

# FORT SUTTER NEWS

FORT SUTTER CHAPTER, AMCA

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## 2014 OFFICERS

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Vice Pres. *Dave Kafton*  
Secretary *Tom Green*  
Treasurer *Marie Moore*  
Director *Rich Kinney*  
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## From the President

It's that time again. At our next meeting we'll be nominating three board members to replace the three whose terms have expired. I'll be one of those. If you want to have a say in whose running your club, come out and make your choice known. Also, at the next meeting we'll be discussing the Cal Expo Auto Show. If you haven't done so already, please call Marie Moore and volunteer either your time or your bike.

Last week I stopped at the Triumph dealership located on Grant Line Road and Highway 99. I wanted to see if they sold old motorcycle parts but I was told they didn't so I started looking at new bikes. I was looking at the new Bonneville and the salesman started telling me about it. He said, "See those carburetors, they're only for looks, inside there's a fuel injector." He said they wanted the 2014 Triumphs to look as much like the old Bonneville as possible.

I was reading the last edition of the *Antique Motorcycle* and the one subject that kept coming up in many articles was: How can we get more young people to join the AMCA? We have brought this same issue up many times in our own meetings but have never come up with a solid solution. In the article by AMCA President, Richard Spagnolli he wrote, "There is no guarantee that our offspring will find old motorcycles as fascinating as we do." Which makes me realize leaving our old bikes to our kids isn't always the best thing to do.

I have a neighbor with three boys and one of them likes to ride old bikes in the dirt. I asked him if he would like to ride vintage trials and he said, yes. I built him a 125cc trials bike, hoping it would lead him in to liking old bikes. He took to trials riding and was good at it but as he grew older he bought a 450cc Honda motocrosser—more horsepower, more speed. So, for now as far as he's concerned, it's goodbye to old motorcycles.

Another quote from Richard's article regarding acquiring new members: "We can all start this process by welcoming anyone, regardless of age or brand of motorcycle into the AMCA circle, where we know the passion for old motorcycles abounds." Something for us to think about.

Your President  
*Richard Hardmeyer*

Our Next Meeting Will Be  
**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4**

At Sam's Hof Brau  
Watt and El Camino Avenues  
**Lunch at Noon • Meeting at 1:00 p.m.**

# Minutes of the General Meeting

## August 2, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by president, Rich Hardmeyer. There were twenty-one members in attendance.

**Minutes:** Once again the minutes of the last meeting will stand as written.

**Treasurer's Report:** Marie Moore reported that, to date, we have 119 paid members and a very healthy bank account

**Old Business:** Swap Meet Chairman, Jim Moore reported that on Saturday, July 5 a critique of the Dixon meet, attended by almost all of the various sub-chairs, was held at the Hof Brau. Jim pointed out some of the issues that came up in the meeting such as problems with noisy dogs, running short of food, and a couple of judging issues. Next year Jim plans to include a list of rules in the vendor's packages.

It was mentioned that the some of the Yerba Buena members suggested that next year's theme should be "modifieds and choppers" the thinking being that spotlighting modifieds and choppers might bring out the younger riders but the word "chopper" did not sit well with some of our members. After some discussion and alternative suggestions such as hill climbers, European, or just dropping the word chopper and leaving it at modified, it was decided to put off making a decision until the next meeting although, by the time the discussion ended, it sounded like "antique modified" or a version of it, was the direction we were going in. While on the subject of theme bikes, Rich Hardmeyer said that, no matter what theme we decide on, we should award a first and a second place trophy because there are just too many worthy bikes in the category to award only a first place.

Jim Schenken said that he has spoken with a person who is interested in updating and managing our website and will have a report at the October meeting.

**New Business:** The idea having another club picnic was brought up but all felt it was too late to have one this year. The final decision was to put it off until September, 2015. It was also decided to use a caterer (if possible, the one that was used for the road run) and hold the picnic at either Micke Grove, Rancho Seco, or Elk Grove Park.

Meeting adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

TOM GREEN  
Secretary

## Time For Nominations

At the next meeting we will be holding nominations for director. Outgoing will be Rich Hardmeyer, Dave Kafton, and Mark Loewen. Keep in mind that, under our system, the nominations will be for the position of director only. Following the election, held at the December meeting, the board members decide among themselves who will fill the offices of president, vice president, treasurer, and secretary.

If you have any suggestion for a candidate to serve on the board for a two year term, please let your choice be known at the October 4 meeting. If you can't attend the meeting but have someone in mind, you can make an absentee nomination. To do so contact Tom Green. After contacting the nominee to be sure they are willing, the name will be put on the ballot.

TOM GREEN  
(916) 457-2720 • E-mail: g80cs@comcast.net

# In Memory Harold Ball

November 25, 1927 – August 15, 2015

I had been visiting Harold in the convalescent home where he'd been living for the last few months. As I said my goodbyes and turned to leave he said, "Hey, aren't you going to shake my hand?" Somehow I knew it was going to be our last handshake. I also realized that it wouldn't been long before something I had been dreading would have to be done—the writing of a final farewell. But this farewell—this obituary—would not only mark the passing of Harold Ball, it would also mark the end of an era that many consider to have been "the golden age."

For those of us in the Sacramento area who cut our motorcycling teeth in that post war period from the late 1940s through the 60s, Harold Ball was an icon. A successful racer, a master mechanic, and a shop owner. To tell his story is to tell of that time when five dealers controlled the Sacramento motorcycle market and there were at least a dozen race tracks within 100 miles of Sacramento.

To tell the tale properly requires more time, more space, and dusting off old memories therefore, I'm putting off writing the full story until the next issue.



## **SACAUTOSHOW** **THERE IS STILL TIME BUT NOT MUCH**

We have had a good response already to the request for bikes and bike watchers for the upcoming International Car Show at Cal Expo October 17, 18, and 19. However, we could use more bikes as we have the whole building to ourselves. . . .please check your calendar and see if you are available to bring a bike or two for the public to enjoy, and also if you have a few hours to donate to be at our booth to answer questions about the club and keep an eye on the motorcycles. We especially need help on Friday and Saturday afternoon and evenings. You will receive a day parking and admittance pass courtesy of the promoters.

Tom is making up the signage for each bike and the promoters make up the larger signs for each bike, so we would like to know as soon as possible who and what we have to work with on those dates.

Bikes go in for display on Thursday the 16th and stay until Sunday 6:00 p.m. The show is open to the public Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

**WE ALREADY HAVE MEMBERS WHO ARE BRINGING BIKES BUT  
WE NEED MORE!**

**WE HAVE A NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS TO STAFF OUR BOOTH BUT  
WE NEED MORE OF THEM TOO!**

Please call or e-mail Jim and Marie with your information....530-622-6531 or [jandmmoore@att.net](mailto:jandmmoore@att.net)

...Thank you, *Jim & Marie*





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## FOR SALE

### 1968 Honda CT 90 Trail Bike

- Automatic Clutch, high-low range for steep climbing
- Ideal to take when camping or RVing
- Turnkey – Needs nothing
- Currently registered
- Location: Placerville, CA
- \$1,300 OBO

CALL JIM MOORE  
(530) 622-6531