

Here are the July 1, 2013 Minutes -- Please read carefully! Watch for separate e-mails on many of these topics. Next meeting is August 5, 2013 at 6:30 pm. How time flies!

MORCA, A Chapter of IMBA, Summary of July 1, 2013 Meeting

Penny Farthing Restaurant, Salinas, 6:30-8 :15 PM

Prepared by Henrietta Stern, Secretary, on July 2, 2013

Our website is www.morcamb.org

About 13 people attended, including all officers present except Lee Jetton.

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 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 reviewed notable activities last month, including (1) June 15 trail work day with 14 participants, including folks from BETA; we are up to 250 total hours to date, almost as much as the whole of last year; (2) hosted Laguna Seca Track Twilight Ride June 19, including 4 homemade chili dishes (we will do again in November); (3) receipt of \$1,000 donation check from MBOSC as a thank you for our skills structures for their kid's event-- money will go toward TAKMBD in October; (4) attended IMBA fund-raiser Ales & Trails in Marin County June 29, where Henri received a "local hero" award; and (5) Nick M, thanked MORCA for our contribution toward \$1,359 his MTB team raised for cancer research in the Coolest 24-hour race; he encouraged MORCA to send a team next year.

2. FORA-ESCA Update -- Henri noted upcoming meetings of interest:

== Thursday July 11 for Ft Ord Natl Monument support group, presentation by Esselen Nation on their proposed cultural center and hotel near East Garrison area;

== Tues July 16 at 1:30 re opening of Intergarrison Road with no safety turnouts for Jerry Smith corridor parking -- we had lots of discussion on this;

==Wed July 17 bimonthly FORA-ESCA trail users group, where we hope county staff will attend regarding receipt of Happy Trails area and it becoming a County Park (we hope).

==July 13--Guided bus tour of Fort Ord cleanup sites see <http://www.fortordcleanup.com/> for info

As a reminder, Army burn season starts July 1, which could entail temporary road and trail closures for two planned burns--date depends on weather. Online registration for burn info

is www.fortordcleanup.com/burnprogram/notify ESCA website is <http://www.fora-esca-rp.com/>

From last time, June 19 was community meeting on plans for CSUMB parcel near 8th and G between Intergarrison and Gigling; comments close July 12; no further action planned besides residential restrictions. See <http://www.fortordcleanup.com/> for info..

3. Monthly Trail Day is Saturday July 20-- this is a "drive and trim" with likely emphasis on Trails 38, 32 and 36 near Creekside area. Vegetation trimming, improved sight lines and removing sand build-up. Unless directed otherwise, meet at 8th and Gigling to carpool before 9 AM. No bikes for the work day. Watch for e-mail and signuplist. Henri will contact other trail groups and invite them. Sponsors for a pre-work and post-work snack always welcome. We discussed having a BBQ of brats after this work day. Contact Lee or your officers at morca@morcamb.org

4. **Take-a-Kid-Mtn-Biking Day (TAKMBD) is October 5, 2013.** Sycamore Flats has been reserved but committee is trying to get Youth Camp instead, even though there are more costs involved. Better trails and fun skills area for kids. In the next month, must firm up plans and verify insurance language works for all (if not, need event insurance). **Second planning meeting is Thu July 11 at 6 pm at Mountain Mike's in Marina.** Please attend as this is a major event for us.

5. **Treasurer Report and Fundraising Update (Joel).** We have \$8,260 in the bank with \$1,592 earmarked for trail fund (includes a \$1,000 grant to MORCA from Oakley for trail work support) and \$1,000 donation set aside for TAKMBD. Joel then reviewed his mid-year budget assessment-- actual compared to budgeted expenses and revenues. So far, we are ahead in some categories but behind in others, but major revenue from IMBA has yet to be received. Big ticket expense items in next few months are annual insurance, TAKMBD and IMBA regional chapter summit in late October. WE HAVE MORCA T-SHIRTS in all sizes. See Other business re other marketing options.

6. **Fort Ord Petition Update** -- Jason announced that 28,500 signatures were submitted to FORA for the Ft Ord Access Alliance petition. Registrar of Voters must verify FOAA petition as well as opposing Secure the Promise petition. We talked about some "what ifs". FORA will meet July 12 to decide what to do-- likely will set a ballot measure. Info at fortordaccess@gmail.com or <http://www.fortordaccess.org/> Jason also noted that the lawsuit against the FOAA was dismissed by the judge.

8. Other Business and Updates

A. **MORCA By-Laws--** Your board members met June 11 to slog through the existing bylaws and compare them to other models that were suggested. We are focusing on having clear understandable language and fixing some problems encountered last year. Next work meeting is (tentative) Tues July 9 at 6 pm at Darius home. If you have suggestions, please advise your board ASAP at morca@morcamtb.org.

B. **Upcoming Trips--** Joel is heading to Bend, Oregon July 18-22 with his nice RV and welcomes company. Biking, rafting, side trips. Might meet up with Matt and others. Fun stuff! The annual Mountain Bike Tahoe is 8/15-18 (group camping and riding Thu-Sunday, with a big trail day on Saturday-- lots of food and fun trail fellowship with several clubs. Hole in the Wall in North Tahoe area. Several spots still left for MORCA members for tent camping. Though the altitude and trails are challenging-- it's worth it!

C. **Beer pint glasses** and other marketing ideas-- Michael created a fun logo for a beer glass that would complement the MORCA logo-- question is should we buy artwork only or pint glasses with art, and how many? Michael wasn't at meeting to answer questions, so this was tabled until next meeting. Board will wrestle with recommendation in the meantime. Several questions were posed by members regarding how and where to sell them, will this be cost-effective, how much to buy to avoid having heavy stock to store or carry around, and concern re lack of sales like the MORCA t-shirts. Ideas for use included giving as a gift for trail work hours or other volunteering. We agreed that polling members to get an upfront estimate of how many people will commit to buying is wise before we order. Michael has also researched several online store options for other MORCA goodies and found a local vendor that can do nice baseball caps with logo.

D. **FONM--trail user safety--** Henri noted our board suggested a "safety summit" that could be topic at future meeting of FONM Support Group-- what we can all do to avoid and prevent accidents, injuries and negative interactions. This will be needed as FONM gets more popular.

E. **Bike Bells--** An example of mtbike safety is attaching bells to the bike. Darius showed an example that could have MORCA logo on it. Much discussion on best bells and best places to place boxes of free bells (courtesy of MORCA). Members who have bells noted horse and hiker folk appreciate them. They do this a lot at SLO. This could cost several thousand dollars if a massive give-away. Darius to draft up a proposal.

F. **Skills Clinic?** Henri described meeting Mtn Bike Hall of Famer Jacqui Phelan at Ales & Trails. She lives in Marin and does clinics (\$1200 if she travels here, but maybe we get a discount?) She is a founding member of IMBA and quite a character. I have her info. Her specialty is beginner riders and encouraging women (but both genders welcome). No action taken.

NEXT MEETING: MONDAY AUGUST 5 at 6:30 PM-- Penny Farthing in Salinas -- -
Bring your ideas and enthusiasm-- and bring a friend!