

# FORT SUTTER NEWS

FORT SUTTER CHAPTER, AMCA

SEPTEMBER – OCTOBER 2009

VOLUME 29, NUMBER 5

## 2009 OFFICERS

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Vice Pres. *Dave Kafton*  
Secretary *Tom Green*  
Treasurer *Marie Moore*  
Director *Jerry Bland*  
Director *Jim Gundelach*  
Director *Rich Ostrander*

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## From the President

I am still working on setting up a place for our 2010 National ride. We know we are going to have it at Lake Tahoe but which side of the Lake, the North or South side. At the last meeting I told the members in attendance the problems I was having getting all the information I needed from the Biltmore Casino to make a decision to go to the North shore for our ride. I am also now working with Motel 8 on the South shore, this is the same motel where we had the last national run. I'm getting the same information from both places so we can make a decision where we want to stay. I'm also going to set up a committee to help me finish this task.

I am not the best with a computer so I always hand write the letter before I type it so that's what I am doing and watching my favorite movie *The Worlds Fastest Indian* in the process ( I know this movie by heart).

Last week I went up to Cisco Grove on Highway 80 to ride a vintage trials. I rode my 1965 Triumph Tiger Cub in the event. We ride 8 sections for 1 round and we ride 3 rounds for a total of 24 sections. The first and second rounds I did fair but the third round was a disaster. I felt like I was riding a 650cc bike not a 200cc bike. Getting older and not in real good physical condition sure makes a difference, but it's still a lot of fun riding in the dirt.

By the time you read this we (Barbara mostly) will have put on the Rancho Seco picnic, and I hope a lot of you will have attended.

Someone wasn't checking dates. There are three good rides on the same date: The Cloverdale ride put on by the Yerba Buena club on September 26 and 27. The Ariel club ride in Sonora on September 24 to 27, and the Raindrop chapter in Portland Oregon is putting on a national ride on September 25 to 27. Take your pick. I've been busy building an engine only problem it is not a motorcycle engine it's a car engine. It's a 327 Chevrolet engine for my wife's 1967 Camaro Rally Sport.) We bought the car new and for the last 10 years is been sitting. Barbara told me she wants to drive it so guess what, I'm also restoring it along with the bikes I'm working on. Truth is I also want the car to restore it, just didn't have the priority until now.

Well that's all I have and the movie is over so I will go type it and have Barbara send it to Tom.

Your President,  
*Richard Hardmeyer*

**Our Next Meeting Will Be**  
**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7th**  
**At the SMUD Building • 6301 S Street**  
**7:00 P.M. SHARP**

# Minutes of the General Meeting

## June 6, 2009

The meeting which was held at the Plaza Hof Brau was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by president Rich Hardmeyer. There were nineteen members and no guests in attendance.

**Minutes:** A motion was made (Green/Kinney) to dispense with the reading of the minutes and approve them as written. Motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Marie Moore reported that we made \$3,888.30 profit on the Dixon meet which was not quite as much as last year but that was because our expenses were a bit higher. As we have quite a bit of money in our checking account Marie brought up the question of what we should do with it. As CDs are paying very little these days it was suggested that a conventional savings account might be the answer giving us the ability to move our money in and out as necessary rather than having it tied up in a long term CD. The consensus of opinion was that even a 1% yield was a better option than just having it sit in our checking account. Marie will look into the various possibilities and report back at the next meeting.

**Old Business:** Dave Kafton gave a wrap up report on the Dixon Swap Meet. While the meet proved to be a complete success there is one area that needs serious improvement – manpower – or lack of same. Dave pointed out in no uncertain terms that the meet has become too large to be handled by one person working with only a small, albeit dedicated, group of volunteers. Jim Moore also pointed out that judging is an on-going problem. Finding enough qualified judges is always difficult and because the judging process takes so long many of the judges wander off before the judging process is complete, making it impossible to find them if a discussion is required to answer questions or resolve a dispute. When a spirited twenty-five minute discussion, including the idea of try to get the residents of Dixon involved, resulted in no definitive answer to the problems, president Hardmeyer announced that there would be a series of meetings chaired by Dave Kafton held throughout the year to try to find a resolution well in advance of the next meet.

The next item was the 2010 National Road Run. Rich Hardmeyer reported that he had been trying to make contact with the Biltmore Hotel at Tahoe's North Shore but so far they have not gotten back to him. As there are no other facilities on the North Shore suitable for our needs, Rich said he was going to contact the Super 8 motel at South Shore (site of our last meet) to see what they could do for us.

**New Business:** Marie Moore asked for approval to spend some of the club funds to have another framed plaque made to display our growing collection of swap meet pins. A motion was made (Hardmeyer/K. Thompson) to approve the purchase. Motion passed.

President Hardmeyer said he had received a letter from the national announcing the annual president's meeting to be held this September 5th at Davenport. Rich said he would not be attending but asked Vice President Dave Kafton if he would attend the meeting as Dave would be in Davenport anyway. Following a discussion revolving around the pros and cons of paying for the expenses of a representative to attend the meeting (last year we voted to spend up to \$1,000.00 to pay for Rich Hardmeyer to attend) the following motion was made (D. Thompson/Wenger): If a member's trip is for the sole purpose of representing our club at the annual club president's meeting then the club will reimburse the member's expenses up to a maximum of \$1,000.00 if, however, the club's representative would be traveling to the meet anyway, the club would reimburse expenses in an amount not to exceed \$500.00. Motion passed – 11 to 8.

Jack Gormely asked if he could make reservations for our annual dinner at the Pheasant Club. The idea being that if we set a date now we'll have time to promote the event in the November/December newsletter avoiding the last minute time crunch we have experienced in the past. The date selected, if the Pheasant Club agrees, will be February 20, 2010.

Finally, Tom Green announced that four directors will be ending their term in office this December and nominations for their replacements need to be made at the October meeting. The outgoing directors are: Jim Gundelach, Jerry Bland, Marie Moore, and Tom Green. The election of new directors will be held at the December 2nd meeting.

TOM GREEN  
Secretary



# East Meets West

*or the Fort Sutter boys do the Grand National Meet in Rhinebeck, New York and ride the 2009 Yankee Chapter's National Road Run in Belfast, Maine*  
Story and photos by Rich Ostrander

John Crawford (B.C. Canada), myself and our motorcycles plus “Uncle Lenny’s” bob job made our yearly pilgrimage to the wild northern region of New Jersey. We dropped the pickup and trailer at Larry Harris’s and picked up another at the airport.

The next morning the five of us with Dave Harris leading rode back country roads to Rhinebeck, New York, some 170 miles north. We always put up in an eight room motel just north of the meet and a little south of our favorite stainless steel 1928 diner in Red Hook.



AMCA President Rocky Halter’s son Tyler’s 45” HD. It was to be his first ride with us (age 16) He was busted for curfew and dad grounded him. We sent an 8 x 10 of this photo with the caption: “Wish you were here.” L to R: John Crawford, BC; Dave Hams, NJ; Don Schmidt, Long Island, NY; Doc, CA; “Uncle” Lenny, CA; Larry Harris, NJ.

that most rode to. It looked like an old 1940s Gypsy Tour in the parking lot.

Wednesday was a 150-mile ride with visits to Fort Knox (not that one), the new Penobscot River Suspension Bridge with its 400-foot observation tower and then lunch at the small lobster fishing village of Storrington Harbor.

Thursday’s ride topped out on Mount Battie for a spectacular view of Camden, its large harbor, the Maine coast for a hundred miles and out into the Atlantic Ocean. Later we visited the Owls Head Transportation Museum where three lucky winners

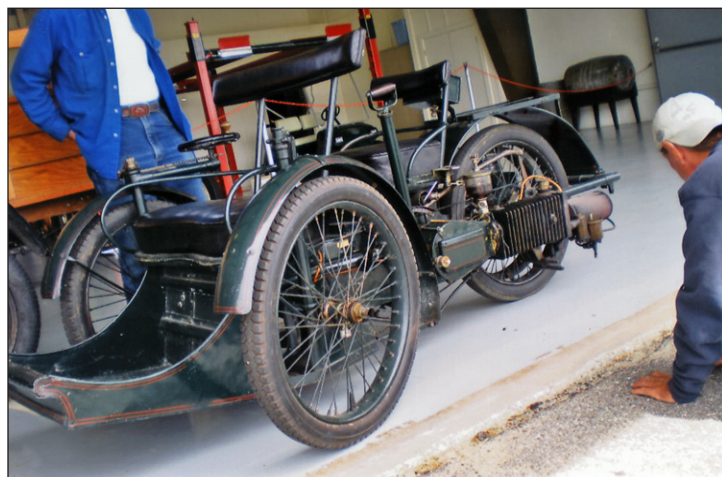


Three of the lucky winners at the road run got to go for a flight in this beautiful Waco biplane

It was a killer meet Friday and Saturday but Sunday found us headed north with five more friends bound for Woodstock, New Hampshire some 280 miles away via northern Massachusetts and Vermont. About half the day it was raining going over the White Mountains.

The next day brought us into Belfast, Maine and run headquarters overlooking the Bay after another 230 miles and lots of small villages, millions of green trees, greener valleys, and many “talking” mountain streams.

Tuesday was sign up day and visiting with the other 125 riders. Mike, Jessie, and John from the Yankee Chapter made us feel right at home. Tuesday night our orientation dinner was held at an old roadhouse



A French Bollee trike (pre 1900) which they drove around at the Owl’s Head Museum.

got a flight on a red Waco biplane. We finished up at the halfway point for lunch at the really small fishing village of Clyde. Another 150-mile day.

Friday’s ride was all but washed out. Many took to four wheels to visit Bar Harbor for lunch and tour its surrounding countryside. The banquet that night was held in an old boathouse on the bay. Great food and conversation.

Saturday morning our group broke up with some headed to Indiana and Ohio. We five headed south



to the Rhinebeck Motel 425 miles away. We pulled into our favorite diner just after dark with the last 200 miles being in a “frog strangler” rainstorm.

The next day found us at Larry’s for a great dinner and packing for the trip west. Four days later we were back in Sacramento with John having to drive another 1,000 miles north to British Columbia.



Forget about deer! Look out for these guys in Maine! That railing is three feet tall. Warnings are posted everywhere.



The whole coast looks like this.

Memories are: Fuel costs were half of what they were last year. The “upheavals” are what Mainers call their bad roads and make our potholes feel like new roads. The Mexican restaurant we found by accident on Highway 20 in Cobly, Kansas (town population: 0) is the best I’ve ever eaten in, period. I’d also travel another 6,000 plus miles for a sip of the blueberry ice tea at Barb’s Place just outside of Belfast, Maine—honest!

## DAVE KAFTON GOES *RACING* AT DAVENPORT

Once again Dave Kafton took the Iron Dinosaur to Davenport and once again. . . Well, let Dave explain it:

“After a few more thousand dollars, new fork, handlebars, tires, sprockets, and much more, we still only pulled a second place for the fourth time in a row! Roy Tobota rode his heart out but it just wasn’t enough to beat Jim Wall’s Indian from Colorado.”



Roy Tobota and the dinosaur at speed on Davenport’s half-mile track.



Dave’s pre-race strategy: “O.K. Roy, here’s the plan: Go faster than everybody else and we can win this thing!”



Bill Huth photo

Dave and Roy talk it over. Rick Najera at left, Debbie Kafton and Matt Meyer at right.



# The Rancho Seco Picnic

On Saturday, September 19 approximately thirty club members and guests gathered at Rancho Seco Park for our third annual, free to members, picnic. "Good" was the key word of the day: Good weather, good location, good food, good conversation, and good fun. Again this year, thanks go to Rich and Barbara Hardmeyer for organizing the event, hauling out all the tables and chairs, and being sure there was more than enough food and drink for everyone.



Master burger flipper Jerry Bland flame broiled 'em.



The guests lined up to get 'em.



Dave Kafton showed how to eat 'em.



And Marie Moore served watermelon (and other treats) for desert.

## The International Auto Show

Again this year we have been invited to put on a display at the International Auto Show to be held Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, November 13 through 15 at Cal Expo. Last year the event's promoters said we had one of the best displays there and they are hoping for a repeat performance from us this year.

If you would like to help out by showing your bike please contact Jim Moore at (530) 622-6531 or e-mail him at: [jandmmoore@att.net](mailto:jandmmoore@att.net)

We also use this opportunity to set up an informational booth giving us wide community exposure and a chance to recruit new members. If you would like to help out by staffing our booth, please let Jim know.

Fort Sutter Chapter  
Antique Motorcycle Club of America  
C/O 4520 Francis Court  
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# ***A&S Powersports Vintage Motorcycle Show***

## ***With Guest Judge and Speaker Clement Salvadori***

### ***Saturday, September 26th***

Join us for our annual Vintage Motorcycle Show, Saturday September 26th! All vintage bikes are welcome. We have awards for Best in Class of the following categories: British, German, Italian, American, Japanese & Scooters, plus a People's Choice Award. You'll also have the opportunity to hear Clement's presentation "Forty Years: 1945 – 1985 of Interesting, Dull, and Sometimes Forgettable Motorcycles"!! The show will be from 10-2, and participants can arrive at 8:00 - 9:30 for set-up. As always, free BBQ lunch and drinks.

### ***IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SHOWING YOUR BIKE:***

Please contact Megan at 916.726.7334 x159 or [megan@ascycles.com](mailto:megan@ascycles.com). There is no charge, and you'll receive a gift from A&S Powersports, just for participating! One Rule: Your bike must be from 1985 or older.

**A&S Powersports**  
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