was referred to SCHRA by Van Nuys H-D in '96. A member since then, he finds it enormously rewarding to 'give something back' for all the pleasure he has derived, by participating on the Board. He is only substantially over-qualified for his present club position! They suspended thoughts of eventually retiring to some other location, realiz-



ing the value of many cherished SCHRA relationships.

Being a bit of a maverick, Ron will pack up his bike with camping gear and take off alone for weeks.(ed note: see pages 17 to 21) His favorite ride was the one he took to Vancouver, doing the Redwood Run on the way up, and the Iron Horse Rally in Oregon on the way down, with side trips along the way. It was 3 weeks before he got home. He just returned from extending our week long club ride to Colorado and Utah by 2 weeks, but is now smartly utilizing motels.

He tells of cruising across an empty desert at 35mph, and how that can be a form of meditation, with the sound of the H-D the mantra. He points out he's never really alone, as wherever he goes, friendly people come up and begin talking. He'll stay an hour longer

to keep a conversation going, regardless of his schedule or the inconvenience it may cause.

Sumbudy happily sees Ron Lynn enjoying our group rides, usually riding sweeper, and can easily understand the joyful and freedom feeling of traveling alone. We just have to remind him of the pleasure and benefits of both kinds of riding, so we can selfishly enjoy the pleasure of his and Sandy's company more often on the road. It is quite obvious he is not your ordinary biker dude! And we are most fortunate to have him our good friend and fellow SCHRA member!

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An "Above Par" Trip

Cindy Stern, Co-Road Captain

Why are some trips so much better than others? We plan what we can, control what we think we can, and then hope for the best of the rest (which is usually most of it). The route, the scenery, the weather.....sure. It usually comes down to the people and the camaraderie, which this trip had in abundance.

Knowing that it would be warm for the ride up, our group of fourteen people and nine bikes departed close to the 8:45 A.M. scheduled time and rode up the 99 to Sanger for lunch. The cast of characters included: Sterns, Levisons, Bruces, Lynns, Neith and Catbagan, Pullman and Sydney, and Feuerman. Jim Sample rode along as far as Laval Road. Two comfort and cool down stops later, we were dining at the customary Saturday Mexican restaurant. Gassing up, we took the scenic route by Pine Flat Reservoir and through Burrough Valley to arrive at highway 168, the four-lane which took us straight up to the Parr's home, arriving promptly at 4:00. Janet had secured a 6:30 reservation at the local steak and good food eatery, so we had some time to look around and admire their spectacular home. We were able to sit out on the deck and admire the view of the San Joaquin Valley, beer in hand, because they had also arranged for us to leave the bikes parked and be chauffeured to dinner! (This was only possible due to the small size of the group, so THANK YOU to all of you who stayed home.) Thirty minutes into the visit.....and we we're



already dangerously close to being irreversibly spoiled!

No trip is ever complete without its grain of adversity (or storm as on the last trip) and this one arrived at dinner in the form of an extremely rude phone call from the hotel manager, recklessly libeling the good name of Jerry Bruce. So after finishing our meals, Judy and I drove to the hotel and straightened this unbelievable yay-hoo out, employing a little chick charm (which he did not deserve) and skipping the brute force (which he definitely did). This writer cannot recommend future stays at the Shaver Lake Village Hotel, unless there is a change of management. However, we did not allow this to cast a cloud over the rest of the weekend.

Next morning we all met up at Angelo's restaurant. James had planned the day's ride and was our road captain for the day. Ron and Sandy elected to stay at the house and meditate in the forest. So the rest of us saddled up and had our forest meditation on two wheels. The

weather was quite warm and very springlike, translated that means lots of bugs. So we headed down Dinkey Creek Road to the Sequoia grove, ooh'd and aaah'd and then headed back up to the main road for our first look at the actual lake of Shaver. A great lake for party-boating, which is a possibility for next years trip. Then on up the road to Huntington Lake where we had lunch overlooking the water. The annual ladybug hatch and migration was underway. Clouds of ladybugs drifted all around us as we ate and then walked around. Sydney treated us to a rousing rendition of "Ladybug, ladybug, fly away". They're supposed to be lucky.....I still haven't won the lottery.

Then back to the Parr's for the piece d're-
sistance. A gaggle of girls (plus Ron, honorary
chick) gathered around James' s gourmet granite
island for a chop-fest. We made short work of
the potatoes, tomatoes, onions, eggs, celery, and
etc., that were to go into the evening's dinner.
Jerry and James did their pre-BBQ calisthenics,
consisting of bench pressing some beer bottles
to warm up the flipper elbows. Janet supervised
superlatively. At 7:30 our crowd of fifteen sat
down to a feast of tri-tip, chix, ham and all the
fixins. Then for dessert we "forced" ourselves, on
top of already full tummies, to enjoy Janet's
homemade strawberry and vanilla ice creams
plus James' home baked chocolate cake. O.M.G.!!
All of this was savored on the deck overlooking
the lights down below, watching the full moon
rise.

James and Janet are livin' the life and
working their asses off for it, so that we can
come visit their paradise, their Utopia, their
Shangri-La. We had such a great time and hope
that others can join the group next year, as long
as we are invited back. Just like our annual trip
to visit the Kotlers, there is something exception-
ally special about visiting our friends who have
moved away and sharing a piece of their new life.
Thanks to everyone who came and made this
such a great trip, and especially to James and
Janet for having us.

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## Social Calender

*Jerry Bruce*

# SCHRA Social Season Debuts with Summer Party Paul & Sylvie to Host

*By JB - Activities Chairperson & Party-Pimper*

If you haven't already done so, take a moment to circle Saturday, August 21 on your social calendar; this being the date for your club's annual al-fresco soiree.

As fancy as this may sound, the 2010 installment of this annual event will feature a "down-home Americana" theme which includes baby back ribs, tri-tip and chicken as the main course, plus all the fixins you'd expect to find at a "class-A, number-1 event."

Food items include appetizers, salad, three entrée choices, mashed, slaw, corn-on-the-cob, rolls, double crust Dupars Pies, fresh berries, ice cream and coffee. A serve yourself bar will be well stocked with beers, wines, and soft drinks.

The Wilmots are centrally located at 11138 Nestle Ave. in Northridge, and kick-off time is scheduled for 7:00 PM-ish. Dress is casual and comfortable, but do keep in mind that this is an outdoor event so a light-weight something-or-other should suffice if necessary.

As in years past, we need to obtain a head-count as early as possible. Also, as in the past, your RSVP plus twenty bucks (\$20) per person is respectfully requested. If you pay by check, please make payable to SCHRA and mark "Summer Party" on the tag-line. RSVPs will be accepted by Treasurer Ron, or by JB.



## Coming Activities

*JB Activities Chairman*

# July & August, 2010

As we review the activities for the month of June, I see that we were supposed to visit Calico Ghost Town on Sunday, June 6. I was particularly disappointed about this scheduling because of a conflicting 9-day trip for which I was already committed. Anyway, my informants tell me that the Calico visit was cancelled. The good news is that it is re-scheduled for Saturday, November 6, and will be led by Lou Piano.

The June meeting was held on Thursday, June 10 at you-know-where. I am told that Jerry Stern provided a stunningly accurate, day-by-day description of JB's Excellent Adventure, including all the things we liked, and few that we didn't. As it turns out, blistering sand and dust storms do occasionally present unforeseen financial opportunities. "Oh, have I shown you my new wheels?"

Our 3-day jaunt to the High Sierras was an outstanding success. Led by Cindy and Jerry Stern, we were treated to some spectacular mountain vistas, deep blue Sierra Lakes, and the fabulous hospitality of James & Janet Parr. Cindy out-did herself as unofficial hostess and occasional breakfast preparer.

Anyway, what was, was! Let's see what lies ahead.

### **Thursday, July 8 - Monthly Meeting**

Be there or be square.

### **Saturday, July 10 - Picnic Dinner**

Lou Piano says to be at Woodlake Bowl for 5:00 sign-in and departure. But departure to where? I dunno. Lou??

[See previous preview article which previews this trip before it actually happens in advance. \(ed\)](#)

### **Saturday, July 17 - Weekend at Cambria**

Here's another 2-nighter at one of our favorite places. In case you're interested we're staying at the San Simeon Pines (we got a great price) on Saturday 7/17 and Sunday 7/18. Dial 866.927.4648 and tell 'em Cindy sent you (Confirmation # BO615330N). Meet at 8:00 AM at Woodlake. I understand that a run north on incredible Highway-1 is on the agenda.

### **Sunday, July 25 - Jocko's Pork Chop Express**

Need I say more? Marvin says to Meet at Millies at 9:00 AM.

### **Saturday, August 7 - Big Bear Overnighter**

Accommodations details are still sketchy but the plan was to rough-it in the Big Bear digs, owned by some of our fellow members. If you attend the July 10 club meeting, there's a good chance that all will be explained. Richard is RC and he plans to depart at 9:00 AM from Solley's.

### **Thursday, August 12 - Monthly Meeting**

If you didn't make the Big Bear Overnighter, come to the meeting and listen to all the great fun you missed.

### **Saturday, August 21 - Summer Party**

Sylvie and Paul Wilmot have graciously made their home and garden available for this years catered "al-fresco" event. See JB's additional news article in this edition, for further details. Yeah, its gonna cost.

### **Sunday, August 29 - Luncheon at Solvang**

Here we go again, back to the charming patio-restaurant at the River Course. Just a few miles outside this Danish enclave, the food is good, the surroundings are delightful and the company will be excellent! Mitch plans to leave from Woodlake at 9:30 AM.

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Biker Funnies

An Irishman, a Mexican and a Blonde Guy were doing construction work on scaffolding on the 20th floor of a building.

They were eating lunch and the Irishman said, 'Corned beef and cabbage! If I get corned beef and cabbage one more time for lunch, I'm going to jump off this building.'

The Mexican opened his lunch box and exclaimed, 'Burritos again! If I get burritos one more time I'm going to jump off, too.'

The blonde opened his lunch and said, 'Bologna again! If I get a bologna sandwich one more time, I'm jumping too.'

The next day, the Irishman opened his lunch box, saw corned beef and cabbage, and jumped to his death.

The Mexican opened his lunch, saw a burrito, and jumped, too.

The blonde guy opened his lunch, saw the bologna and jumped to his death as well.

At the funeral, the Irishman's wife was weeping. She said, 'If I'd known how really tired he was of corned beef and cabbage, I never would have given it to him again!'

The Mexican's wife also wept and said, 'I could have given him tacos or enchiladas! I didn't realize he hated burritos so much.'

Everyone turned and stared at the blonde's wife. The blonde's wife said, 'Don't look at me. The idiot makes his own lunch.'

The Pastor's Ass

The Pastor entered his donkey in a race and it won.

The Pastor was so pleased with the donkey that he entered it in the race again and it won again. The local paper read:

PASTOR'S ASS OUT FRONT.

The Bishop was so upset with this kind of publicity that he ordered the Pastor not to enter

the donkey in another race.

The next day the local paper headline read: BISHOP SCRATCHES PASTOR'S ASS.

This was too much for the Bishop so he ordered the Pastor to get rid of the donkey.

The Pastor decided to give it to a Nun in a nearby convent.

The local paper, hearing of the news, posted the following headline the next day:

NUN HAS BEST ASS IN TOWN.

The Bishop fainted.

He informed the Nun that she would have to get rid of the donkey so she sold it to a farmer for \$10.

The next day the paper read:

NUN SELLS ASS FOR \$10.

This was too much for the Bishop so he ordered the Nun to buy back the donkey and lead it to the plains where it could run wild.

The next day the headlines read:

NUN ANNOUNCES HER ASS IS WILD AND FREE.

The Bishop was buried the next day.

The moral of the story is . . . being concerned about public opinion can bring you much grief and misery . . . even shorten your life.

Taliban

Some interesting observations on the Taliban by that great American philosopher, Jeff Foxworthy.

"YOU MAY BE A TALIBAN IF..."

1. You refine heroin for a living, but you have a moral objection to liquor.
2. You own a \$3,000 machine gun and \$5,000 rocket launcher, but you can't afford shoes.
3. You have more wives than teeth.
4. You wipe your butt with your bare hand, but consider bacon "unclean."
5. You think vests come in two styles: bullet-proof and suicide.
6. You can't think of anyone you haven't declared Jihad against.
7. You consider television dangerous, but routinely carry explosives in your clothing.
8. You were amazed to discover that cell phones have uses other than setting off roadside bombs.
9. You have nothing against women and think every man should own at least four.
10. You've always had a crush on your neighbor's goat.

2010 Ride Schedule

| Destination | Date(s)/Day(s) | Meeting Place | Time | Ride Captain |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------|--------------|
| Monthly Meeting | July 8, Thurs | Four 'n Twenty Pies | 7:00 pm | |
| Picnic Dinner Ride—Malibu | July 10, Sat | Woodlake Bowl | 5:00 pm | Lou |
| Cambria Week-end | July 16, Fri—Sat | Woodlake Bowl | 8:00 am | Cindy |
| Pork Chop Express to Jocko's | July 25, Sun. | Solley's | 9:00 am | Millie's |
| Big Bear Overnighter | August 7, Sat-Sun | Solley's | 9:00 am | Richard |
| Monthly Meeting | August 12, Thurs | Four 'n Twenty Pies | 7:00 pm | |
| Summer Party | August 21 Sat | Paul & Sylvie | 6:00 pm | |
| River Course in Solvang—Lunch ride | August 29 Sun | Woodlake Bowl | 9:30 am | Mitch |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

Go to SCHRA.ORG for complete list.

SCHRA Departure Sites

Woodlake Bowl
23130 Ventura Blvd., Woodland Hills

Solley's
4578 Van Nuys Blvd., Sherman Oaks

Millie's
10318 Sepulveda Blvd., Mission Hills

Denny's Roxford
12861 Encinitas Ave., Sylmar

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

Extra Wind

Do not submit any ride suggestions or requests for companions to join you on your ride or trip in this space.

Especially Saturdays @ 9:30am at the Starbucks on the corner of Ventura Blvd. & Topanga Canyon Blvd. Do not meet with members for an impromptu ride as it will not include lunch and sex. Also, non-members will be treated rudely, not allowed to associate with dues paying club members and in general shunned.

SCHRA Road Captains

| | |
|-----------------|----------------------------|
| Jerry Bruce | Lou Piano |
| Marvin Feuerman | Mitch Pullman |
| Mike Levison | Richard Slobin
(Sr. RC) |
| Ron Lynn | Cindy Stern |
| Dave Malin | Jerry Stern |

2010 Officers and Board members

| | | |
|---------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| President | Mike Levison | Pres@schra.org |
| Vice-President | Jerry Stern | VicePres@schra.org |
| Secretary | Sandy Lynn | Secy@schra.org |
| Treasurer | Ron Lynn | Treas@schra.org |
| Officer-at-Large | Steve Cowan | OAL@schra.org |
| Senior Road Captain | Richard Slobin | SrRoad@schra.org |
| Editor | Lou Piano | Editor@schra.org |
| Webmaster | Mike Levison | Webmaster@schra.org |
| Historian | Judy Bruce | Hist@schra.org |
| Activities Chair | Jerry Bruce | Activities@schra.org |

Classifieds

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contact editor@schra.org

To place an advertisement on our website,
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- Free for SCHRA members
- Ads will automatically be removed unless renewed after 90 days. This includes free ads.

Please pay annual dues by the 1st of July 2010

(yes, 5 days ago)

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Chrome Plating and Re-plating
Cadmium Plating
Zinc Plating and Anodizing

Membership Updates

Don't forget to recruit new members!

ATTENTION:

Member details (address/telephone info, e.g.) are not disclosed in Rolling Thunder because of its online availability to the world at large. Instead, update notices are designed simply to reflect the member's name and the category of updated info to be noted, followed by an instruction to contact SCHRA's roster-master (treas@schra.org) with any request for update details. This service is available only to SCHRA members current on their dues although SCHRA reserves the right to refuse this service at will without cause.

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

Contact editor@schra.org if any of your contact information changes.

DISPLAY AD RATE SCHEDULE

COLOR ADS ARE NOW AVAILABLE!
Exposure to High-End Clientele at Reasonable Prices Starts Here

| | |
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A month in Colorado is not enough!

By: Ron Lynn

In late May a group of 9 riders and 6 passengers headed out from LA to Colorado on one of JB's infamous Great Adventures. Six of us left a day earlier to spend the night in Laughlin at the River Palm. Except for Marvin's flat tire in the parking lot and towing into Kingman, the trip was uneventful and enjoyable. We all had a great lobster tail dinner at the Lodge Restaurant in the hotel and settled in for the night.

The next day we picked up Marvin's bike and followed Route 66 it's end joining point at Ash Grove where we spotted the rest of the SCRHA group that left that morning. We joined up with them on the 40 and followed them to the hotel in Williams.

After the riding up to Kayenta we hit the infamous red powder sand storm for the next 100 miles. Aside from only being able to see two red lights from the bike in front of you and the headlights from the cars coming from the opposite direction, we were also experiencing static electric shocks through the handle bars and the air cleaner. At first I thought I had a short in the electrical system, however after seeing a small lightning bolt jump from my left handle bar out into the air, I realized that it was being caused by the storm. This red dust was everywhere, in our clothes, our luggage and in every crevice of the bike including the handlebar controls.

As we passed the road to Four Corners I noticed it was closed for renovation. How do you close a national monument during the summer? We made it to Telluride and checked into the hotel just in time to witness a snow flurry which only lasted for 45 minutes. The next day we strolled and shopped enjoying a beautiful day in a very picturesque town. The following day we left for Aspen stopping for breakfast in Ridgway at Kate's Place, a referral from the bartender in Telluride. Excellent food especially the corned beef hash.

The second day in Aspen we went north to Glenwood Springs for lunch. When I saw this town I vowed to return and spend a few days. We went to the Harley dealer and had our air cleaners either cleaned or replaced due the bounty from the sand storm.

The next day Sandy and I rode with the group back to Glenwood Springs where we picked up the 70 east saying goodbye to the rest of the group heading on 70 West to their destination for the night to Moab. The ride for the first 25 miles on the 70 West meandered through a beautiful canyon with the Colorado River to our right and the westbound freeway on a separate level appearing to be cantilevered off the left side of the canyon wall. This is an unbelievably beautiful synergy of nature and a man-made structure.

We stopped in the Lionshead area of Vail to take a look at the almost completed Swill shopping center which presents itself as a Swiss village. We had lunch at a great place called Moe's Original BBQ and were joined by a large contingent of construction workers, who obviously know a good place when they see one.

We continued on to Breckenridge to visit a client who moved there and opened a retail business on the Main street shopping district. This town is very picturesque with the snow capped mountains following the skyline along the western edge of the town. Back on 70 we rode through very beautiful towns, tunnels and snow capped mountain backgrounds, very typical of almost every road in Colorado.

On our first day we took a ride to Golden, the home of the Coors Brewery where we toured and sampled their brew. The real surprise was the town of Golden with their innovative shops, ice cream parlors and restaurant bars which cater very heavily to the Biker community. This is an easy 30-45 minute ride from Denver and the Bikers take advantage of the rural roads north and west of town. The sky was getting dark so we headed up for a quick ride on the very twisty 4.5 mile mountain road known as the Lariat Loup. The attraction at the top of the loupe was the Buffalo Bill Cody Museum and his original grave site, both of which were a very worthwhile experience.

We spent the next 4 days in Denver and Sandy flew home on Sunday and I started the solo part of my three week trip. Rather than bore you with the intimate details of my adventures, I thought I would present the adventure as an itinerary of my travels with a commentary on those experiences which stood out. Generally the trip went without incident or bad weather even though it rained for about an hour every other day. For some reason my timing was such that I only got caught out in the rain on one day at a wine festival and then it wasn't a major storm.

Denver:

1. Molly Bown House Museum: Great guided tour of this Victorian home along with a history of Denver and Leadville.
2. The mile long 16th Street shopping street: The busses along this route are free and allow you to come back and visit the shops and restaurants without having to walk the full length of the street. REI has their signature three story store just beyond the River Walk area and they were having their biggest annual sale with 40-70% off. This was the 6th of a 7 day sale and shoppers were picking the shelves clean clutching onto their multiple purchases as they exited the store. What a sight!
3. Larimer Street: This is an older section of town with great restaurants and shops and is located just off of the 16th street Mall. We found "The Market" which served great sandwiches and dinners to go.

4. State Capitol & Mint: Due to the holiday weekend we could not get reservations to take these tours. Next time!
5. Day Ride: north through Golden, west on Route 46 through Golden Gate Canyon State Park. Great road south on R-119 through Central City & Blackhawk (gambling towns); south to R-5 leading to Mt. Evans (11,540 ft snow banked switchbacks-great ride); Back to R-5 through Evergreen & Morrison with the smooth even curved canyon a perfect motorcycle road. Stopped in Morrison to view ride into the lake park. Whole area here is upscale; Red Rocks Park & Amphitheater (great views of Denver, area looks like Sedona).
6. Visited the Harley dealers in Aurora and Parker
7. Followed the relaxing Route 83 from Denver to Colorado Springs instead of the busy Route 25.
8. U.S. Air Force Academy museum and the famous Chapel. The grounds are immense and spectacular with their own airport and located against the mountain range.

Manitou Springs (just West of Colorado Springs)

1. Originally planned to spend two days which extended into 5 days and that was not enough. A great resort town centrally located near many of the numerous attractions and nearby towns. Fun to walk down the main street and the very interesting more reasonably priced shops. Western Shop on corner of circle and the General Store with all the curios.
2. Mineral springs: Some 11 separate and distinct natural mineral springs in the town each with a different taste. Free to sample the water and choose which one meets your fancy. Fun to locate each one and try them.
3. Iron Springs Melodrama: No need to eat dinner here.
4. Pikes Peak Cog Railway: Three + hour trip unless you want to ride up at \$33. Last third is a well packed dirt road however no guard rails with sheer drops. Watch out for the altitude of 14,115 ft, you really feel the oxygen deprivation up here so move slowly.
5. Cave of the Winds: Not a very good example of a cave.
6. Manitou Cliff Dwellings: This is a replica of the original dwellings. Worth the \$5 entrance fee and the view of the town and the souvenir shop.
7. Annual Wine Festival or any event put on by the town.
8. Royal Gorge Bridge and Park: The \$25 fee is worth it and there are senior and coupon discounts available from brochures available at hotels and visitors bureaus. All the rides are included in the price. The Ariel Tram and the Incline Railway are a must. I heard the Train ride is also fun but you can only do so much. Check out the replica western town. If the old miner is there you can try the Hatchet Throw. NOTE: Listen to his instructions and you will hit the mark every time. What a kick! Directions: Take Route 115 south to the R-50 west then return via R-9 and R-24. Do not attempt the other two routes north towards Cripple Creek as these are dirt roads.
9. Cripple Creek & Victor Narrow Gauge Railroad: Old mining towns however Cripple Creek is now commercial gambling establishments on both sides of the street but the food is good. The train ride is short and really not worth it but the museum at the north end of town. Victor is a great one-way ride and is worth a quick ride through. Gives you a very "strange" feeling which other travelers have attested to.
10. Molloy Kathleen Gold Mine Tour just outside of Cripple Creek is a must. This is the only mine tour which goes 1,000 feet straight down and the ride in tiny cage is worth the \$15. The tour is one of the best and informative mining tours I have ever taken.
11. Florissant Fossil Beds Park: Just south of the town of the same name this informative lecture is well worth the time and is free with the Golden Pass.
12. Seven Falls SP: Even the price is \$15 just to see a water fall which is a bit commercial but is worth the trip. If you feel ambitious you can climb the 224 step steel stairway to the viewing platform or as I did you enter a cave and take an elevator.

13. **Heading out of town** I would strongly suggest Route 67 between R-24 and R-285 which is touted as a great motorcycle road and attested to by many bikes on this road.

Leadville:

1. National Mining Museum & Heritage Museum both are a must see. Especially the mineral exhibit in the Mining Museum.
2. A very interesting town worth walking shops.
3. Turquoise Lake: Take a quick ride up the R-5 side of the lake as the other side is mostly inland from the lake without views but still a nice ride.
4. Fish Hatchery: Dirt road but I hear this is worth a trip.
5. Leadville, Colorado & So Railroad: At \$15 it is well worth the 2 ½ hr experience especially the views of the snow capped mountains and the beautiful valleys. The commentary is educational and entertaining as well.
6. Peri & Ed's Mountain Hideaway for lodging: I would recommend staying at this B&B, which is just a block off Main Street and quiet. They are very fun and accommodating hosts. The cheap motels in town are just that and the Hotels are on a noisy boulevard.
7. Independence Pass: I would enter this pass from the east entrance on R-82. The view of Twin Lakes against the backdrop of the mountains is unbelievably spectacular. I guarantee it you stop of a second to take in this scene it will bring a tear to your eyes. This pass is twisty but more than worth the thrills. You will also be on the inside of the road on the way up. The downside is much more forestry.

Aspen:

1. As far as I am concerned this very upscale and interesting town is not worth spending much time in. The shops are upscale and snooty to say the least. The restaurants are good.
2. **Maroon Bells**: This is a must see. Just north and west of town this combination of a lake with a snow capped mountain backdrop is just there for taking pictures with your honey or your bike, or both, whichever you happen to have with you.
3. **Smity's Café**: If you are traveling near the town of Carbondale make sure you schedule a breakfast, lunch or dinner break at Smity's on the corner of Third and Main. The food is great and the inside/outside ambiance is well known to the locals and many guide books. Try to take the back-way into Carbondale just west off of the R-82 main highway. This is a beautiful side trip along the mountain range and through farmland.

Glenwood Springs: (I told you I would come back!)

1. This resort town is a great shopping, eating and attraction destination. A great place to rest and relax.
2. Glenwood Hot Springs Mineral Pool: This block long outdoor pool consists of two separate but contiguous 5 foot deep mineral pools. You can open your eyes under water without the burning chlorine effect with 1/3, a 104 degree the other 2/3 pool at 85 degrees. For the entrance fee of just under \$17 you can spend the whole day here from 9am to 11 am and come and go anytime. They serve food and have excellent bathroom facilities. You can rent swim suits, towels and lockers so there is no excuse not to experience some time at this delightful facility. There is also a first class SPA attached to this facility. It is fun to watch the people and families and just relax in the lounge chairs, intermittently jumping in and out of the two pools and walking the full lengths back and forth. Great exercise!
3. Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park: Just west of town you can take a "tram" up the mountain to a commercial entertainment center with rides and a cave tour. There are various packages you can purchase which include certain rides. I would suggest at a minimum that you include the Cave Tour and the Alpine Rush Zip Line (Sled Ride). This last one is a real experience. The Cave tour is one of the better tours I have taken and the cave has a number of wooden steps which the guide breaks up into various stops. The views of Glenwood Springs from the top of the mountain are stunning. They also have a ride called the Swing Shot where they strap 4 of you at a time into a harness and swing you over the 1300 foot Glenwood Canyon. This is definitely not for the faint of heart.

4. **DOC Holiday Gravesite:** This is a ½ mile hike up side of a small mountain on a dirt road. Even though Doc died in this town they are not sure where he is buried so they set up a gravesite. As I see it, it represents closure all of us Wyatt Earp, Doc Holiday fans and I have to admit that it works. I am past it!
5. **Zip Line over the Colorado River:** If you have never done this and are apprehensive as to jumping off a very high tree with just a zip line and harness this is not the one for you. At \$32 you are treated to two trips; one over the river and of course one back and from a platform which is nowhere as near as high as many other facilities.

iHiH Grand Junction:

1. **Colorado National Monument:** This is a great federal park with an exceptional motorcycling road and very unique scenery. There are many outlooks overseeing the many beautiful and extraordinary geological formations and canyons not to mention the view of the Grand Junction environs. I have a feeling that many visitors miss this attraction.
2. **Highway 141 to Ouray:** best ridden from north to south. The beginning rides through beautiful canyons reminiscent of Zion type rock structures then at Gateway morphs into a Sedona like mini-Grand Canyon. You are driving along the **River** at the bottom of this canyon with majestic cliffs on both sides. Then close to Natura it changes back to older canyon river country.
3. **Turn east on R-62** towards Ouray for another beautiful stretch of road with snow capped mountains and a beautiful valley at Ridgeway.

Ouray:

1. Great little town for shopping and restaurants.
2. The ride from Overton to Silverton over the Million Dollar Highway is an experience on its own, with multiple 180 degree switchbacks and the tourist cars doing 10-15 mph. A real challenge with beautiful scenery.

Silverton:

- 1.. This is primarily where the Durango-Silverton Railroad ride drops off its passengers starting in Durango for a few hours of shopping and exploring. The weather here is a little more unpredictable as it is located in a valley surrounded by high mountains.
2. Museum: Worthwhile mining museum at east end of town.
3. Street Gun fight exposition on Fri-Sun.
4. The highway from Silverton to Durango is not like the Million Dollar Highway but is very beautiful none the less.

Durango:

1. This is a great resort city with many events and places to experience.
2. **Durango-Silverton Railroad:** Cost \$90 and takes 6 hours there and back. This is an old narrow-gauge track steam engine. If you have the time this is a must.
3. **Melodrama:** Excellent performance sometimes with a play instead of the normal hero/villain combo.
4. **Street Fairs:** Food fairs \$20 where the men cook various unique specialties with music and quite a fun time.
5. **Rodeo:** Take the opportunity to check one of these performances out for the \$25 entrance fee. They explain what is actually going on and have Indian dancing to honor the local tribes. This time was a special event and they invited the audience to come on to the field and join in the Indian dances. The serve a BBQ here but I would suggest having dinner before.
6. This is a shopping town and is serviced by a collection of free old style red trolleys running the full length of Main Street to the hotels to the North.
7. **Himilayn Restaurant:** Very good Indian type food served here. Discount coupons available.
8. **Appoloosa:** A great leather store featuring custom western/Indian jackets and chaps along with numerous belts (fitted to you) and

hats.

9. The Balcony Bar & Grill on the top of a one storey building is great to have a drink and check out the cars and shoppers on Main Street.
10. Saturday morning street fair for purchasing local products.
11. Great local ride: Rt-172 south east to Ignacio; north on Rt-511 to Bayfield (ride through this little town); west on Rt-160 back to Durango. Stop and detour to Navajo Lake for a quick look.

Cortez:

1. Mesa Verde: An Anasazi ruin at the top of a mountain just south of Cortez. The ride alone up the mountain and across the plateau is worth the time. Then you get to climb down to an original dwelling site along with a guide who will explain the history of what you are witnessing. You then get to walk through the dwelling building into the side of a mountain.
2. The town is also nice to do a quick walk through and weekend fairs are not uncommon.
3. The trading posts on the east entrance to the town are worth a visit. They are like museums.

Aztec (New Mexico)

1. Aztec Ruins: This site is a currently being excavated and very interesting. You can walk through the site which contains a very large common area which will impress you.

Kayenta (Utah)

1. If you are taking RT-160 back to Los Angeles then this is a great route. However watch the weather reports for high winds which usually, but not always brings with it sand storms.
2. This town does not have many hotels and is on the expensive side (\$120 and up). Most of the summer you must have reservations.
3. Monument Valley: This is the site where the old John Wayne movies were filmed with the very large windswept red rock formation. The ride east from Kayenta is filled with rock formations and the road is picturesque. The Center charges a \$5 entrance fee which is worth the view and the exhibits.

As a general rule of travel I have found that by checking out the center of town when you arrive at a town you will see banners, advertisements and actual events going on at the time. While strolling past the stores; be alert for posters of events and entertainment during your stay. A quick stop by the Visitor's center usually results in condensing your search for the above in addition to locating discount coupons for restaurants and attractions.

Using the AAA book for that state will provide you with a history of each city/town; the main attractions and at the end of the book is a listing of hotels/motels/B&B's along with their amenities, rates, proximity to town, addresses and telephone numbers. There is also a listing of recommended eateries along with a commentary. I have found the information in this publication to be quite accurate and it quickly narrows down your options.

Finally, remember to be flexible and open to new experiences while traveling and try to limit your judgments as to whether you are having good or bad time. Strike up conversations with other travelers or even friendly locals as they usually can't wait to share their experiences and often turn you on to exciting suggestions.

GO OUT AND HAVE A GOOD TIME!