



ROLLING THUNDER

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October 13, 2011

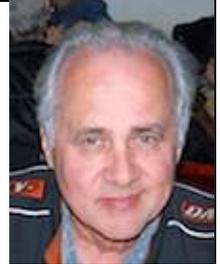
Four 'n Twenty Pies



President's Message

Mike Levison

Ghost Author: Lou Piano



Monthly Meetings

SCHRA has elected to hold their regular monthly meetings on the second Thursday of every month at 7:00 pm. This is to allow all club members and their guests and potential new members an opportunity to attend all meetings.

The purpose of the meetings is to provide everyone an opportunity to meet and greet old friends, meet new friends, and share ideas for rides both sanctioned and spontaneous. The diversity of our members means we can enjoy a broad range of ride ideas which is another reason why your participation is so important.

The meetings are also a time for us to preview upcoming rides, get an idea of all the things included, firm up meeting times and places, and allow the road captain to take a head count so he/she can make any necessary arrangements in advance when required.

And don't forget the drawing for fun gifts for all who attended rides and events the previous month. How about the raffle! Ron Lynn ferrets out fun and interesting gifts for the monthly raffle which is only 5 bucks for 6 chances to walk away with something unique and helps support all the club activities.

See you at the next meeting!



Editorial

Lou Piano

This page accurately reflects the complicated goings on in my mind.



Tahoe ~ Topaz ~ Kotler's 2011

Mike Levison

In May of 2003, our esteemed group of Harley riders made the inaugural version of this now annual trip up Hwy 395 to spend time in the incredible Lake Tahoe area, and at the same time visit and party with dear old friends Gary & Cathryn Kotler. Last year we coordinated the ride with Reno Street Vibrations, but that didn't work out too well. At the last minute they changed the main venue from downtown Reno to a parking lot in Sparks several miles removed. Having now removed any future consideration for Reno, we reinstated our itinerary of the Topaz Lodge, rides around Lake Tahoe and up to Virginia City, and a great Saturday night dinner party at the Kotler's lovely farm house on their ranch in Smith Valley, Nevada.

We got a pretty early start, quite on time for us, hitting the 14-Fwy by 8:20AM. The group was small, with Duane & Pauline Harte', Jack Launius, Dave Malin, Jerry Stern, and the Levisons. Joe & Caroline Gubbrud were meeting us at Topaz, having hauled their bikes behind their motorhome several days earlier. As is now the custom, the Kots met us in Bridgeport for the last leg up to Topaz. The weather was very comfortable upon departure, but managed to become ridiculous enroute. The temperature varied from 60deg to 102, with thunder storms threatening but never quite hitting us, but 40mph headwinds did. We saw lots of water left on the road from the passing rainfall, but I was kept guessing whether to stop to put on warmer jackets or strip down to cool tee shirts.

Checking into Topaz around 5PM, most of us took their "free drink coupon" to the lounge



for a badly needed cold draft beer. In walks Jerry S. sporting bare feet. It seems he stepped outside his room for some reason and the door blew closed locking him out. It was necessary for him to hoof it over to the office near the bar to get another room key. Am delighted to report this was the only mishap anyone experienced on our entire trip. Also am happy to report once again that burning that Nevada 91 Octane, we all clocked about 50+mpg, even climbing up and around those High Sierras.

Speaking of burning, we almost had a significant problem getting to the Kotler's for dinner. When returning from our jaunt to Virginia City, passing by the only road to get us there within 60 miles, we found it blocked off and closed by the Highway Patrol and fire trucks. A brush fire was taking place, apparently started by a lightning strike. How it started in damp grass I can't quite understand. We sweated out the road reopening in the 2 hours we had before our needing to use it, and fortunately it did.

To no one's surprise, food was a special feature on our weekend. Lunches at Alabama Hills in Lone Pine, Burger Lounge in So. Lake Tahoe, dinners at Topaz's Steak House and Kotler's, with a finishing breakfast at the Meadowcliff Café in Coleville. You can't beat the combination of great riding with the scenery of Lake Tahoe, which we fully circled, and the funkiness of Virginia City, along with good food and good friends.

It is a wonderful lifestyle our Harleys provide for us!

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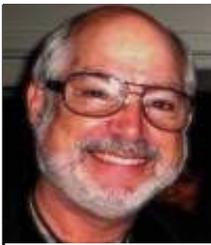




Jocko's Pork Chop Express

Ed Note: Jack says "Nanette got in a fight with the owner and won't eat at this dump again!"

Jack is still outside waiting for SCHRA to show up!



Product Corner

Ron Lynn

Tour Pack Luggage

You are on the road cruising along blissfully on your favorite ride, Harley of course, heading out for a trip for a weekend or more, and your “significant other” (political correctness for biker b---h) is along for the adventure. There is no question that although the full dresser has ample storage in the side bags and in the trunk, you probably have enough normal equipment stored on a regular basis prohibiting stuffing them with the additional clothing and necessities for this trip.



You could strap on a duffel or one of your suit-cases to the tour pack with bungees etc., but most of these bags were not made for this kind of mounting and tend to move

around a bit, not to mention they look “honky” on a \$20,000 plus Harley (mostly ++).

Take a look at two recent products to come on the market specifically designed for the Harley Tour Pack and set up to allow you to open the main bag or the attached pouches while still fastened to the bike. But best of all, these two models have WHEELS and PULL-OUT HANDLES! I don’t know about your physical condition, but mine has been mysteriously deteriorating over time and I do not relish carrying a heavy bag, packed for two, back and forth from the bike to the hotel room during each stay.



I tend to favor the Kuryakyn bag as it looks cooler, has two removable side bags, and best of all it is expandable. Although the internal capacity is less at 1.0 cu. ft. vs. the 1.5 cu. ft. for the Dekker, you can remove the support foam which will increase the storage up to 1.6 cu. ft. and thus would be comparable. Both have rain covers and internal storage pockets.

These are great multi-use travel bags which can be utilized for: general traveling, traveling on the bike, or for flying and renting a Harley at a desired location. Either of these bags can be used for airport travel.

Utility folks; just can’t beat the concept.

Available:

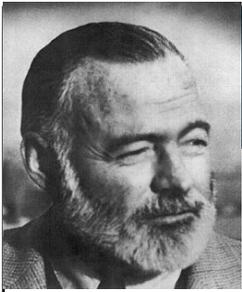
Kuryakyn Grantraveler: Milwaukeeleather.com
\$165 free shipping.

T-Bag Dekker (not supreme):
Leatherup.com; \$160

JPcycles.com: \$288 #831-265

Remember.

IF YOU SEE SOMETHING YOU LIKE, BUY IT!



Meet Your Member

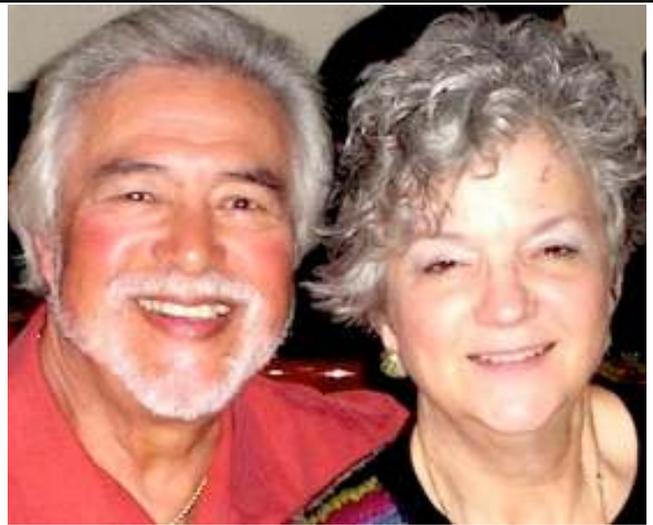
Sumbudy

Attention readers: The following article first appeared in the March 2009 issue of Rolling Thunder. For the benefit of those that have heard much conversation about Ken but never met him, we thought it advisable to rerun it and provide this update. Ken suffered a “catastrophic stroke” in Sept 2010, being completely debilitated since. With incredible loyalty, fortitude and courage, his long term significant other, partner, and now wife Natalie has been managing his care and overseeing his treatment while they struggle for his recovery, enduring what can easily be described as hell on Earth for them both. For detailed information, photos, and a daily running journal of their battle, visit the beautiful website:

<<http://www.CaringBridge.org/visit/kencatbagan>> .

Meet Your Member by Sumbudy

The gentleman Sumbudy chose for this month’s introduction and infamy thru appearing in *Rolling Thunder* is a most unique individual in several important ways. Being born in Chicago on July 11, 1937 is not one of them, but having a Philippine father and a German mother is. Having a Master’s degree in pottery from USC sure as hell is. Having a 30 year relationship with his **significant other** Natalie Neith, has got to verify the uniqueness label. (*They just recently in 2011 finally got married!*) When you add his short tenure as president of SCHRA, a position he acquired as elected vice-president when the then



president resigned, confirms it in Sumbudy’s mind. Unique is an understatement! We are of course talking about the quiet spoken **Ken Catbagan**.

Our guy’s family moved to the Phoenix area in 1946, and bounced between there and San Francisco - wherever his father, a graduate of Northwestern, could find work. Ken went to high school and junior college in Arizona, and then did a stint in the Navy from ‘55 to ‘59. They put him into aviation electronics, which tied in perfectly with his natural artistic interests and talents?! After the Navy, Ken went back to college, attending the University of Arizona-Tucson, receiving a B.A. in Commercial Art in ‘65. While in that program he took an elective class in pottery making, which started a new career path. Ken became a pottery ceramist teacher, doing such at Mid-Tennessee State for 11 years.



Over the years he acquired and divorced a couple of ladies, with a now 40 year old daughter and year old grandson the result. They live in the Minneapolis area, which Ken visits when possible.

With his USC degree in his pocket and Natalie now at his side, they opened a pottery school/gallery in art-appreciating Santa Monica. That occupied the years '81 to '96, when then they transitioned into their present real estate business. Twenty-three years ago they purchased an authentic old Craftsman style house in West Los Angeles, and after 3 years moved into a larger one in the West Adams Historical District, their present home. They share the house with Valentine, a 10 year old Golden Retriever/Great Dane mix.

Ken's history with motorcycles began in '72 with a Yamaha 250, and progressed thru a couple BMWs, a Honda 6 cylinder Valkerie, and finally a used 2000 Electra Glide, purchased so he could join SCHRA. He found his way to us via meeting the Sterns and the Greenbergs on a vacation trip

to China. He is now riding a 2007 Ultra Classic. Ken has experienced only one serious wreck over the years. While on his BMW in Tennessee, a guy ran a stop sign. They T-boned, with Ken flying over the car and the bike being totaled. Fortunately, he came thru with only cuts and bruises but no broken bones.

Due to our club's geographically inconvenient location for Ken, he is now also a member of the much closer to him Bartel's HOG chapter. Sumbudy can only conclude that nothing is ever perfect, and hope that Ken & Natalie will continue to participate with SCHRA whenever possible. We are reluctantly but with understanding willing to share Catbagan & Neith!

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Coming Events

JB Activities Chairman

Coming Events

October, November & December, 2011

A number of years ago Judy and I were members of the Edelweiss Ski Club (I used to call it the Adele Weiss Ski Club). In that organization we also had an "Activities Chairperson," whose name was John. At every meeting (monthly, like ours) when it was John's turn to talk about our coming events, he would always begin by saying "*Hello all you lucky skiers!*"

I was thinking about John the other day, and how his opening salutation had become lodged in my mind. I believe his message was that we were all very lucky to have found the sport of skiing, to be part of a great group of ski club members, and that we were lucky to be physically able to ski.

As I was starting to write this, my final activities article for the year, John's salutation popped into my mind, and I realized that John's words were not necessarily specific to skiing. I applied it to our sport and my current interest in motorcycling. It is no less appropriate.

Think about the pleasure derived from driving that big bike while feeling the wind in your face; sometimes laced with the fragrance of orange blossoms and sometimes with onions and cabbage. It makes me feel very lucky that I was introduced to this activity. I'm lucky to have found such a wonderful group of new friends, lucky to have learned how to control the 900-pound beast, but it makes me feel particularly lucky that I/we have the good fortune to have the physical ability and the good health it takes to be able to climb aboard and ride.

Sometimes that physical ability becomes elusive, as is the case with some of our members who are no longer able to ride or who must take a temporary hiatus from riding. These days I don't take anything for granted. I love this sport, and I enjoy being with my fellow club members. I am particularly lucky to have the health and ability to ride. Again, I take nothing for granted, so I ride and I ride and I ride.

Let's get to business.

Saturday, Oct. 1, ; L.A. Sherrif's Department Fun in the Sun Chili Cook-Off; Castaic, 10:00 AM Millies - RC Mitch.

Please note that the meeting time has been bumped-up by one hour; now departing at 10:00 AM rather than the earlier 9:00 AM. It'll be great to get that extra hour of sleep on Saturday. Anyway, by the time you see this in R-T the event will be history so no need for me to list all the plans and features of this terrific event.

Thursday, October 13, - Club Meeting at the Pie Place

This should be an interesting meeting because I think this is the night for nominations for club office. Now all you hopefuls just get in line and don't rush the registrar. If you want to have "some say" in the way things are done in SCHRA, this is the correct way to go about it. Be available and volunteer.

Saturday, Oct., 15, 16 & 17 - Death Valley & Brothel; 9:00 AM Millie's - RC's Jerry & Cindy & Mitch

Nobody ought to have to pimp a trip to a whore house, but here goes. This is a combination of our normal comprehensive 2-night visit to Death Valley and its environs, plus a visit to a very nice brothel, Sheri's Ranch, located in the outskirts (the city fathers would have it no other way) of Pahrump, NV. The correct pronunciation of the name of this town is somewhere between the sound of "coughing-up a green lung" and that of a muffled fart. Try it! Anyway, it's gonna be good and that's why so many of you signed up to go. Horny bastards!

Sunday, October 23 - Progressive Breakfast; 9:00 AM Woodlake - RC Lou

Another much anticipated annual event, the breakfast this year will be done in three (3) phases starting with the "lox & bagels" at the first stop, the "main course" at the second stop, and "desserts and sweets" at the third stop. Your hosts for this year's event are Jack & Nanette Launius, Johnny & Michele Marino, and Mitch Pullman & Pam. The names are not listed in actual order so you'll need to meet with Lou at Woodlake so you'll know where you are going. This is a club-paid event, with most of the work being done by our volunteer members. YEAH!

Saturday, November 5 - Santa Barbara Lunch Ride; 9:30 AM Woodlake - Bob T.

The days are getting shorter and the temps are goin down, so, ahem, therefore, let's do lunch. Have your people call my people and we'll....oh you know....we'll do lunch. Where, you may ask? Well, so far nobody's doin any talkin so I'll be damned if I know. Santa Barbara; that's where!! (watch for an email)

Thursday, November 10 - Club Meeting at the Pie Place

This is the last meeting of the year, and if memory serves me correctly, it is also the time for our annual election of officers and other fat-cat politicians. Who'll it be? Be there or be square.

Sunday, December 4 - Lunch Ride

Now folks, we were so hard-up to plan a ride during the month of December that we put in this little gem without even determining who the RC would be, where we'd meet, what time we'd meet,

or where we'd go. Other than that, this should be an outstanding event. Any volunteers? How about the Schmeltzers?

Saturday, December 10 - Holiday Party & Club Meeting; Hosted by Mike & Ruthann - 7:00 PM

The Holiday Hors D'Oeuvre Extravaganza returns for its annual appearance in Sand Canyon. Here's your opportunity to strut with your favorite original hot or cold home-made hors d'oeuvres, served pot-luck style on the Levison's very huge dining room table. Whatever you do, do not have dinner before coming to this party because we can take no responsibility if you explode. If your creative juices aren't flowing, think about making a dessert. More details coming soon.

So there you have it; 2011 is a wrap. We've had some great times and we've had some even better times. The years pass swiftly and the relationships grow stronger and longer. We've had a really fine year and we added lots of new faces. It's not too soon to think about running for club office or volunteering to head or work on a committee. There's plenty of fun to go around. Be sure to attend the October and November meetings because this is your chance to integrate your ideas and personality into 2012 and beyond. Happy New Year.

JB

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**SCHRA Boutique**  
*Bob Thompson, VP*

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 [VicePres@schra.org](mailto:VicePres@schra.org) or call (818) 785-3529. 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 sizes - S to 2XL

- Black long sleeve logo t-shirts - S to 3XL
- White long sleeve logo t-shirts - S, 2XL & 3XL
- Dark blue short sleeve t-shirts - S, L, XL
- Baby blue short sleeve t-shirts - XXL
- 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 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....? Miscellaneous items are in stock as well. Don't hesitate to inquire. When you call us (Bob, anyway) we haul ass! Operators are standing by.



## 2011 Ride Schedule

| Destination                     | Day   | Date(s)   | Meeting Place            | Time    | Ride Captain |
|---------------------------------|-------|-----------|--------------------------|---------|--------------|
| L.A. Sheriff's Chili Cook-off   | Sat   | Oct. 1    | Millie's                 | 9:00 am | MP           |
| SCHRA Meeting                   | Thurs | Oct 13    | Four 'n Twenty Pies      | 7:00 pm |              |
| Death Valley double overnighter | Sat   | Oct 15-17 | Millie's                 | 9:00 am | MF           |
| Progressive Breakfast           | Sun   | Oct. 23   | TBA                      | 9:00 am | LP           |
| Santa Barbara Lunch Ride        | Sat   | Nov. 5    | Woodlake Bowl            | 9:30 am | MP           |
| SCHRA Meeting                   | Thurs | Nov. 10   | Four 'n Twenty Pies      | 7:00 pm |              |
| Lunch Ride (?)                  | Sun   | Dec. 4    | Your guess is as good as | Mine!   |              |
| SCHRA Annual Christmas Party    | Sat   | Dec. 10   | Mr. & Mrs. Levison       | 7:00 pm | On Your Own! |
|                                 |       |           |                          |         |              |
|                                 |       |           |                          |         |              |
|                                 |       |           |                          |         |              |

Go to [SCHRA.ORG](http://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 Sand Canyon  
15401 Delone St., Santa Clarita

### Extra Wind

All Harley Riders are invited to show up at Starbucks' parking lot on Ventura Blvd. & Topanga Canyon Blvd. on Saturday @ 9:30am for an impromptu ride. Check the SCHRA calendar to be sure no club rides are scheduled.

### SCHRA Road Captains

**Richard Slobin~RS**  
(Sr. RC)

Jerry Bruce~JB

Marvin Feuerman~MF

Joe Gubbrud~JG

Jack Launius~JL

Mike Levison~ML

Ron Lynn~RL

Lou Piano~LP

Mitch Pullman~MP

Cindy Stern~CS

Jerry Stern~JS

Bob Thompson~BT

### 2010 Officers and Board members

|                     |                 |                      |
|---------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| President           | Mike Levison    | Pres@schra.org       |
| Vice-President      | Bob Thompson    | VicePres@schra.org   |
| Secretary           | Sandy Lynn      | Secy@schra.org       |
| Treasurer           | Ron Lynn        | Treas@schra.org      |
| Officer-at-Large    | Marvin Feuerman | 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



Sorry, You waited too long!



## WOMEN LEATHER JACKET FXRG SMALL

Part no.: 98520-05VW- Women's FXRG® Midweight Leather Jacket Small, brand new - No lining

The FXRG® collection features top-of-the-line functional gear for head-to-toe protection in all riding conditions. Midweight, water-resistant leather with action back and zippered cuffs. Pre-curved sleeves. Outside pockets. Inside pocket system with cell phone pocket, eye glass pocket, and lens wipe.

Pockets to fit insertable warmth packets. Flow-through ventilation. Removable and adjustable lightweight impact armor in the shoulders, elbows, and back protector. Removable perforated kidney belt. Reflective piping. Water-resistant zipper. FXRG® zip pull and front chest badge. Embossed graphic on center back yoke. Jacket zips to coordinating leather pant. \$285.00 OBO

Contact Sylvie 818 335 0225 or e-mail [swmag25@aol.com](mailto:swmag25@aol.com)

**Natalie Neith & Ken Catbagan**  
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 323.317.9696      323.317.9697  
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[www.Catbagan-Neithteam.com](http://www.Catbagan-Neithteam.com)



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**Shindler & Lynn, CPAs**  
 AN ACCOUNTANCY CORPORATION

*Ronald H. Lynn, C.P.A.*

16055 VENTURA BLVD., SUITE 924      (818) 905-1858  
 ENCINO CA 91436      (818) 380-0230  
[ron@shindlerlynncpa.com](mailto:ron@shindlerlynncpa.com)      FAX (818) 905-1995

## 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)

- 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.

### DISPLAY AD RATE SCHEDULE

Full page \$15.00 per Quarter  
 Quarter page, \$10.00 per Quarter  
 Business Card \$25.00 per year  
 Non-members add \$5.00 per item.  
 All items must be MS Publisher compatible and ready to insert. Electronic submissions only. \$25.00/hr for any modifications.

## New ad rates for 2011

Publishing **Deadline** for the November RT is **October 29, 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.



# BORITE

**Termite & Pest Treatments**  
PR4452 Corporation

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Visit us at [www.borite.com](http://www.borite.com) for further information on pests and treatments.

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 companies not in the program.