

FORT SUTTER NEWS

FORT SUTTER CHAPTER, AMCA

SEPTEMBER–OCTOBER 2011

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2010 OFFICERS

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

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Tom Green
4520 Francis Court
Sacramento, CA 95822
g80cs@sbcglobal.net

CONTACT INFORMATION

President, Rich Hardmeyer
(209) 748-5126
spraynet@softcom.net

Vice Pres., Dave Kafton
(209) 368-7259
dkafton@clearwire.net

Secretary, Tom Green
(916) 457-2720
g80cs@comcast.net

Treasurer, Marie Moore
(530) 622-6531
jandmmoore@att.net

Chief Judge, Jim Moore
(530) 622-6531
jandmmoore@att.net

Web Master, Shari Pratt
(530) 219-1568
spboomer@aol.com

CLUB WEB SITE
www.amcafortsutter.org

From the President

My leg is getting better. The skin cuts are all healed, the inside of the leg is still tender but also getting better. Looking on the positive side, the injury was bad but I still have my leg and with a chain saw accident, that's not always the way it turns out. I can't wait to ride my motorcycle in observed trials again.

Jim and Marie Moore were contacted by the promoters of the Cal Expo Auto Show and they want our club to participate again this year. The show will be on November 11, 12, and 13. If you want to show your bike or can help out by staffing our Fort Sutter booth, please contact Jim or Marie as soon as you can.

A couple weeks ago, I went up to Auburn to watch the speedway races. These short races are the most exciting races to watch. In most types of races the riders get spread out but not here because there are only four laps per race. If you have never seen this type of racing, get some buddies and go to Auburn and enjoy yourself. They have the races every Friday night. These race are a real crowd pleaser. For additional information and driving directions check out their website: www.fastfridays.com

Most motorcycle race fans have already heard this but for those that haven't heard, former Grand National Champion and AMA Hall of Fame member, Gary Nixon passed away on August 5. He had a heart attack with complications. He was seventy years old. I raced with him and admired him.

Don't forget the Yerba Buena National Road Run. It's on September 26, 27, and 28.

Finally, at the next meeting, October 1, we will be nominating new officers—the election will be held at the December meeting. Officers whose terms are expiring are: Tom Green, Rich Kinney, Marie Moore, and Mark Wiebens.

Your President,
Richard Hardmeyer

Our Next Meeting Will Be
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1

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 6, 2011

The August 6 meeting, held at the Hof Brau was called to order promptly at 1:00 p.m. by president Rich Hardmeyer there were nineteen members present including Eric Olsen and Mark Lowen who have just joined the club.

Minutes: A motion was made (Green/Moore) to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the last meeting. Motion passed, the minutes will stand as written.

Treasurer's Report: Marie Moore reported we now have 137 members in the chapter. She also asked for permission to move approximately half of our checking account funds into an open type of CD, meaning we can withdraw it at any time without penalty. Permission was granted.

Old Business: Rich Hardmeyer explained that we won't be holding a picnic this year because the cost of renting a space at any of the local parks has gone sky high. The only location that hasn't raised their price is Rancho Seco however, for that very reason, the demand has increased to the point reservations have to be made months in advance. We'll try again next year.

The A&S motorcycle show will be held Saturday, September 17 in Roseville. All are welcome (and encouraged) to show their bikes.

RE: The Dixon Meet: A board/committee meeting was held shortly after the Dixon meet to critique the event, among other items discussed was the need for new tables. Rich Ostrander reported on his findings and recommended we purchase eight, six foot long folding tables at a cost of \$435.00 A motion was made and passed to that effect. Rich will purchase the tables. Marie Moore then made a motion to purchase one six foot table cover at a cost of \$155.00. Tom Green seconded the motion. Motion passed, Marie will order the cover.

Dave Kafton said, all in all, he felt the meet was a success and there weren't too many areas that needed improvement. One area, however that does need attention was in regard to judging for special club and recognition awards. Next year when bikes owners are putting their machines on the south lawn, if they do not sign up and get a yellow number sticker for the bike they will not be eligible for an award. The reason for this is that this year we had a number of winners but, because they had neglected to sign in, we didn't have a clue who they were.

The issue of manpower (or lack of same) was addressed. Two areas that need full time assistants on Saturday are Tom Green at the Fort Sutter booth and Jim Moore with the National Judging registration.

Dave felt that everyone was pleased with the new caterer which he hired for the Friday evening banquet and plans to use them again next year. We owe a great deal of thanks to the Yerba Buena Chapter for sponsoring the Thursday evening dinner. Not only did they save us a good deal of money but a lot of time and labor as well.

New Business: Rich Hardmeyer said he received a letter from the Antique Motorcycle Foundation asking us to make a donation. Following Jim Moore's explanation of the organization he made a motion, seconded by Rich Kinney, to make a donation of \$500.00 to the group. Motion passed.

Shari Pratt is working on updating our website but is having some problems working with the internet provider/server. Hopefully we'll be up and running with the new improved version of the website before too much longer.

Marie Moore announced that she was notified that Chuck and Marie Otis have moved to an assisted care facility. If you would like to drop them a card the address is: 3415 Mayhew Road, #17, Rancho Cordova, CA 95827.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m. The next meeting will Saturday, October 1 at the Hof Brau, Lunch at noon and the meeting begins at 1:00 p.m.

TOM GREEN
Secretary

Rich Ostrander rides to the Wauseon National and then it's on to Kentucky—Did he mention cobbler?

“Indian Long John” Crawford dropped down from British Columbia and picked me up for our annual trip back east. First stop was Jim Howery’s ridge top home close to the mighty Ohio river in southeast Indiana. The next day found us among many old friends from New York and New Jersey in an encampment at the Wauseon, Ohio national meet.

The meet is put on by four chapters and held on a huge fairgrounds with a least 500 vendors present. It’s second only to the Davenport meet for size and scope. Lot’s of cool parts, machines, people, and old amigos; good campsites, showers, and food. Did I forget to mention the daily homemade ice cream? All in all, we had three great days before returning to Jim and Shela’s place to get ready for the 125 mile ride down to Lexington, Kentucky for the Bluegrass Chapter’s first national road run. Dave Harris and I rode our “bobbed” knuckles the 200 plus miles to Jim’s but before getting into that, a few words about. . . .

The 2011 Wauseon Races.

On Friday we sat for six hours watching some of the best flat track racing I’ve ever seen on a limestone track, expertly prepared by the George brothers. High lights are as follows:

George (the Flying Farmer) Roeder’s son, Gorge Roeder, II riding Kelly George’s fabulous “destroyed” Chief while destroying the competition. The bike sounds and runs like an angry XR750. Chad Ralls, son of AMA Hall of Famer, Ronnie Ralls, who started racing with Gene Romero when both were eighteen and in the Air Force stationed at Vandenberg AFB in California, won the speedway bike “A” race with feet up in the corners and started his slide at the start-finish line. Speedway bikes re-gearred for the half mile are a sight to see. Chad’s dad, Ronnie, placed second in “B” race at seventy-two years of age. Unreal!

The board track race was won by Pusherman Racing on a machine that is a fully modern creation. For us old bike nuts the race was between the second and third place racers. Second place was Dale Walksler’s son, Matt, in his first race ever aboard a short coupled “J” motor with a close third placed John Rhodes on a 1925 “small port” 45 IOE (pocket valve) motored Super X. Man, that bike was fast. As I said, some of the best racing I’ve ever seen anywhere, anytime!

2011 Kentucky’s Bluegrass Chapter National Road Run

Tuesday night found our crew outside East Lexington, Kentucky at the Host Hotel, just off Highway 75. Rick Najera, “Uncle Lenny” Miller. The Harris Boys, Don “Von” Schmidt, Jim Howery, and Shela, Bob Johnson and many more friends we’ve ridden with on many national road runs were present and accounted for one more time into the breach.

The orientation was at “thee” Boonsborough Fort State Park for pulled pork sandwiches and live bluegrass music. Next morning everyone but Dave Harris and I left for a 225 mile ride through the Appalachian Mountains and the National Bridge. A rainstorm the night before caused a mud slide and the route needed to be rerouted.

Dave’s magneto had died the previous day just short of Lexington. We borrowed his brother’s van and went into town to revive it. A hot rod motor builder pressed out the bottom bearing and a great young man hand knurled the outside race space, cleaned the O.D. of the magnet, and reinstalled it at his dad’s alternator/starter shop. It fired first kick.



“Indian Long John Crawford” from British Columbia on board with Dave Harris at the Wild Turkey Distillery.

Thursday was the Bourbon Tour to the Wild Turkey and Four Roses distilleries. After an early morning crossing of the Kentucky River on a really small paddle wheel ferry, the Bluegrass Chapter fed us lunch at the Four Roses stop. About 150 mile were ridden over beautiful, lush green rolling hills.

Friday's ride was about ninety miles with a stop and tour of the famous Claibourne Farms where we saw Secretariat's stable and grave. Claibourne Farms has bred five triple crown winners. We had lunch in a small café in the neat old town of Millersburg. Did I mention fresh blackberry cobbler? After lunch, just outside of Millersburg, we enjoyed ridding through an old covered bridge.

That night we attended a great closing banquet with great stories, food, awards, and prizes. Did I mention the great fresh peach cobbler? The Bluegrass Chapter really hit a home rune first time out of the box.

It was sad to say goodbye to good friends but a lot of them are riding west for the Yerba Buena Chapter's road run. Yes, riding! If they can, you can. John and I got home after close to three weeks on the road in time to watch the retiring Chris Carr, at age forty-two, almost get first place at the returning Sacramento Mile—close but no cigar. John got back to B.C. after four weeks out bound. A great time was had by all!



Ol' Blue alongside an Alabama "John Player" Norton (owned since new and unrestored) on the ferry.



Secretariat's gravestone.

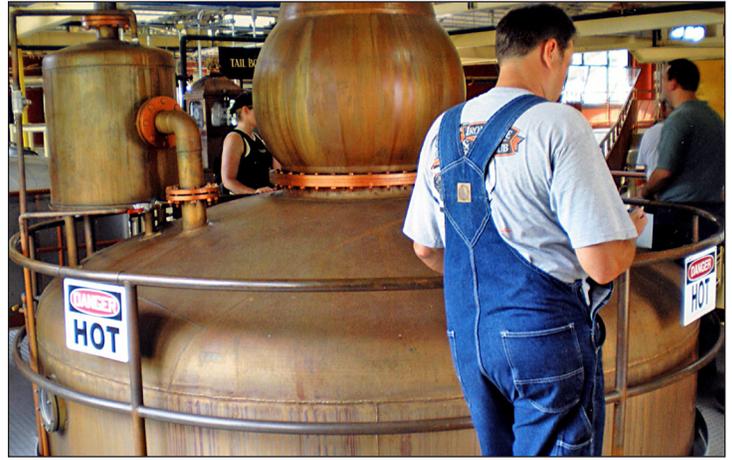


Main street, Millersburg, Kentucky.

More Kentucky pictures. . .



The historic Four Roses Distillery—over 100 years old.



The biggest “still” I ever saw!



A covered bridge on a country lane.



The ferry crossing the Kentucky River.

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 November 11, 12, and 13, 2011. However, we need more bikes as we have the whole building to ourselves again. . . . 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. You will receive a day parking and admittance pass courtesy of the promoters. . . . people love walking through our display and talking about the one they had that “got away”

Tom is making up the signage for each bike, with your help, 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 10th and stay until Sunday 6:00 p.m. The show is open to the public Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

WE ALREADY HAVE 12 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 email Jim and Marie with your information. . . . 530-622-6531 or jandmmoore@att.net

...Thank you, *Jim & Marie*



**Fort Sutter Chapter
Antique Motorcycle Club of America
C/O 4520 Francis Court
Sacramento, CA 95822**