



SCMA NEWSLETTER

Founded 1968

Articles	Page
SCMA Upcoming Activities	2
2025 Certified Finishers	3
What's New in the History Section	11
Meet Gloria Amesqua TFC Record Holder	16
Rocky Point ReUnion	25

Affiliates and Sponsors

26

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Chair, Best 15 US Roads Challenge	Rodney Chew	best15@sc-ma.com
Chair, GLCTT	John Mickus	cabottrail@sc-ma.com
Chair, Mother Road Adventure	Todd Hammer	motherroadadv@sc-ma.com

Questions? Contact a director directly.

SCMA Upcoming Activities – February 2026

Are you planning the rest of the year? These upcoming events are set up for members to click on the links and register.

[SCMA 2026 Awards Banquet Registration](#) **Saturday, March 13, 2026**

At the Planes of Fame Air Museum in Chino Valley
Come see the museum in the afternoon and stay for
dinner in the early evening with presentations to the
2025 ride finishers and award recipients.
Come see everyone.



[SCMA 2026 MRA Meet in the Middle Rally Registration](#) **Saturday, May 16, 2026**

We have arranged a meetup rally at the Center of Route 66 in Adrian, Texas. This year is the 100th anniversary of Route 66, the Mother Road. All the events and businesses along Route 66 have taken it up a notch in celebrations this year. This will be a one of kind event.



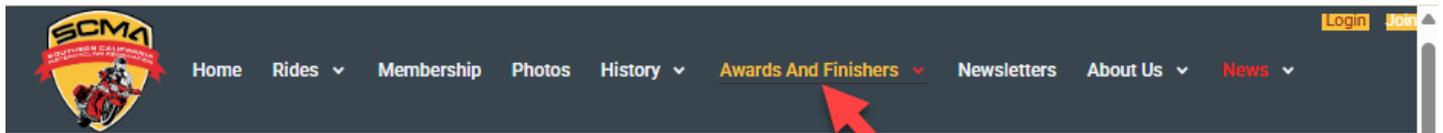
[Register for the 48th Three Flags Classic](#)

Follow this link to the Registration Tab on the Three Flags Classic ride to sign up for the 48th Three Flags Classic. The Start Banquet is August 26, 2026 and the Finish Banquet is, September 1, 2026.



2025 Certified Finishers

- February 2026



Awards and Finishers

<p>USA Four Corners Finishers 2012 – 2025</p> <p>Read More</p>	<p>USA Four Corners Finishers 2002 – 2011</p> <p>Read More</p>	<p>USA Four Corners Finishers 1983 – 2001</p> <p>Read More</p>
<p>Best 15 US Roads Finishers</p> <p>Read More</p>	<p>Mother Road Adventure Finishers</p> <p>Read More</p>	<p>Great Lakes Cabot Trail Finishers</p> <p>Read More</p>
<p>California Adventures Series – Missions Tour Finishers</p> <p>Read More</p>	<p>California Adventures Series – Roads Challenge Finishers</p> <p>Read More</p>	<p>California Adventures Series – Parks Adventure Finishers</p> <p>Read More</p>
<p>Triple Crown Awards</p> <p>Read More</p>	<p>California Triple Crown Awards</p> <p>Read More</p>	<p>Grand Slam Awards</p> <p>Read More</p>
<p>Legacy Awards</p> <p>Read More</p>		

The [Awards and Finishers](#) page works like a menu with blocks that will take you to each list of ride finishers and awardees.

Click on whichever group you want to see. When opened each page has a short description of the ride with a chart of finisher or award recipient names and some instructions on how to search or sort the data.

The next few pages list the names of the **2025 Finishers and Award recipients**.

Congratulations to all 2025 Finishers for getting it done out there!

The following pages list the 2025 finishers for each ride and the **2025 Triple Crown**, **California Triple Crown** and the **Grand Slam** awardees. The links to each page are also on the pages so you can go see all the finishers in the prior years too, search, and sort the data.

Best 15 US Roads Finishers

The grid below lists finishers of the **Best 15 US Roads Challenge** since the ride began in 2011, through the end of last year. Visit the **History tab** on the [Best 15 US Ride Pages](#), for some notes on the ride development and how it has evolved over time. For this ride there is a column for the notable achievement of completing this tour multiple times.

If you have any questions or corrections, contact the Ride Chair at best15-us@sc-ma.com.

2025 Finishers

Year	Name(s)	Home	Prior Finish
2025	Charles Harris Jr.	Milpitas, California	
2025	Edward "Ed" Monsour	Laguna Niguel, California	3rd Finish
2025	Illya Daniel	Rocky Mount, North Carolina	
2025	Larry Mollett	Chino Hills, California	
2025	Michael Reedy	Costa Mesa, California	
2025	Nancy Harris	Milpitas, California	

<https://sc-ma.com/best-15-finishers/>

Four Corners Finishers 2012 - 2025

The grid below lists the finishers of the USA Four Corners Tour since its inception in 1984, through the end of last year. This data has been compiled by the ride creator and subsequent Ride Chairs over the course of more than 40 years. To learn more about what's involved in the ride, visit the [Four Corners Ride Pages](#). If you have questions or find an error, please contact the Ride Chair at usa4c@sc-ma.com. Some of the Four Corners records feature unique color coding, which has been used in past records and is recognized by many riders. These color codes are as follows:

Red = USA 4 Corners More Than Once and/or "TRUE X" Pattern Finishers

Green = Back-To-Back USA 4 Corners Tours.

Gold = "TRUE X" Pattern Finishers in 21 days or less.

Orange = "TRUE X" Pattern Finishers.

To find your prior finishes, enter your name in the search field. Please note that there may be slight variations in how your first name was recorded. Click on any column to sort the results by that field.

2025 Finishers

Year	Name(s)	Home	Finish Date	Days	M/KM	Order	Motorcycle
2025	Mike Claywell	Hendersonville, North Carolina	12-May	18	8,064	FL,CA,WA,ME	2012 Honda Goldwing
2025	Don Gifford	Schenectady, New York	12-May	19	9,800	FL,CA,WA,ME	2013 Goldwing F8B
2025	John Howard Hayes II	Lansing, Michigan	15-May	21	10,885	FL,KS,CA,KS,WA,KS,ME	2003 Honda Goldwing GL1800
2025	Illya Daniel	Rooky Mount, North Carolina	19-May	17	5,930	WA,CA,FL,ME	H/D Road Glide Limited
2025	Kevin C Grant	Scottsdale, Arizona	21-May	12	7,276	FL,ME,WA,CA	Honda Goldwing
2025	Jimmy L Sponaugle	Charles City, Virginia	1-Jun	10	9,000	FL,CA,WA,ME	2016 Road Glide Ultra - Jolene
2025	Dave Soott	Trenton, New Jersey	12-Jun	16	11,105	ME,KS,WA,KS,CA,KS,FL	2023 H/D Street Glide
2025	Harry Knerr	Blandon, Pennsylvania	19-Jun	16	8,423	FL,CA,WA,ME	H/D Road Glide Special
2025	Sherry Knerr	Blandon, Pennsylvania	19-Jun	16	8,327	FL,CA,WA,ME	H/D Road Glide 3
2025	Michael Reedy	Costa Mesa, California	23-Jun	20	8,812	FL,ME,WA,CA	2020 H/D Road Glide Limited
2025	Brent Riggs	Fall Branch, Tennessee	26-Jun	15	7,962	FL,CA,WA,ME	2023 BMW R1250 GS
2025	Roger Elkins	Jonesville, Virginia	27-Jun	15	8,152	FL,ME,WA,CA	2014 H/D Ultra Classic CVO
2025	Steven Hinerman Sr	New Windsor, Maryland	27-Jun	15	7,782	FL,ME,WA,CA	Indian Roadmaster 112 PowerPlus
2025	John D Aukes	Adel, Iowa	4-Jul	13	8,062	FL,ME,WA,CA	2014 H/D FLHR
2025	Tony Crowe	Longview, Texas	7-Jul	18	9,900	FL,ME,WA,CA	2019 H/D CV Stree tGlide
2025	Stanley Miles	Granger, Indiana	21-Jul	14	6,889	ME,FL,CA,WA	2024 H/D Tri Glide
2025	Danny Gann	Mishawaka, Indiana	21-Jul	14	6,595	ME,FL,CA,WA	2024 H/D Tri Glide
2025	Alan Zabransky	Streamwood, Illinois	23-Jul	15	7,469	FL,ME,WA,CA	2016 Honda Goldwing
2025	Randy Titus	Springboro, Ohio	23-Jul	15	7,183	FL,ME,WA,CA	2024 Honda Goldwing Tour, 6-speed
2025	Lee E. Keller	Knoxville, Tennessee	27-Jul	15	7,734	FL,ME,WA,CA	2020 Indian Roadmaster
2025	Sandi McMillan	Bobcaygeon, Ontario, Canada	30-Jul	18	6,592	WA,CA,FL,ME	2018 Goldwing 1800GL
2025	Karen Reid	Grafton, Ontario, Canada	30-Jul	18	7,000	WA,CA,FL,ME	Can AM RTL Limited
2025	Brandon J. Brown Sr.	Pembroke Pines, Florida	13-Aug	11	7,309	FL,ME,WA,CA	2022 H/D Road Glide Special
2025	Marcus Cunningham	Oakland Park, Florida	13-Aug	12	7,309	FL,ME,WA,CA	Road Glide
2025	Edward "Ed" Monsour	Laguna Niguel, California	17-Aug	18	10,176	WA,CA,FL,ME	Honda GW / H/D CVO
2025	Emerald Garrison	San Diego, California	18-Aug	12	10,700	CA,WA,ME,FL	2025 H/D CVO Road Glide
2025	Timothy Robert Martel	Parrish, Florida	22-Aug	16	7,379	CA,WA,ME,FL	2021 H/D FLHTCU Tri Glide 114
2025	Michael Hamilton	Manhattan Beach, California	28-Aug	17		FL,ME,WA,CA	2019 H/D Road Glide
2025	Nancy Harris	Milpitas, California	5-Sep	17	10,764	WA,ME,FL,CA	H/D Tri Glide Ultra
2025	Charles Harris Jr.	Milpitas, California	5-Sep	18	10,600	CA,WA,ME,FL	2025 H/D CVO ST Road Glide
2025	William Thigpen	Santa Clara, California	5-Sep	16	9,228	WA,ME,FL,CA	2024 H/D CVO Street Glide
2025	Joseph Fann	Miami Gardens, Florida	6-Sep	17	12,272	ME,WA,CA,FL	H/D Road Glide
2025	Carl "Ksolo" Harris	Hopewell, Virginia	8-Sep	9	7,858	ME,WA,CA,FL	2009 H/D Road Glide FLTR
2025	Mark William Grapin	Unionville, Virginia	9-Sep	13	7,931	FL,CA,WA,ME	2021 H/D Fat Bob 114
2025	Martin Cobb	Fort Worth, Texas	29-Sep	19	7,498	FL,ME,WA,CA	2010 Kawasaki Concours 14
2025	Doug Meister	Rosenberg, Texas	29-Sep	19	7,768	FL,ME,WA,CA	2015 Yamaha Super Tenere

<https://sc-ma.com/four-corners-finishers/>

Mother Road Adventure Finishers

2024 was the first year of the **Mother Road Adventure (MRA)** tour. This ride recorded the order of West Leg finishers and East Leg finishers as well as the order of who completed both. The list through the end of last year is currently short, but you can still search and sort the results as you wish. The sorting changes do not alter the grid for the next viewer.

If you have any questions or corrections, contact the MRA Ride Chair at motherroadadv@sc-ma.com.

2025 Finishers

Year	Name(s)	Home	Leg
2025	Candace Hartley	Santa Clarita, California	West
2025	Candace Hartley	Santa Clarita, California	East
2025	Chrissy Cole-Gerry	Knoxville, Tennessee	West
2025	Dean Sarrocco	Glendale, Arizona	East
2025	Dennis Joyner	Richmond, Virginia	West
2025	Dennis Joyner	Richmond, Virginia	East
2025	Edward "Ed" Monsour	Laguna Niguel, California	West
2025	Edward "Ed" Monsour	Laguna Niguel, California	East
2025	Illya Daniel	Rocky Mount, North Carolina	West
2025	Illya Daniel	Rocky Mount, North Carolina	East
2025	Joseph Fann	Miami Gardens, Florida	West
2025	Joseph Fann	Miami Gardens, Florida	East
2025	Justin Scott	Westville, Indiana	West
2025	Justin Scott	Westville, Indiana	East
2025	Karl Kincheon	Houston, Texas	West
2025	Karl Kincheon	Houston, Texas	East
2025	Kenneth Trass	Bowie, Maryland	West
2025	Kenneth Trass	Bowie, Maryland	East
2025	Mark Campbell	Hemando, Mississippi	West
2025	Mark Campbell	Hemando, Mississippi	East
2025	Michael Hamilton	Manhattan Beach, California	West
2025	Michael Hamilton	Manhattan Beach, California	East
2025	Rafael Del Vecchio	San Diego, California	West
2025	Rafael Del Vecchio	San Diego, California	East
2025	Shareef "Reef" AsSadiq	Boerne, Texas	West
2025	Shareef "Reef" AsSadiq	Boerne, Texas	East
2025	Todd Hammer	Glendale, Arizona	West
2025	Todd Hammer	Glendale, Arizona	East

<https://sc-ma.com/mother-road-adventure-finishers/>

Great Lakes Cabot Trail Finishers

The rider list below shows finishers of the **Great Lakes Cabot Trail Tour (GLCTT)** since the ride started a few years ago in 2022. A brief history of this ride is available on the **History** tab of [GLCTT Ride Pages](#). You can search and sort the results as you wish. The sorting changes do not alter the grid for the next viewer.

If you have any questions or corrections, contact the Ride Chair at cabottrail@sc-ma.com.

2025 Finishers

Year	Name	Home
2025	Candace Hartley	Santa Clarita, California
2025	Edward "Ed" Monsour	Laguna Niguel, California
2025	Floyd Sealy	Albuquerque, New Mexico
2025	Illya Daniel	Rocky Mount, North Carolina
2025	James Bowen	Centennial, Colorado
2025	Larry Mollett	Chino Hills, California
2025	Mark Niosi	East Hampton, Connecticut
2025	Randall Smith	Goodyear, Arizona
2025	Shareef "Reef" AsSadiq	Boerne, Texas
2025	Sue Mikicic	Sugar Grove, Ohio
2025	Thomas Snowden	Goodells, Michigan
2025	Todd Hammer	Glendale, Arizona
2025	Wendell Wiebe	Alberta, Canada

<https://sc-ma.com/great-lakes-cabot-trail-finishers/>

CAS: Missions Tour Finishers

The grid below lists finishers of the **California Adventures Series (CAS) Missions Tour**, through the end of last year. Use the scroll bar on the right to display records all the way back to 2012. You can see a short history of this ride on the **History tab** of the [CAS Missions Tour Ride Page](#).

If you have any questions or corrections, contact the Ride Chair at adventures@sc-ma.com.

2025 Finishers

Year	Name	Home	Finish
2025	Charles Harris Jr.	Milpitas, California	Apr
2025	Nancy Harris	Milpitas, California	Apr
2025	Illya Daniel	Rocky Mount, North Carolina	May
2025	Edward "Ed" Monsour	Laguna Niguel, California	Jun

<https://sc-ma.com/cas-missions/>

CAS: Parks Adventure Finishers

The grid below lists finishers of the **California Adventures Series (CAS) Parks Adventure**, through the end of last year. Use the scroll bar on the right to display records all the way back to 2016. You can see a short history of this ride on the **History tab** of the [CAS Parks Adventure Ride Page](#).

If you have any questions or corrections, contact the Ride Chair at adventures@sc-ma.com.

2025 Finishers

Year	Name	Home	Finish
2025	Illya Daniel	Rocky Mount, North Carolina	May
2025	Edward "Ed" Monsour	Laguna Niguel, California	Aug
2025	Richard T Bass Jr	Cloverdale, California	Sep
2025	Charles Harris Jr.	Milpitas, California	Oct
2025	Nancy Harris	Milpitas, California	Oct

<https://sc-ma.com/california-adventure-series-parks-challenge-finishers/>

CAS: Roads Challenge Finishers

The grid below lists finishers of the **California Adventures Series (CAS) Roads Challenge**, through the end of last year. Use the scroll bar on the right to display records all the way back to 2018 when the ride was created. You can see a short history of this ride on the **History tab** of the [CAS Roads Challenge Ride Page](#).

If you have any questions or corrections, contact the Ride Chair a adventures@sc-ma.com.

2025 Finishers

Year	Name	Home	Finish	Series
2025	Illya Daniel	Rocky Mount, North Carolina	May	A
2025	Edward "Ed" Monsour	Laguna Beach, California	Aug	D
2025	Gary Whitehead	Grand Terrace, California	Sep	C
2025	Charles Harris Jr.	Milpitas, California	Oct	A
2025	Nancy Harris	Milpitas, California	Oct	A
2025	Albert "Dick" Wolff	Napa, California	Oct	A
2025	Albert "Dick" Wolff	Napa, California	Oct	B

<https://sc-ma.com/california-adventure-series-roads-challenge-finishers/>

California Triple Crown Awards

2025 Awardees

Year	First Name	Last Name	Tour 1	Tour 2	Tour 3
2025	Edward "Ed"	Monsour	Missions Tour	Parks Adventure	Roads Challenge
2025	Illya	Daniel	Missions Tour	Parks Adventure	Roads Challenge
2025	Nancy	Harris	Missions Tour	Parks Adventure	Roads Challenge

<https://sc-ma.com/california-triple-crown-awards/>

Triple Crown Awards

2025 Awardees

Year	First Name	Last Name	Tour 1	Tour 2	Tour 3
2025	Illya	Daniel	Four Corners	Best 15 US Roads	Great Lakes Cabot Trail
2025	Joseph	Fann	Four Corners	Mother Road Adventure-East	Mother Road Adventure-West
2025	Michael	Hamilton	Four Corners	Mother Road Adventure-East	Mother Road Adventure-West
2025	Candace	Hartley	Great Lakes Cabot Trail	Mother Road Adventure-East	Mother Road Adventure-West
2025	Charles	Harris Jr.	Four Corners	Best 15 US Roads	Missions Tour
2025	Edward "Ed"	Monsour	Four Corners	Best 15 US Roads	Great Lakes Cabot Trail
2025	Shareef "Reef"	AsSadiq	Great Lakes Cabot Trail	Mother Road Adventure-East	Mother Road Adventure-West
2025	Todd	Hammer	Great Lakes Cabot Trail	Mother Road Adventure-East	Mother Road Adventure-West

<https://sc-ma.com/triple-crown-awards/>

Grand Slam Awards

The idea to award those who rode "All the rides" in one calendar year started in 2013. Not surprisingly, the definition of "All the rides," has changed a bit over time. In 2013, a **Grand Slam** was achieved by completing **5 of the major rides and 13 of the Travelers' Awards rides** that were typically in California for total of **30-35,000 miles**. The **Grand Slam 5** was awarded to those who completed all 5 major rides for about **20,000 miles**. Since 2018, Grand Slam awardees were required to complete 6 major rides, becoming 7 major rides for 2024, and 8 major rides for 2025.

2025 Awardees

Year	First Name	Last Name	# of Rides	Tour 1	Tour 2	Tour 3	Tour 4	Tour 5	Tour 6	Tour 7	Tour 8
2025	Illya	Daniel	8	Four Corners	Best 15 US Roads	CAS Missions	CAS Parks	CAS Roads	GLCTT	MRA East	MRA West
2025	Edward "Ed"	Monsour	8	Four Corners	Best 15 US Roads	CAS Missions	CAS Parks	CAS Roads	GLCTT	MRA East	MRA West

<https://sc-ma.com/grand-slam-awards/>

What's New in the History Section

– February 2026

By Karen Butterfield



We have been organizing images and scans of the 47 Three Flags Classic (TFC) runs memorabilia for a year or so. Last year we spent some time on the most fun mementos of the TFC rides from 1976 to the present. We have assembled **photographs of most all the buckles, pins and plaques**, and put the images in photo galleries on the website for you to enjoy.

Last year all new photographs were shot of the buckles, pins, and plaques, with a couple of visits to Dannie and Barb Fox's collection in Arizona and Gloria Amesqua's collection in Long Beach, California. We are very appreciative of the opportunity to archive the key memories of the event that so many people have done more than 10, 20, 30, or 40 years in total.

There will be another round of thanks for the next step in sharing the items such as **patches, stickers, tickets, programs, maps**. For this round I want to acknowledge the Fox's for hosting me twice to shoot the TFC plaques and the buckles. I climbed a short ladder to pull down plaques 3 at a time where they are mounted up high. Barb and I learned what worked and didn't work when shooting the plaques against a background and the buckles their cases. Dannie was brave enough to be persuaded by Barb and me to pack up his framed pin cases and let me take them to my house in California where I could shoot the pins in a shadow box. It was a big ask and we did it. Thank you, Dannie, and Barb Fox.

It also happened that I took the old **Plaques of Four Corners finishers from 1984 to 2007** out of storage and photographed them too. These approximately 15 inch x 18 inch hunks of walnut amounting to about 6 pounds each are a larger than life expression of the honor shared by the Four Corners finishers.

The next few pages explain the menu items in the History section and how to use the photo galleries.

The next addition will be the **TFC Routes archive** that is being assembled to support the upcoming 2026 Three Flags Classic. Watch for it to appear on the History menu.

There will be items added later this year to show the **detailed memorabilia for each TFC year**. We will let you know when the first round of these collections are posted.

When you click on the History Menu this page opens with the short version of the history of the SCMA by decades.

The History of SCMA

By Barbara Fox
 Member # 10194 (Since 1978), History Co-Chair Focused On Content Who Would Be So Lost Without Karen Butterfield, Member # 33996 (Since 2014), History Co-Chair Focused On Paper Shuffling, Editing And Technology.

The **Southern California Motorcycling Association (SCMA)** was started in 1968 by motorcycle enthusiasts who were members of many local clubs in California. There were at least 20 affiliated clubs within the association.

It was rumored to have 10 or 11 thousand members in 1978 when this writer first joined.

An early mission statement was, in part, to **promote family motorcycling to the public** as wholesome family-oriented recreation and to enjoy noble comradeship among its riders. The all-volunteer organization presented local rides hosted by an affiliate club in Area A (from Los Angeles south to San Diego), Area B (from Los Angeles north to Kern County). A 1980 map shows an Area E that included Yuma, Arizona. General Meeting records indicate Area C including San Diego folded into Area A in the mid-80s.

In 1976 the historic **Three Flags Classic ride on Labor Day** weekend made its debut.

In 1984 SCMA offered the first **USA Four Corners Tour**.

Until the late 1980's or early 1990's, short weekend rides ended in a park, many times with a barbecue and skill ride contests. There were raffles of motorcycle items. Wives and kids could follow along in a car to join in all the fun.

- + 1968-1979
- + 1980s
- + 1990s
- + 2000s

<https://sc-ma.com/history/>

The down arrow on History tells you there is more. When you put your cursor on History, just hovering without clicking, you will see the list and can select one.

On the photo gallery pages, hover on a photo to see more about it. Click on it to see a larger version it, then you can also page through the larger image of the Three Flags Classic (TFC) Buckles, Pins, and Plaques or the Four Corners Plaques galleries.



<https://sc-ma.com/buckles/>



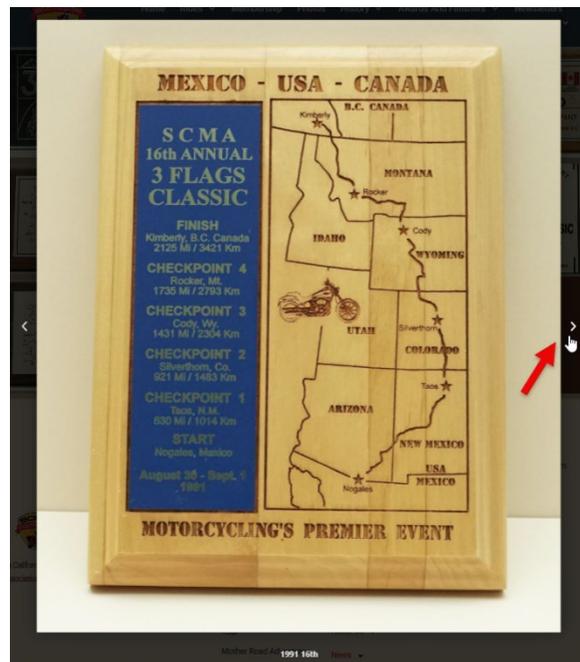
<https://sc-ma.com/pins/>



<https://sc-ma.com/tfc-plaques/>



Hover on the image to see the title and click on it to see a larger one.



Then you can page through all of the larger images with the arrows. Close with the X at the top right.



<https://sc-ma.com/four-corners-plaques/>



Hover on the image to see the title and click on it to see a larger one.



Then you can page through all of the larger images with the arrows. Close with the X at the top right.

Meet Gloria Amesqua Three Flags Classic Record Holder

– February 2026

By Karen Butterfield

I recently met up with Gloria Amesqua with help from another SCMA member that I know, Tim Wanamaker. He was helping go through Gloria's TFC mementos. We have been archiving all forms of Three Flags Classic (TFC) memorabilia by scanning or photographing files, objects, and photos. You can see some of the results in the photo galleries of buckles, pins, plaques, and routes on the History menu.



Tim Wanamaker and Gloria Amesqua
2023 Finish Calgary, BC, Canada

I combined photos of the belt buckle and plaque collections of the top two in the "over 40 TFCs group" to share images of all the buckles and plaques we are certain exist. There is hope we can find a 1976 buckle. There are a few other people in the top group or the 30-something TFCs group I would like to chat with in the future. I need to correct a statement I made last year in the article commemorating Dannie Fox's retirement from the Four Corners Ride Chair position. At that time, I remembered seeing both Gloria and Dannie on stage at the 2024 TFC finish in Tijuana. It was my understanding in 2024 that they were tied at 43 TFCs. The club did not keep consistent records of TFC finishers but those in the "over 40 TFCs group," have a lot of the hard goods like buckles, and some have kept almost every piece of paper, receipt, and photograph in files for each year they rode. In my travels collecting and photographing TFC memorabilia I have reviewed files and belt buckle collections and verified Gloria has 44.

It is an amazing accomplishment for anyone who has done multiple TFCs that is amplified when the number is more than 10, 20, 30, or 40.

Imagine what it takes to do any 4- or 5-day event every year, for almost every year, 44 times. It's a pretty extreme habit, supported by competitive spirit, friends, and family. It's just what happens on Labor Day weekend each year. You have an appointment to show up and meet all your friends and the people you only see once a year at the event.

I was lucky to spend a few afternoons at Gloria's beautifully comfortable family home that she has owned for decades in Long Beach, California. Tim Wanamaker flies to better weather in Long Beach a few times a year from Montana. Tim has ridden the TFCs with Gloria for some years now. Tim and I conducted the first review of Gloria's TFC remembrances in October of 2025.



Gloria Amesqua 2023 TFC
2018 HD Road Glide

Introduction and the 2022 and 2023 TFCs

I knew who Gloria was before I met her. The first time I spoke with Gloria was in Puerto Peñasco, Mexico, at the 2023 TFC start. Right there in the buffet line after I asked a few questions, she explained how disappointing it is to be invited on a short ride of less than 300 miles. In our recent conversation the “good day” standard was identified as a “three tanks of gas day” or 600 plus miles. The TFC Finish in Calgary and the 2018 HD Road Glide photos shown on page 1 show a chilly last part of the ride in 2023 and happy relief to make the finish.

In the photo of the 2022 TFC Start in Mexicali, Mexico, first from left to right is Tim’s dad, Larry Wanamaker. He was a big help to Colleen and I in the TFC check-in room when he was running the rider photos from the photographer to us. Tim is next in the photo with Gloria and Chris White, who also completed 30-something or 40-something TFCs.

The next photo is Tim Wanamaker arriving at the Araiza hotel in Mexicali in the memorable way over 100 degrees Fahrenheit heat on Gloria’s 1978 Electra Glide. Tim rode this bike in the 2022 TFC. I shot this picture as he arrived shortly after I arrived in the high heat of the afternoon. He was one of the rider groups I took bottles of water open and ready. You may have seen this vintage bike in the hotel lobby where people could get a good look at it. The bike had some vintage bike issues on the ride but nothing Tim, who is a master mechanic, couldn’t handle. The last photo is Chris White and Gloria Amesqua at the 2009 TFC that also started in Mexicali, almost 20 years ago.

The Early Days

The first two photos on the next page capture the character of Gloria and her husband Stan in the 70’s. In one of the photo albums, I found this one of Gloria with next to one of her first bikes that she rode all over the place. The picture of Stan has a place of distinction in the garage; you know, on the wall over the toolbox.



Larry Wanamaker, Tim Wanamaker, Gloria Amesqua, Chris White - 2022 TFC Start Mexicali, Mexico



Tim Wanamaker and Gloria’s Vintage 1978 HD Electra Glide arriving at the 2022 TFC Start Mexicali, Mexico



Chris White and Gloria Amesqua at the 2009 TFC that also started in Mexicali, Mexico



Gloria Amesqua 1979
1978 HD Super Glide



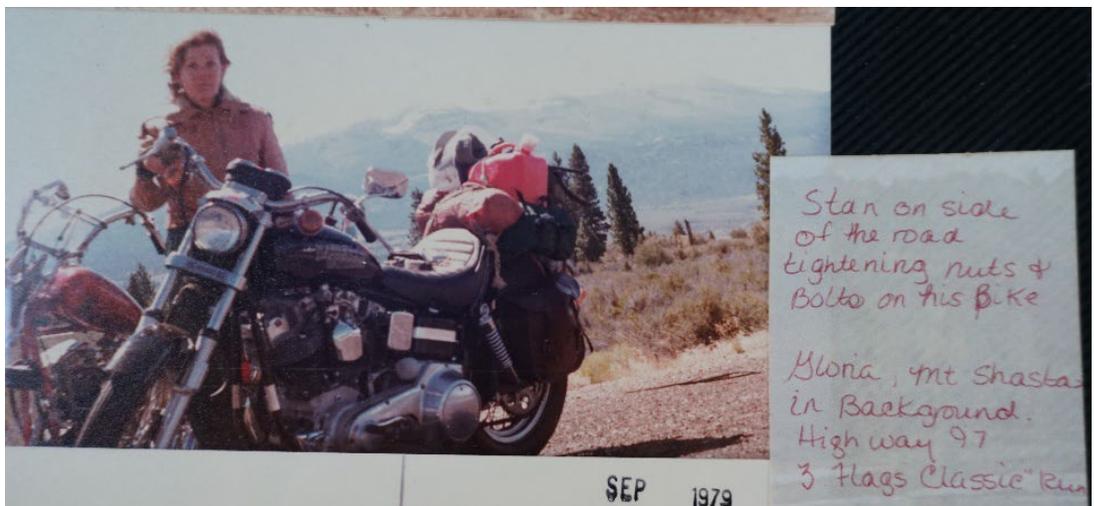
Stan Amesqua 9/9/81 Alberta, Canada
1960 HD Pan Head Custom

Stan rode custom bikes aka a chopper with long forks and characteristics that meant you carried tools and oil to keep everything working. Gloria has lots of stories about tire issues, battery issues, and the ever-present cans of oil. Gloria's many photo albums and a large pin collection show trip after trip to faraway places with different groups. Stan and Gloria rode many of the plentiful motorcycle events in California in the 70's and 80's. Photos in the albums show evidence of the time spent on the side of the road with tools and hanging out at campgrounds in addition to the Three Flags runs.

Gloria and her husband Stan were SCMA members, heard about the TFC from another SCMA rider and rode the TFC for the first time in 1977.

1979 TFC – Tijuana to Vancouver

The 1979 TFC ran up from Tijuana to Vancouver, past Santa Barbara and Mt Shasta. I made an appendix of 1979 and 1980 photos to show them large enough, so these old photos are reasonably sharp.



1980 TFC – Richmond Vancouver to Ensenada

Gloria told us about arriving at the start of one of the early TFCs and thinking the people were pretty old and the bikes were completely different than what she had seen on other rides. Apparently, it didn't slow down the fun. You can see the mixture of bikes in the 1980 start photo in Richmond, Vancouver, Canada. This run went North to South.



The Bikes



The 1978 HD Electra Glide – In the Left Rear of the Garage



2018 Street Glide



2013 Street Glide – Denim Black 103



1995 Road King

The garages of all the motorcycle people I know have character and comfort. This one has four bikes and lots of favorite photos secured to the walls. Tim gets to take care of these iconic bikes and run them around too.

I asked Gloria if she had a favorite and she nodded to the 1995 HD Road King. It was one of the early ones. It looks like it could be one of those first few we all had that was comfortable and felt how we dreamed riding the open road might be. This one also seems like it could be one Harley I might be able to ride, but maybe only in my dreams. Since there is not a fairing and the windshield is clear all the way down, the visibility around the front is more like what I am used to having. When I told Gloria I wasn't sure if I could ride something this long and heavy and I asked her how she learned to do it. Her the answer was simple. She said, "You just do it."

Long Beach

Gloria works at the Long Beach Port operating one of the cranes that unload and load containers on and off the ships and has done so for decades. Her husband Stan worked at the Port as well until he passed some years ago. When it was time for lunch, Tim, Gloria, Gloria's granddaughter Devyn and I got into Gloria's Cadillac. It has a special edition CT6 twin turbo motor that sounds like a race car and rides like a limo.



Long Beach Port Photo – also over the toolbox.

We went to a favorite bar and grill that happens to have an oil derrick pumping oil in the corner of the parking lot. I have been to Long Beach, to the Convention Center near the Queen Mary Long Beach Hotel and other hotels for conferences, but the discovery of oil in the 20's and 2700 oil wells in Long Beach was news to me. Devyn grew up here and was visiting for the week. We were all enjoying the tourist activities.



Gloria and Granddaughter Devyn and the Cadillac CT6

We made a run up Signal Hill to see the modern homes all the way up the hill that is also dotted with oil derricks here and there and A VIEW at the top. Oil was big business in the 20's and is still part of the Long Beach industrial past. The view is unique and unforgettable and worth a photo even if you only have your iPhone handy.

There is a bronze memorial for all the oil roughnecks that also names two of the key men of the time. See this link for more information. Historical Marker Database – Tribute to the Roughnecks Signal Hill <https://www.hmdb.org/m.asp?m=100535>

The visibility that day allowed us to see Catalina Island on the horizon. The 200-foot cranes in the Port are noticeable as well as the new bridge over the channel with its tall masts and heavy cables. We all admired the view and the new bridge.



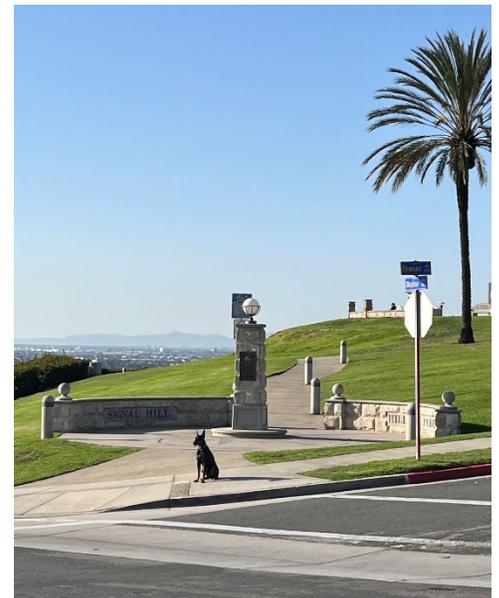
Tribute to Roughnecks Signal Hill – Jerrel C. Barto and Bruce Kerr



Tim Wanamaker Signal Hill view to the West.



To the right of the photo above.



Doberman awaiting the next command at Signal Hill Park.

On the ride back it became clear that since we had lunch very late, the excuse Tim and I were going to use so we could leave around 5pm for dinner and be able to beat Gloria to the surprise birthday party -- was not going to work. We had to think of something else. Tim suggested I say I had someone else to interview and he was going along. I didn't think I could be convincing on that one. Back at the house we went with my suggestion to say we decided to go drive over the new bridge. This was a timely brainstorm that worked and paid off the next day. This is how I became part of the liar's club supporting the surprise party.

The Birthday Party

Gloria is also the beloved matriarch of a large family and an extended family of neighbors who plotted for months to throw a surprise 70th birthday party for her. Her surprise was genuine and all the people involved will have stories about the conspiracy of preparations and the party itself for many years. I was honored to be Tim's plus one to attend the party and be one of the people who had to tell stories about what was really happening to beat Gloria to the restaurant and get her there at the right time.

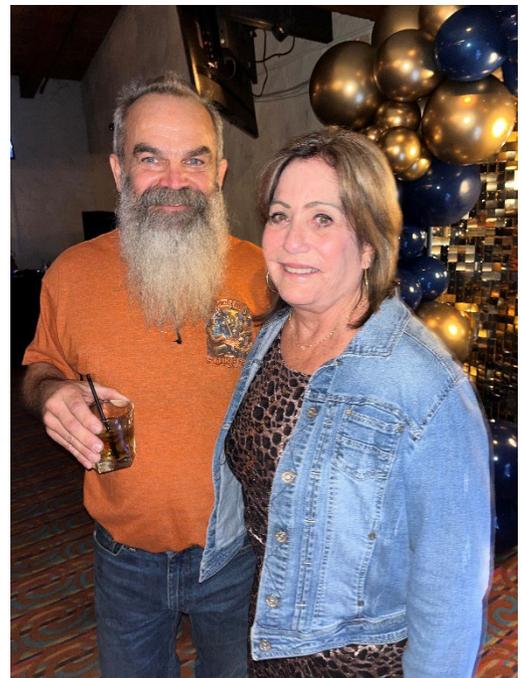
The Acapulco restaurant upstairs Cantina was booked for the party of about 50 and everyone arrived early, had some drinks and soon followed the signal to be very quiet. This large room full of people was silent for a good 5 minutes before Gloria and her escorts entered the room and were bombarded by the photographer and the crowd. Gloria's surprise is all on film. She was very happy the event wasn't going to be the ladies group cocktail party as promised. The stealth mission was a big success with great food, drinks, and dancing. A DJ and some mariachis alternated entertainment sessions. There was plenty of room for dancing and photos in front of the 70th birthday display.



One of the photo tributes.



Waiting for the surprise.



Tim Wanamaker and Gloria Amesqua at the surprise 70th birthday party.

The next morning, I met Gloria and Tim and many other walk-ins at Gloria's house to tie up loose ends. I had memorabilia to return and a few more questions to keep the bikes and photos straight for this story and for the records. It was a late night for all and many of the family in town stopped by for coffee. Lots of people were coming and going. I coordinated my arrival with Tim, walking right up the driveway through the gate to the French doors into the family room and kitchen just like everyone else. Fortunately, there wasn't a big dog or a bouncer at the door. After a while we headed out for a nice brunch. Gloria teased Tim and I about the lie we told that we were leaving to go see the new bridge last night. We took Gloria up on her offer to show us the new bridge and make a run over to San Pedro. I got to ride shotgun in the Cadillac.

We went down Ocean Boulevard seeing historic and new buildings and on to the bridge on the 710 that goes over the channel. I don't recommend trying to shoot photos on a bridge in a moving car but you gotta do what you can do sometimes. The shots will give you an idea about the bridge and the size and quantity of the cranes operating in one of the busiest ports in the world. If you get a chance to go over the bridge, do it. The scale of the equipment and the volume of containers is hard to imagine. You can also search for the Seaside Freeway on Google and use the street view camera in the lower right to look around. The longshoreman work is an impressive part of the city of Long Beach. There is a lot of beauty in this city and I also experienced a strong sense of community there through this family.



New bridge on Seaside Freeway 710.



View of the cranes in Long Beach from the Seaside Freeway 710 – yes through a windshield.

Again, it was my honor to meet many in this group of family and friends as part of the review of the TFC memorabilia and sharing a little about one of the big TFC stories we have – the TFC record holder.



Containers on the newly shaped landing on the other side.

Rocky Point ReUnion, January 23rd - 25th 2026

Where: Playa Bonita Resort, Puerto Peñasco, SON, MEX

By ElChinoLoco

January in North America is ccccccold. Being in the Southwest offers nicer temps but for long-distance riders becomes a trap. Almost in every direction it becomes wet and cold quickly, but, if ya go south, you can find nicer temps and riding. This year the SCMA hosted the second year of the Rocky Point Reunion in Rocky Point, Sonora, Mexico. Many of you should be familiar with Rocky Point, specifically the Playa Bonita Resort as the start and finish of many SCMA Three Flags Classic rides. The Playa Bonita hotel is also the family run business of the SCMA Mexico Representative Oscar Palacio Soto.



Playa Bonita Hotel – Puerto Peñasco/Rocky Point

For 2026 15 riders traveled near and far to enjoy the beach front location and warming hospitality of Mexico. January in Rocky Point is a quieter time. People are recovering from Christmas and the New Year. This is a great time if you're wanting a relaxed streets and restaurant scene before the major tourist season picks up.

Some riders decided to make the 2-day event into a 3–4-day event. Over the days people did shopping, visited storied locations around town, whale watched and enjoyed the restaurant at the Playa Bonita as well as other select locations around town. A note about the whale watching - Oscar arranged for a group to go out whale watching and were lucky enough to encounter some whales 3 miles south of the hotel in the Sea of Cortez. It was also the start of shrimp season for those loving great seafood. Walking the beach, hot tubs, watching great sunsets on the back patio of the hotel along with a margarita were all included in the fun.

The last night we all enjoyed a grand feast at the Playa Bonita Resort Restaurant before departing for home. Special thanks to Oscar and the resort staff for making the 2nd Rocky Point ReUnion a GREAT TIME for all!!! And thanks to all who came and made it a successful event. Hope to see you at next year's event.

Travel Note: People attending this year's Rocky Point Reunion came by motorcycle and car. Some crossed at Mexicali/San Luis and others at Sonoyta. Crossing to Mexico and returning home was simple with no undue delays or searches. As one storied SCMA rider liked to say EASY-PEASY!!

Check out the event photo album.

<https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjCLPKw>



Streets of Puerto Peñasco/Rocky Point

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