

## **MORCA, A Chapter of IMBA, Summary of May 6, 2013 Meeting**

**Penny Farthing Restaurant, Salinas, 6:30-8 PM**

**Prepared by Henrietta Stern, Secretary, on May 7, 2013**

**Our website is [www.morcamb.org](http://www.morcamb.org)**

About 16 people attended. All officers present except Mary Pozzi (out of town).

**YOUR CURRENT OFFICERS THROUGH 2013** are:

President: Darius Rike (webmaster too)

Vice-President: Ken "AmeriKen" Howat

Secretary: Henrietta Stern

Treasurer-- Joel Trice

Members-at-Large – Mary Pozzi and Lee Jetton

LIAISONS coordinate extensively with officers (or may also be officers). They are:

==CSUMB and New Member/Beginners: AmeriKen Howat

== FORT Friends and FORA/ESCA liaison: Henrietta Stern

==Other Groups: Jason Campbell (ForU) and Chris Mack (KFOR)

==IMBA and BLM: Gary Courtright and Lee Jetton (trails)

You are welcome to contact the liaisons to offer assistance.

If you have an idea for an agenda item, be sure to contact officers at [morca@morcamb.org](mailto:morca@morcamb.org) at least one week before the regular meeting. Officers meet the Tuesday before the monthly Monday meeting to review the ongoing task list and set the agenda.

**1. President's Remarks--** Darius welcomed the group and thanked everyone who volunteered at SeaOtter and also the SCruz Mtn Bike Festival (especially Karl setting up kids skills area)-- a busy month. **SEAOTTER VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION PIZZA PARTY is Tues May 14 6-9 pm** at Mountain Mikes in Marina. MORCA's treat!

**SeaOtter stats:** Joel and crew rocked the IMBA tent. We had 262 IMBA signups as compared to 192 last year! We have to wait to find out how many are for MORCA chapter. Volunteer crew leader Ken felt Dual Slalom went well; we will have 7 volunteers each day next year as well. We made \$840 for the club for that work. For night ride efforts, Darius reported we got 15 light sets from Magic Shine (worth over \$2500). We will keep 5 sets as loaners for future night rides; we will use 5 sets as awards to volunteers and other appreciation gifts, and 5 sets will go toward fundraising raffles etc. Magic Shine did some videos on <http://www.youtube.com/> -- try "Magic Shine Sea Otter Classic" and there will be three 15-min videos.

**2. FORA-ESCA Update/ROE Permit --** Henri reviewed the FORA Right of Entry (ROE) permit for 2013-2014 (May 1 start date) and highlighted changes from last year. Slightly more trail length but more limitations on time (one-half hour BEFORE sunset and weekday stat at 4 PM, not 3 PM). Also "road escort" for a short stretch on Gigling. We have "guest cards" and other requirements as before. Darius suggests Wed May 8 ride be a tour of allowed trails. Darius will post ROE but file size is very large. Leads need to carry copy. Henri attends bimonthly Trail Users Group meetings re ESCA cleanup status. Next one is May 15. ESCA website is <http://www.fora-esca-rp.com/>

**3. Fort Ord Natl Monument (FONM) first anniversary celebration May 11, 2013.** Henri thanked MORCA for our \$500 donation to help fund celebration and Trailhead Maintenance Fund (hire janitorial service so rangers spend more time on trails rather than in bathrooms). MORCA to lead ride to celebration site from Creekside at 9 AM. Go to <http://www.fortfriends.net/> to sign up. Next FONM planning meeting is **Thu May 9 at 6 PM** at Oldemeyer Hall in Seaside.

**4. Monthly Trail Day is Saturday May 18--** this is a "drive and trim" with emphasis on Trails 50 and 49, especially sections to be used by Hammerstein. Meet at 8th and G to carpool before 9 AM. Watch for e-mail and signup list. It was suggested that we contact runner and equestrian groups regarding trail day opportunities, especially those trails closer to Creekside, which they use alot.

5. **Friends of Fort Ord Warhorse Event--also May 18 at 9 AM.** Some MORCANs will volunteer to lead their easy road ride to Comanche's Grave and help out-- we have allowed use of MORCA insurance and waivers.

6. **Hammerstein 24-Hour Race May 25-26--** We have 11 signed up for the team-- one slot is left. There will be 2 RVs plus camping on the grass-- BBQ in style with easy-going fun in the sun. Darius suggests a pre-ride on Fri May 10 at 4:30 leaving from Laguna Seca.

7. **Take-a-Kid-Mtn-Biking Day (TAKMBD) is October 5, 2013.** Lisa is doing some up-front reservations, but someone else (or a committee) will need to take the reins this year. Darius says IMBA and County will work out insurance language well in advance. IMBA instructor training program is recommended except all are out-of-state-- we are considering requesting a training here in CA and we would host, or perhaps team with MBOSC. Ken will check with Tom Moore (IMBA) about this.

8. **Treasurer Report and Fundraising Update (Joel).** We have \$6,957 in the bank with \$1,592 earmarked for trail fund. This includes a \$1,000 grant to MORCA from Oakley for trail work support. We suggested a nice pix of us doing work wearing the Oakleys! Darius mentioned a couple of other small grant programs out there to request funds for trail work and related items. We discussed the need to implement the Pre-Paid option next year for night rides.

WE HAVE MORCA T-SHIRTS in all sizes. Michael is still researching online store options for other MORCA goodies.

9. **Bike Park Update (AmeriKen)--** a major multi-year goal is a Bike Park in our area. Ken and Darius tried to meet with Alpine Bike Parks at SeaOtter, but schedules did not work, so they will try again. Also exploring some potential options at Toro Park, or other County Parks. Previously, we agreed we would need a special meeting just on this subject to carefully review questions and answers.

#### 10. Other Business and Updates

A. **Palo Corona Park Trail Assessment--** Darius, Henri and Tom were invited by Regional Parks to be part of a focus group to assess trails in the hills across from Point Lobos/Monastery Beach, which extend many miles inland. We will assess trail suitability, sustainability and feasibility. This land is closed to the public at present but will be a new multi-use area in the next 1-2 years, after a master plan is written, EIR completed, public hearings etc. Park District has also asked certain hiker and horse groups to do the same assessment from their perspective. This is upfront planning very early in the process. Mostly double track trails plus cattle graze free range out there, which is an important consideration.

B. **On-Line Store for MORCA branded stuff (logo-wear)--** Michael DoCouto is working on this--thanks for your volunteer efforts, Michael.

C. **MORCA Bylaws--** Directors have set June 11 as goal for first review of Bylaws and suggestions for new language to replace outdated or confusing sections. If you have suggestions, get your comments to Board at [morca@morcamtb.org](mailto:morca@morcamtb.org) by the June 3 meeting (sooner the better).

D. **Ales and Trails June 29 in Marin Co--** This is supposed to be a lot of fun, with great food and beer plus guided rides by professionals. Proceeds go to IMBA. Several MORCANs are going and we have free booth space (bring Easy Up and flags)--some are continuing farther north to explore the Lost Coast afterwards! Michael noted that he nominated Henri for the "Local Hero" award sponsored by Ales and Trails each year.

E. **Ride 24 Hours to Fight Cancer--** Nick M. announced he is riding the Coolest 24 hour race which raises funds for cancer research in honor of his Dad and 2 colleagues. MORCANs donated cash to support his quest. Contact Nick if you wish to help-- members agreed he could post something on the google group.

F. **Fort Ord Access Alliance Petition--** Jason Campbell reviewed status, answered questions and requested donations or help in order to secure the required signatures. He noted there are two

competing petitions now. See separate e-mails on this. Info at [fortordaccess@gmail.com](mailto:fortordaccess@gmail.com) or <http://www.fortordaccess.org/>

**G. Twilight Ride Hosting in June 19th and also November 13(?)** -- Note changed date in June-- "A mid-Summers Night Ride" seems like a great theme to me! BBQ and Shakespearian faerie/forest costumes?? Think of something fun! We voted to also host November ride which will follow late October Night Ride kickoff.

Previous Idea from last time was to host an October **Grand Fondo event** as a fundraising opportunity-- this will need to be after TAKMBD. We will need to pick which projects are feasible.

**NEXT MEETING: MONDAY JUNE 3 at 6:30 PM--** Penny Farthing in Salinas -- -