

Hello All-

Please check out the following summary and mark your calendars for future events.

Members-some of these items request your input.

MORCA MINUTES for Monday, January 4, 2010 at 6:30 PM at English Ales in Marina. Minutes submitted by Henrietta Stern, Secretary, on 1/6/2010.

Our website is: www.morcamb.org <<http://www.morcamb.org/>>
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YOUR OFFICERS FOR 2010:

President: Gary Courtright (also IMBA liaison)

VP: Darius Rike

Secretary: Henrietta Stern (also ESCA liaison)

Treasurer: Bob MacLean

Webmaster: Jim Ryan

Toro Liaison: Ken Chrisman

CSUMB Liaison: Chris Villasenor

ATTENDANCE: 15 adults attended, including all officers except Treasurer. A new fellow to the area (at NPS) also attended (Xylore??)
Sorry I did not get the spelling. Welcome!

1. TREASURER'S REPORT/FINANCIAL AND BUSINESS STUFF - Prez Gary reported that we have roughly \$2,153 in the combined checking and Paypal accounts. We owe BLM \$300 for December. There are a couple of memberships to add as well, so the net will be about \$1,800.

Speaking of memberships-dues have gone up to \$35 per single or family as of January 1. Your officers will work on an incremental dues schedule with different levels of support as a task this year, similar to many organizations, as some way wish to be sponsoring members.

Treasurer Bob is still pulling together 501-c-3 information to hand off to Daphne to make a go at it. Last meeting, several members expressed the desire to pursue the tax exempt status on our own rather than depending on IMBA to do this.

2. ESCA/ FORT ORD "HAPPY TRAILS" UPDATE-- See Henri's separate e-mails

on ESCA monthly user's group meeting. Army is still working on formal documents to officially declare the North County MRA as Track 1 and expedite transfer- The group discussed need to reinvigorate our communications with the County Sups, County Parks etc re role of mtmbiking in their areas. Henri to check with Eric Morgan on whether BLM will manage Happy Trails for the County. Another goal is for ESCA to reopening Parker Flats area that has been cleaned up. But do not go in there and mess up their quality control activities-that will set us back months and months. Members report active work is now starting west of 8th Street extension, where we used to ride. Please stay out of ESCA work areas.

The next monthly ESCA meeting is January 20 at noon at the smaller FOR A meeting room across from their office (where the IMBA training was). Henri cannot attend, so I will need a substitute. Free lunch and it goes about an hour. It's nice to meet the other users and get a first-hand update on what is cooking.

3. CSUMB REPORT - Chris V reported that it is pretty quiet through end of January. A small budding student cycling group is forming, but they are mostly road riders or easy recreational riders. Hey anyone on bikes is a good thing! He noted maybe 2 students could potentially help at SeaOtter.

4. TORO REPORT - Darius described our Jan 2 work day at Toro with the new Pipeline trail; we connected the upper and lower sections!! The trail is still quite rough and still need lots of work. The canyon is beautiful, but this is a technical downhill only trail, where most people will likely walk over the rocky streambed sections in several spots. However, there will be more trails to come in the future. Toro is big and beautiful. Hwy 68 Hillbillies also have contributed lots of labor and a lovely gate to keep cows out. Next Toro Day is Sat Jan 30-this is also a BLM Trail Day. Watch for e-mail posts. Toro Trail Days are 4th Saturday of the month unless noted otherwise.

5. SEA OTTER CLASSIC PLANNING-APRIL 16-17-18--We had a long discussion about SeaOtter logistics and what is the best way to benefit the club by participating. Great news is that we are sharing a paid booth with MBOSC (only \$200+) and will be in the thick of things right next to IMBA's booth!! This contrasts to the free spot way out in the hinterlands. Important tasks to be done include: have our banner, plus nice newsletter, handouts, poster/pix etc of MORCA so people will be attracted to the booth and want to learn more about us.

We also need to staff that booth 100% of the time with at least one person (Thursday afternoon + Fri-Sun 9-6). The MBOSC folks are great to share a space with, and their sponsor is a brewery! They are also camping at SeaOtter too. Should be fun to work and chill with them!

Gary described the amount of work expected for the \$900 from SeaOtter for Kids Corral and kid's race -- 30 positions for 3 days. We sincerely questioned whether we had enough members to make that commitment and follow through with full staffing, given our commitment to the paid booth. We tentatively concluded that it would be best if MORCA committed only to the noon-time Kid's race up on the short-course track, and be open potentially to help with kids corral if we were partnered with another organization. Several members said they would commit to one 4-hr shift for the kids corral, but could not go all three days or 8 hours at a time, due to commitment to our booth, racing, their own families, jobs, etc. We also agreed our own local Kid's Day events either in May (Bike Week) or in October (IMBA) are better ways to reach local families and potential new members.

Members: Gary plans to contact the SeaOtter folks very soon. If you have opinions on how we should proceed, please post to the google group ASAP. Also we need your newsletter ideas-see below.

Gary-do you know if we have 6 riders racing to get the \$10 discount with a MORCA code? Come race and wear your new MORCA jersey (see below).

just wanted us to be aware of Bike Week and think about potential plans, funding through TAMC etc.

6. FORT ORD TRAIL DAY, SATURDAY JAN 30-Gary solicited suggestions-Trail 82 and Trail 44 (Lombard zigzag) were suggested. The focus is treadwork while the soil is soft. We are happy with our work on Trail 69, though were very displeased when horses plodded through our new work!

7. TAHOE TRIP WITH MBOSC AND OTHERS (end of August 2010) -Gary asked if folks were interested in joining MBOSC and 3 other clubs for their annual trail work and trail ride extravaganza. A friend of mine went last year and it sounded great! Work-ride-work-ride-camp-eat-imbibe etc.

8. NIGHT-RIDING ISSUES AND QUESTIONS-We had a far-ranging discussion on legal and illegal night riders, and balancing MORCA's overall goal to

enhance and expand legal night-riding opportunities for all riders, with the near-term requirement to advise BLM if other trail users are out at night on our Wednesday rides. We agreed we have no interest in being BLM's enforcement arm or tattle-tales, but also recognized the need to protect MORCA riders from blame if there is a CTS death, trail damage etc. Gary and Joel are our BLM liaisons, and are interested in your thoughts on what you would like to see in 2010 regarding night riding. Contact them directly with your ideas.

9. WILDERNESS FIRST AID- Several members have expressed interest in this training. Ken was not at the meeting, so we did not have additional info. There may be a class opening Jan 30 weekend; also she may fit folks in if space is available at other classes. We brainstormed locations that might work locally, esp. when it's warmer-like picnic grounds at base of Red Rock (Ewok Meadow), or perhaps the Travel Camp. Another thought is Garland Ranch in CV. The instructor is: Bobbie Foster at "Foster Calm" [bobbie@fostercalm.com] It is a 16-hr all weekend class, partly in a classroom setting and a lot of it outside.

10. MORCA JERSEY - Primal sent a Fit Kit to try on-Darius and family have volunteered to try to develop a very cool design featuring full-moon riders, tiger salamanders and other Fort Ord exotica! Stay tuned on this! There is a minimum of 24 jerseys to get them for \$45 each. Women's cuts are available too. We'll need a commitment from a critical mass of MORCANS in order to spend club funds on an order.

11. NEWSLETTER FOR SPRING-- Start writing those articles, folks, as we need a nice newsletter for the SeaOtter booth and springtime in general. Ideas include: night-riding escapades, ESCA update, trail-building at Toro; trail maintenance and BLM, fun rides you have taken, planned events, race reports, interesting natural history or trivia, bike review, funny stories, etc. Thaks in advance to Lisa Rike (Darius' wife), who volunteered to put the the newsletter together if someone else writes it. At our Feb 1 meeting, we will need to nail this down a bit better re space, topics, deadlines etc.

OTHER-OLD BUSINESS Members should also e-mail ideas for annual calendar.

Brainstorm ideas from previous meeting included:
all the weekly rides; monthly work days (usually 2nd Saturday BLM and 4th

Saturday Toro); SeaOtter, 24 Hours (if local), Bike Month events (May),
Fall BBQ, Kid's Day (Oct), Public Lands Day (Oct); Halloween Ride,
Turkey Trot, Christmas Season ride and party.

MARKETING- need to develop a marketing plan for MORCA-outreach of all
kinds to get more members and more involved in crucial work,
fund-raising/grants etc once we get that 501-c-3 designation.

BUY TEE-SHIRTS-- we still have lots of sizes. Women's order needs to
wait until we clear the existing stock.

CAL-STAR MEDI-VAC HELICOPTER INSURANCE-Only \$35 per family per year with
MORCA group rate--thanks to Joel who got this group rate together. Need
15 folks signed up to get the rate. Normally \$45 at least. Check it
out on website.

NEXT MEETING-- Next MORCA meeting is Mon, Feb 1, 2010 at 6:30 PM at
English Ales in Marina (Reindollar Avenue) -- all welcome.

That's all for now, folks. See you on the trails!

henri

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Please consider the environment - only print if necessary