

# FORT SUTTER NEWS

FORT SUTTER CHAPTER, AMCA

NOVEMBER–DECEMBER, 2013

VOLUME 31, NUMBER 6

## 2013 OFFICERS

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Vice Pres. *Dave Kafton*  
Secretary *Tom Green*  
Treasurer *Marie Moore*  
Director *Rich Kinney*  
Director *Rich Ostrander*  
Director *Mark Wiebens*

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## From the President

I received a phone call recently from the manager at Sam's Hof Brau regarding our meeting room. They asked if we could share our meeting room during lunchtime with other customers. She said their business has increased and they need more tables from about 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. I told her having other people in the room eating their lunch while we were having a meeting would just not work, it would just be too disruptive. Then she said some of your members are eating their lunch in the dinning room and she suggested we (our members) eat lunch in the meeting room leaving more tables available for other customers. We do not pay for the use of the meeting room so I would like to work with the restaurant and ask the club members to eat their lunch in the meeting room. If we cannot work this problem out we may have to find some other place to have our meetings which won't be an easy thing to do. We will discuss this issue at the next meeting.

On November 2, 2013, the BSA club had their yearly, All British Ride. They had 167 riders, which was a very good turn out. They started in Novato about 10:00 a.m. and then to Valley Ford. We did not stop, just kept on going to Bodega Bay. This was our first gas stop. By this time most of the riders were in smaller groups. This allowed the riders to wander around the small town and see the sights. Then we started heading back, passing through the town of Marshall and heading to our final destination, the Marin French Cheese Company for our mid day lunch. After lunch Don gave out the awards and then we all headed back to Novato to load up our bikes and head home.

I was a little reluctant to ride because it has been about two years since I rode a motorcycle. As you all know I cut my leg with a chain saw, then I had a five-way heart bypass, then a knee operation. My knee is still bothering me but I am getting better and Jim Moore and my wife, Barbara said, "Go for it, ride." So I rode and I sure enjoyed riding again. Now I am ready to go ride some trials.

Hope to see a lot of you at the next meeting because it's time to elect (or reelect) four board members.

Your President,  
*Richard Hardmeyer*

**Our Next Meeting Will Be**  
**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7**

**At Sam's Hof Brau**  
**Watt and El Camino Avenues**

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

# Minutes of the General Meeting

## October 5, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 by president, Richard Hardmeyer. There were seventeen members in attendance. We also had the opportunity to meet our newest members, Andy and Tracey Kleber from Vacaville and Stan Randall from Galt.

**Minutes:** It keeping with what has become a time honored tradition, Rich Kinney made his usual motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the last meeting. Carl Grone offered an enthusiastic second and the motion was passed. The minutes will once again stand as written.

**Treasurer's Report:** Marie Moore reported that even though we suffered a financial loss on our national road run due to an unexpected lack of riders, we still have a healthy bank account. Our membership now stands at 133 members.

**Old Business:** Rich Ostrander reported that we had a total of twenty-nine riders for the national road run. All who attended agreed that the riding as well as the meet and greet and the banquet were great. The event would have been a total success except for one thing—lack of riders.

Jim Moore reported that the Sacramento Auto show will be held Friday, October 18 through Sunday October 20. Set up day will be Thursday, October 17. So far he has almost thirty bikes lined up but can use more. Also needed are a few more people to staff the FSMC booth on Saturday.

**New Business:** This is the election cycle in which we normally nominate candidates to replace four outgoing board members but this year we have to nominate five because Rich Ostrander, who has one year left on his term of office, is resigning from the board.

The four outgoing directors who's two year term of office is expiring are: Tom Green, Rich Kinney, Marie Moore, and Mark Wiebens. Nominated were: Tom Green, Rich Kinney, Gary Kubodera, Mark Loewen, Jim Moore, Marie Moore, and Mark Wiebens however, nominations remain open until the election actually takes place. The election will be held at the December 7 meeting. It was further decided that after the election the full board of seven members will decide among themselves who will take over the one year remaining of Rich Ostrander's term.

President Ostrander asked for volunteers to coordinate the annual dinner. Tracy Kleber agreed to take on the job.

TOM GREEN  
Secretary

**Note:** Since the October 5 meeting Jim Moore has decided not to run for the board so, unless there is last minute write-in candidate (or candidates), we will have only six running for office



*Wishing you and your family  
a very happy and enjoyable  
Thanksgiving and may that  
same happiness extend through  
the entire holiday season!*

# THE 2013 SACAUTOSHOW



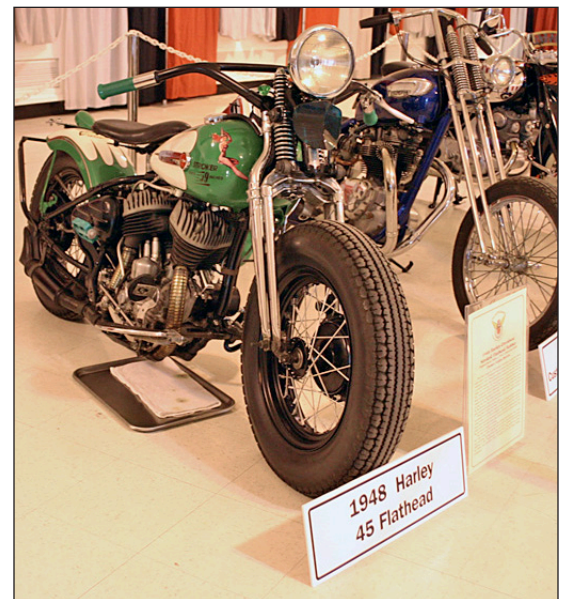
Once again, thanks to the efforts of Jim and Marie Moore and almost thirty other club members, our display at the Sacramento Auto Show was a real crowd pleaser. As we did last year we had a whole room to ourselves giving us plenty of space to put thirty bike on display. Also on display for the first time at the auto show were the story boards designed and built by Rich Ostrander describing the history of motorcycling in the Sacramento area in general as well as the history of our club in particular. Two bike which were drawing a lot of interest were Wes Allen's 1911 Racycle, which was also the oldest machine there, and Dennis Gill's military Harley XA.

Showing bikes were: Wes Allen (2 bikes), Ed Bailey (1), Bill Cruz (2), Dennis Gill (2), Rich Hardmeyer (4), Rich Kinney (1), Mark Lowen (1), Martin Lund (1), Tom Lund (1), Galen McGee (1), Jim Moore (3), Tom Pettibone (2), Bob Pratt (3), Stan Randall (1), Ed Schenken (1), Jim Schenken (1), Mark Wiebens (2), Greg Wood (1).

Helping out by staffing the Fort Sutter booth were: Ed Bailey, Bill Cruz, Tom Green Rich and Barbara Hardmeyer, Rich Kinney, Andy and Tracey Kleber, Mark and Julie Lowen, Jim and Marie Moore, Tom Pettibone, Bob and Shari Pratt, Stan and Pamela Randall, Ed Schenken, Karie Schenken, Mark Wiebens, and Greg Wood.



Mike Rooney, a member of the USA's 1985 Speedway Match Team and now the announcer at Auburn Speedway's "Fast Fridays", poses with the picture his former sponsor, Jack Gormley. Jack sponsored Mike's budding speedway career in the 1970s.



Galen McGee's 1948 stroked flathead bobber. The design on the tank may look familiar. It's the logo of the painter, Dick "Fly by Night" Crawford.

# More from the Sacramento Auto Show



Part of the club display built by Rich Ostrander.



Jim Moore's comparatively rare (you don't see many Triumphs sporting mag wheels) 1979 Triumph T-140D.



From basket case to a thing of beauty: Ed Bailey's 1965 Harley-Davidson Servi-car.



The two oldest bikes on display, Wes Allen's 1911 Marvel and his 1911 Raycycle, drew a lot of attention.



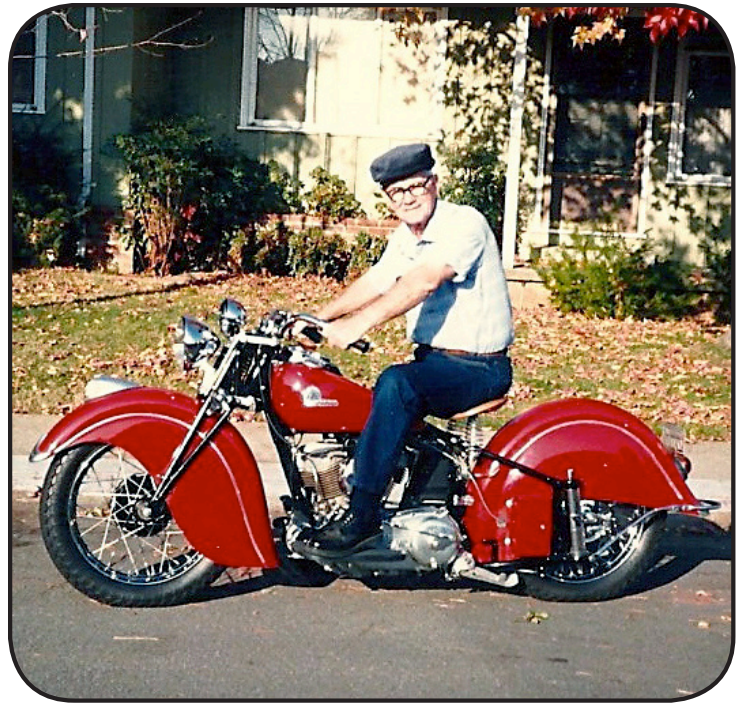
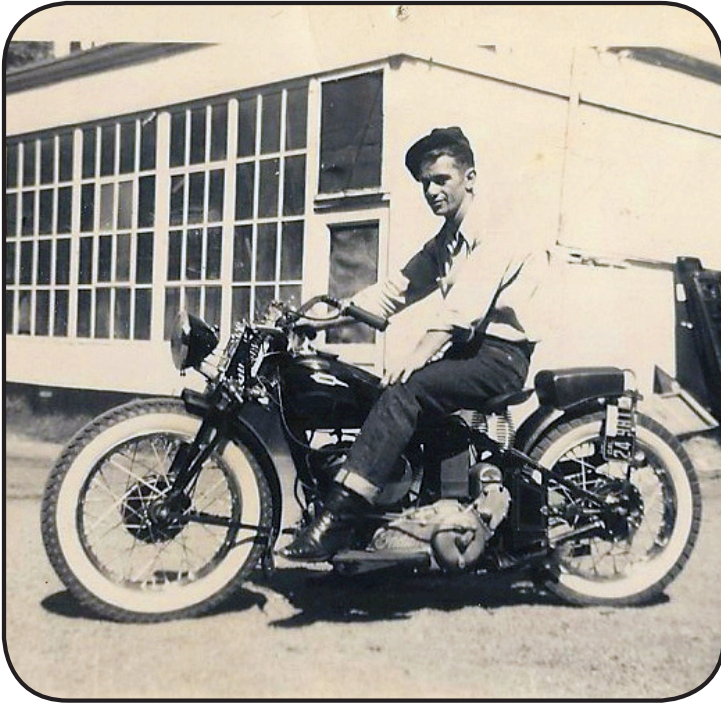
The newest machine in this year's show was this 1969 BMW R69 belonging to Mark Loewen.



Without question, the rarest motorcycle on display was Wes Allen's 1911 Raycycle. It will be interesting to see what it looks like if he brings it to Dixon next June.

# In Memory of Chuck Otis

February 13, 1920 — October 29, 2013



*Written by Chuck's grandson Scott Davidson,*

Chuck was a motorcycle enthusiast. He rode during most of his young life, and then took a long break to focus on family (having to buy a car). He was a member of the original AMA sanctioned Fort Sutter Motorcycle Club (1932 to 1972). It was the Indian club in town. He used to hang out at Joe Sarkees first Motorcycle Service shop on the corner of 16th and C St., where the Salvation Army store is now.

*"Chuck had a mid-thirties Indian Scout at that time which was bobbed on both ends. He also had a modified pair of pipes on it that had huge megaphone mufflers attached. He told me that one day at speed the one aimed up at a 45 degree angle launched like a rocket."*

*RICHARD OSTRANDER*

He joined the "NEW" AMCA Fort Sutter Chapter in the mid-80s. In 1985 he bought a basket case 1942 Indian Sport Scout. He spent the next few years bringing that bike back to museum quality with the help a several club members.

*"He was a meticulous man. I remember him polishing each side of every bolt head with emery cloth. It was his pride and joy. One day in 2005 or so, he called me up and said, 'Hey, I can't ride this bike anymore and I want you to have it.' Excited and appreciative as I was, I cringed at the thought of ruining it and put off picking it up. I had kids and a*

**continued on the next page**

## Chuck Otis continued

*messy garage. I didn't know how to ride it, with its stick shift, foot clutch, and left handed throttle. I was so afraid I'd ruin it. In December 2007 I eventually did pick it up. He told me to auction it off and use the money for whatever...but I had a different plan...I taught myself to ride it and still do so. Whenever I look at that incredible machine, I remember the dedicated attention to detail guy who restored it."*

*SCOTT DAVIDSON, GRANDSON*

*"He restored his beautiful 1942 Indian Scout around this time. I remember heading to Cal Expo one rainy night in the mid-90s to help setup our chapter display and there sat Chuck astride his bike in the rain at a traffic light. It was the only way he had to get it there. He was in his 80s. At least my truck was warm and dry when I took him home. He was a true 'old school' gentleman and one of the finest men I've ever known"*

*RICHARD OSTRANDER*

He showed that bike at numerous shows, winning multiple awards.

He worked for the Western Pacific railroad for thirty-six years, retiring as an engineer in 1981. He and his wife, Marie spent a good portion of their retirement years touring the USA in their motor home. They traveled to every state in the continental US and into Canada, as well.

He was a descendent of American Patriots, most notably, James Otis of Boston. James Otis is credited with the phrase, "Taxation without representation is tyranny". He was also related to the Mayor of San Francisco (1873-1875), who shared the same name, James Otis.

He celebrated his 68th wedding anniversary in September. His wife, Marie Otis, survives him at

He lived in Hobart Mills, CA, Quincy, CA, Oroville, CA, Union City, CA, and Sacramento. A celebration of life was held at the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd in the Fireside Room 1615 Morse Ave, Sacramento on Wednesday Nov 13, 2013.

You can sign and his guest book here:

<http://www.legacy.com/guestbooks/sacbee/guestbook.aspx?n=charles-otis&pid=167939647&cid=full#sthash.STPSWoxK.dpbs>

A video montage of his life is here:

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K0SAQIG\\_DB0&feature=youtu.be](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K0SAQIG_DB0&feature=youtu.be)

### ***IMPORTANT MESSAGE REGARDING OUR LUNCH MEETINGS AT THE HOF BRAU***

As President Hardmeyer mentioned in his president's message, the Hof Brau has requested that, due to an increase in their Saturday lunch business, they need to free up seating space. They suggested (politely requested) that our members eat their lunch in our meeting room rather than taking up space in the main dinning area.

As the Hof Brau has been very kind to us over the years and does not charge us for the use of the room, we want to help them find a solution to the problem that will work for both of us. If we don't, we may be looking for a new meeting place and that may not be easy to find.

**So.... if you come early to have lunch please  
take your meal into our meeting room!**

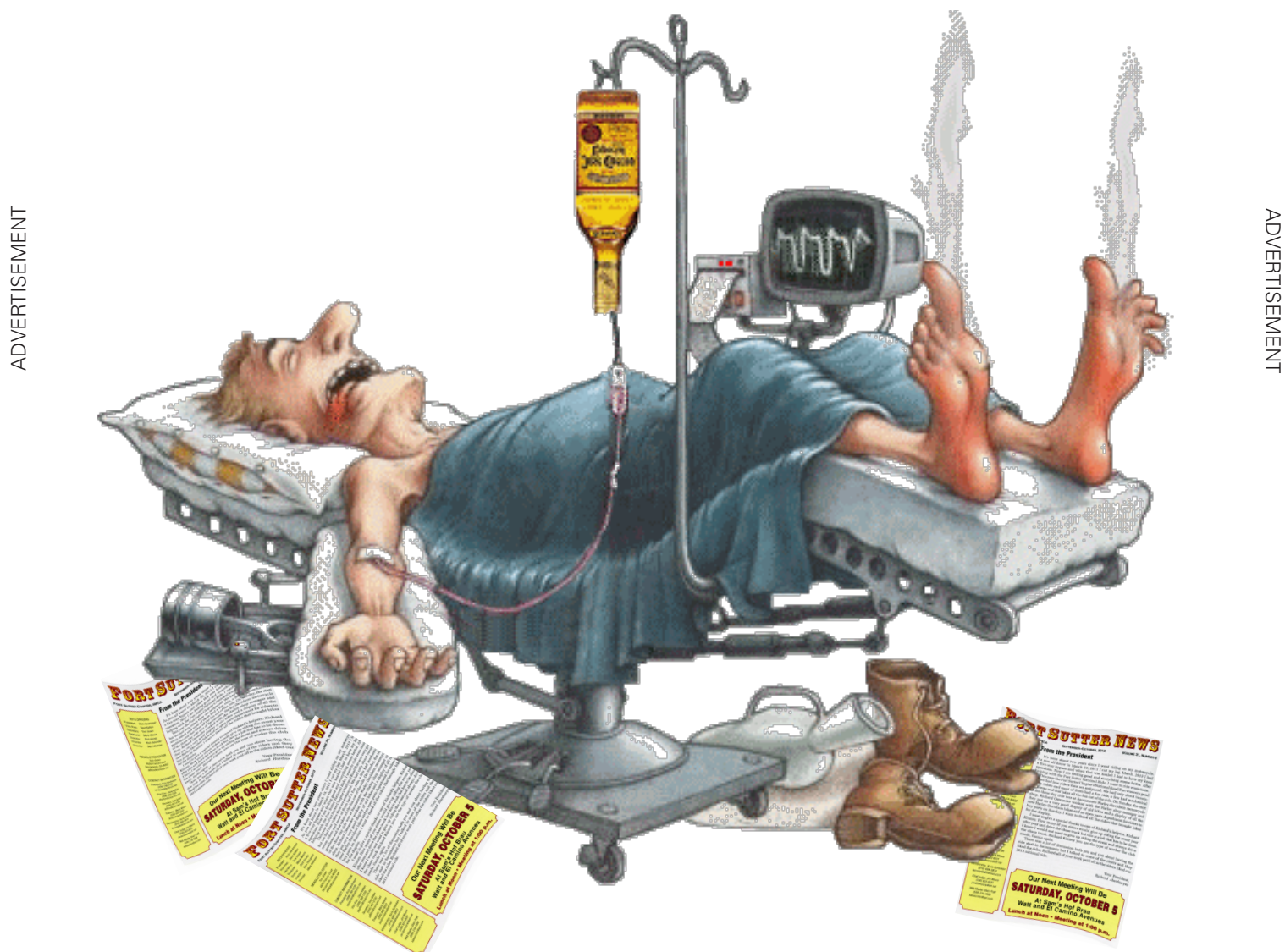
# Become a Newsletter Editor in Your Spare Time!

The club's newsletter editor has his twenty years in and is planning to take advantage of the Fort Sutter Chapter's retirement plan and retire, meaning this sought after position will soon (and hopefully) become available.

The position offers complete job security. In the last twenty years there has never been a layoff, furlough, strike, or work stoppage. In addition you'll be able to yell, "stop the presses" any time you like. This opportunity usually occurs just as you print the last page and discover a phone message saying, "Did you receive the information I sent you about the Harley, Indian, Cushman run that's coming up next week? It's real important to get it in the newsletter!"

All you need is a computer with publishing software and a printer for the eighteen copies we still have to "snail-mail". You don't even need a dictionary anymore thanks to Spell Chuck. . . Check.

**SO DON'T DELAY, ACT TODAY! ❖ OPERATORS ARE STANDING BY**



Diagnosis: Acute burn-outitis

*Philip DeCoffin, M.D.*

Reservation Form

**Fort Sutter Chapter Dinner**  
**Saturday, March 1st**

**The Pheasant Club**  
2525 Jefferson Blvd., West Sacramento

☆ **Guests Are Welcome** ☆

No Host Cocktails 6:00 p.m.  
Dinner 7:00 p.m.

**We Have Three Choices:**

Garlic Steak Sandwich  
Oven Fried Chicken ☆ Filet of Salmon

Name \_\_\_\_\_ No. of People \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate your choice(s) below:

\_\_\_\_\_ Oven Fried Chicken with Baked Potato @ \$26.00

\_\_\_\_\_ Garlic Steak Sandwich with French Fries @ \$27.00

\_\_\_\_\_ Filet of Salmon with Baked Potato @ \$29.00

Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: FORT SUTTER CHAPTER, AMCA**

**R.S.V.P. No Later Than February 22nd!**

**Please cut or copy and mail to:**

**Tracey Kleber**  
**C/O Travelstore**  
**855 Howe Avenue, Suite 5**  
**Sacramento, CA 95825**

**Lots of Raffle Prizes**



Fort Sutter Chapter  
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