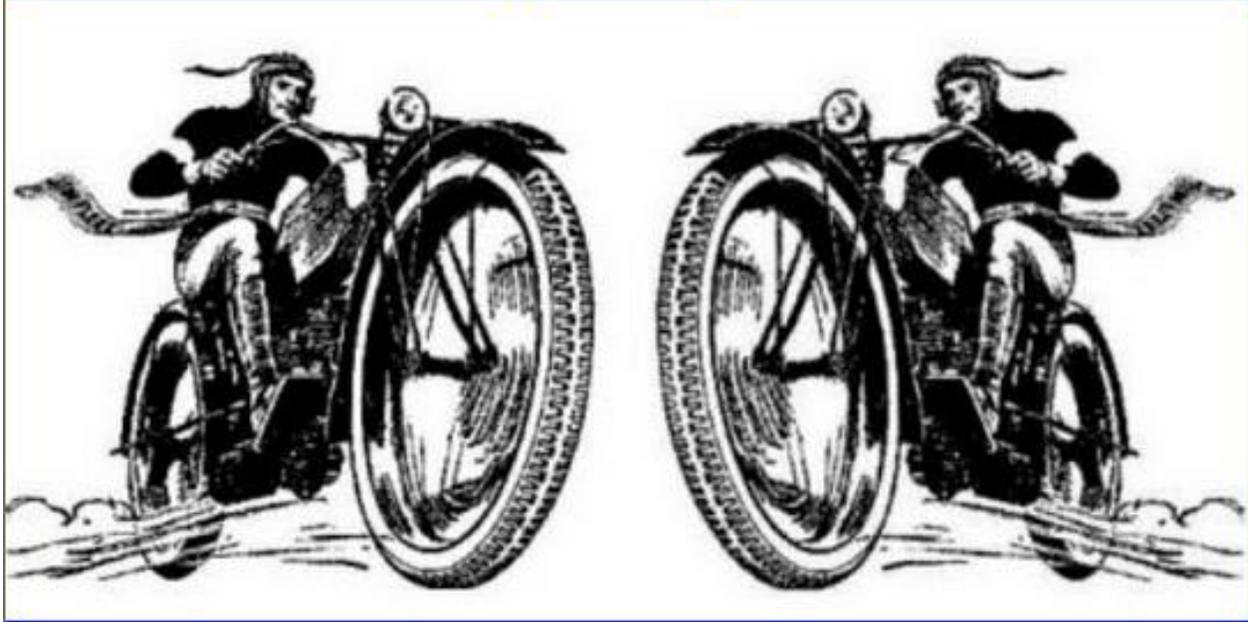


# *SoCal Antique Motorcycle Club of America*

## *Spring Newsletter, 2016*

### **SoCal Chapter of the AMCA**



SoCal Chapter of the AMCA  
2058 Aliso Avenue  
Costa Mesa, California 92627

**SOCALAMCA.ORG**

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**LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT, SPRING 2016****TIM GRABER**

Welcome to the 2016 edition of the SoCal AMCA newsletter. We are a bit late and doing our darndest to catch up☺ 2015 was a good year for the chapter and we hope for an even better year for our members in 2016. The club had a good showing at the International Motorcycle Show in Long Beach just before Thanksgiving and we spoke with many who have interest in Old motorcycles. We then had a great time through the Christmas Holidays by visiting with the Pasadena Chapter of the Horseless Carriage Club of America on their ride through Pasadena and down the Rose Parade route on old machines. This really is an incredible event and is a great spot to see old machines. See Tom Lovejoy's article on the event, He is correct!

Next up was the Mecum Motorcycle Auction and the Bonhams auction in Vegas. Over 1000 motorcycles were up for sale and a very high percentage of sales. Best of all I got to see many chapter members and shared good stories. We also had conversations with many National AMCA members and probably netted out 5 or 6 new members for SoCal. (See Craig Dillmann's article). The National had a prominent booth at Mecums again this year and Keith Kizer spent many hours in said booth chatting up the organization. He is a great ambassador for the AMCA. SoCal arranged for a booth and we had our logo prominently displayed and had chairs set up for all members to sit and chat. It worked out well because we were out of the main noise with a view of the big screen and we could watch as all of the bikes passed by on the way back to their spots.

SoCal is getting a great assist with our technology communication from Adriana Leiss. She has provided us a strong presence on Facebook and on our website. Go to the site and click on subscribe so that you stay informed of club activities. That is why we exist, activities. ☺ Also follow our Facebook page or our group to get timely information on what our members are doing in the local area with motorcycles. We hope to encourage newbie's to check in and follower our fun activities and rides. There is a full schedule coming up in the next few months so plan ahead and bring out the old iron for a ride with great people.

I hope to see you all soon. Keep the rubber down and the old machines out in public!

Tim

It's nearly (already) 2016 and it's hard to believe that I've been retired from my 31 year career in law enforcement for 16 years, and 3 years from my full time work at job #2 - the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC). I'm now in my third year as an independent contractor for NCMEC, FEMA and Homeland Security. And for your information, my 16th year as your treasurer (my most profitable venture yet, thank you all very, very much). Y'all should really think about getting rid of me and saving some money. You'll have a chance at the Borrego Springs Winter Road Run this year since we'll be having a general meeting during the event. No excuses for not being there and voting me out and letting someone else share the wealth. I can launder just so much money before it becomes obvious what's up. Was that my outside voice?

I went over some old accounts on my computer and noted that back in 2000 Borrego registration was a mere \$65.00. Of course I also noted that during that same time frame my average monthly credit card bill was \$500.00. The same credit card today is burning a hole in the economy at 10 to 15 times that amount so I guess the current \$125.00 isn't so bad after all. Once again your board, and most notably Janis Graber, is responsible for keeping expenses in check. Her spouse, Tim (the wannabe Trump) Graber still believes that money grows on trees. Technically I guess it does (sort of) since the government makes the money from the recently deceased trees. Still in all, I'm glad that Tim listens to his financial advisor (me) and allows me to call the shots on what we can spend my, I mean your dollars on. So if some amenities are missing that were offered at previous years events please bear with us and blame me, not Tim. The Borrego Resort has also been doing a great job at keeping the costs down too. Rooms are rented at very reasonable rates for this time of year. Most likely because we spend (as a group) around \$25,000.00 for the three days we spend at their resort. We did have to cut back on a second bar set up at the Banquet to save some dollars and once again we are asking the dry campers to "donate" \$10.00 a night to help defray the ground and housekeeping tips we normally leave. I am more than happy to be the recipient of the "donated" funds from dry campers at our registration desk. Please put the funds in an unmarked envelope with your name and amount (inside) and hand it to me in a manner so as not to attract too much attention. Thank you very much in advance.

Another money saving step we may try will be issuing meal tickets for both the lunch and the banquet. We do not always come up with the same head count at the banquet as the resort and lunch venue do due to many factors. Part of the problem was, in the past, we have had outsiders at both the lunch stop and banquet taking advantage of the large group, mixing in and getting a free meal. This displeased me greatly, especially when we're already paying upwards of \$6,000.00 for these two meals. I apologize again for my rude behavior when I caught and ejected a couple at the banquet a year or two ago for this very reason. I do not like rude people so it's fair to say I was not pleased with myself that night. Sorry.

We recently lost another well respected and much liked SoCal member in December, Homer Knapp. I wrote about the last time I saw Homer at the Hansen Dam ride in November letter. I referred to him as a human Timex, "just keeps on ticking". This just goes to show that none of us knows just when the watch will stop. Homer joins a fine group of other SoCal members who recently left us, Bob and Shorty Stark, Dee Cameron, Chuck Vernon and way too many more.

As of this writing we have about 23 registered for the Borrego Springs Winter Road Run. A lot more are expected as the Resort rooms are rapidly being filled and that number vastly surpasses my current registered head count.

I had an occasion to look up Homer's web page (Google Homer Knapp) on the internet recently. I found myself, Homer and Tim Graber pictured during at a slow race in 2002. I was the official. I feel pretty confident that Tim was cheating even though I cannot recall the specifics. I would like to re-create those field events this year if possible. I recall Vic and Doc Sucher clearly cheating in a side hack during the slow race. I also recall announcing that I did (and will continue) to accept bribes for judging these events. I have no scruples whatsoever and I'm damn proud of it.

January 1st 2016, Tom Lovejoy, Nick and I went on the CLUB'S annual New Year's ride on the coast. I cannot recall a more perfect day in a long time. Nick on his 39 or 40 Sport Scout (whatever), Tom on his trusty 27 Henderson and me on the beast of a 39 Chief. Off to Cook's corner to show off our stuff. Stuff shown off, we headed for the coast at Dana Point via a lot of kick ass twisties on Trabuco Canyon Road, then north through Laguna Beach (where I had an eye opening Bloody Mary) and all points north to Huntington Beach. I told Tom the weather was tempting me to continue to San Francisco. Tom reminded me that besides work, he also has issues with night driving so we headed back to my home in Orange, arriving just before late afternoon. Y'all missed a great ride!

Also almost forgot to mention that Tom (once again) took the show with his attempt at stopping his Henderson for a red light. Tom gracefully slid along side of me on "some" Canyon Dr. with his rear (and only) band brake smoking like nobody's business. Man, that was so, so cool! I love this stuff.

P.S. Check out my '50 Chief Bobber in the January issue of American Iron Magazine.

That's all folks

Tom Hart

**2015 SoCAL FINANCIAL REPORT****TOM HART****Chapter Annual Financial Report**

Chapter Name: So Cal AMCA  
 U.S.A. Chapter F.E.I.N. 38-3737407  
 For the period ended Dec. 31, 2015

**Statement of Revenues and Expenses****REVENUES:**

\$ (no cents)

(The following are Chapter specific revenues NOT AMCA Meets or Road Runs)

Contributions (gifts, cash donations, etc.)	0.00
Membership Dues	640.00
Interest on accounts	0.00
Local Merchandise Sales (T-shirts, Pins, etc.)	260.00
Other Local Chapter specific:	
Local Advertising	0.00
Local Meet Vendor/Road Run Receipts (Borrego)	13,335.00
Local Meet Other Fees (Death Valley)	0.00
All other (see attached details)	0.00

(The following are for AMCA National Meets and Road Runs)

AMCA National Meet total revenue (see detail page)	0.00
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AMCA National Road Run total Revenue (see detail page) (DV)	0.00
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**TOTAL REVENUES****\$14,235.00****EXPENSES:**

(The following are Chapter specific expenses NOT AMCA Meets or Road Runs)

Cost of Merchandise (T-shirts, Pins, etc.)	1,183.00
Legal Fees (state fees, legal, accounting, etc.)	370.00
Supplies (Borrego)	1,735.00
Borrego Springs lunch & Banquet	7,065.00
Death Valley fuel truck	0.00
Postage/Shipping	638.00
Equipment Expenses	0.00
Printing & Publications	0.00
Chapter Meetings and events	0.00
Other	0.00
Bank Fees	0.00
Donations/Contributions	100.00
Insurance	0.00
Local Meet Trophies/Awards	200.00
All other (see attached details)	620.00

(The following are for AMCA National Meets and Road Runs)

AMCA National Meet total expenses (see detail page)	0.00
AMCA National Road Run total expenses (see detail page)	0.00

**Total Expenses** **\$11,911.00**

**Excess (Deficit)** [Total Revenues – Total Expenses] **\$2,324.00**

### Balance Sheet

**Total Assets Beginning of Year** (Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>) **\$7,935.00**

**Assets End of Year** (Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>)

Cash, Checking Account	7,935.00
CD's, Savings	0.00
Land Buildings	0.00
Other Assets (donated items: attach list)	0.00

**Total Assets – EOY** **\$8,770.00**

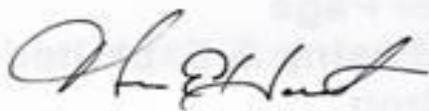
**Liabilities and Fund Balances** (EOY) 0.00

Current Liabilities (list if any)	0.00
Long Term Liabilities (list if any)	0.00
Fund balances (if no Liabilities, same as Total Assets)	8,770.00

**Total Liabilities & Fund Balances – EOY** **\$8,770.00**

(Should match Total Assets – EOY)

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_



Print Name: Thomas E. Hart

Title: Treasurer

Address: 4005 E. La Veta Avenue  
Orange, CA 92869

E-Mail: jhart128@roadrunner.com

Also Attach End-of Year Bank Statements for Checking Account, CD's, Savings Accounts, etc.

**LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY****STEVE SORENSEN**

The end of the year wraps up with some great events. These are not club sponsored rides but are club supported events that promote vintage motorcycling. The international motorcycle November 20-22 show at the Long Beach convention center has asked us to show bikes for many years and the reception from the public is always great. There is much admiration and stories to be told of the bikes we bring. Many thanks to Advanstar for providing a space for us. We had a good mix of bikes on display this year and I want to thank the folks who took the time and effort to share their pride and joys.

- Bill Melvin-1952 Motoguzzi
- Marty Spaulding-1957 Ariel square four
- Lon Bubeck-1928 Indian 101 scout
- Tom Hart-1950 Indian bobber
- Dave Carlton-1969 Harley sportster
- George Pope-1912 Pope
- Also a special thanks to our fearless leader Tim Graber for rounding out the show with a 1957 Ariel HS Thumper, a 1969 Triumph T-110, a 1941 Indian sport scout racer and a 1972 Harley FLH.

The next great annual event is Gunther's yard meet December 6. It's a collection of wonderful people and mechanical things. It's a favorite of Tom Lovejoy's. Check out the photos on our Facebook page. The next item on the calendar is the Dave Mann Chopper Fest on December 13 at the Ventura fairgrounds. There is a great mix of old and new style choppers, vintage bikes and parts in the swap area along with some cool art, as always a beautiful day.

I urge our members and vintage bike owners and enthusiasts to participate in our club rides and also the other great events we have in So Cal. They won't survive without our support. Thanks to the board and volunteers who do the work that makes this fun happen! Please contact a board member to see how you can help at a future event.

Thanks,  
Steve



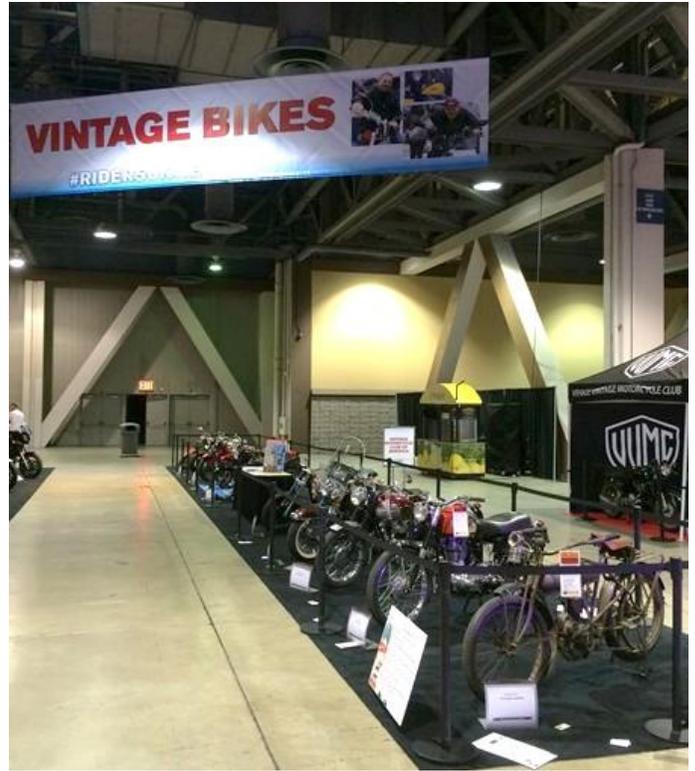
*Meeting of the minds - IMS 2015 1*



*Tom Lovejoy checking out a 1903 Campbell 1*



*Bike lineup at IMS 2015 1*



*Bike lineup at IMS 2015 3*



*Bike lineup at IMS 2015 2*

**NEWS FROM THE WEBMASTER****ADRIANA GODOY LEISS**

Happy New Year, All! I hope you've checked out [socalAMCA.org](http://socalAMCA.org) lately to plan out your year ahead... lots of great stuff: Borrego Springs Road Run in March; Joshua Tree Run in April; and the Palos Verdes Run in July. Check out the website for more information about each ride. A link to the

Register Now for the SoCal AMCA Borrego Springs Winter Road Run - March 3rd to 6th.

HOME + ABOUT JOIN/RENEW + ROAD RUNS/EVENTS NEWSLETTER

CALENDAR CONTACT/SUBSCRIBE RIDERS' BLOG FACEBOOK



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA  
CHAPTER OF THE AMCA

The Southern California chapter of the Antique Motorcycle Club of America (AMCA) was formed in 1972 and has nearly 45 years in Southern California. We work to keep our members and other enthusiasts informed of important news and events in the Antique Motorcycle Community. Stay up-to-date with our **Riders' Blog** and **Calendar**. Check out the **next ride** and **past runs**. Hit **Subscribe** to sign up for our newsletter and to receive announcements. And, finally, **Join our chapter** and ride with us!

January-July Calendar can be found at the footer of the website (and at the end of this newsletter).

*I've added a couple new features to the website that I hope you'll check out...*

- **The Riders' Blog**

The newest addition to the website is a spot for any and all kind of news related to the club. What's neat is that you can post comments to blog posts, providing your own commentary on what we're discussing. A few ground rules: we pre-moderate comments and welcome all kinds of thoughts. We do not delete or censor comments unless they have content that is: abusive; is off-topic; or uses excessively foul language; and is blatantly spam. We welcome your input and ideas!

- **Subscribe**

Those who are new to the chapter are encouraged to connect with us by subscribing to our mailing list. Help us grow our chapter and participation at runs by encouraging your fellow riders to subscribe by clicking Contact/Subscribe at the top of the website.

### **Featured on The Riders' Blog: Remembering Homer Knapp**

Visitors have shared their memories about Homer Knapp, who passed away on Dec. 18, 2015. Here's a snippet of a post by Jim Farrell, a self-described "75 year old former dirt bike rider":

*"One day an old model T Ford pickup truck rambled into the pit area carrying an old Harley V twin, model JD. Both of these machines were built in the 1920's and looked as though they had never seen a polishing rag. The Ford, I later learned, was powered by a Riley Four-port racing engine. The Harley was equipped with a hand-shifting lever on the left side of the gas tank and a foot operated clutch. It had a rigid frame, and floorboards rather than foot pegs. A very tall, lanky young man with movie-star good looks climbed out of the truck and walked up to the sign-up booth. I couldn't believe that he intended to race this relic, but my brother-in-law said 'Yep.....that's Homer.'"*

**LAS VEGAS****CRAIG DILLMANN**

Las Vegas was the place to be on the seventh eighth and ninth of January. The fun started at Balley's where the Bonham's auction was happening Thursday. The Auction at The South Point Hotel started Thursday night and lasted until late Saturday afternoon. There was some good, good deals to be had at the Bonham's auction as the evening wore on people started leaving early and some bikes with no reserve were bargain basement priced. I also checked out the Antique Mall of America, a block from the South point, and made several purchases Friday night. Found none other than John Eagles, Bill Melvin, Marty Spaulding and his wife, Bob Clift and his daughter, Tim Graber and Janis along with Craig and Kelli, all eating steaks and being over-served at the hotel steakhouse!! This seems to be a drinking club with a motorcycle problem as Carolyn Musgrove always say

Thanks to Bill Melvin who graciously picked up the entire tab!! The next day the guys went to the auction and many of the girls went to the in house movie. Many familiar faces at the auction: Gary Stark, Mike Thomas, The Musgrove's, Barney and Claudia, Mike Doom, Nick Dounias, Ron Stevens, Nevada Bob, Bill Melvin, Rotten Richard, the Christians, Louie and Bonnie among others. I even spotted Cannonballer Pat Simmons and his wife from the Doobie Brothers - one of the most talented rock groups bar none! Saturday night found the gang at the bar where Bob Musgrove was in a motorized cart recovering from a foot injury he wasn't sure about the controls and ram-rodged our table sending cocktails flying!! After buying a round we headed to the Italian restaurant where Claudia and Barney picked up the whole tab with their casino credits!!! Felt guilty not paying for two great dinners in a row. The hotel room was great, good prices with a nice big room...can't wait for next year!

**JUST SOME THOUGHTS****TOM LOVEJOY**

Several members of the Hart family and I took in the HCCA run in Dec. I would like to encourage as many members as possible to try this event this year. It is a fantastic time with tons of very rare early machines, machines very rarely seen on the roads or anywhere else today. In the last several years, the motorcycle numbers have really dropped. In fact there has been a couple years were I was the only antique two-wheeler on the run. They would really like to see more motorcycles partake in the fun.

It is really a blast and they treat you like a celebrity, they gave me up front parking. Interviewed me, and this year even interviewed me on video. Everyone was very friendly and keenly interested in my machine, as they would be in yours. This is a great run for really old stuff, they usually only do about 25 miles or so and at slow speed. You could do it no problem with a single cylinder machine and or belt drive I believe. A Neracar would be fine even with its friction drive single cylinder. They take several stops and stop at one or two member's places with awesome collections along the run.

Sometimes we get huge lines of antique vehicles going down the street at very slow speeds. If you like you can roar right by them up to the front of the parade, they did not seem to mind at all and all I saw were smiling faces. You might see Stanley Steamers or Duesenbergs going by. Jay Leno might pass you, or he might come right up and start talking to you. You will be riding with some vehicles that are more than 100 years old! It really is a blast!

**SUNDAY "GANG"**

**MIKE MENEZES**

This is some of the "gang" at the annual Cafe 50's ride, photo by Tom Haigh. SoCal AMCA members shown include Craig Dillmann, Mike Menezes, Mark Leiss and Phillip Shore. This ride was sponsored by the Socal Norton Club.





# 2016 Calendar

**Listing of SoCal AMCA rides open to all members, and highlights of regional events of interest to the antique motorcycle community.**

## MARCH



March 3-6, **SoCal AMCA Borrego Springs Winter Road Run.** Contact: Tim Graber - 949-254-6551. Registration info at [www.SoCalAMCA.org](http://www.SoCalAMCA.org).

## APRIL



April 8-10, **SoCal AMCA Joshua Tree Run.** Contact: Tim Graber - 949-254-6551 or Craig Dillmann - 818-347-6583

## MAY

May 21, **48th Annual Hanford Cycle Show and Swap** - Info at: [www.classiccycleevents.com](http://www.classiccycleevents.com).

## JUNE

June 17-18, **Fort Sutter National Meet**, Dixon, CA

## JULY



July 3, **SoCal AMCA Palos Verdes Run**, Contact: Tom Lovejoy - 310-710-6216

**PLEASE PRINT THIS PAGE AND POST IN YOUR WORKSHOP!  
ALSO, TAKE IT TO THE GARAGES OF OTHERS SO THAT WE CAN  
GET THE RIDES REALLY GOIN' !**