



**Antique Motorcycle
Club of America**

Fort Sutter Newsletter



April 2022 Vol 41, Number 2

2022 OFFICERS

President Mark Loewen
Vice Pres. Jim Schenken
Secretary John Markley
Treasurer Julie Loewen
Director Bob Henry
Director Tracy Stahlman
Director Karie Schenken

CONTACT INFORMATION

President, Mark Loewen
(916) 217-2240
loewenpump@sbcglobal.net

Vice Pres., Jim Schenken
(916) 430-3922
jschenken@msn.com

Secretary/Newsletter, John Markley
(916) 616-0156
jmark1142@aol.com

Treasurer, Julie Loewen
(916) 698-7867
jloewen@sbcglobal.net

Membership, Karie Schenken
(916) 803-7732
karrots66@hotmail.com

Chapter Deputy Judge, Bob Henry
(916) 865-6026
apatomae@live.com

Web Master, Jim Schenken
(916) 430-3922
jschenken@msn.com

Club Historian, Tracy Stahlman
(916) 479-4972
stahlman4@yahoo.com

Rich Ostrander
Club Historian Emeritus

Ride Captain, Tracy Stahlman
(916) 479-4972
stahlman4@yahoo.com

www.portsutteramca.org

President's Comments

Hello Fort Sutter,

I hope your all are excited for a year full of fun things to do with the club. Planning has already been happening for months, and we are getting close to go time.

As I hope you all know our Dixon meet is just around the corner and should be back to our old normal. We are looking at a big turn out and I hope you all can make it out. And as normal we always need as much help as we can get, so sign up and lend a hand when you can. It takes an army to run the fort.

We have our club pick nick in August to look forward to and like Dixon we have been planning for months for our national road run in Lake Tahoe this September. If you haven't reserved your room yet don't wait and get signed up to join the fun. And in October we will be displaying our bikes at the auto show at Cal Expo.

I'm glad to see so many of you at the meetings and so many of you showing interest in what's happening and how to help. That's what makes a club and makes a club successful.

I hope to see even more of you at our June 4th meeting so we can finalize our Dixon to do list and have a great event. See you all soon. Remember to get out and ride.

Fort Sutter President
Mark Loewen

The next Fort Sutter meeting

**Saturday June 4, 2022,
Mark Loewen's Business
6956 Florin Perkins Rd. Sacramento, CA
Barbeque at 12:00 pm
Meeting after lunch
Additional information to follow**

Fort Sutter Meeting Minutes April 2nd and 16th , 2022 combined

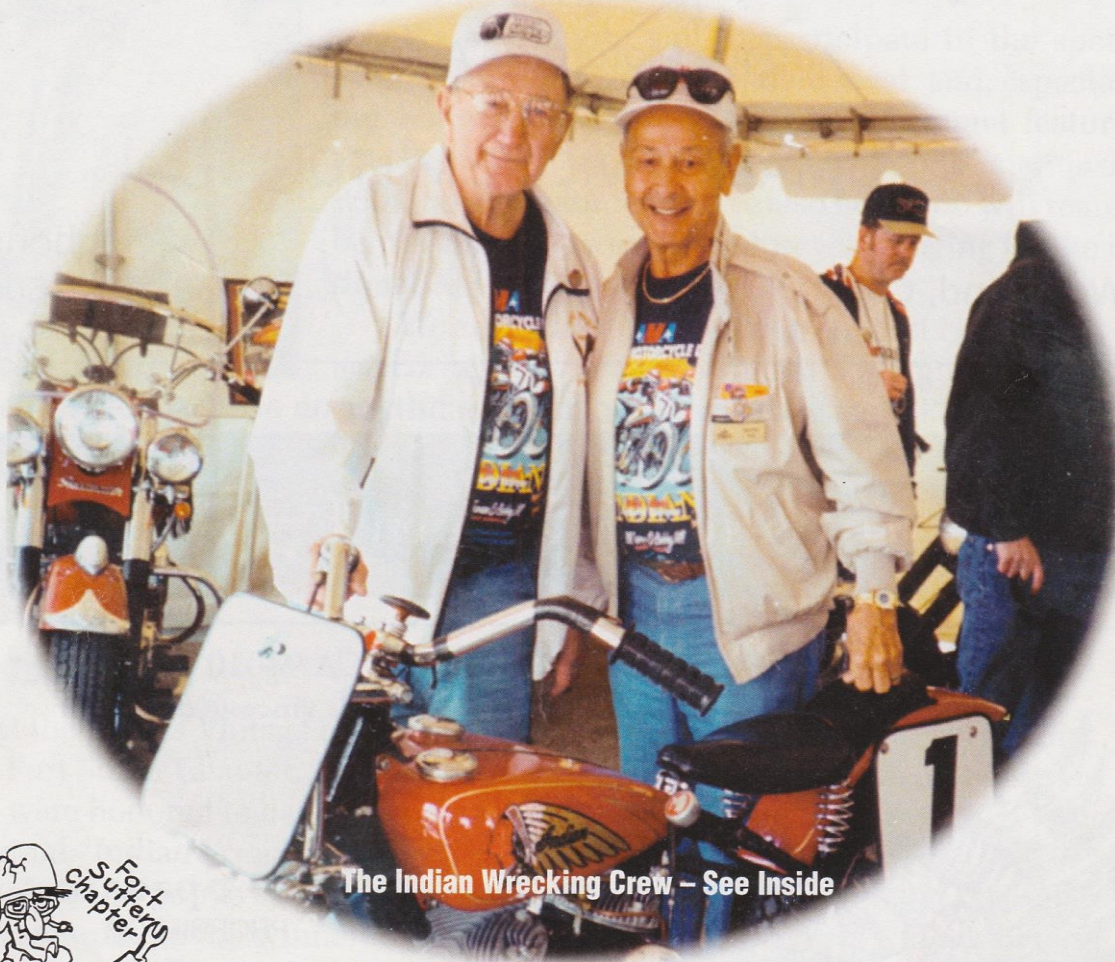
- **Call to Order:** The April 16, 2022, meeting was called to order at: 12:55 pm by Mark Loewen, President
- **Welcome New Members from last meeting:** none **Guests:** none
- **Membership:** Karie Schenken, Charmain reports there are: 51 Primary members, 16 Associates. 2 Junior members, and 11 Honorary members = 80 total
- **Treasury Report:** Julie Loewen update: Currently in the Treasury there is \$7,827 before paying the Contract fee for the Dixon Fairgrounds. The Savings account shows \$19,463.
- **Minutes:** A motion was made by Mark Wiebens and seconded by Rich Ostrander to approve the February 5, 2022; minutes as written.
- **Old Business**
- **Club Ride: No Fort Chapter Rides: However,** Joe Giammona announced that he and his wife Carol joined the Borrego Springs ride with the SoCal Chapter on March 3-6, 2022. More information and photos inside the newsletter.
- **New Business**
- **Fort Sutter Dixon 2022:** *Tom Myers – 3/4/2022 email to Fort Sutter. My wife, Jayne, made the quilt (Tom stated he would bring to the meeting) and would like to donate it to the Chapter, perhaps for a raffle or auction at Dixon. Quilt is 46 X 72 inches with ta motorcycle rider and bike with the heading 100% rebel.*
 - **Dixon: Review Job duty list – encourage volunteers to help.** : Mark L. reviewed the job duty schedule for each specific activity that needs to be handled to put on the Dixon Meet. Thank you to all club members who have signed up to perform these duties.
 - Table Decorations were discussed and the need to purchase new items: a motion was made by Mark Wiebens and seconded by Jim Schenken to purchase no more than \$100.00 in new decorations. The vote was unanimous. Motion was approved.
 - Vendor barbeque on Thursday, June 16th was reviewed again. It has been years since the Barbeque was provided. Mark Wiebens stated the Yerba Buena Chapter has offered to split the cost with Fort Sutter. A motion was made by Mark Wiebens and seconded by Mark Milton to provide the Vendor Barbeque and split the cost 50/50 with an estimated \$500 total cost. The vote was approved unanimously. Motion was approved.
- **Club Picnic:** Tracey Kleber, Banquet/Picnic coordinator: The August Picnic is confirmed for Saturday August 13th. Location (same as last year) Elk Grove Regional Park, 9950 Elk Grove Florin Rd. Picnic Spot 7A – 11:00 am – 3:00 pm
- **Fort Sutter Road Run update:** Mark L. provided an update for the Lake Tahoe Road Run scheduled for September 26-28, 2022. Mark stated the Comstock Chapter (Reno, NV) has made a generous offer to help support Fort Sutter with route planning, provide a chase vehicle for the Nevada route, as well other items to help. Mark stated he has reached out to George Canavan, Comstock President, to accept their offer and begin next steps in working together. In return for their offer Fort Sutter will include acknowledgement for Comstock's help by recognition in print and at the banquet. Fort Sutter is looking forward to building a relationship with the Comstock Chapter and appreciates and accepts their offer for support.
- **SACAUTOSHOW:** Mark advised everyone that the Sacramento Auto Show will be held again this year on October 14, 15, & 16, 2022 at Cal Expo. Same location as in years past. Fort Sutter is invited each year to bring motorcycles for display at no charge for three days – Friday, Saturday and Sunday. More information and sign-up sheet for staffing and bike display soon.
- **Meeting adjourned at:** 2:35 pm

2001 Fort Sutter's 1st Dixon National Meet

WELCOME TO THE 2001 NATIONAL MEET

**THE FORT SUTTER CHAPTER
HONORS THE 100th YEAR OF**

Indian
MOTORCYCLES



The Indian Wrecking Crew - See Inside



SOUVENIR PROGRAM

June 22, 23, 24, 2001

Dixon Fair Grounds, Dixon California



2001 Fort Sutter's 1st Dixon National Meet

Inside the souvenir program

From the President...



Welcome to the first National Meet of the Fort Sutter Chapter, Antique Motorcycle Club of America. We hope you enjoy your visit and that we meet all your expectations. Please, do not hesitate to contact any of our staff (those wearing orange vests) if you should have any problems or need help.

We also invite you to participate in the special events: Technical seminars, field meet, and, especially, our Saturday night special awards banquet featuring speaker Bob Stark who has had a lifelong relationship with Indian motorcycles. We also hope you will remember the Sunday morning motorcycle judging for the National AMCA awards.

We are dedicated to making our first National Event a success. This can only happen if our guests enjoy the experience. We pledge to do anything within our power to make this happen!

Jim Moore
President

Fort Sutter Chapter, AMCA

On The Cover...

At the AMA's Vintage Days West, which was held last April at Sears Point, the Fort Sutter Chapter, AMCA sponsored a display of 25 Indian motorcycles. We were honored to have been paid a visit by Bill Tuman and Bobby Hill, the original "Indian Wrecking Crew".

Before the points system was inaugurated in 1954, the Number One Plate was awarded to the winner of the Springfield Mile. Bobby (on the right) was the National Champion in 1951 and 1952 and Bill carried the Number One Plate in 1953.

During their visit, both Bill and Bobby proved to be true gentlemen who are still great ambassadors for our sport, willing to take pictures with, and give autographs to all who asked. We thank you both.

Fort Sutter Chapters FIRST National Meet Dixon 2001

Photos



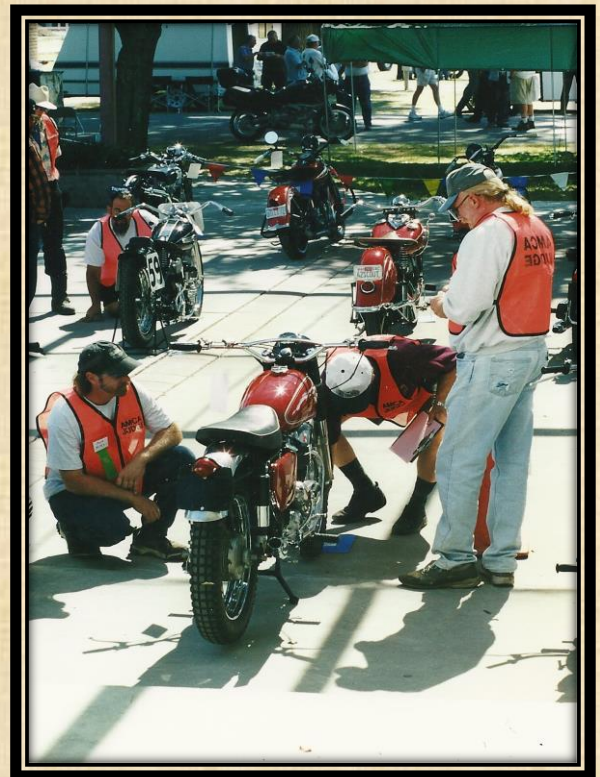
The "Big Red Bus" Food Vendor



Vendors barely covered the outside perimeter – notice the empty space



Our Chapter Deputy Judge was Dennis Thompson (white T-shirt) outside under a canopy giving a seminar



Judging Back row and L to R with white hat is Joe Mann, Dave Kafton (kneeling)
Front row L to R is Mark Milton (kneeling) and Pete Gagan and standing is Carl Grone



1st Field game on South Lawn shows Dave Kafton's daughter (2nd from left) beating the "boys" to their machines – Field games which has since been eliminated.

2001 Fort Sutter's 1st Dixon National Meet

Inside the souvenir program (author Rich Ostrander)

The History of the Fort Sutter Chapter, Antique Motorcycle Club of America

On January 5, 1982, a request sent to the Antique Motorcycle Club of America by member Jack Gormley, was instrumental in establishing the second AMCA chapter of the West Coast. The first being the Southern California Chapter which had been established some ten years earlier.

At that time, the AMCA had only fifteen chapters nationwide and about 2,000 members. Now, in 2001 the chapters total 36 and around 8,500 members are on board.

Jack and the other eleven charter members first activity was a ride to Sam's Town just off Highway 50 on June 20, 1982. Sixteen riders enjoyed a ride of some seventy-five miles in length.

On September 26, 1982 the chapter held its first swap meet behind Country Club Centre. The purpose of the swap meet was to raise funds to enable us to hold our first regional meet in July of 1983.

We are now approaching our twentieth year as a chapter and holding our first national swap meet. When our chapter was founded, Frank Conley was putting on the yearly Classic Antique Motorcycle Association (CAMA) meet in Visalia, California. The Southern California Chapter, AMCA meet was being held yearly in La Mirada, California and the NorCal Motorcycle Chapter of the Antique Automobile Club of America (AACA) was hosting a meet at the Pleasanton Fairgrounds in Northern California.

The Pleasanton meet is no longer. The CAMA is no longer known by that name but continues as the quite successful Hanford, California meet and is held every May. The Southern California Chapter meet, which became the El Camino Meet, no longer exists. But our meet, which has never been as large as the afore mentioned meets, continues and is still going strong.

Several of our Charter members were members of Sacramento's, AMA sanctioned, Indian Club. This club, know as The Fort Sutter Motorcycle Club was found in 1932 and disbanded in 1972. Members included Richard Fairclo (deceased), Ed "Spider" Hawtrey (deceased), Indian and Excelsior dealer Al Lauer (deceased), Sacramento Motorcycle dealer Joe Sarkees (deceased), Ed Thaddeus (deceased), Ross "Whitey" Thompkins (deceased), Francis "Shorty" Thompkins, William "Willie" Seadler, and Edward "Bud" Catlett.

John Schaefer, Jack Gormley and, the late Armando Magri finished off an even dozen. John and Jack weren't original Fort Sutter members and Armando belonged to the Capitol City Motorcycle Club which was the Harley-Davidson club in town.

So, our chapter's roots run deep. With our annual spring dinner, spring and fall road rides, a late spring picnic in Coloma, a summer swap meet, and a national road run through the Sierras every few years we keep fairly active.

If you are not a current member but would like to be, ask one of our orange vested members for details or ask for information at our chapter booth and then, let the fun begin!

Remembering Fort Sutter Chapters FIRST National Meet Dixon 2001

By Rich Ostrander

After hosting an AMCA regional meet in the downtown Sacramento area from 1983 to 1999 it was decided to move the event to a larger venue at the Dixon Fairgrounds. The 2000 event would be a trial run towards our first National Meet in 2001. It would be the first National Meet west of the Mississippi.

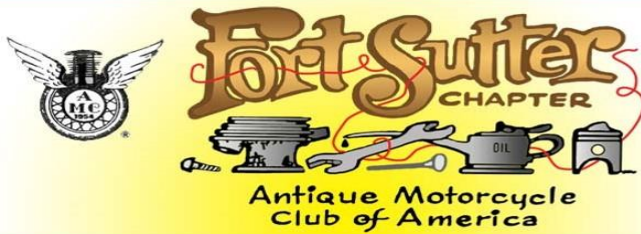
Our theme for 2001 was the celebration of the Indian motorcycles 100th birthday. In our second year at the Dixon site, we had just enough vendors to the spaces around the outside edge of our vendor field. Today the field is full and additional space utilized.

In 2001 we held technical seminars outside under a canopy, a well attended field meet, and a ride south of the fairgrounds. Saturday was the only vending day with the banquet held that evening.

In the 19 years since that first National Meet much has changed. Vendors are setup on Thursday and vend Friday and Saturday. The banquet is held on Friday night and there are no Sunday activities, no ride, no field meet, and the seminars are held in Denver Hall. Successful Dixon has become the "Go to" AMCA event west of the Rockies. From humble beginning to what we always thought it would become so many years ago.



*Our T-Shirt for the First National Meet at Dixon Fairgrounds Celebrating
Indian's 100th Year*



NATIONAL MOTORCYCLE SHOW AND SWAP MEET

Friday & Saturday

June 17 and 18, 2022

Our 20th Year!



Friday - Swap Meet, Vending,
Display of Antique Motorcycles

Saturday - Swap Meet,
Vending, Display of Antique
Motorcycles, National Judging
and Awards

Dixon Fairgrounds—Dixon, California
25 Miles West of Sacramento
Just South of Interstate 80

RV Camping with HOOKUP AVAILABLE \$40.00
night
or \$15.00 tent camping

Beginning in 2022

AMCA Judging
Pre-Registration Only

E-mail: AMCAprereg@gmail.com

Or online:

www.antiquemotorcycle.org

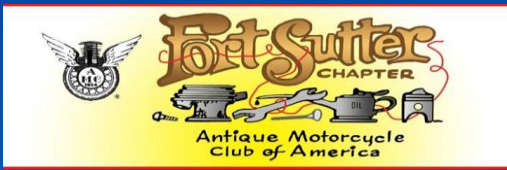
FOR VENDING PRE-REGISTRATION
CALL:

Karie Schenken (916) 803-7732

AND FOR GENERAL INFORMATION
CALL:

Mark Wiebens (925) 288-0174

Fort Sutter Chapter



The Fort Sutter Chapter invites riders to enjoy California's most beautiful areas with scenic routes, fresh air, friends and old iron rolling through the mountains! Enjoy 3 days of riding through the beautiful Sierra Nevada mountains.

Our neighboring Comstock Chapter will be sponsoring a day's ride called the "Comstock Run" to include destinations such as Virginia City, Genoa and Lake Tahoe.



Host Hotel centrally located with trailer parking.
Register online at the AMCA website.



Need more information after registration contact Mark Wiebens:
(925) 288-0174

Ride Report

Fort Sutter Chapter AMCA Facebook Posting Joe Giammona – Fort Sutter Member

Carol and I just got back from the Borrego Springs ride. We took our '67 FL and '86 FXR. Had a little bit of everything, gale winds, a little rain and hail, cold, dirt road and nice mountain roads with beautiful scenery. As with every AMCA event, we met many nice people and made a few new friends. Also, Jim Moore was there with his two sons (Jeff & Mike) he is doing well. Sorry I didn't get a picture with him. Another great run in the books. Here's a few pics of our adventure.



Joe and Carol



*Fort Sutter hat on -----
Joe and Carol with our and those jackets much needed....*

John Schaefer

March 5, 1925 — May 9, 2015

Reprint from the May-June 2015
Newsletter

The Last of Our Founding Members

A remembrance by Rich Ostrander

This is an appreciation and acknowledgement of John Schaefer's life. He was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather, and World War II European Theater veteran. Also, a master machinist and motorcycle engine builder, he was my good friend and mentor for forty years. He was the last living member of the group of twelve who founded the Fort Sutter Chapter of the AMCA. He was also our second president.

John told me that when he was a young man in Southern California, he and his friends would ride their bob-jobs to the drive-in movies then sit on their bikes and watch the show from the back row. He would also go on runs and attend field meets with the "LA 45s", a local motorcycle club of which Paul Briggsby of Crocker fame was the president.

John worked as a mechanic for Jack and Cordy Milne and "Lammy" Lamoreux, all well known speedway racers of the late thirties. Their shop, in Glendale, was just around the corner from Max Bubeck and his brother's saw sharpening shop. Max and John had gone to school together. John also worked with racer Dick Milligan when Dick had a bike shop across the street from Hughes Aircraft in Culver City. Joe Petrali would bring the brakes from Howard Hughes' personal aircraft over to them to reline.

In addition, John was an instructor at L.A. Technical Institute. His favorite story of that time was when Willie G. Davidson was a student there. Willie's father was too frugal (cheap) to give him enough for a food allowance so Willie's uncle would send John money to see that his nephew had enough to eat.

While John lived in Southern California he worked for a large importer and distributor of English motorcycles who had customers all over the United States. John would travel to the various dealers and instruct their mechanics on the new model's maintenance and repair.

Eventually, John, and his wife Jean, relocated to Sacramento. He had a very successful machine shop downtown, just north of C Street that he later moved closer to Arden Way and Del Paso Blvd. Eventually, he moved his equipment to the new shop he built at his home off Arden Way. John built the Norton motors that powered Alex Jorgenson's successful flat tracker that was one of the last British machines to contest the Harley. John favorite machines though were Harleys—especially the JDH "twin cam" model. He built and rode a brute of a "stroked" version, which his son, "Little John" enjoys today. He completed several precision military projects for Raytheon, projects for Custom Chrome, repair work for the Sacramento Harley dealership, and many more private customers' work—all from his home shop. My favorite memories are the weekly meetings on his kitchen table with Chuck Otis, Jerry Cordy, "Benny The Dentist," and whoever else dropped by. We won old battles, solved old mysteries, Scout engine he built for me. I rode it hard for fifteen years and couldn't kill it. It still lives in New Jersey with an "Older" member at the controls. Possibly to ride on the 2015 "Race of Gentlemen." John would be pleased. We all have a limited and exchanged several lifetimes of mechanical knowledge. A testament to his motor building was the Indian "101" amount of time on this small orb. John used his well as his family and many, many friends will attest to. A finer gentleman I have yet to meet, and I will miss his wisdom and knowledge. Rest in peace old friend, your work here is done.



John (red shirt) at
the 1984 Fort
Sutter Picnic

*AMCA Fort Sutter Chapter Moments
Chapter founded by 10 ex-Fort Sutter
Motorcycle Club (founded 1932 and put
to rest in 1972)
Members and 2 other local AMCA
members in 1982*

More AMCA Moments coming soon.....

*Jayne Myers donated the below
Quilt to Fort Sutter*



- Tom Myers – 3/4/2022 email to Fort Sutter. My wife, Jayne, made the quilt (Tom stated he would bring to the meeting) and would like to donate it to the Chapter, perhaps for a raffle or auction at Dixon. Quilt is 46 X 72 inches with a motorcycle rider and bike with the heading 100% rebel.

Thank you, Jane Myers!

Fort Sutter Rides & Upcoming Motorcycle Events

Fort Sutter April Ride

Sunday April 24th Club Ride

Tracy Stahlman, Ride Coordinator says: Let's Ride!

Date: Sunday April 24, 2022, Club Ride

Meet at the Freeport Bar & Grill located at 8259 Freeport Blvd, Sacramento

Kickstands up at 9:00 am (fuel up before ride)

Ride Route: Freeport to Woodland - Davis - Dixon - Rio Vista - Locke for lunch

at Al the Wops and back to Freeport. Tracy (916) 479-4972

May 1st - Sunday

NorCal Sacramento Swap Meet

West Wind Sacramento 6 Drive-in

9616 Oates Drive, Sacramento, CA

Spectator Gate Opens @ 8:00 a.m.

\$10 entry for spectators

VENDORS:

Gates open 7:00 a.m.



Hanford Swap Meet

May 13-14

Kings County Fairgrounds

801 S. 10th Ave.

Hanford CA 93230

\$10 Kids under 12 free.

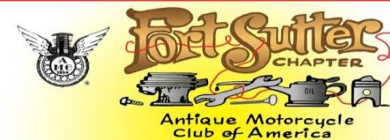
Early Bird Shoppers General Admission

Wristbands Available:

Friday 11am-10pm 40/Each

Saturday 5am-9am 20/Each

<https://www.hanfordcycleswap.com/>



Fort Sutter May Ride

Sunday May 29th

Ride to and attend the 14th Annual Ishi Motorcycle Show & Swap Meet

Fort Sutter Riders stay tuned for more details

Link to flyer:

<https://www.yerbabuenaamca.org/Is%20Swap%20and%20Show%20May%2029%202022.pdf>

Visit the Fort Sutter Website

www.fortsutteramca.org

Or on Facebook Fort Sutter Chapter
AMCA