



# “Soaring Eagle”



## News For and From Our SCRC Nation

[www.southerncruisers.net](http://www.southerncruisers.net)  
[news@southerncruisers.net](mailto:news@southerncruisers.net)

January 2015  
Vol. 2015-01

### 2015 SCRC Event Calendar

Is your chapter hosting a SCRC event in 2015? Maybe a multi-chapter ride? A fund raiser for a local charity? Or a fund raiser for St. Jude – SCRC’s charity of choice?

Contact your first officer (FO) to get something planned. The FO will get it approved by SCRC National (if needed) before it happens. Once approved, the FO can send the info to me at: [scrcnews@gmail.com](mailto:scrcnews@gmail.com)

### SEPTEMBER 2015

**SCRC National Rally** - at Perdido Beach Resort on September 10-13, 2015. We'll be at the beach, so bring your bathing suits.

Room rates - \$115.00 per night plus tax. 3 days prior to and 3 days following the event will be available. So enjoy your vacation at the same time.

#### Reservation Procedures

Perdido Beach Resort has a toll free Group Reservations Telephone Number (800) 634-8001. Or go to [www.perdidobeachresort.com](http://www.perdidobeachresort.com). Attendees should identify themselves as participants of Southern Cruisers 2015 National Rally ID# 11738 in order to receive the special rate. A credit card will be required to guarantee the reservation.

The registration page will be up soon along with other information about the event. We hope to see you there.

#### SCRC National Officers

### SCRC Memorial Page

Visit the SCRC memorial page: [www.scrcmemorial.net](http://www.scrcmemorial.net)

It is offered as a memorial to our fallen brothers & sisters. Read a few of the poems & stories. They are absolutely awesome!

*Ride on the Wheel*  
*Anonymous*  
*Though we never know*  
*Where life will take us,*  
*We know it's just a ride*  
*On the wheel.*  
*And we never know*  
*When death will shake us*  
*And we wonder how*  
*It will feel.*

Has your chapter lost an SCRC brother/sister? Please get them added to the SCRC Memorial page. The contact info (email link) for changes or additions to the memorial page is at the top of the page.

There are many faces of members that I never met... & some that I have. We are all Southern Cruisers! The pictures prompt me to... Reflect & Remember!

### 2014 SCRC California State Rally

It started for Cheryl and I on Monday: towing our bike up because of the amount of freight we haul: Tables, coolers, prizes, T-shirts, patches, pins.....It also gave us the opportunity to meet with all the staff members at Juniper Springs. Monday and Tuesday nights were incredibly windy and it rained....many prayers for better weather were sent up.

Wednesday – quite a few came up to start with the preparation of the “welcome” packages handed out at registration, setting out the paperwork, and sorting out t-shirts, patches and pins. We had an impromptu BBQ over at 1849 Condos - Mongo did the grilling and the girls put together the side dishes....yummy!

Thursday: registration is ready before the scheduled start time (noon) - a good thing because we had members ready to register and pick up their welcome packages as early as 11:00!

Our thanks to our Ventura and Palomar members for preparation and running the registration tables. We had a second BBQ at 1849 Condos. Mongo cooked again....again it was quite delicious!

Friday the 13th: Who schedules these things? There was a short term registration desk in the main lobby of Juniper Springs for the folks that rolled in late - they picked up their welcome packages before and during the Dice Run Registration.

While I designed the route initially, Sparky pre-ran the route in early May and was actually able to talk to business owners we could not reach by phone in advance because they were “snowed-in” until mid-May. Much of the Mammoth Lakes area is above 9,000 feet so we're talking about some serious altitude here.

Mongo and I pre-ran it again Thursday morning, he found a couple other “fine details” and Carrie Launer added them to our route to ensure nobody got lost. It worked, nobody got lost.

Weather for the dice run is quite sunny but (for us spoiled Californians) a little chilly and definitely windy! Cheryl and I ran stop #2 at Lake Mary Marina – just got our table set up and about 45 seconds later the first group rolled in.

The dice run ended at 1849 Condos for our fundraiser lunch. This was masterfully prepared by Antelope Valley Chapter members. Everything was ready to go before the first bikes rolled in. NOTE: the staff at 1849 (despite the fact we only had about 10 members staying there) welcomed us with open arms and we had use of their clubhouse, kitchen, game room, BBQ and tables and chairs the entire time we were up in Mammoth. Thank you!

South Bay and Ventura Chapter members prepared the biker games. The games started right on time. Due to high winds, the weenie bite contest just was not going to happen. Sparky added a slalom course. Each of the event winners received \$20 in prize raffle tickets as well as this year's St. Jude “Cruise' for a Cure” hats which we added “2014 SCRC California State Rally” to.

Antelope Valley Chapter had everything ready for the prize raffle shopping. We sold out of this year's shirts and patches in a hurry and sold about half of what we had from previous rallies.

Juniper Springs staff put the final touches on our meal and I met with the officers on hand to ask for announcements, ideas, and stories.

The Antelope Valley Chapter lead by SO Todd Deal, did an amazing job with raffle prize distribution.

Each year we ask our artistic members to submit designs for use at each state rally:

- 2014 Patch: by Becky Miller, member of Ventura Chapter
- 2014 Pin: Jay Daniels, member of Ventura Chapter



# “Soaring Eagle”



## News For and From Our SCRC Nation

[www.southerncruisers.net](http://www.southerncruisers.net)  
[news@southerncruisers.net](mailto:news@southerncruisers.net)

January 2015  
Vol. 2015-01

### 2014 SCRC California State Rally (continued)

2014 T-Shirt Front and Letterhead logo: member of South Bay Chapter, SO Craig Harrison

2014 T-shirt Back: Rich Grihalva, SO San Diego Chapter.

Dice Run winners: Low roll - Kathy Gallant of South Bay Chapter; High roll - “Nickleye” of Antelope Valley Chapter.

Biker Games: Gabe Renteria - slow ride and slalom; Dean Mills - plank ride.

50/50: Larry Coaly of Ventura Chapter (donated half back to kids).

\$1,000 Opportunity Drawing winner: Bill Kunsman, member of Antelope Valley (this is the first time an SCRC member has won).

Sparky had “honorable mention awards” for Mongo and I. This was put together with much stealth by Cheryl (who I could never do what I do without her help) and Big D. Very sneaky you two!

Mongo and Helen are moving to Tennessee at the end of summer. These two have been incredible leaders and contributors to both the Palomar Chapter and California SCRC. To list all their accomplishments and contributions would take a full page. We will miss you terribly and hope you are able to come back and visit, or we can come visit you in Tennessee and see where the Southern Cruisers Riding Club began.

If you have a few minutes, go to [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) and word search “Sparky and the Jets”

- Gary Herpick – 2<sup>nd</sup> year, rides all the way down from Seattle and is always asking “how may I help?” I did grab him once to help move freight of some kind and we got to see a doe right on the main road leading to Juniper Springs. If you don’t know what a doe is, you’re a city person.
- Julie Deal - ALWAYS being on task doing something. I don’t think she ever rested.
- Julie Mills – added sample bottles of Mothers Wax to all the welcome packages. We have enough of these leftover to do the same thing next year.
- All the people who took turns at registration, and jumped in wherever possible to help out, and there were many willing to help....there always are.
- Sparky - roped me into another year as your CA STO. Big D. was poised to take over as our STO, but was in a bike wreck May 28th. Brother Dan, I hope you know how much you are missed and loved by all! Please continue to keep Dan in your prayers for a speedy recovery.

It’s a pleasure to work with such a fine group of people every year...we put this on together as a group and I think we get a little better at it every time.

Submitted by: Brian “Producer” Eveland, California STO

### SCRC 101 #20: Group Ride Guidelines – Part 4

#### **Minimum Safe Following Distances:**

- A) Within the group, a safe distance is defined as a MINIMUM TWO SECOND DELAY between the rider, and the next rider directly ahead (ref. NOTE below). This means that there is a MINIMUM of a ONE SECOND DELAY between staggered riders. Whenever a single file formation is employed, a safe distance remains defined as a MINIMUM of a TWO SECOND DELAY between the rider, and the rider directly ahead. The riders should also realize that by creating a large gap in the formation, cars will try to move in and split the formation, causing a dangerous situation. It also causes problems for the Road Captain when there are large gaps in the formation.
- B) Too many people get hung up with, “there must be only 2

seconds between bikes”. This is a guideline for average highway riding. The gap should be determined by the speed and road conditions. The gap should be established before the ride for the sections of road to be traveled. The faster the speed, the more gap there should be. With that said, we also do not want huge gaping gaps in the formation where other vehicles will attempt to break into the formation. The gap should be consistent throughout the formation.

- C) With respect to vehicles ahead of the group, a safe distance is defined as an ABSOLUTE MINIMUM of a THREE SECOND DELAY between the Road Captain and any vehicle directly ahead of the group (ref. NOTE below). If a car in front of the formation, make adjustments to keep a good distance.
- D) A safe lane position is defined as riding immediately to the right or left of lane center. This will keep the riders just off the center oil stain, while maintaining the staggered formation, distance between riders and other obstacles, and not obstructing the line of vision between the Road Captain and Tail Gunner.

#### The “Law of...” Cannot be Refuted

Law of Mechanical Repair - After your hands become coated with grease, your nose will begin to itch and you'll have to pee.

Law of Gravity - Any tool, nut, bolt, screw, when dropped, will roll to the least accessible corner.

Law of Probability - The probability of being watched is directly proportional to the stupidity of your act.

Law of Random Numbers - If you dial a wrong number, you never get a busy signal and someone always answers.

Variation Law - If you change lines (or traffic lanes), the one you were in will always move faster than the one you are currently in.

Law of the Bath - When the body is fully immersed in water, the telephone rings.

Law of Close Encounters - The probability of meeting someone you know increases dramatically when you are with someone you don't want to be seen with.

Law of the Result - When you try to prove to someone that a machine won't work, it will.

Law of Biomechanics - The severity of the itch is inversely proportional to the reach.

The Coffee Law - As soon as you sit down to a cup of hot coffee, your boss will ask you to do something which will last until the coffee is cold.

Murphy's Law of Lockers - If there are only two people in a locker room, they will have adjacent lockers.

Law of Physical Surfaces - The chances of an open-faced jelly sandwich landing face down on a floor are directly correlated to the newness and cost of the carpet or rug.

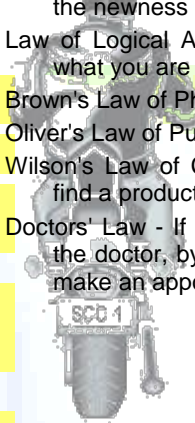
Law of Logical Argument - Anything is possible if you don't know what you are talking about.

Brown's Law of Physical Appearance - If the clothes fit, they're ugly.

Oliver's Law of Public Speaking - A closed mouth gathers no feet.

Wilson's Law of Commercial Marketing Strategy - As soon as you find a product that you really like, they will stop making it.

Doctors' Law - If you don't feel well, make an appointment to go to the doctor, by the time you get there you'll feel better.. But don't make an appointment, and you'll stay sick.





# “Soaring Eagle”



## News For and From Our SCRC Nation

[www.southerncruisers.net](http://www.southerncruisers.net)  
[news@southerncruisers.net](mailto:news@southerncruisers.net)

January 2015  
Vol. 2015-01

### SCRC Eagle Rescue

SCRC Eagle Rescue Program Guidelines  
(<http://southerncruiser.com/eaglerescue/>)

The purpose of the Eagle Rescue Program is to provide a coordinated effort for assistance in case of an emergency while a Southern Cruiser is on the road. Each Southern Cruiser member that wants to use the Eagle Rescue Program will be able to contact his First Officer for contact information for the chapters on the planned route. Then, should the need arise, a phone call to the appropriate Eagle Rescue volunteer will bring the needed help. In addition, a quick e-mail to the First Officers or Eagle Rescue volunteers along the route will give them a "heads-up" that a Cruiser will be passing through on a specific or expected date.

Each First Officer will need to set up the program in accordance to the availability of volunteers (try to keep the numbers to 4-5) and equipment in his/her chapter. A list of Eagle Rescue volunteers, with their phone numbers and e-mail, city, state residing in, and any Cruiser nicknames should be sent to the Eagle Rescue Coordinator. This list should be kept current and updated with Eagle Rescue Coordinator every 6 months or so to keep confusion to a minimum.

In cases where the First Officer has plenty of work already, an Eagle Rescue volunteer may be asked to handle the program at the chapter level.

This is an ever-evolving program and can be changed as needs dictate.

Remember, this program is for Southern Cruisers. All we are trying to do is coordinate the "Goodwill" already present in the Southern Cruisers and make it more effective.

### “A Caged Outlook” – Keepin’ it all together!

Remember the old saying: If it doesn't move and it should = use WD-40; If moves and it shouldn't = use duct tape.

Gone are the days of fixin' stuff with a piece of "bailin' war" retrieved from the bed of your pickup, or un-wrapped from any given fence post. Bailing twine, introduced in the late in the late '70's/early '80's (according to Wikipedia) isn't a comparable replacement for wire, even though they both serve the same function when used for their intended purpose. Unfortunately, the twine isn't near as strong, heat resistant, nor wear resistant as good old "balin' war".

A metal coat hanger is a decent substitute when and where available, but not always as handy as bailing wire. Metal coat hangers are nearly extinct too with the onset of plastic, color coordinated hangers.

Go ahead! Try it! Try tying up a almost-dead, hanging-down muffler with a plastic coat hanger! Plastic coat hangers will not even suffice as a makeshift TV antenna even when fully encapsulated in an entire roll of heavy duty aluminum foil!! Remember those days?



Now let's move on to duct tape. Wow! Another trip to the internet yielded all kinds of info that I wasn't even aware of!

Rather than covering all of it in this small scribblin' space, I will quote Hammer... as he says "Look it up!"



The history of duct tape is unbelievable. Modern day uses of 100-mph tape PALES drastically by comparison to creativeness of our forefathers (four-fathers?). Military personnel and astronauts could not have possibly imagined their life-saving duct tape would eventually be used in a contest for the best

prom dress made entirely out of duct tape.

Hurricane tape, in certain instances, is as effective as bailing wire and coat hangers. It does have useful properties the others don't, but still can't completely replace either of the two.

In 1958 a new product was patented... and cable ties zipped into use (nice pun, eh Hammer?). Whether you know them as cable ties, zip ties, security ties, wire ties, their uses are as varied as their name. They are, in my humblest of opinions, the closest thing to a "cross-bred offspring" of bailing wire and duct tape.

They are used to secure price tags to merchandise, harness the vast number of wires behind today's big screen TV's, VCRs, DVDs, Blue-Rays, cable and/or satellite dish control boxes, plus so many other uses I cannot dream up (or mention) at he moment. They can attach things, bind things, restrain things, and there is even a version that are used as handcuffs.



They are kinda pricey for what you get. All they are is engineered strip of plastic designed not to slip once tightened, and seldom reusable. Sure there are reusable ones, but they are higher priced yet!

I still think I would rather reach for a rusted piece of "bailin' war", or a roll of duct tape than todays new fangily-dangily inventions. Call me nostalgic if you want, but you know I would just go to the internet to look up the meaning of nostalgic.

From the archives of the twisted wit of "Mr. Visible"

### Gremlin Bells ([www.gremlinbells.com](http://www.gremlinbells.com))

Have you ever noticed that some riders have a small bell hanging off their motorcycle frame or handlebars? Have you wondered what the purpose is? Well, you have come to the right place. That little bell is more than decoration, it serves a very important purpose – it wards off gremlins, also known as evil road spirits.

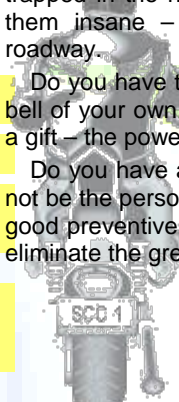


You see, there are motorcycle gremlins that LOVE to ride, but they are also mischievous little devils and they cause all sorts of problems for you while you are riding. Some say they are responsible for that old lady in the minivan not seeing you and cutting you off in traffic. Or, you may be having trouble shifting smoothly, your battery goes dead, your turn signal suddenly refuses to work, an oil spill appears out of nowhere, you hit a patch of black ice, etc. – you get the idea. Those little gremlins look for trouble and try to steer your bike towards it.

Now, once you get a bell on your scoot – it wards off these attacks from the little gremlins, not allowing any more to get onto your bike. If you already have some gremlins riding with you, they will get trapped in the hollow of the bell, and the constant ringing will drive them insane – causing them to lose their grip and fall to the roadway.

Do you have the protection of a gremlin bell? If you buy a gremlin bell of your own, the power works. If you receive the gremlin bell as a gift – the powerful magic of the bell is doubled.

Do you have a friend who does not have a gremlin bell yet? Why not be the person to give them one, they'll thank you! The bell, and a good preventive maintenance program by the bike's owner, will help eliminate the gremlins.





# “Soaring Eagle”



[www.southerncruisers.net](http://www.southerncruisers.net)  
[news@southerncruisers.net](mailto:news@southerncruisers.net)

## News For and From Our SCRC Nation

January 2015  
Vol. 2015-01

### Southeastern Chapter 132

Jn Smyth has been a member of SCRC Southeastern Chapter 132 (in McAlester, OK) for 5+ years. His member number is #132005. He lives in Pittsburg, OK., and has served in the Army in World War II. He was also a member of GWRA , Moto Guzzi Chapter. He rides a Goldwing, and a couple of Moto Guzzi's. He attends Moto Guzzi Rally's as well as SCRC Events.

He has logged many a mile on a motorcycle riding across the USA. And still continues to ride even with a bout with cancer.

He is the oldest active rider in SCRC Chapter 132. It just goes to show you're NEVER TOO OLD TO ENJOY LIFE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Submitted by: Buster McKinley, FO SCRC Southeastern Chapter 132



### Southern Cruisers in 2015

Your story could be in this space!!!

What is your Southern Cruisers story?

### Where it all began...

I heard the noise from same ways back. As I got up to the edge of the field, I saw her riding a motorcycle.

I thought to myself, “I can’t believe she’s riding that motorcycle. I sure wish’t I knew how to ride it.”

I had been sneaking out of the house for quite some time now to go meet her. I would walk down the shining, polished, parallel railroad tracks hoping to catch a glimpse of her walking towards me from the other direction. She was also sneaking out of her house to meet me. We are just in our mid-teens – she’s 14, I’m 16.

But this day, I knew she was not going to be coming down the tracks – we were to meet at a bean field. She had plans of ‘borrowing’ her brother’s motorcycle and riding it in the bean field. I had seen his motorcycle and doubted she could even ride it on the smooth road, let alone in a rough terrain bean field.

But, there she was. Bobbling along, hair blown back, throwing dirt and dust everywhere. She had not seen me yet. She was bouncing up and down, engine whining, with a huge smile on her face. Finally she got sight of me and turned it towards me.

“Want to ride it?” she asked.

“Sure”, I said. But we both knew I didn’t know how to ride. So, she motioned me over and started explaining all the levers, buttons, foot levers, and so on to me.

“Now don’t go too fast” she warned. “It is easy to lay it over in this soft dirt.”

Want to hear more of “this story – Where It All Began”? Cause believe me, there is more to this story... LOTS MORE!!! And I guarantee YOU WILL LOVE IT!! And just an FYI - it is not my story.

If you want to hear more, please post your response on the SCRC National forum. I'll start a thread “Where It All Began” – please post there.

### Got a Story?

Everyone has a story to tell. Easy to tell, but harder to write down! Thanks to all of those that have responded & sent me stories for the newsletter. It will be a great help for future newsletters.

When you send me your story, it MUST come to me from your FO (first officer):

- Your full name (& nickname if you have one)
- Chapter name & no.
- Chapter hometown
- A few pictures to go with it - PLEASE remove your helmet & sunglasses for pics
- Your 1st officer MUST send it in
- Stories should be your story about riding... and/or riding with Southern Cruisers

Thanks for the stories. Just wanna make sure it is tied to SCRC & an SCRC chapter. Again... thanks. Send me your story & pics.

Please note – promotions for your individual chapter's events (other than from the SCRC calendar) will not be included in the newsletter.

Remember, my 2015 mantra is...

**“I am Southern Cruisers! It’s time to RIDE!!”**

### “Hammer Time”

“I’m back! (got a visual yet... think of Jack Nicholson peering thru the door in “The Shining”)

Many ~~moons~~ miles ago, I used to whip this newsletter out on a monthly basis. But my family and personal life overtook me and had to have my full attention. Now I plan on getting back in the groove and get my fingers limbered up on the keyboard. But...I need your help! I need your stories – riding stories, rally stories, good time SCRC stories! Send them to me at [srcnews@gmail.com](mailto:srcnews@gmail.com)

I’ve been thinking about acquiring a BMW cycle for several years now. But was told by a BMW owner several years back “*don’t ride one unless you’re ready to buy one.*”

Well, I did... and I did. And catching a lot of grief about it, that’s for sure. She’s an ‘02 R1150RT, in good shape – and a peppier, smoother ride than “Sophia”. Design overall is definitely something I am not used to, but getting a few things worked out. Her name is “Claire” – and yes, I still have “Sophia”. Just can’t bring myself to part with her just yet.

Hope to see you on the road in 2015... You will recognize me when you see me... I am the one wearing the SCRC patch on my back – got yours yet? Then wear it when you ride. And remember my new slogan for 2015 ...

**“I am Southern Cruisers! It’s time to RIDE!!”**

*“Grab some wind... hammer down!”* by Bruce “Hammer” Mathis

