MORCA, A Chapter of IMBA, Summary of March 4, 2013 Meeting

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

Prepared by Henrietta Stern, Secretary, on March 6, 2013

Our website is www.morcamtb.org

About 20 people attended. All officers present except for Darius (on business) and Lee (tied up at work, and communicated info by phone).

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 (KFOW)

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

You are welcome to contact the liaisons to offer assistance.

1. Vice President Ken remarks-- Ken welcomed the group and outlined the agenda. If you have an idea for an agenda item, be sure to contact officers at morca@morcamtb.org at least one week before the regular meeting. Officers meet the Tuesday before the Monday monthly meeting to review the ongoing task list and set the agenda.

2. Sea Otter Classic (SOC) is April 18-21-- Many volunteers needed. Watch for e-mails and sign up to help on the website. This is primary membership and fundraising opportunity for the year. Joel is lead for fund raising and the IMBA/MORCA booth and described his goals in detail. He described nice IMBA swag and goal for 250 members, which means renewals plus 60 new members. Maybe a contest for volunteer who generates most new members or $$$--emphasize family memberships and higher level donations. Also clearly mark MORCA info. Sue leading a committee to make nice posters. We need have two booths-- one in the main grassy area and one in the pump track area, so we need 4 volunteers per day (2 in AM, 2 in PM) per booth, which means 8 volunteers each day. Joel will lead a training for booth folks before the SOC event. Focus is memberships and not a place to hang out. Help grow IMBA/MORCA.

AmeriKen is lead for dual slalom volunteers. We will have our own radios. We need 7 volunteers each day (all day shift). Watch for more detailed info as we get closer. Passes, Tshirts, lunch etc as "payment" plus a sizable donation to MORCA for the dual slalom work.Darius is lead for the SOC night ride event -- MORCA to lead and sweep an A and B ride, quickly patrol the track + registration at Turn 5. So 6-8 volunteers needed for a few hours around 7-10 pm, likely more if alot of signups. Already we have 18 signed up for the A ride, 19 for the B ride and 14 for the road.. Sponsor is MagicShine, a Chinese company. We will ask for a donation from them. SOC will be providing race entries as "payment" for volunteering. Folks will sign up on our website but there is no charge. We just might have a BBQ afterward with donation bucket. We have a campsite like last year. Take a day or two off from work

3. Trail Work Update (Lee)-- Saturday March 16 is next work day with emphasis on the new Trail 35, digging up roots and making the berms nicer. BLM has asked that folks carpool and NOT have bikes in vehicles or around the work site. Please sign up on the "Trail Day" link on the website so we can plan for tools, goodies etc. Note e-mails from other clubs re other trails days out of county.

4. Santa Cruz Mountain Bike Festival-- April 13-14. Karl is lead for getting our great skills structures over there. He will need 3-4 folks to transport and set up Fri April 12 and take down Sunday afternoon April 14. He will need an extra truck/trailor for Sunday afternoon. Karl will ask MBOSC to help us out with some swag for TAKMBD and/or SeaOtter in exchange. He meets with MBOSC on Monday March 11 in SCruz. This festival is a good opportunity to start advertising TAKMBD as lots of kids participate.

5. Treasurer Report and Fundraising Update (Joel). We have $6,453 in the bank with $593 earmarked solely for trails projects. We purchased Trailbuilder T-shirts to give for 10 hours of service, which cost $448 from the original $1,041 trails fund. Printing brochures cost $268 from the main fund. SeaOtter expenses will include nice banner flags ($870 with half paid by anonymous donor) so folks can see "MORCA"-- great for future events too. We expect $898 coming in from IMBA for the first quarter. Joel

and Ellie described focus on business sponsors and Ellie's draft sponsor benefits overview to be distributed in future. Joel volunteered his business to be the guinea-pig and first sponsor --THANKS JOEL!! If you need computer services, see Joel.

6. FORA-ESCA Update/ROE Permit -- Henri reviewed FORA Right of Entry (ROE) permit and the specifics it requires, such as a MORCA ID plus Cal drivers license ID, guest passes etc. We also discussed pros and cons of what MORCA has been internally requesting of ride leaders -- post rides and carry the ROE permit with us. We discussed what makes sense in the new application to be submitted shortly (ROE expires April 30) and what internal controls we might want (or not want) to preserve integrity of MORCA ride. Lots of varying ideas were suggested. Consensus was to not impose more reqts than currently exist. Henri to prep the initial draft application for review by officers and then share with membership. We can also further discuss internal controls that make sense for us. Henri attends bimonthly Trail Users Group meetings re ESCA cleanup status. Next meeting is March 20 at noon. ESCA website is http://www.fora-esca-rp.com/

7. Bike Park Update (AmeriKen)-- a major multi-year goal is a Bike Park in our area. Ken described his conversation with Alpine Bike Parks, who want to meet with us at SeaOtter and possibly by phone conference beforehand (Ken, Darius, Joel). Version 2 of Ken's proposal will be shared with general membership once completed. A future financial decision will be whether or not to hire professional firm and the specific tasks for them to do. This would entail fund-raising and outreach to other bike groups like BMX folks etc. Gary mentioned a possible bike park site at Marks Ranch (next to Toro) as part of a larger recreation facility that hopes to enable able and disabled kids to have fun together.

8. Fort Ord Natl Monument first anniversary celebration-- date TBA (May 2013) -- Henri described how FORT Friends volunteered to serve as funding conduit and will be asking for donations for the celebration. BLM does not have much budget and needs help with food and something to give away. Last years cost was about $2000. FORTFriends will pay for three "baseball cards" to give out with animals/plants known on Fort Ord. Three more can be added each year. MORCA voted to donate $250 plus match another group or individual donation up to $250, for up to $500 total. MORCA is so generous!! We rock!!!

9. On-Line Store for MORCA branded stuff (logo-wear)-- We had a discussion on pros and cons of a service vs doing it ourself. Consensus was to minimize hassle and make some money. Different views on what folks would buy and from whom. Gary was directed to see what service IMBA provides before making a decision-- others to carefully get the details on various providers...and what we must do.

10. Other Business and Looking ahead

A. Light and Motion demo lights at our final night ride event will be March 20 at 8th and G -- we will leave at 6:30 pm (not 6pm)

B. Monday Ladies-Led Ride will start Monday March 11-- leave promptly at 6 PM as it will be 1/2 hour past sunset by 7:30. Daylight savings is Sunday March 10. Sun will set around 7 pm-ish.

C. Friends of Fort Ord Warhorse Celebration Saturday May 18-- MORCA agreed we would lead an easy family ride from Marina Equestrian Center to 8th and G and then on trails to Comanche Grave area and back. Nice outreach opportunity.

D. Jason updated us on litigation and other politics related to Ft Ord, FORA etc.

E. Ft Ord Natl Monument support group meeting is March 14 at 6pm at Oldemeyer Center, Seaside-- Planning for anniversary celebration is main topic. .

==Hammerstein 24-hour Event is May 25-26-- might be fun to do some teams for 8 hr or 24 event.

==Joel's Great Adventure weekend of July 20 -- location TBD

==MTB Tahoe rides and trail work event Fri-Sunday August 16-18--featuring Hole in the Ground near Truckee. We have asked for two group camping sites for MORCA (10-12 people). Some folks plan to go earlier and do Downieville

==Watch the google group and website and Facebook for other late breaking news

NEXT MEETING: MONDAY APRIL 1 at 6:30 PM-- Penny Farthing in Salinas -- - NO FOOLING!!!