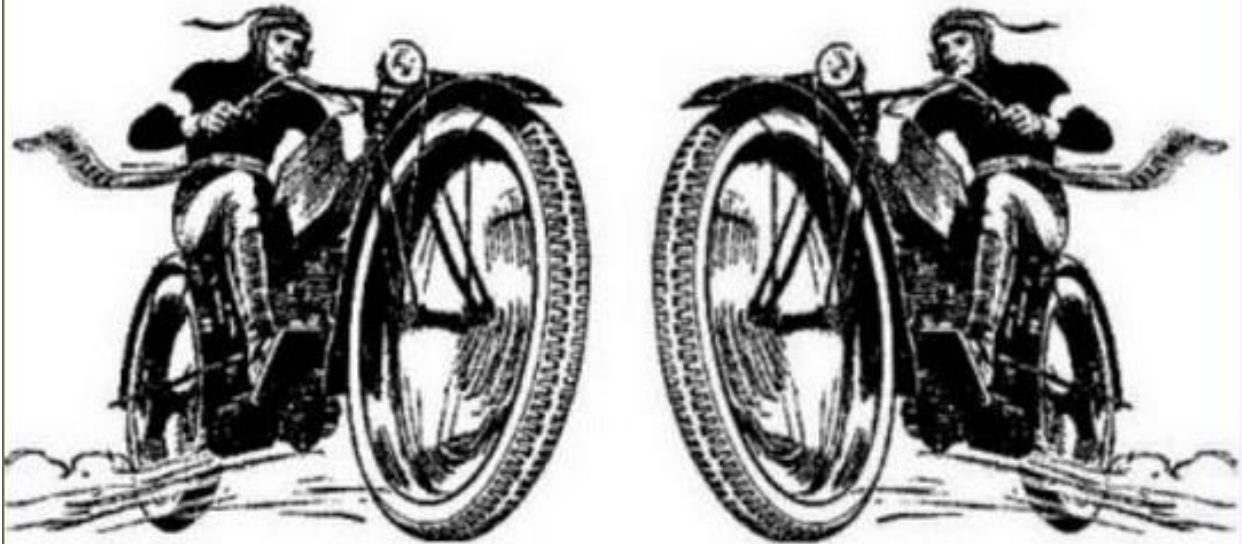


# *SoCal Antique Motorcycle Club of America Spring Newsletter, 2016*

## *SoCal Chapter of the AMCA*



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

**SOICALAMCA.ORG**

- **OFFICERS REPORTS**
  - **PRESIDENT – TIM GRABER**
  - **TREASURER – TOM HART**
  - **SECRETARY REPORT – STEVE SORENSON**
  - **WEB MASTER – ADRIANA GODOY LEISS**
- **NEWS AND REVIEWS**
  - **RAMBLINGS – TOM LOVEOY**
  - **BARNEY'S FIRST BIKE – CLAUDIA WATSON**
- **SO CAL AMCA CALENDAR OF EVENTS**
- **MOTORCYCLE HUMOR**



**LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT****TIM GRABER**

## Presidents Letter Summer 2016

Hello motorcycle fans! We hope this finds you all very well. It has been an exciting, action filled 3 months, as usual. This newsletter was due on March 1<sup>st</sup>, but Borrego 2016 got in the way.

This chapter of the AMCA is alive and well and has a great future. It belongs to you guys so we say, PARTICIPATE! Your board of director's does its best to provide great opportunities to ride bikes and talk about them. Some of us even think about polishing them! Watch the calendar for upcoming events and make plans to come on out. Pass the news to other riders that we have fun and are looking for new members. Make sure you have paid your dues for the national and for our chapter. Good benefits in both areas.

Many thanks to Craig Dillmann for all of his work in managing the road run calendar. Many thanks to Steve Sorenson for maintaining the calendar. Many thanks to Adriana Leiss for managing our technical services, Facebook, and the website. Many thanks to Carolyn Musgrove for her managing of the newsletter. Many thanks to Janis for managing Borrego and the Borrego team. Most of all, many thanks to all of you for reading and participating!

Rubber down and handlebars up, see ya soon on the road!

Tim



**TREASURY REPORT -- 2016****TOM HART***Treasurer report for Borrego 2016*

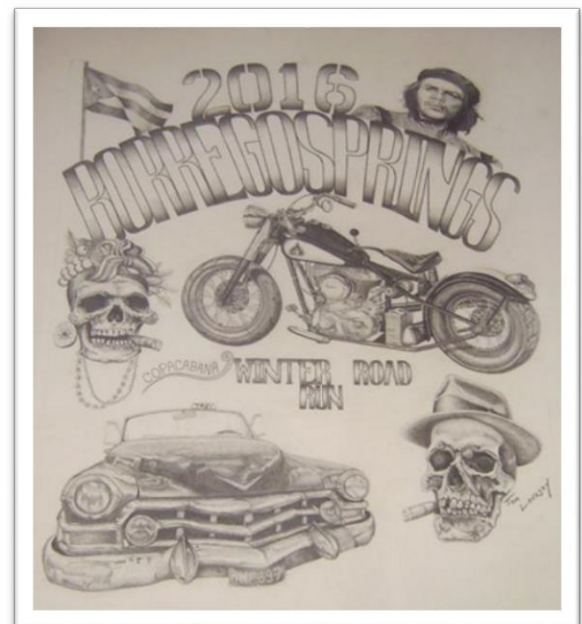
*Another banner year for me and Borrego '16. We came out about as close to a break even event as humanly possible this year. As usual I did have to scrape off just a few of the excess funds so as to avoid the taxman's interest. Just another "treasurer" perk I have to deal with. Some years it's necessary for me to start a separate account to hide, I mean adjust, the bottom line. This year's scrapings are hardly worth mentioning, so I won't. But enough talk about business, let's review what all that money did for me (and you) at Borrego this year.*

*I was able to bring all three bikes, my '39 and '50 Chiefs and my '69 VW trike, the pimp mobile or P.O.S. as my wife calls it, plus my wife, daughter, one sister, two brothers and about half of the neighbors in my area. I could not have done it without your love and sponsorship, perk number two. You guys are the best. Next year I'm hoping to include my other four sisters, one more brother, and perhaps a brother-in-law or two. Please continue to show your love in the form of updating your dues payments. And it goes without saying that anything you care to add in the way of gratuities, honorariums, or just plain bribes will be most welcome.*



*Tom Lovejoy did his usual outstanding job designing the Borrego '16 t-shirt graphics. Tim and Janis busted their combined butts in getting the whole thing together.*

*I received many compliments on the manner that this year's event was put together. I graciously accepted all compliments for the club as if I had anything to do with it. I didn't, but hey, I never said I was honest about anything. By all accounts, I would say that a good time was had by all, except maybe one person who I will talk about in a moment or two.*



**TREASURY REPORT -- 2016**

**TOM HART**

*I counted 75 wavier forms for riders. We had a headcount of 129 for the Banquet and somewhere between 80 to 90 for lunch in Canebrake. The 50/50 paid out a total of \$365.00 big ones. I lost count on how much we gave out as additional treasure hunt prizes. I lost at all levels of the poker run so that's all you need to know about that. I'm not a very good loser. I (I mean we) received a very nice donation from John Hemingway who could not attend, but wanted to help support this event. Thank you on behalf of the membership John. I would like to also thank the ladies who manned the registration desk.*



*Great job and they kept me from removing my boots to help count. And not to be stifled by a lack of equipment, the Coach (Marty Spalding) made good use of paper napkins to brew his famous coffee. Nice. Having said that, I did find a need to use a toothpick after drinking his coffee. Nonetheless, it was tasty.*



*Lunch at Canebrake*



You just never know what might show up at the Boreggo Springs Road Run!

**TREASURY REPORT – 2016 (CONTINUED)**

**TOM HART**

*What can I say....the Copacabana girls rocked and started the banquet evening off on the right foot. Janis lead her chorus line consisting of Wilma, Sarah, Dena and Jill around the front area with a popular hit known as Chiquita Banana, or a reasonable facsimile. Marla Frey tried hustling cigars, cigarettes, cigarillos with little success during the evening. As great as they were, none of them should quite their day jobs just yet. Now I'm in trouble.*



*Grace McKean and Sidecare Susie*



*Frank Culver and John Eagles*



*What a beautiful view and ride!*

**TREASURY REPORT -- 2016****TOM HART***Treasurer report for Borrego 2016 - Continued*

*Now on to the less fortunate folks who made their respective mark(s) on this fine winter road run (and the pavement). They are, in no particular order, Vahan Bandian and Norman Gerlich. Let's pick on, I mean start with Vahan. Vahan is a steadfast and longtime Crocker and Sport Scout kind of guy. Needless to say modern machines with all the fancy hand controls, elevated seats, electric starters and other useless things and stuff they possess are nothing more than distractions to a man like Vahan.*

*Vahan knows that all motorcycles of any worth are between 24 to 30 inches in height and no more than 13 inches in width at the seat. And of course they all have foot clutches of some type. Vahan's personal machines were not available for this run so Gary let him use one of his "wantabe" Kawasaki Indians for the Julian ride. I stopped to say hi to Vahan at the mountain pass lookout overlooking Borrego Springs. Vahan had just gotten back on the bike as I walked up to him. He asked me to put up the kickstand that he could not reach. He was a little off balance due to the bikes position on the downgrade. He was barely able to touch the ground due to the machines excessive width and the road's angle. Even I find these bikes wide and my legs reach all the way to the ground. Anyway as soon as I turned away, he went over and very professionally rolled down the hill causing a nasty abrasion to his right elbow. He hopped up as if he had meant to do the roll over thing on purpose and got right back on that monster asking what the hell the levers were on the handlebars. And away he went. I think a nice set of stiletto heels would make all the difference in the world and maybe help avoid any further similar mishaps. Who wants to step up and get him a pair? Another question. Where was Dr. Phil, again? I think it might be a good idea to add medical insurance questions on the waiver forms like "Do you have Obama Care, Medicare, or a real insurance".*

*Norman's tale is less amusing in reality, but I do not linger in reality too often or too long. So bear with me as I describe Norman's quest for the "Hard Luck" trophy which he won, hands down. It was very nice to hear him on the speaker phone from his hospital bed during the Banquet dinner. I can poke fun at this because many years and hips ago I did the same exact thing and broke the same bones. However I chose to use manly freeway asphalt over soft dirt.*

*As I said, I do not linger in either reality, or facts for that matter. I was not present for Norman's off road, near death adventure so I sought out and personally interviewed those who were. I will still give my rendition of what happened, no matter how much I stretch the truth. Norman and his riding companions, the fearless five who will remain unnamed, but a couple of their initials are John Parker and Mike Madden (not to name a few). The group had been enjoying many a mile of "Borregoness" for the better part of the day when they finally arrived at the Julian Pie company building in lower Julian. I was riding my '39 and staying close to the trouble truck (which is also mine) because it was being driven by my little brother and sister who were both clueless as to their current location on earth, as was my other little brother "sugar" on my trike. Sugar is a badass biker who don't like to get wet, or cold, or dirty, or too hot...hence the name SUGAR! AKA candy ass, cupcake, puddin, etc.*

**TREASURY REPORT -- 2016****TOM HART***Treasurer report for Borrego 2016 - Continued*

*I checked with JP to be sure they would be okay if the trouble truck took off for home base ahead of their group. JP assured me it would be okay so off we went, ultimately to meet with Hard Luck contestant number two, Vahan on the mountain pass outlook. As the story goes, the fearless five left the pie factory and took yet another side trip on the Mesa Rd. The road starts with a very scenic, semi-straight stretch through a peaceful meadowland with cows and other things to look at, then goes into many twisty areas with very low speed turns. Low speed is the operative term here. All very scenic and with highway signs identifying the road as 78, which apparently "someone" may have misunderstood as the speed limit.*

*This is where things got ugly. These guys ride like I wish I could and I'm guessing Norman wishes he could. Been there, done that Norman. I truly feel your pain. Anyway, somewhere in a turn, at least where a turn was supposed to be made, Norman got sideways in the dirt, then grass, then dirt again. All of this on his really sweet looking '40 Sport Scout. At some point the bike dug in and then went air born in what might be described as a full gainer with a gentle side spin followed by tight pirouette finishing with slam-dunk maneuver Colby Bryant would be proud of. Apparently Norn realized that serious damage was about to come to his machine if it hit the ground in the inverted position so he (in midair) managed to get his body between the ground and the machine before it made its return voyage to mother earth. And all at great personal risk of injury and pain I might add. Tim got the call and drove to the rescue, taking Norm to the furthest hospital he could find in Southern California which I'm sure gave Norm time to ponder the error of his ways. I understand Norn suffered a fractured femur and tibia and a nasty cut to his arm, but that was an early report. Somehow he avoided the cement bunker and barbed wire fence. The saying "boy, was he lucky" just doesn't seem to work here does it? Someone can tell "the rest of the story" as George Putman would say. Endo...yet another jab!*

*Norm's bike after the "dipsy-do". Sure looks better than he did!*



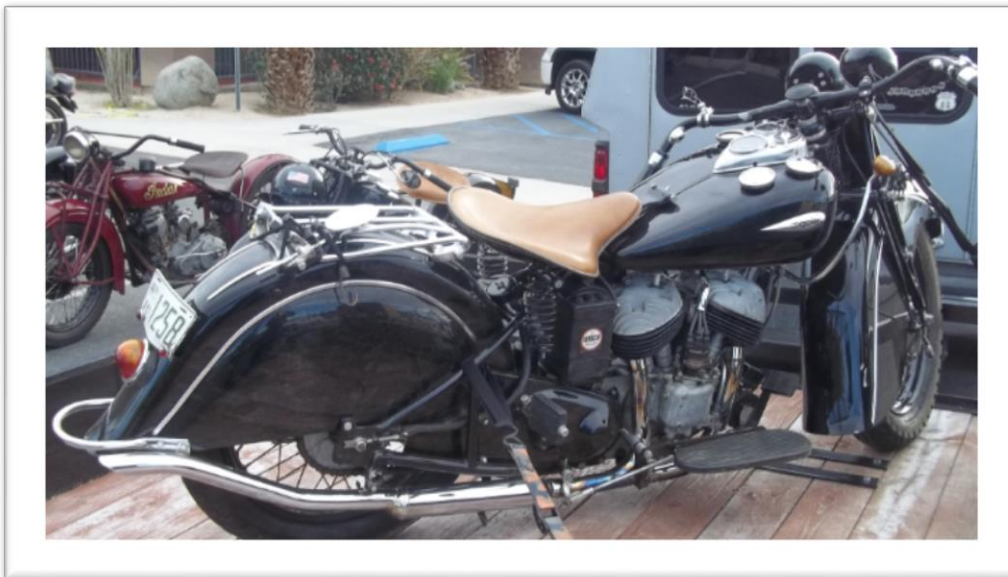
**BOREGGO -- 2016**

**BOB AND CAROLYN MUSGROVE**

*Editor's Note:* Talked with Norm after he got home. He is using the walker and doing pretty well. He is having trouble with vision in his right eye but his doctor is not sure why.

In true Norm fashion, he thinks he sees the face of Jesus in the gigantic bruise on his hip!!!

And a HUGE Thank You to Teg Graber who drove Norm's truck and trailer (with Norm in the truck) back to Phoenix. He is a true gentleman and friend.





**BOREGGO -- 2016**

**BOB AND CAROLYN MUSGROVE**

*Editor's Note:* For those of you who do not go home via the Salton Sea, we had a really weird adventure getting through all of the off-road vehicles and RVs on S22. This is a view from the front cab of the truck driving into Salton Sea.



Look closely and you will see some trees in the upper right part of the picture. See them?

That is a huge RV in front of us!



## Have You Renewed Your Membership?

All members' 2016 Annual Dues (\$20) should be in by now, but if you haven't done so yet, kindly get it in!

If you are an existing member or a new member who joined prior to **July 1, 2015**, please renew your annual dues NOW. If you are a NEW member in 2015 who joined after **July 1, 2015**, you do not have to renew in 2016.

To renew, go to [www.socalAMCA.org](http://www.socalAMCA.org) and click on Join/Renew at the top of the page. Scroll down and click on **SOCAL AMCA APPLICATION FORM**, print and fill it out, and mail your \$20 check to SoCal Chapter AMCA c/o Tom Hart 4005 E. La Veta Orange, CA 92869. We only accept payments by check; no Paypal or credit cards. Thank you.

Annual Dues are only \$20, so please do not expect us to finance your membership until later in the year.

Also make sure your AMCA National Dues are current. We have to report all members to the AMCA every month, if you have not paid your AMCA Dues or they have expired.... We are certainly told who you are!

You may renew your National Dues online at [www.AntiqueMotorcycle.org](http://www.AntiqueMotorcycle.org).

Thank you

**SECRETARY REPORT -- 2016****STEVE SORENSEN**

Since our last newsletter Larry and myself drove up to Ventura for the Dave Mann chopperfest. It's a great show at a beautiful venue with a mix of old and new choppers, bobbers, parts, venders and art. Put it on your calendar. Many thanks to the Grabers for reserving space at the Newport yacht club for our holiday brunch. It was an excellent day for a motorcycle ride. It was good to see everyone.

Grace gets the long distance award. Thank you for coming down off the mountain. It was wonderful to see you. I had family commitments so I could not make Borrego. Joshua tree is coming up and should have spectacular wild flowers and riding weather. Please check the calendar and Facebook for rides and events. We need to support our local vintage bike community by participating or attending.

Ending on a sad and happy note we celebrated the life of Homer Knapp. We are so privileged he shared some of it with us.



Two of my favorite bikes at the show.



**SECRETARY REPORT -- 2016**

**STEVE SORENSEN**

Hungry riders arrive at the yacht club.



**NEWS FROM THE WEB MASTER****Adriana Godoy-Leiss****Got A Great Photo, Story, Historical Perspective? Share It With Us!**

I just know you have some goodies for me that you're holding on to! A photo of a grand old machine taken in a bygone era, or a story from a past SoCal AMCA run or Sunday ride with the buddies that's too good to keep to yourself.

Seeing all the camaraderie at the Borrego Springs Road Run made me realize what a treasure trove of memories we have in our members. Share your stories and photos with us! The website and Facebook page are only as good as we make them together.

You can either post your gems on the [Facebook fan page](#) or send to our general e-mail box: [socalamcanewsletter@yahoo.com](mailto:socalamcanewsletter@yahoo.com). We can use the stories and images on our website's Riders' Blog and Facebook page.

Thanks to all who contributed Borrego Springs Run photos for our Facebook page and fan page, especially Kelli Delzer, Lisa Schultz, Gary and Dana Stark, Bob Clift and Tom Lovejoy! I look forward to everyone's shots from the Joshua Tree Run.

And if you haven't heard, photos from the Borrego Springs run are up on [SoCalAMCA.org](http://SoCalAMCA.org). Pull down the "Road Runs & Events Menu" at the top, and click on "Archive of Past Runs" Or, [click here](#). See additional photos from the ride on our [Riders' Blog](#). Here's a snapshot of our gallery of photos.



ROAD RUNS

NEWS FROM THE WEB MASTER

Adriana Godoy-Leis

March 3-6, 2016 - Check out some of the photos from our fabulous long weekend of riding and camaraderie. Also, be sure to visit the [Rider's Blog here](#) to see more photos from the run. Until next year, keep riding. Enjoy this lil trip down memory lane! "I came , I rode, I conga'd!"

Please be patient as the many photos load up on the page. Click on the photo to enlarge it and then right click to save it to your computer. Enjoy!



***RAMBLINGS FROM A NON-RAMBLER******TOM LOVEOY***

First things first, Borrego Springs was fantastic again this year. Hats off to all who made it possible, a lot of awesome machines and folks from all over the country and the weather was superb. Tim and Janis Graber, Tom and Jill Hart and all their helpers – what a fun time we had. Thanks to all their efforts on our behalf! Lots of great memories were made, while we waited for our meals ☺ you'll understand if you ate at the same place we did. The riding was and is fantastic in Borrego Springs and the surrounding areas. It really does not get much better and then we topped it off with some wonderful pies.

A special treat for me this year, I was able to ride an Indian Chief for the first time, in fact two of them! Thanks Tom Hart! In my 30 years now of playing with Indians, I had never ridden a Chief. Usually I stay off other people's machines, I know firsthand how much work goes into these restorations and how expensive they can be. First up was Tom's hotrod bobber. Tom cautioned me it had a hair trigger. Needless to say, I was very impressed! I could barely reach the clutch and the throttle is indeed a hair trigger. In an instant you're off with all the power an 80 + cubic inch power plant can muster. That thing is Bad Ass! As mellow as I tried to ride it, it was quite quickly evident to me - there was a wild beast between my legs and there was no way I would be able to keep control of the thing for any period of time. As we pulled over to change machines, the hair on the back of my neck was still standing up, what a great machine. Next was Tom's beautiful 39 Chief and though this one felt more familiar. It was just unfamiliar enough, the thought of going into a turn at speed or something coming up quick that I was not expecting had me uneasy and though I enjoyed it very much, I returned it to Tom after a couple runs up the local streets and decided to ride my old familiar Deluxe . It was a special treat though, thanks again Tom.

I hope my Chout will be something somewhere close to Tom's great machines. I love the old flatheads. Speaking of Chout's and or project's – come on folks, let's see some of what you're working on. Let's hear about that pile in the corner you hope to redo, that is one of the most interesting things for me in this hobby. The challenges you face and how you go about fixing them. The ragged rusted busted projects you hope to revive ☺

Here's a glimpse of one of mine, the frame for my Chout – just sand blasted. Started this project with just an engine, have almost all parts needed now. Lots to do, will I ever get it done? Who knows, but I hope to have fun trying. I won't be too active this year as far as riding, too busy with those projects. Trying to make progress and they are killing my bank account ☺

Ride safe, Tom



**BARNEY WATSON – FIRST BIKE REBORN**

**CLAUDIA WATSON**

Done! Here it is! Barney's 1st motorcycle that was purchased at Sears in 1957 for \$179!! I got it for his birthday in November of 2014! So far it has been the moped from hell!! So far \$2900 in it! He did ride it around the hood **today!**





**SOCAL AMCA CALENDAR**



# 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 8-9, **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

**MOTORCYCLE HUMOR**

**CAROLYN THE EDITOR**

Old Age Ain't for Wimps or Sissies!

