The President’s Corner

The breakfast ride to the Bon Ton Cafe in Bear Valley, on that chilly winter Sunday, was an exceptional turnout of some 25 members. Along with members were two guests, Al and Annette Von Buskirk, new to the area, and residing in Lake Don Pedro. They are very interested in joining the club, and are starting a motorcycle touring company called, “From the Golden Gate 2 the Golden West Motorcycle Tours.” These nice folks opened their home to the Sierra Shadow Casters on February 3rd for a get together barbecue with some of their friends, and other motorcycle enthusiasts. Ask any of the 14 members who went and I bet they will all say the same thing, “Very nice time with our gracious hosts”. We hope to see them join the ranks of the S.S.C.M.C. soon!

On another note, I would like to introduce the newest members to the club; Alan & Trisha Tomasini. Some of you probably know Alan from Napa Auto Parts. Anyway, like most new members they have seen who we are, and what we do, and wanted to be part of the fun. So, when you see a bright yellow Harley in our ranks introduce yourselves and make them feel right at home.

Finally yet importantly, pay attention to S.S.C. emails. There are many rides and event coming up in the near future. If you are not getting email, check your spam filter, and make sure, your email address is correct on the mailing list.

Ride Safe and Ride for Others,
Michael Dobson
The President

Ride Safe and “ride for others,”
Michael, President S.S.C.M.C.

Welcome to The Sierra Rider

Sierra Shadow Casters publishes The Sierra Rider for the benefit of its Membership. As a Member, feel free to submit articles, pictures, ideas, suggestions and any comments to the Editor. All submissions must be received by the 3rd Saturday of each month. Members are now offered FREE listings on our “Biker Bargains” page; must be cycle related and limited to 4 items.

Please submit your article using “MS Word” and any pictures in JPG format to: Sierrashadowcasters.com

This is your Newsletter, help me make it great!!

CLUB OFFICERS

President: Mike Dobson
966-5612
mike@sierrashadowcasters.com

V. President: Joyce Dobson
966-5612
joyce@sierrashadowcasters.com

Secretary: Lisa Bevington
742-7076
lisa@sierrashadowcasters.com

Treasurer: Joyce Dobson
966-5612
joyce@sierrashadowcasters.com

Minister of Finance:
Jim Platto
966-7043
jim@sierrashadowcasters.com

Public Affairs Officer:
Paul Hall
966-3522
paul@sierrashadowcasters.com

Lieutenant: John Bevington
742-7076
john@sierrashadowcasters.com

Newsletter Editor:
Mark Aston
(559) 658-7166
Mark@sierrashadowcasters.com
Almost new members Al and Annette Van Buskirk invited the Sierra Shadow Casters to their home located in Lake Don Pedro for what turned out to be a delicious Bar-B-Q lunch on Saturday, Feb. 3rd. Some 14 SSC members made it to the hospitable event, along with many of the Van Buskirk’s neighbors and Coulterville friends.

The purpose of the get-together was to help the Van Buskirks spread the word about their new forthcoming motorcycle tour business “The Golden Gate 2 The Golden West.” A catchy name to be sure, with great potential to catch the attention of Bay Area motorcycle enthusiast who may like a guided tour of the Sierra Foot-hills and Yosemite. The plan is not to rent scoot- ers, but to invite riders on their own bikes to take the guided tours of the area. The SSC has offered to assist in whatever way we can, from showing the Van Buskirk’s the best riding routes to offering their tour’s discounts on our runs. Their clients would be housed in various hotels such as the Jeffery or even in Mariposa. Devel- oper in Lake Don Pedro are planning to open a new motel / hotel, which could be a help.

Al is currently a SFPD motorcycle cop and has plans to retire in the near future.

Al and Annette are very nice folks and will, I believe, have a good time as SSC’ers.

On behalf of the club, we thank them for their hospitality and we look forward to many rides together.
**The BREAKFAST RIDE!**

**The first breakfast Run of the year was huge!**

January 21st was a chilly morning to be sure. As usual, riders met in the Miner’s Inn parking lot where it was hard to tell the smokers from the non-smokers with steam emanating from everyone’s breath. We were able to convince the sympathetic restaurant staff to bring a pot of coffee out to the parking lot to help us get warm.

Then, it was off to Bon Ton Café 10 miles down 49 North to Bear Valley, for an authentic Mexican style breakfast. Authentic means Chorizo with eggs, Rancheros, and Huevos A La Mexicana. Each prepared and served one order at a time; meaning they raised the chickens, waited for the eggs to be laid, then cooked them over an open flame from wood they cut on the spot, with a hand saw, all while growing and harvesting the corn to make the tortillas. It took a whopping 2 ½ hours to serve us! Once the food was finally served, it was delicious and I will go back, particularly if I have nothing to do that morning. Not helping matters was the fact there were 26 of us to feed with one server and one cook.

The upside was that while we waited for our authentic Mexican food to be grown, processed, and served, it was getting warmer outside. Also, the Prez used the time to make several announcements and hand out Spoke Point patches to those who were not at the New Year’s Eve bash. Carey Wisely was also presented with his “Most Breakfast Runs in 2006” Recognition.

Joining us were Al and Annette Van Buskirk who recently moved from the Bay Area to Lake Don Pedro and had met Michael in Coulterville one fine day. Later, I bumped into them at the Chamber office where they were joining the Chamber for their new business “The Golden Gate 2 The Golden West” a motorcycle touring company. We spent a considerable amount of time talking and it was decided they would join the SSC. While that has not technically happened, they have made it a point to socialize with us. *(See related story Page 3)*
After we finally got through with breakfast most members and guests who had driven their cars or rode there bikes B-lined for home to watch a playoff game while seven of us headed down Hornitos Road in route to Snelling. A quick stop at Bud’s Place and it was off to the “Northern Club House” in Coulterville where as usual, the back patio offered a nice place to relax and have a few refreshments and on-the-house munchies. Around 4:30 pm, we shot up the hill to Dobson’s Bar & Grill where we kept the laughs going with our Millerton Lake members Rod and Carolyn Dixion and Dan and Mary Hughes.

It was a great time and set what I hope will be the pace for future Breakfast runs, at least in terms of attendance.
We would like to place your Rider of the Month Article Here!

The following Club Members are requested to send me a 500 word story about you for the SSC Rider Profile! Your profile should include your riding history like, when and how you began riding, and what kind of bike you currently ride. We would also like to know a little more about you, what you do for a living, and a little about where you live. We would also like you to say a few words about why you joined the Sierra Shadow Casters, and what you like about the club. Please include a Jpeg format picture with your article, but it is no problem for us to take the photograph!

Please feel free to contact Mark Aston if you have any Questions!

We appreciate your help in making the Sierra Rider a great newsletter!

Alan & Trisha Tomasini  
Tressa Norton  
Wally Ashby  
Mike & Ann Shedivy  
Greg Wilde  
Ed & Vicki Fournier  
Peter & Cherylann Schimmelfennig  
Jim & Marylou Pruitt  
Dave & Sarah Wise  
Sue Peacock

Thank you!!
⇒ For those interested in the Red Wood Run call 707-247-3424. Tickets go on sale Feb 19th at 9am. (best call first thing tomorrow) The run is June 8-10, 2007. The Redwood Run is held in Piercy, CAPiercy is located approximately 200 miles north of San Francisco and approximately 75 miles south of Eureka. Although their website is not updated for this year's music and etc. you can lean more about it by going to http://www.redwoodrun.com/map.htm or looking in the Feb issue of Thunder Press. If you think you want to go you should definitely make the call as there is (I'm told) limited space. The Hall's and Dobson's are going and I believe Engine Ed may be going. Call for pricing.

⇒ The 2007 Sierra Memorial Run is scheduled for June 16 and will be starting (as usual) at the Fairgrounds and ending at Coulterville. Please watch for exact times, routes, bands, food, etc. You can and should (if you want to stay and play) make your reservations for the night of the 16th at the Hotel Jeffery. Their rooms are limited and will definitely be sold out by our group. (209) 878-3471.

⇒ The 2007 Moonshine Poker Run and End of Summer Party is Sept. 29th. Will start and end at the Fairgrounds. Public perception of the SSC is improving by the minute and we should have a pretty decent turnout this year. Mark your calendars and be sure to tell all your friends. This IS a fundraiser for the SSC itself but we are setting aside a percentage for the Spring Hill Student Academic Award fund.

⇒ Clubs and Organizations Appreciation Dinner, March 2nd. Don't for get about this. We need everyone's participation to beat the old ladies from the Eastern Star and win the trophy again. Please refer to the email I send the other day for more info. OR send $18.00 per person to the SSC 4984 Mt. Bullion Cutoff, Mariposa 95338. Right after you write the check send me an email saying you are going so I know who to go chase down! (Now, Peter and Cherylann, you have a interesting situation here, representing two clubs/orgs. Personally, we would love to see you guys sitting with us this year!!) The bar will be open at the event until 11:30 and there will be dance music afterward.

⇒ June 16, 2007 Sierra Memorial Run

⇒ The Long Rangers (aka Shadow Casters Who Go the Distance!) are planning another great road trip scheduled to begin around mid June. The big difference this year is that we will spend at least a few days in each area. Tentative stops include Laughlin to Williams or Flagstaff via Route 66. There we are thinking of the Grand Canyon, Sedona, and Petrified Forest. From the Grand Canyon area, we are thinking of going north to St. George, Utah area where Zion and Bryce NPs are, again, spending at least a few days there. After that, it might be back to Nevada to Las Vegas area, and then back home via not Death Valley, maybe up 395. None of it is written in stone, but we mainly want to spend more time in certain areas. If you are interested, plan to block off the entire last two weeks of June. We will probably begin planning in early April. Keep your eyes and ears open for details on the trip, especially the planning meeting, or talk to one of us (Ron or Lorie).

If you pick up a flyer or hear about an up-coming event, please email or call me so we can add it to our listing.
mark@sierrashadowcasters.com  (559) 658-7166
Hello Shadow Casters! I hope you are enjoying this month’s addition of the Shadow Rider. This month I would like to discuss the “Biker Image”.

The term “Biker” has many definitions and has seen a dramatic change in mystique since being coined in the early 50’s. Bikers, meaning heavy metal riding motorcyclist, began to grow in the post World War II era when war veterans returned to the United States with a definite need to express themselves, enjoying the freedoms they had fought hard to maintain. These hard living groups often found themselves facing tough odds to assimilate back into traditional society. These bikers quickly earned the labels of rebel and ruffian. These motorcycle enthusiasts of old struck fear in traditional America as they pushed the limits of their anti-cultural lifestyle. The motorcycles they rode were very heavy, many were military surplus, so the “bikers” began to make modifications to lighten them up and create a distinctive style. These bikers took on the black leather look, often had tattoos, many of which received their first tattoo while in the military. Soon the leather wrapped, tattooed, rebel biker groups caught the eye of Hollywood. So a genre of biker movies were released like the 1950’s, “The Wild One”, with Marlon Brando, which was remade in the 1960’s by Roger Corman and re-titled “The Wild Angels”. These films painted the portrait of the bad boy biker gang that would terrorize the “Cleaver” families of America. In the late sixties, these groups were joined first by Korean War vets, and then the Viet Nam era vet. The bad boy biker image expanded and many hard-core biker gangs known as “Outlaw” gangs, accepted the growing image with honor, found America adding “criminal” to the terms use in describing bikers. Still the love for motorcycles and the growing popularity of the Japanese products added to the ranks of the bikers. Later in 1969, Hollywood sought to capitalize upon the anti-war movement and the growing biker mystique with the biker classic “Easy Rider”. This movie provided the audience with new insights into why some people use motorcycles as a medium to express their individuality.

In the late 70’s and into the 80’s the popularity of motorcycle riding had reached an all time high! Motorcycle enthusiasts were working to change America’s opinion and separating themselves from the leather clad Biker Gangs. During this period, Harley-Davidson found its product labeled and associated with the rebel biker gangs. Motorcycling was growing in popularity with the Japanese products taking over more and more of the market. Many social issues helped to broaden the gap between the motorcycle enthusiast and the Biker. With the sale of Harley-Davidson to AMF, it looked as if the heavy bike builder might be destined for extinction, but that could not be further from the truth. After a couple of years the Davidson family bought the struggling motorcycle company back from AMF. The change in ownership provided the motivation to accomplish product changes and innovations allowing Harley-Davidson to fight and claw its way back in popularity. Harley's steady return the greatness saw the birth of a new rebel -- the weekend Biker!

Buy the 1990’s the “bad boy” biker look became cool. Soon, more and more motorcyclist took to the old style heavy metal bike. Motorcyclist traded in the Japanese plastic for the heavy metal and chrome offered by Harley. The mainstream motorcyclist embraced Harley Davidson riding public as people of all walks of life enjoyed letting their hair down, getting wild, and became part of the weekend biker lifestyle!

Today, the Japanese motorcycle manufactures have broadened their product lines to meet the desires of the new leather clad weekend Biker; which includes many thousands of people with Harley Davidson stickers in the windows of their 50 thousand dollar SUV, and the rear window of the family mini van! Riding heavy metal bikes has become very popular to a broad segment of America, placing blue collar and white collar workers side by side on their weekend adventures. So, how has the Biker Gang’s of old taken to this new social class of heavy metal motorcyclist? Well, I like to think, they have found creative ways to maintain an unofficial order – and, they probably enjoy the cover and concealment we provide!

Ride safe and I look forward to seeing you at our next event!

Your opinions are Welcomed and Encouraged! Please send your letters to the Editor via email to Mark@sierrashadowcasters.com

Ride Safe!
Mark,
After the last breakfast run I thought that what we need is some feedback from the participating members about the different restaurants we go to for breakfasts or lunches.
The perfect restaurant for our purposes would serve good food at a reasonable price within a certain amount of time, so we can get on with the second part of the "Breakfast Run". riding the bikes
Of course, that is my opinion and everybody is different. May be we can ask the members after each "Breakfast Run" to send a short e-mail with either a "thumbs up" or "thumbs down" on the food establishment. If we do this for awhile, we will know what places people like to go to and what places members would rather avoid.
This interaction may also trigger some new suggestions.
What do you think?

Gerd
ATTENTION MEMBERS

Be sure to put Sierra Shadow Casters in the “Subject” line of your emailed submissions! Sorry, no photos.
Due to our limited space, please let me know when your item(s) have sold.
For Submissions, Corrections and/or Deletions, Contact Mark at:
(559) 658-7166 mark@sierrashadowcasters.com
Thank You!

FOR SALE

2 Hard Tail Pan Heads w/sidecars.
1950 mostly original $25,000, 1961FLH Rat, $15,000 low miles on both. Will trade Rat Bike for late model 4x4 Rover. Call Ed 966-7023

Honda 70 Passport, $250.00 or trade. Call Lloyd 742-7146

Helmet, chrome, large, $45.00 call Dan 966-3292

2000’ Road King Parts, too many to list. Also parts for other Harleys call George for info 966-5409

Have you taken a trip lately?
Send me an article and a picture or two for the next addition of the Sierra Rider!

Please send us a couple of pictures with an article for the “The Sierra Rider.”
Send to: mark@sierrashadowcasters.com

BIKER BARGAINS

Black novelty helmet Large, $15.00. Call 209 966-5612.

WANTED

Good Saddle Bags: Call Roy 966-7450

95-98’ Honda 750 Magna parts. Fixing up daughters wreck, call George 966-5409

TRIPS

Yosemite Tour Rides: Call Paul Hall, 966-3522, for details. A very informative history-run through the Park.

From the Editor

Please let me know if you find any errors or have suggestions to improve our Newsletter.
Happy reading!
Thanks, Mark

To Save Your Newsletter

First, scroll through the Newsletter to the bottom of the last page. Next, click on the Disc Icon in the upper left tool bar and “Save” to “My Documents.”

The Sierra Rider 10 (209) 966-5612