



“Soaring Eagle”

Monthly News for Our SCRC Nation March 2011



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March 2011
Vol. 2 Issue 3

“From the Top!” – A Few Words from an SCRC National Officer

A few words from: Richard Krause, SCRC Vice President & Chapter Director.

“I joined the Southern Cruisers in 1998 with my wife, Debbie. I was a FO, STO, & later became the National Events Director. Then I became the VP of the SCRC.”



“I started out riding a Honda 750, then an 1100, & later I went to the “dark side” & bought a Harley Ultra Classic.”

“As National Chapter Director, my duties include assisting first officers (FO), state officers (STO), regional officers (RO), & the other national officers in regard to the issues that arise within chapters.”

“I also open new chapters. When a chapter application is submitted, it is my responsibility to forward it to the STO. The STO checks out the application & contacts the applicant. This process begins & ends rather quickly... & soon a new chapter has been formed. The new FO can get assistance from me, the STO, the forums & other FO's.”



“I am of the opinion that the people in the Southern Cruisers is why it is so successful. I have met & become friends with so many people that would not have come into my path otherwise. These people have had a tremendous effect upon my life & I am very grateful to each & every one of you for that. The Southern Cruisers is a huge family. The riding brings us together but the friendship keeps the club strong.”



“Hammer Time” by Bruce “Hammer” Mathis

Snow, snow, & more snow! It is winter in the northern hemisphere. And I love the snow! Yep – I waited all summer for this!

BUT, enough is enough. I am getting antsy to get back out riding again. The first part of February was cold, snow, cold, snow, & so on. But towards the end of the month, it is a good time for Mother Nature to begin teasing us of better days, better temps, & better rides!

I think February is a good time to “look”. That’s right... look. Spend some time looking for some new rides – in magazines, online, anywhere. ‘Cause I love a new road (most of the time, anyway!). Look at new bikes in same... or visit the local bike shop & check out what is new. I can’t get out riding, so I might as well spend some of my time “looking”. Then when riding season is upon me... I hope I am ready for some new adventures!

Things are looking pretty optimistic – check out the SCRC calendar. There are plenty of good events coming up for you to attend. Maybe your chapter should schedule an event!

Remember... “I am Southern Cruisers! And so are You!” You will recognize me when you see me... I am the one wearing the SCRC patch on the back of my vest! “Grab some wind... hammer down!”

A Growing SCRC Nation - New SCRC Chapters

Sending out a “rev ‘em up” welcome to these new SCRC chapters:

North East Delta SCRC #97 Tallulah, Louisiana

1st Officer – John Moss Christian

South Bay Chapter SCRC #549 Long Beach, California

1st Officer – Craig Harrison

Cumberland Plateau SCRC Chapter #157 Tennessee

1st Officer – Jerry Rollins

Seneca Rocks SCRC Chapter #548 Seneca Rocks, West Virginia

1st Officer – Shawn Turner

Big Creek - Ellijay SCRC Chapter #307 Ellijay, Georgia

1st Officer – John Young 2nd Officer – Ricky Hill

Laughery Valley SCRC Chapter #405 Milan, Indiana

1st Officer – Vernon Herbert

Chapters with New Names

Little Rock SCRC Chapter #135 Little Rock, Arkansas

1st Officer – Charles Henry, Jr. 2nd Officer M.D. Williams

Conway SCRC Chapter #486 Conway, Arkansas

1st Officer – D.A. Campbell

Hub City (Crestview) SCRC Chapter #388 Crestview, Florida

1st Officer – Bobby Park

Harrison SCRC Chapter #059 Harrison, Arkansas

1st Officer – Mary Keene 2nd Officer – Stephen Short

SCRC Calendar

Listed below is the SCRC events on the 2011 SCRC calendar:
http://www.airsetpublic.com/AirSet.jsp#app.CalServe+gl.taGnyWwQUzIN_v.month

If you plan on having an SCRC event in 2011, you better “get to gettin” it approved.! Contact Bubba Prescott to get it reviewed & approved!

March 4-5 – “Los Moras Run” – Bracketville, Texas

March 25-27 – “Savannah Invasion” – Savannah, Georgia

April 3 – Northshore “Cruisin’ for a Cure” 7th Annual Poker Run – Louisiana

April 9 – Chapter 63 St Jude Benefit Concert – Lexington, Kentucky

April 15-17 – Florida State Rally – Pensacola, Florida

April 16 – Ouachita Mntns Chapter 51 Poker Run – Poteau, Oklahoma

April 29-May 1 – NC “Spring Gathering” – Asheboro, North Carolina

April 29-May 1 – Virginia “Meet & Greet” – Chester, Virginia

May 7 – “Cruisin for a Cure” - Kansas

May 13-15 – Central States Regional Ride-In – Hot Springs, AR

May 14 – Chapter 63 St Jude Poker Run – Lexington, Kentucky

May 14 – “Cruisin for a Cure” – Pensacola, Florida

May 20-22 – Mississippi State Rally – Vicksburg, MS

May 27 – Maryland SCRC “Fun Run” – Williamsport, Maryland

May 27-29 – SCRC Rolling Thunder – Sterling, Virginia

June 2-5 – California State Rally – Oakhurst, California

June 3-5 – Tennessee State Rally – Cookeville, TN



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SCRC Calendar (cont'd)

- June 4 – “Run to the Sun” – Wilmington, North Carolina
- June 4 – VA “Pig Iron Run 500” - Virginia
- June 9-12 – Kentucky SCRC State Rally – Morehead, KY
- June 10-12 – Oklahoma SCRC State Rally – Pryor, OK
- June 17-19 – “Fun Run” – Bedford, Virginia
- June 24-26 – “Tennessee Ridge Runner” – Johnson City, TN
- July 2-4 – Fais-Do-Do – Lafayette, Louisiana
- July 15-17 – Georgia State Rally – Commerce, GA
- July 22-24 – New England Rendevous – Barton, Vermont
- July 29-31 – Great Lakes Gathering – Sterling Heights, Michigan
- July 29-31 – Indiana State Rally – Columbus, Indiana
- Aug 5-7 – Virginia State SCRC Rally – Lynchburg, Virginia
- Aug 18-20 – SCRC “Cruisin’ for a Cure” National Rally – Mountain Home, AR
- Sep 16-18 – Texas State Reunion – Houston, Texas
- Oct 7-8 – “Run for the Border” – Del Rio, Texas
- Nov 4-6 – “Peanut Festival” – Dothan, Alabama

Meet an SCRC Regional Officer (RO) – Southwest U.S.A.

This month’s regional officer: Meet John “NoFear” Pavkovich, SCRC’s Southwest RO. His region covers 5 states & 17 chapters: Alaska (1), Arizona (5), Colorado (5), Hawaii (1), & New Mexico (5).

“I have the following States in my region, Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico & for some odd reason Alaska & Hawaii. My home chapter is the Phoenix Chapter # 178.”



“I ride my ‘98 HD Ultra Classic & have logged over 130,000 miles on this bike! I also own an ‘87 HD Sportster 1100 – it has around 30,000 miles on it (although it has not been on the road since around ‘03).”

“I earned my nickname “NoFear” back in the early ‘90’s when I was a crew chief in the IMSA Series Sports Car Racing. Back in those days there were no pit road speed limits & teams like Ferrari would come through the pits at speeds over 150 MPH with little room for error at many tracks because of how narrow the pit road was. So standing out on pit road could be a test of nerves as the cars came by within a few feet of where I was standing!”



“I have been riding since ‘72. My first time on a motorcycle was in Wichita Falls, TX, while stationed at Sheppard AFB, & was on a 500cc Husquavarna rental motorcycle. Looking back, that was one of the most fun bikes I have ever had the pleasure of riding.”

“Over the years, I have owned Honda’s & Harley’s. My current ride is, without a doubt, the most reliable & comfortable machine I have owned. My wife recently suggested I buy a new bike, but I elected to

have this one gone over. So, we had the complete bike re-habbed with all wear items replaced, & replaced with upgraded parts. No more movement in the rear swing arm & I had them lower the bike. It now handles like it is on a rail.”

“Before moving back to Arizona, my wife & I lived in New Castle, DE, & rode several years with a local HOG chapter. The group became more of a ‘social drinking club’. My wife & I are ‘riders’, so I looked around & found the SCRC. I contacted them & “Pappy” Pierce gave me a call. One thing led to another, & I opened a chapter in Delaware. About a year later, I became STO until we moved to Phoenix, AZ. I joined the local chapter here, & when the current FO stepped down, I took over as FO. I later became STO. Then when SCRC was reorganizing regions, I was asked to be Southwest RO - a position I still currently hold.”



“Being an officer of this club is different than most other clubs. And I have had many memorable moments as an officer. Several years ago, the club had a very unique charity event called the “Lois Noriega Memorial Wheel Chair Run”. All to get one wheel chair to St Jude’s Children’s Hospital. Well, to make a long story short, we received the trailer in Delaware just before Christmas, & had it until right around the New Year. In March, we moved to Arizona. Just after arriving here, I got the trailer from the SCRC chapters in California. So, we got to host the trailer twice & in two different parts of the country!”



“I also attended the SCRC National Rally a few years ago & got to be where our hearts lie - at St Jude’s meeting some of the many children our club has helped over the years. And yes, I have met many great members across the country. These are all things I could never have done in a brand specific club... or most motorcycle clubs. The SCRC is very unique & is, in my mind, the best place to be for anyone that seeks camaraderie & a great riding experience.”

“I was asked to pick my favorite road to ride. I thought about that for a few minutes & I think the one I like best is the one I am on when I am on my bike. Now don’t get me wrong, I have been on some of the best roads not only here in Arizona, but all over the Northeast, Texas, Oklahoma, California... & even Thailand. There are very few days here in Phoenix that I cannot ride. In the city, I just stay alert & know that I have so much more freedom out in the wind than those around me surrounded by glass & metal (“cagers”). I haven’t got to ride as much long distance the past couple of years because we own & operate a historic bar here in Phoenix... & spend far too much time there running it.”



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Meet an SCRC State Officer (STO) – in Kansas

Meet Gary “PapaG” Harmon, SCRC STO for Kansas & member of Johnson County Chapter 510. He is STO over 8 chapters (12ea 1st & 2nd Officers).

“The bike I ride depends on where I’m going & if my wife, Donna, is with me. If Donna is with me... or I’m going a distance, the H-D Road King. For shorter rides by myself, I choose the H-D Sportster. But I’m finding the Sportster stays in the garage more & more.”

“I started riding on a dirt bike at the age of 14. Then as soon as I turned 16, I bought my first street bike - a brand new 1974 Honda CB550. I sold it when I became a dad, but rode my dad’s bike whenever he wasn’t - until he sold it.”

“Had a few more... for a short time each... then got married again. So I went “without for a while” begging for a ride now & then. Then I went a few years with & without one until the kids grew up. Then I bought a Honda Nighthawk & rode it until it just wouldn’t go anymore. I was busy with work & didn’t have much time to ride, so I went about 6-yr without a bike.”



“Then I just couldn’t take it anymore! So I bought a used ‘05 Sportster from a good friend - only to find out that my wife all of a sudden got interested in riding with me more & more. Well I don’t have to tell you that two-up on Sportster isn’t a good time for more than a 100 miles. So I bought “US” a Road King. Now we have OUR bike, the Sportster, HER Bike, a Honda Rebel, OUR bike the Road King. Hmm, I just noticed I came up on the short end of the stick here! Better not complain though :-).”

“One of my sons couldn’t let me have all the fun, so he bought a Sportster & we started riding together again. One day we decided to look for a club that liked to ride & not ‘hop from bar to bar’. And I came across the SCRC in a Google search. I checked it out & liked what it had to offer so I joined. I got an email welcoming me to the club & that I was in a chapter 200 miles away!”

“Then I got a phone call from Brian “BOSS” Potter, Kansas STO at the time, & he suggested I start a chapter here. Well, I thought about

it for a day or two... & I called him back & said ok. What next?”

“I got another email stating that I was the FO of Chapter 510... & I was hooked! Got some other guys I rode with to sign up & ran into a couple more... we went from 2 members to 5! Started meeting up with some of the other chapters in the Kansas & Missouri knowing it was one of the best things that has happened to me.”

I’ve been the Kansas STO for about a year now. I was nervous as heck when Brian told me he was stepping down as Kansas STO & wanted me to take his place. After talking to him about what it meant & what the STO did & how he did it, I told him I would take it if I was approved. We had a state picnic where he announced he was stepping up as RO & I was stepping up as STO. AND it was our turn (Kansas) to host the Central States Regional Ride In... WAIT - what did he just say????? I had to sit down before I fell down. But thanks to the members we put on a fine ride-in.”

“I like being in the SCRC & being an officer because I get to help fellow riders.”

“My favorite road: Hmmm - I would have to say any country road that winds around through the hills. There are many good roads in the Ozarks. And my least-favorite road has to be I-70. Because of the cage traffic not paying attention.”

Submitted by: Gary “PapaG” Harmon - Kansas STO - Ride Safe!

Stolen Bike Story – Part 4

This is the last part of this story – the stolen bike! The owner of the stolen bike was pretty upset because the police seemed to know quite a bit about the thieves supposedly involved. He just could not understand why they were not arrested right away. But the police were working on a bigger deal. They wanted to entire ring.

The person that stole the bike from JT’s driveway was an 18-yr old that worked down the street (a dead-end street, I might add). Anyway, JT had left the bike in his driveway instead of the garage. The battery was dead, so he never suspected someone could/would steal it!

So the police had several people and places under surveillance. Several months after the theft, they arrested quite a few people in 2 or 3 counties. Turns out the thieves had connections to chop shops and other hiding places for their stolen property.

The scary part I the thieves have quite a record spanning quite a few years. But have never spent any real time behind bars. Many locals knew about them and were just cautious and wary.

I have not heard anymore news about it since the... “Grab some wind, hammer down!” by Bruce “Hammer” Mathis

NEW State Officer (STO) in Pennsylvania

Please welcome John Horbach as the NEW Pennsylvania STO! He was previously the 2nd Officer (SO) of Berks Chapter 243.

NEW Assistant State Officer (ASTO) in Texas

Please welcome Billy “BC” McCord as the NEW Texas ASTO for the Southern Region! He is a member of North Lake Travis Chapter 351.

Facebook

Do you “facebook”? Is that really a verb??? Many people do... and many chapters are starting to use it. But I prefer the Delphi forums to ‘catch up’ on Southern Cruisers. But, I may send you an invite to be my ‘friend’... If so, watch for it... “Southern Cruisers ROCK!”



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SCRC Memorial Page

Visit the SCRC memorial page... & read a few of the poems & stories. They are absolutely awesome! Check them out at:
www.scrmemorial.net

I have posted another memorial poem. Enjoy! Reflect! Remember!

"Gone from my sight"

By Henry Van Dyke

19th Century clergyman, educator, poet, & religious writer

I am standing upon the seashore.

A ship at my side spreads her white sails to the morning breeze and starts for the blue ocean.

She is an object of beauty and strength. I stand and watch her until at length she hangs like a speck of white cloud just where the sea and sky come to mingle with each other.

Then someone at my side says: " There, she is gone!"

"Gone where?"

Gone from my sight. That is all. She is just as large in mast and hull and spar as she was when she left my side and she is just as able to bear her load of living freight to her destined port. Her diminished size is in me, not her.

And just at the moment when someone at my side says: "There, she is gone!" there are other eyes watching her coming, and other voices ready to take up the glad shout: "Here she comes!" And that is dying.

SCRC 101 # 7 - Officers

OK – now we're getting to the good stuff! We are gonna start looking at the Officers section of the SCRC Constitution. It is quite lengthy, so it may take a few months to review.... Let's start with the SCRC National Officers.

OFFICERS

- 1) The SCRC at the National & International level will consist of National President, National Vice President, National Membership Director, National Rides & Events Director. The term of service of these Officers is unlimited. If one of the National Positions becomes available, the new Officer will be voted in by the remaining National Officers. The National Officers have the right to vote in a New National Officer & to remove one when it becomes necessary to maintain the SCRC to its fullest capabilities.
- 2) The National President will oversee all activities within The Southern Cruisers Riding Club & all activities involving the Trademark of the Club. The National President will also maintain the National Web Site & will oversee all Officers & Members within the SCRC. The National President will also oversee the Rides & Events Director on all rides & events throughout the SCRC. Rickster@SouthernCruisers.net
- 3) The National Vice President will assist the National President in overseeing all activities within the Southern Cruisers Riding Club. The National Vice President shall maintain the appointment of all State & First Officers. All Officers resigning positions shall inform the Vice President & assist at finding a replacement. The National Vice President prior to acceptance shall approve all replacements for State & local Chapter Officers & will oversee all Officers within the SCRC. The National Vice President will approve all opening & closing of any chapters in the SCRC he can be contacted at this address:

Richard@SouthernCruisers.Net . The National Vice President will also oversee The National Membership Director.

- 4) The National Membership Director will oversee all activities of the General Membership of the SCRC. First Officers will update the National Membership Director on all status changes for Members. Any information regarding the General Membership of the SCRC should be directed to the National Membership Director at this address: Bill_Presley@SouthernCruisers.net
- 5) Rides & Events Director shall oversee all rides or events throughout the Southern Cruisers Riding Club. The Rides & Events Director will coordinate with All officer who are setting up a rally or event for their state/chapter to assure that the event has met the guidelines set forth for any SCRC event. Bubba@SouthernCruisers.net

Crossin' the Mojave Desert

Back in '01, I took a ride out to the west coast. It was intended for a buddy to ride along with me. We started planning in February – the plan was to head out in early May.

But, his work schedule did not cooperate & he had to cancel. Not me - I was still planning on going. Somehow, "Princess" did not get that message. So, come Monday AM, I am packing my bag to head out when she asks...

"What are you doing?" she asked in a not-so-friendly voice.

I found out she thought since my buddy canceled, she thought I had, also. It was an uncomfortable period of time until I got to the highway Then I was off! Heading to the west coast.

Now a ride like this can have many memorable moments... & this one definitely did – several of them. One memory I greatly enjoy is:

I was heading back home (east) across the Mojave Desert in California watching the fighter jets high in the air above me. They may call it 'maneuvers', but it looked a whole lot like they were playing to me. Wide open spaces, no trees or any brush or shrubbery to contain that "surprise" animal jumping out in front of me crossing the highway. "Sophia" was humming happily down the highway.

Now I had not ridden any distance in any real heat before. But I remembered my brother (who has ridden for many years) telling me to wear my leather coat. In this situation, it has dual purpose – it will protect you if you have an accident, AND it will keep the desert from "sucking the water out of you" & dehydrating as fast.

Well I was tooling along & I spotted an oasis ahead of me. That's right – lush green trees (the only ones in sight), lush green grass... maybe it was a mirage? No – it was the real thing!

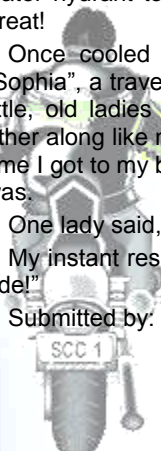
I am not sure how hot it was, but I shed my coat & headed to the water hydrant to run water over my head & arms to cool off. It felt great!

Once cooled off, I headed back to my bike. As I approached "Sophia", a travel-bus with senior citizens had pulled by her. And two little, old ladies were getting off the bus. They were helping each other along like neither one could not make it on their own. About the time I got to my bike, they complimented me on how pretty a bike she was.

One lady said, "If I was any younger, I'd asked you for a ride on it."

My instant response was, "If you were any younger, I'd give you a ride!"

Submitted by: Bruce "Hammer" Mathis





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Safety Tip – SIPDE & Clothing

This month let's discuss SIPDE & clothing.

This month let's discuss SIPDE & clothing, some of you may never have heard of SIPDE so here it is; SIPDE... Scan, Identify, Predict, Decide, & Execute..

Scan – Scan the roadway ahead of you looking for obstacles that might be a potential problem.

Identify – Identify the problem.

Predict – Predict what the problem might do & examine your choices.

Decide – Decide the best course of action to take.

Execute – Execute your choice of action.

In '07, Sharon & I were riding on Hwy 10 along the Illinois River in Oklahoma when we got into some oil on one of the curves. The rear end started sliding as we were half-way through the curve, & I had two choices; 1) go in the ditch sliding or, 2) take it on - on my conditions.

I chose no. 2 - to go straight in. And as luck would have it, once in we didn't have any problem. We got shut down, & since the other bikes saw me sliding they had enough warning to slow down & miss the oil spot. We got back up on the road & I told the group that I just wanted to show them you could “off-road” an '07 H-D Ultra Classic.

The key was, Sharon or I didn't panic & maintained control of the bike on our terms... not the uncertain terms that might have happened had we slipped off the road.

Be aware! Look for lane changes or merging traffic. You can help yourself by using hand signals & turn lamps to indicate your intentions to others. Check your blind spot before changing lanes. Be ready to use your horn to let know others where you're there. And be ready to move quickly to avoid a collision. NEVER drink & ride. Your life is worth more than a few beers. Always stay alert to your surroundings

Wear proper clothing when riding. Proper riding gear can literally save your hide if you are involved in an accident. Never ride in shorts or without a shirt. Always wear shoes, preferably a pair of over the ankle leather boots. Always wear shoes, preferably a pair of over the ankle leather boots. I have ridden with people that wear flip flops, tennis shoes & have also seen them barefooted.

When I was younger (in my invincible years), I also rode in flip flops & tennis shoes. But as I got older (& wiser), I realized that I was not invincible & started to wear boots.

Leathers are always good protection, heavy clothing (jeans) are good as well. Understand that nothing will totally keep you from being hurt bad but there are items out there that will help. Even the jackets now-a-days, as most of you know, have protection built in them. And they work in most temperature ranges comfortably.

I know some of us think we will never go down, but the truth is, unfortunately, at some point we have, or will be down. The protection that you have will help determine how severe the outcome will be. Be safe this month. Mike.

Special thanks to Mike Sumter, Will Rogers Chapter 159, for these safety tips!



Collections?

Do you collect “things”... anything? Besides money, I mean. And friends. You know, collect something whether it is intentionally (or unintentionally). Maybe you collect things that YOU want to have, and maybe you collect things OTHERS (family & friends) want you to have.

Now don't make a run on me here (or we will all be disappointed), but I collect “things”. Some of the things I collect are: M&M's statues & figures (mainly blue M&M guy), shot glasses, and... menus.

Yes! Menus... you know, from cafes & restaurants. I know, I've heard it before – I'm odd. What can I say? Matchbooks are outdated. Nobody makes 'em anymore.

But anyway, I have menus from many places that I have dined at over the years. And I have quite a collection going... from Texas, Canada, California, and Alaska. Some places are not in business any longer and I am glad I got 'em when I did. Most were given to me, some were bought, and some were... well, never mind. No confessions here today.



I am trying to eat at unique & interesting places. And I am attempting to collect them while I am on a ride.

I just recently asked a waitress for a menu. And I was surprised when she told me a friend of hers also collects menus! She said her friend had over 150 menus.

Now I am not asking you, nor am I suggesting you contribute – but if you see a cool looking menu (and it is good eats), flag me on it, and I will go check it out. It (the menu) may be looking for a new home! “Grab some wind, hammer down!”

Submitted by: Bruce “Hammer” Mathis

Send your SCRC news to: news@southerncruisers.net I will try to get it a newsletter soon. Please note – promotions for your events (other than from the SCRC calendar) will not be included in the newsletter. Promote those via forums, fliers, etc.

I am Southern Cruisers! And so are YOU!

