



2026 OFFICERS

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President's Comments

Wow!

Here we are, already April. Actually it's almost May!

Spring has sprung. I only hope your winter projects, tune ups, maintenance, and spit shining is about done. Now it is time to put all that labor to the test. Get those bikes out and ride. Twist the grips, let those pipes breath and scream.

Thank you Bill and Joe for organizing a few club rides. For the most part mother nature has given us her permission to sneak in a few miles through the winter. I look forward for a couple more rides soon. As for the club, we are doing good (in my eyes). Most of the major hurdles are either completed or in the process of completing for Dixon. We still have more to do and are relying on your participation to make Dixon a great event that everyone enjoys and expects. Without your help as a participating member, we could never pull it off. All jobs and tasks, no matter how small, take time and effort and are appreciated. The old saying that "it takes a village" rings true here. Dixon is our child and it takes all of our community to make it shine. That also goes out to our vendors and patrons that flow through the gates. Without them we have nothing. Please reach out if you intend to help at the fairgrounds in June. We will find something for you.

If one national event wasn't enough now we are hosting two this year! Our road run is in September. We are basing it in Jackson. We sold out before it even was printed in the magazine. We will have over 100 bikes and riders, and a dozen passengers. We will ride the foothills and roll through gold country exploring roads you may never have known existed. We will have a catered banquet for all registered participants and their guests. Beautiful bikes and BS will litter the parking lot of our host hotel. It will be wonderful!

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***Our next chapter meeting will be Saturday, June 6, 2026,
at Mark Loewen's shop in Elk Grove***

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We will try to have our next meeting at Mark Loewen's shop June 6th. We will BBQ some dogs and put the final touches on Dixon. If the weather is favorable, ride your scooters to the meeting.

Until then get those two wheeled (some three) out on the roads and enjoy them!

Keep it safe.

See you soon.

Tracy Stahlman
President Fort Sutter Chapter of the AMCA

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Fort Sutter Meeting Minutes April 4, 2026

Call to Order: The April 4, 2026 meeting was called to order at: 1:03 pm with approximately 20 members present.

- **Welcome New Members:** None; **Guests:** None at the meeting
- **Membership:** Karie Schenken, Membership Chair, reports there are: 75 Primary members, 30 Associates, 3 Junior members, 5 Honorary members, 1 honorary associate member and 7 honorary past.
- **Treasury Report:** Current checking balance: \$31,146; CD: \$21,494; for total assets of \$52,640.
- **Minutes:** A motion was made by Stan and seconded by multiple members to approve the minutes as written for the February 7, 2026 meeting.

Old Business

- None.

New Business

- **National Road Run 2026:** The National Road Run scheduled for Sep. 2026 is sold out. The contract with the caterer is done. Certificate of insurance is done. Hotel reservations have been going OK. 128 banquet tickets have been sold.
- **National minute:** John Markley was not present.
- **Dixon planning**
 - Dixon swap meet and show: June 18- 20: Certificate of insurance in done. The contract with the fairgrounds is done. Fairgrounds cost is up about \$450, and security is up by about \$100. The board decided not to increase the price to swap meet vendors this year. If we have a shortfall this year, we will revisit the price for 2027. One member asked what prevented us from having field games. Tracy explained that it is a combination of factors. Fairground does not want vehicles on the large lawn; plus, we would have to have a separate insurance policy through National to cover it as a separate event. Camping for our event will remain \$45 for RVs, \$20 for tents, even though the fairgrounds has raised the price for 2027. Banquet tickets still need to be printed. Janitorial services are set, with no increase in cost this year. Tracy wants to put one of the security personnel at the back to prevent anyone from riding on the back gravel area. Gary noted that alcohol has not been a problem in the past; if public consumption is noted, give a gentle reminder to consume alcohol discretely. Neither the Ft. Sutter chapter nor our food vendors supply any alcoholic beverages. Margie and others requested that the National Judging area be restricted to judges, no spectators. Gary suggested that additional help might be needed in National Judging because his wife will not be able to help this year. Contact Gary if you can help. Margie said a Courtyard hotel on 113 had been closed for a while, but has reopened under new management at reasonable prices. We might consider having a specific time period for spectators to enter the National Judging area. The Thursday BBQ is being handled by Mark Milton who says they should be OK with the roughly \$1,100 funding that usually comes from the chapter. The amount we receive in reimbursement from National may be dependent on the number of people fed. Sodas and water still need to be purchased for the BBQ, the banquet, and national judging. Tracy showed the Dixon logo for this year's event. Sponsors are still being sought. Tracy is working on Dunlop, and still trying to get a final agreement with Russ Brown. A new photo of 3 bikes will be included on the digital billboard at Dixon.

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- **Past events:**

- The banquet was enjoyed by all there. Space was a little limited at Gami Burger because we couldn't count on being able to use the outside. Thanks to Tracey Kleber for organizing the event.
- Chapter Ride March 26, 2026, midweek ride, had pretty good attendance, and it was a nice ride. It went down River Road and then across 12 to Fairfield. Then by Berryessa and to Winters and back to Rio Vista and then home.

- **Upcoming events and club rides**

- The picnic will be August 1 or August 8, probably combined with our meeting. Tracey will check availability of the location.
- Bill and Joe are working on organizing a few more rides, perhaps additional mid-week rides around Berryessa or Calistoga. Currently a ride is scheduled for April 18.
- Norcal cycle swap on April 12.
- Hanford Cycle Swap May 1-2.
- Margie mentioned the Scotts Valley Motorcycle Show, on Hwy 17, northeast of Santa Cruz. Coming up on July 25. This might end up being the replacement for the Quail motorcycle show.
- Next meeting June 6, 2026

Meeting adjourned at: 2:36 pm

Photo Shoot for Digital Billboard

February 7, 2026

(photos by Tom Myers)

Several members showed up with their antique motorcycles to stage them for photos to include on the digital billboard at Dixon. Thanks to John and Phyllis Markley, Mike Williams, and Mike and Tamara Lee for bringing their motorcycles and helping with this effort.



The promotion below will appear on the digital billboard at Dixon that is visible from the I80 freeway. Thanks to our members, a variety of brands and countries of origin are represented. The display will appear on the billboard during the month leading up to the Dixon swap meet.

*Antique Motorcycle Show
& Swap Meet
Spectators Free!*



Dixon Fairgrounds Fri/Sat June 19 - 20

DOINKSTERS DO IT RIGHT

MEET THE CLUB FOR GENTLEMEN GEARHEADS

As you can imagine, we receive a lot of correspondence at the magazine – books, magazines, photos, emails, letters. All of it is interesting – and some of it is fascinating. So when we got a package from Richard Ostrander in Sacramento (or ‘Dr Sprocket’ as he is otherwise known), we were pretty excited.

If you read bike-related Blogs or magazines, Rich’s name will be familiar. He’s been around the kind of motorcycles we all love for a long time now, and knows his stuff. The package he sent us concerned a ‘gentlemen’s club’ he’s a member of called the Doinksters.

They may be gentlemen, but Rich and his fellow-members have seen more action on choppers, bobbers, and drag bikes than most of us. They’ve been on two wheels individually since the ‘60s and ‘70s, and together as a hard-riding club since 1980.

Rich explains, “We’re a bunch of ‘old’ chopper riders who still enjoy each other’s company. The Doinksters, as we’re known, have been riding together for nearly 30 years. Our

mascot is a cartoon of an old racer with a cracked helmet, shirt out, boots unlaced, holding his gloves and a wrench. We affectionately named him ‘Rust E. Nutts’.”

So here they are: some of The Doinksters, with their bikes – all machines that truly define what this magazine is about. Rich gave us some information on each of them.

Bob Kergel’s 1956 Panhead, left, looks exactly the way it did when it was built in 1970 (except for a repaint by Mike Sharp in 1979). Bob, who owns and operates a paint and auto shop in Woodland CA, bought the bike in April 1989, and hasn’t altered it except for an engine rebuild a couple of years ago. The motor threw a rod, so Jim Torchert of Vallejo rebuilt it with S&S flywheels, 9-1 pistons, healthy cam and shovel valves.

The Pan is pure 1970: it features a trimmed and moulded ‘56 straightleg frame with no rake; early Sporty fork with 4” over tubes; a Bates headlight and Lucas taillight; Bates footpegs; and a British peanut tank and rear fender. Straight from the freezer!



Bob Kergel's Pan is a super-cool 1970 time machine!





Leonard Miller's 1947 Knucklehead Bobjob, above, started out as a stock EL, with Bullneck frame, in rough shape. The engine was then rebuilt and stroked to 74 inches by Knuckle specialist Carl Olsen; the rest of the transformation was performed by Rich Ostrander himself.

Leonard's (better known as 'Uncle Lenny') bike ended up with some nice, rare period parts: rechromed Flanders dogbone risers hold early Panhead bars; Crocker taillight; K-Model seat; Hummer horn; NOS '60s Superior

shotgun dual exhausts; Wagner hubcaps; and Chicago Co kicker pedal and grips. Rich straightened the wavy (one year only) '47 tanks and oil tank and added a stock headlight, speedo and reproduction fender half. He also painted the bike with a can of Rustoleum.

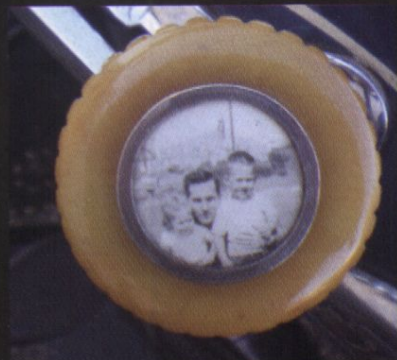
Fellow Doinkster Dave Kafton rebuilt the transmission and laced the Harley 18 inch wheels. With the addition of some repro foot boards, primary covers and chain guard, this proper bobber was on the road.

Ron Sabey is a retired welder/fabricator in Walnut Creek, NorCal, and his '51 Panhead is influenced by a couple of local rebels he grew up with. One Charlie Smith was the neighbourhood's bad boy when Ron lived in Sacramento as a kid, and the steeple pipes on Charlie's Knuck made a lasting impression. Later, in Walnut Creek, Allan 'Hogly' Hamin terrorised the locals on a '48 Pan of similar construction. The die was cast!

Ron's self-built Pan features '63-'65 heads, a shovel oil pump, VLspringer,

and a H-D siren cover used as an air cleaner. The frame is a 1951 wishbone, and the engine displacement is 84 inches. Paint is by Dave McCellen, stripes by Basil; a fine tribute to those bad boys back in the day!

GROWING UP, RON WAS INFLUENCED BY THE LOCAL BAD BOYS...



Rich has owned this fine '40 Knuck for eight years, having had his eye on it since the mid-70s. Built as the kind of dresser his dad would have ridden to Gypsy Tour events after WWII (check out dad's portrait in the shifter knob), it was originally a Highway Patrol bike.

It features Flanders risers and bars, Wagner front hub cap, tru-duals by Superior with MCM rocket mufflers, Cominsky tank badges with Buco letters, tailgunner lights on the

front fender valances and original 'zeppelins' on the rear. Aftermarket tiedowns plus bumpers and fender tips complete the look. Saddle and bags are refettled originals, but the fenders are repro (Rich says good originals are non-existent). Fellow-Doinks Bob Kergel and Dave Kaften handled paint and engine/trans rebuilds, respectively. Though not the usual GK fare, this glorious Knuck is – like all the Doinkster members' bikes – done absolutely right.