

# FORT SUTTER NEWS

FORT SUTTER CHAPTER, AMCA

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## From the President

I'm starting to get ready for the Cannonball ride (not the long ride) the escort ride across the Golden Gate Bridge. I haven't ridden on the road for about a year, do to my leg injury. I'm planning to ride my Triumph Bonneville and Barbara will ride her BMW. Neither has been started for year so I had to do a complete service on both bikes and they both started and ran well. Barbara hasn't been on a bike for a year either so we went for a "get used to" ride. We went up into the Jackson area and over to a couple of the reservoirs. We had a good ride with very little traffic, but a lot of turns and shifting and that's what I wanted for Barbara. Now we're ready to escort the Cannonball riders across the Golden Gate and in to San Francisco.

Last week Tom Green called me and asked if I wanted to go on an old car ride to Jim Willette's house and look at his car and bike collection. I said I sure would like to see his collection. Tom and his high school buddies get together about two times a year so Tom asked them if they wanted to go see some old motorcycle and cars at Jim's and my house. They all said that would be a fun outing. One of Tom's buddies who lives not far from me, Walt Kuhn, has a some 1920 cars (Buicks) and these are the old cars we rode in. There were eight of us and so each car had four of us in it. We took the long route through the country side east of Lodi to Jim's house which is in the area. When we arrived we were met by not only Jim Willette but Jim Inman as well. I was very impressed with Jim's collection. I like old cars and bikes and it was a joy for me looking at his collection.

When we were through admiring his cars and bikes we decided it was time for lunch so the two Jims pulled out Jim Willette's (having two Jims makes this awful confusing) 1926 Cadillac and joined our old car parade. We went to lunch at a restaurant outside Lodi which, as it turned out, is one of Dave Kafton's favorite spots. After lunch we went back to Walt's house, watched one of our group take off for home in his airplane and then went to my house to look at my collection of bikes. This is something I don't usually but I sure enjoyed the day.

Your President,  
*Richard Hardmeyer*

Our Next Meeting Will Be  
**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6**

At Sam's Hof Brau  
Watt and El Camino Avenues

**Lunch at Noon • Meeting at 1:00 p.m.**

# Minutes of the General Meeting

## August 4, 2012

The meeting, was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by president, Rich Hardmeyer there were twenty-two members in attendance.

**Minutes:** A motion was made and seconded (Somebody/Somebody) to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the June 7 meeting. Motion passed, the minutes will stand as written.

**Treasurer's Report:** Marie Moore reported that we now have 130 members which includes twenty-two associate and three honorary members. The bank balance is still healthy. Marie met with her tax consultant regarding the new tax laws; after two hours of work the forms were filed and we owe nothing. As it turns out from now on we will not have to file a financial report with the National AMCA as we will be filing our own yearly tax forms. There was concern that we would have to keep track of and pay tax on all the money we generated from non club members but it turns out that is a non-issue because we neither own a facility nor provide a service.

**Old Business:** It looks like we have about twenty people planning to attend the club picnic on August 11. Tom will sent out an E-mail reminder to see if we get some more people to attend.

Rich Ostrander reported that things are coming along nicely for tour 2013 national road run. He will spending \$1,250.00 for 100 belt buckles which he wants to order as soon as possible. The routes are all laid out and after September he will be making small deposits to reserve facilities for the various lunch stops.

All felt that even though the number of bikes entered for national judging (as well as those on the south lawn) was down slightly the Dixon meet was a complete success with more vendors and more people than ever before.

Rich Ostrander said he still has five spots open for riders to escort the Cannonball riders across the Golden Gate Bridge on September 23. There will be a total of thirty escorts—ten each from the Yerba Buena, San Francisco, and Fort Sutter Chapters.

**New Business:** Time again for the Sacramento Auto Show. Jim More reported that the Auto Show will be October 19–21 and we are planning on having a display again this year. The set up day will Thursday, October 18. This year we will be downstairs but will have the entire space to ourselves. Both bikes and folks to staff the Fort Sutter booth are needed. The A&S BMW motorcycle show will be held September 29.

Meeting adjourned at 1:58 p.m.

TOM GREEN

### ***Ken Heuser***

#### ***On the mend and he'd love to hear from you.***

As you will recall, back in January fellow member, Ken Heuser was involved in a very serious non-motorcycle related automobile accident. After seven months in the hospital and two back surgeries as well as an operation on his head to relieve pressure on his brain he was released last month to a rehabilitation/care facility in Rocklin where he is steadily showing signs of improvement.

On Friday, September 14 they finally let him eat solid food and, although still breathing through a tracheotomy tube, he's now out of a wheelchair and is able to get around using a walker. He says the biggest problem he faces right now is boredom and what may be a terminal case of "cabin fever". He's so desperate for something to he says he's trying to figure out how to engineer an escape so he can get to our October meeting. So, if you'd like to help Ken pass the time or help him plan his escape rout, Ken's phone number is: (916) 467-2692

When I spoke with Ken recently his parting comment was, "Let Dave Kafton know that Joyce and I will be back on the gate at Dixon next year." He must be improving. That's a job most people don't want even if they're feeling 100%.

# The Fort Sutter Picnic



On Saturday, August 11 almost forty Fort Sutter members and guests got together for a great—free for members—picnic at Micke Grove Park in Lodi. All who attended will agree it was a great time and our thanks go to Rich and Barbara Hardmeyer for putting it all together. Especially to Barbara who prepared most of the food and did the cooking.

## THERE IS STILL TIME BUT NOT MUCH

We have had a good response already to the request for bikes and bike watchers for the upcoming International Car Show at Cal Expo October 19, 20, and 21. However, we could use more bikes as we have the whole building to ourselves. . . .please check your calendar and see if you are available to bring a bike or two for the public to enjoy, and also if you have a few hours to donate to be at our booth to answer questions about the club and keep an eye on the motorcycles. We especially need help on Friday and Saturday afternoon and evenings. You will receive a day parking and admittance pass courtesy of the promoters.

Tom is making up the signage for each bike and the promoters make up the larger signs for each bike, so we would like to know as soon as possible who and what we have to work with on those dates.

Bikes go in for display on Thursday the 18th and stay until Sunday 6:00 p.m. The show is open to the public Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

WE ALREADY HAVE MEMBERS WHO ARE BRINGING BIKES BUT

**WE NEED MORE!**

WE HAVE A NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS TO STAFF OUR BOOTH BUT

**WE NEED MORE OF THEM TOO!**

Please call or e-mail Jim and Marie with your information....530-622-6531 or [jandmmoore@att.net](mailto:jandmmoore@att.net)

...Thank you, *Jim & Marie*

# The SoCal Motorcycle Show

*as reported by Rich Ostrander*

This SoCal motorcycle show is put on by just two guys and was held in a couple of parking lots the first two years. Last year and this it had gotten so large that it was moved to the huge Oak Canyon Ranch next to Irvine Lake. Estimate of 15,000 in attendance this year.

Custom bike builders from all over the planet come for this one day show. American and foreign machines done in the pre-seventy-five styles of bob jobs, choppers, and track bikes are on hand. Tons of vendors, music, great food, and awards. When I rolled in on my custom Sportster and put down the sidestand there was AMCA member Stanley Miller in front of me on his '36 Knuckle all the way from Texas. Stanley had a space dispute with a deer in Iowa last year and he was in rough shape for awhile. It was great to see him up and around.

Young Matt Olsen from Aberdeen, South Dakota and son of National Chief Judge Carl Olsen entered his first custom Knuckle and, against some of the best builders around, he won Best of Show. With that he and the machine won a trip to Yokohama, Japan this year to the huge Mooneyes custom show. Just when we thought all the youngsters were taking computer science classes it's nice to know more than a few are picking up the old skills of painting, metalworking, and mechanical innovation.

The Socal Chapter had a booth and the LA chapter is thinking of getting one for next year. The youngsters love the old stockers and the AMCA members bring more than a few. It was great to see a lot of old friends from my old stomping grounds down south and all the fabulous machines.



Matt Olsen's "Best of Show" knuckle.



A 120" Meyer-Drake water cooled midget racer engine in a two wheeled configuration.



A nice 50s style custom pre-unit Triumph with a handmade primary chain case cover.



A cast aluminum Sporster tank from Texas. More than just a little skill shown here.

# Antique Motorcycles 101

If you read The President's Message you might have noted that Rich made mention of taking an outing in some old cars. Let me explain in a little more detail what happened.

A couple of times a year a few of my high school buddies and I get together and take a trip somewhere. We usually end up seeing car shows, museums, airplanes old trains, or anything else that has to do with grease and gears. Most of our group is made up of cars guys but I decided it was time they took the course, "Antique Motorcycles 101" so I asked Rich if I could bring the gang over to see his collection.

I got of hold of my friend Walt Kuhn who, coincidentally, lives not too far from Rich and suggested it might be fun to load everybody in one or two of his old cars and drive over to see the Hardmeyer motorcycle collection but Walt did me one better. As it turned out, through his interest in antique cars, Walt knew our fellow club member Jim Willette and suggest we go there too—we could see motorcycles *and* cars. I called Rich and explained our plan and asked if he'd like to join us on the trip to Jim Willette's before we went to his house.

The original plan was to go in high style taking a Pierce Arrow and a 1924 Buick touring car but the discovery of a spider web crack in the Pierce Arrow's cylinder head killed that idea so we pulled a 1929 Buick sedan out of the barn and off we went, taking the back roads south to Lodi and Jim Willette's house.

When we arrived at Jim's we were greeted not only by Jim Willette but another of our club members, Jim Inman. After spending a very interesting hour or so looking over the Willette collection of motorcycles, antique cars, and an amazing amount of memorabilia we decided to head out for lunch with the two Jims joining us in Willette's 1926 Cadillac roadster. Strangely enough, through our conversation with the owner, we found out that the place we stopped for lunch was one of Dave Kafton's favorite eateries. Hearing that we tried to put our \$120 lunch bill on Dave's tab but couldn't quite pull it off.

After lunch we all headed back to Walt's, changed into our own cars, and took the group over to see the Hardmeyer collection which was as impressive as ever. All in all we had a great time, Rich said he enjoyed himself and best of all I think I've found a group of guys who now realize old motorcycles can be as interesting as old cars. I expect to see them all in Dixon next year.



Jim Inman, Rich and one of the group in Jim Willette's shop.



Just a small sample of Jim Willette's collection of bikes and memorabilia.



Rich was going in style in the '24 Buick touring car.



Walt adds a little water to Rich's other ride, the '29 Buick Sedan.

Fort Sutter Chapter  
Antique Motorcycle Club of America  
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Sacramento, CA 95822



## One of a Kind



When Dick Crawford heard we were placing a second order for Dixon T-shirts he came up with a clever idea. He ordered himself one in fluorescent green. Not only is it his company's (Teichert Construction) official color but it's the required safety color so he can wear it while on the job.

## COMING UP

The A&S BMW Motorcycle Show  
and we'd like to make the Fort Sutter  
Chapter's presence known

**Saturday, September 29**

The show will run from

**10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

Sign-ups begin at 8:00 a.m.

There will be trophies awarded  
in a number of classes

**A&S BMW**

**1125 Orlando Ave.**

**Roseville 95661**

**For Additional Info: (916) 726-7334**