



**Antique Motorcycle
Club of America**

Fort Sutter Newsletter



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President's Comments

Here we are in August already! Summer is quickly rolling to an end.

My last message spoke of pre Dixon talk and concerns. Since then we conquered the meet successfully. Good times were had by most. We did encounter some minor issues but it was all handled and we moved forward. I can't thank all of you enough for helping with the work to make our event as great as we expected it to be. I also want to thank our sponsors and supporters. Without them we would lose money and not be able to continue this 44 year tradition for very much longer.

July was pretty quiet for the club, not much going on other than a couple local swap meets.

The first weekend of August we had our club picnic/meeting. Thank you Tracey Kleber for putting the gears in motion yet again. We picked the hottest day of the year to hold an outdoor picnic! Maybe not but it was hot. We enjoyed the shade that Elk Grove Park gave to us along with a nice BBQ meal delivered from McQuess BBQ. Several new faces showed up as well as some OG members. It was great to see Rich and Barbara Hardmeyer attend. We also had a guest or two to add to the mix. I think the head count was near 40 after it was all said and done. We discussed Dixon and the upcoming road run during the meeting portion, boring everyone to tears. Personally I would prefer to do a post Dixon meeting with the key players of the meet and any others that want to attend or have a say, to discuss the event pros and cons and not at the picnic. We had to discuss the road run because we won't meet again prior to the run. Another Ft. Sutter road run probably won't happen again for another 4-5 years.

Even though not much seems to be happening there is plenty going on behind the scenes of the National Road Run our club is hosting this September. Each day there are calls to make, calls to take, checking attendance lists and more. I'm happy to say we are sold out! We have

(continued on [page 2](#))

***Our next chapter meeting will be Saturday, October 3, 2026,
tentatively at Round Table Pizza, 8345 Elk Grove/Florin Rd, near
Calvine Rd.***

150 people attending the banquet, 123 motorcycles, and a dozen passengers. I think our host hotel has booked all or most of the 80 rooms we set aside at a discounted rate. If you haven't reserved a room yet you should call them quickly. We have three days of rides being planned, a couple food stops, and a banquet. Like I said, plenty to do. I've said it before, if you haven't done a road run, regional or national you're missing out. I'm excited to tour the Hwy 49 corridor and visit all the historical towns that litter the foothills and Sierra's. To think we will be visiting communities that have existed since the 1840's and were responsible for the move out west. These highways and roads were wagon trails, pony express routes, and gave many miners access to the mother lode!

Once the dust settles from the road run we have a little break until we start the process all over again. I believe chapter elections will be on the itinerary in October and December so think about raising your hand for a spot on the board that might be up this year. Try to participate in the planning or execution of upcoming events. Your help is needed and appreciated. It takes a village to keep a club going.

Check out our new website that Jim Schenken has been working on. I'm hoping to get more information and historical articles on the site too when I find the time.

Ride safe!

See ya soon!

Tracy Stahlman

In this Issue:

President's Letter **Page 1**

Table of Contents **Page 3**

Minutes of August 2, 2026 meeting **Page 4**

August 2, 2026 chapter meeting and picnic **Page 6**

Fort Sutter Meeting Minutes August 2, 2026

Call to Order: The August 2, 2026 meeting was called to order at: 1:00 pm with approximately 40 members present.

- **Welcome New Members:** Bill, Chloe, Luke; **Guests:** AJ, Jean at the meeting
- **Membership:** Karie Schenken, Membership Chair was absent. Estimated membership as follows: 82 Primary members, 30 Associates, 3 Junior members, 5 Honorary members, 1 honorary associate member and 7 honorary past.
- **Treasury Report:** Treasurer was not present, but sent in a summary of Dixon expenses and income which showed a small net positive thanks mostly to generous donations from sponsors.
- **Minutes:** A motion was made by Mark and seconded by multiple others to approve the minutes as written for the June 6, 2026 meeting. No opposition.

Old Business

- **Dixon:**
 - Event summary: Dixon went well for the most part. The fairground sound system was once again a problem, which was only partially resolved (back speakers never worked). We had a new amp owned by the club, but to try to resolve the problems, Mike, who has provided a PA system in the past, came out on an emergency basis to help. Due to issues with the fairgrounds wiring, the rear speaker problem was never resolved. Vendors were in and set up in what may have been record time (by about 10 am). The spaghetti feed banquet worked well, one (1) complainer who thought they should have gotten a steak dinner. The club's charge of \$15 a head was a good price, although there was a misunderstanding about the tip, which it turns out had not been included in the \$15 price. The cost to the club ended up more like \$20 a head. The vendor BBQ was well received, and brought in a number of donations. Next year, Tracy would like to get the sign-in closed down so the sign-in staff could participate in the BBQ. Tom suggested that maybe after the big rush, the sign-in could be moved to the Ft. Sutter tent. The sprinklers coming on during the event was a problem, this despite assurances from the fairgrounds that the sprinklers were shut off. John Markley reported that Eric Olsen was the event chief judge for Dixon and will continue in that role next year. The electronic judging forms worked pretty well and the few minor glitches were overcome. Bill Cruz noted that the public did not have the opportunity to see the National judging bikes. Completion of national judging was delayed because there were 8 bikes that were not marked so they didn't get judged. Some of the judges left, and then there was a scramble to judge these last 8 bikes. Tracy commended Gary for his effort laying out the judging area. Bill noted that Gary should not have to judge bikes himself, but should oversee and organize judging instead. The topic of the "problem child" was raised again by Tracy. He's almost a grown up now, but still ignores rules about speed on the grounds and stunt type riding. The membership agreed that Tracy would be justified in banning the child from the Dixon event. Bob Henry gave a rough head count through the gate of 630 people. This is a rough estimate, because people come and go and enter at different locations. Possibly should be rounded up to about 1000. Kim reported that all past event merchandise was sold. Only 6 shirts were left from the current event.
 - During the above discussion, Tracy offered thanks to Tracey Kleber for organizing today's picnic.
 - Laying to rest the idea of changing the date: It has been suggested, typically by non-Ft. Sutter members, that the location and/or date for the Dixon meet should be changed, e.g. to avoid Father's Day weekend, or to find a cheaper venue. Regarding location, some other locations have been investigated, but most fairgrounds are operated under similar rules and pricing, so it does not appear that significant savings could be found. Changing the date could also be problematic since later could conflict with other motorcycle events, such as the Born Free motorcycle show. Earlier could conflict with other AMCA national events. In either case, it might mean lower attendance at Dixon. After some additional discussion, Tracy asked a motion be considered to shelve indefinitely further discussion of date or venue change for Dixon. Seconded by Mark, and no opposition was expressed.

- Theme for 2027: The theme for Dixon was discussed briefly. Tom suggested Dawn of the Crotch Rockets to be inclusive of Japanese makes. Bob suggested the 70th year of the Sportster. No decision was made, and members were encouraged to submit ideas to the board.

New Business

● **National Road Run 2026**

- Tracy has the Day 1 ride planned. Tunie has Day 2 and Day 3 rides planned. Lunch will be on your own with dinner at Murphy's on Day 2. Tunie is working on catering for Day 3.
- Tracy is working on a place for a pro photographer to take individual pictures of motorcycles during one of the ride days. Sutter's Mill seemed like a good site, but State Parks wants \$10 per bike to enter and park. He continues to look for a photo site.
- Shirts are ordered and they will be gold.
- The banquet is arranged, with 150 people registered.

● **National minute:**

- John Markley clarified "standardization" proposed by AMCA National. (E.g., all national meets running Fri -Sun) Some chapters have trouble keeping participants on site throughout the meet. Keith decided to get chapter presidents to discuss meet schedules. Chapters were encouraged to make meets run from Fri - Sun. However, there are cases where this will not work, such as our Dixon meet because that would put part of the meet on Fathers Day. AMCA is losing membership, primarily due to age. If you can recruit younger members, please do. And if younger members can help with duties, feel free to offer.
- John and Tracy presented a "Well Done" coin to yours truly Tom Myers for his work as secretary and newsletter editor and I am truly honored.
- John and Tracy presented Mike Williams with a "Well Done" coin for his consistent support at all of Ft. Sutter's activities, be it Dixon, NorCal swap, hauling to events, etc.

● **Past events:**

- Dick Crawford attended the Wauseon meet. He noted that judging was conducted in a manner similar to us.

● **Upcoming events and club rides**

- NorCal swap - Sept 6, 2026
- Ft. Sutter National Road Run, Sept 21 -23, 2026
- Next meeting October 3, 2026

- **Tracey Kleber announced that she will not be able to continue organizing banquets and picnics.** She has been doing this for Ft. Sutter for many years, but for personal reasons, she cannot continue in this role. We owe her a great debt of thanks for her efforts.

Meeting adjourned at: 2:42 pm

Fort Sutter Picnic and Chapter Meeting

August 2, 2026

(photos by Joe Giammona)

The Ft. Sutter Chapter got together at Elk Grove Regional Park for a catered picnic on August 2, 2026. Some 40 members enjoyed the tri-tip and chicken lunch organized once again by Tracey Kleber. As always, many thanks to Tracey for all the events she has arranged over the past years.



(Chapter picnic and meeting, continued)

Members lounged in the much welcomed shade, escaping the heat of a very hot Central Valley day.



(Chapter picnic and meeting, continued)

The buffet style lunch was a big hit with members and guests, with potato salad, beans, and cake for dessert.



(Chapter picnic and meeting, continued)

At the end of the chapter meeting, two of us were honored with “Well Done” coins, presented by AMCA President and Ft. Sutter member, John Markley, and Chapter President, Tracy Stahlman.



Tom Myers (yours truly) was honored (and I am *genuinely* honored) for his work as chapter Secretary and newsletter editor for the past few years, and for handling email distributions, and helping at Dixon, including manning the Ft. Sutter booth there.

Mike Williams received the award for his consistent support at all chapter activities. Whether it's at Dixon, a monthly swap meet, or any other activity, he's there hauling a trailer, loading or unloading, cleaning up, whatever is asked of him.

