



# Redwood Riders Review



Volume 2017

No. 4

April

Archive

**Its Spring time! Change your oil and lets to riding.**



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## Club Business

### President's foreword



Ben Johnstone

### Prez Sez April 2017

Wow! I think the rains are finally over. If you haven't been riding lately you absolutely must do so as soon as you can. The trees are blooming, the rivers and streams are full, and everything is GREEN.

I took advantage of these conditions to take a ride to Redding, CA. My wife was out of town, and I hated missing the 2 day ride coming up due to other vacation commitments. I really like the rides to, from, and around Redding. These are some of California's best "motorcycle" roads. Highway 101 north is one of my all time favorite rides. I have been all over Canada, the Rocky's, and Utah. I still like this one the best. I took 299 across to Redding and it is loaded with scenic beauty.

On the return trip, I took a partially new route. I backtracked 299 to Highway 3 which I had never been on. This road has practically new asphalt and tight curves. It puts the famous "tail of the dragon" in the Smokey Mountains to shame. The views are many and varied. Then it was West on highway 36. This road has everything: mountain vista's' quaint farming towns; redwood forest and gentle sweeping curves. I will remember this ride for years to come.

Make your own memories. Get out and ride. We have a wonderful group of riders just waiting to go with you, or do it on your own like I did.



Highway 101 South of Fortuna

By Ben Johnstone ~ President



## Secretary's report



Sharon McMillan

### **Redwood Riders Monthly Meeting March 21, 2017 China Village, Rohnert Park**

**Opening Statement:** Ben opened the meeting discussing how cancelling our rides should be handled. Safety is our first consideration with the rain and wet roads during this winter. It is up to the Road Captain putting the ride on for the day to make that call. An email went out that morning for the last ride but not everyone received it. Hotline was updated that morning at 8 AM with the cancellation.

Excellent job done by our safety officer George Homenko. He sends out an email ahead of the meeting which includes a safety video which is to be discussed at the meeting. There was general agreement among the members present that this was good.

Our visit to Ceres was included in our newsletter along with a photo taken presenting our donation.

**Minutes:** were read by Sharon McMillan

**Treasurers Report:** DeeDee provided the treasurers report.

**Membership:** Marcel reported that we currently have 68 members, 44 men and 24 women. We have two new members that have joined since last month. They are Scott Thompson and Jean Gilbert.

Marcel had a few 20th anniversary pins still available and our business cards if anyone wanted some to hand out.

**Tours and Events:** Mike Holden reported that Wade's ride on Wednesday, March 8th left Shari's with 18 riders. The ride ended up in Ukiah for lunch at the Buddhist Temple.

**Upcoming Rides:**

April 1<sup>st</sup> – George will lead a mystery ride.

April 12<sup>th</sup> – which is a Wednesday, will be going to the auto museum in Blackhawk.

April 23<sup>rd</sup> – ride to Sausalito

Last Sunday's ride on March 19th was to go to Lone and was cancelled due to possible rain. Nine people showed up to make the ride, not getting the cancellation notice. They went for a ride and ended up in Nice for lunch.

Discussion about our hotline. Service was set up long ago by prior members and the password and service provider are not known. Ben can add a message but nothing else. Discussion to try to contact former members to get that information.

**Reminder that with daylight savings time we meet at 9 to leave at 9:30 for all rides.**

**Safety Officer:** George Homenko's latest video posted covered vanishing points. The link for the videos will be included in our newsletter. The next one will cover cornering and why not to brake in the turn

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** None

**50/50 Raffle:** This month's raffle was won by Dee Dee Dargence in the amount of \$50. She donated it back to the charity with a total of \$100 for Ceres.

Other winners:

Dave Donati who won a dozen fresh eggs.

Barry Kessey won the next prize which was a club T shirt and Fogg Off.

Final drawing was won by Michael Turpin which was a Starbucks Card.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:35

Meeting was adjourned at 7:30

By Sharon McMillan ~ Secretary



## Tours & Events



Mike Holden

### Rides and Events

April 2017

OK Boys & Girls our time to ride is coming. If anyone even thinks of the term "April Showers"

I'll hunt you down and sic the windscreen bug and mud monsters upon your clean little bikes. Fair warning has been given so lets get on with our April schedule.

**April 1** (no foolin') - is a Mystery Ride led by Big George. It will be fun I'm sure, because even George didn't know where we were going last I spoke to him. He's put together another BMW from vacuum cleaner parts so be prepared. Remember, it's Daylight Savings Time so our meet up is at 9:00am and we'll be rolling by 9:30 from Shari's in Rohnert Park.

**April 10** - Redwood Riders Board Meeting. If you'd like to attend. contact one of your Board members for details.

**April 12** - Ride to to the Blackhawk Auto Museum in Danville. Ben will lead this ride. If you haven't been there, plan to ride. It has a significant collection of classic, rare and unique cars - about 90 of them. If you can spare the time this is well worth it - and Ben will have an interesting route for us to follow. Again, 9:00am meeting, 9:30 blastoff from Shari's.

**April 18** - Redwood Riders general Meeting at China Village in Rohnert Park at 7:00pm. Come easy to socialize and enjoy a wonderful meal.

**April 23** - George will lead us through the hills and valleys of Sonoma and Marin counties ending, hopefully, in Sausalito for lunch. The ride to Sausalito has several very interesting, very fun routes. Meet at Shari's in time to leave at 9:30am.

REMEMBER, RIDE SAFE, RIDE OFTEN AND DON'T FORGET TO INVITE ME!

By Mike Holden ~ Tours and Events Director



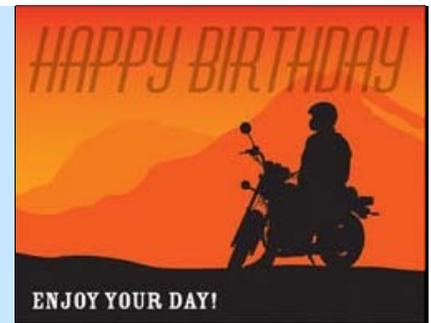
## Membership

New members	Current membership		Membership Statistics	
Jean Gilbert	Full memberships	56	Men	44
	Co-riders	8	Women	24
	Provisional members	<u>4</u>	Members from	
	Total Club members	68*	5 Counties	
	*Total to date		25 cities	

## Birthdays in April

Melisa Brown  
Denise Dawe  
Carole Gonzales

Barbara Bowen  
Bob Soper  
Issa Nafe



## Bulletin Board

## **Hotline**

For last minute ride changes call the hotline. 707-636-4811

## **New ride time.**

It's Daylight Savings Time, so our meet up is now at 9:00am and rolling by 9:30 from Shari's in Rohnert Park.

**April 10** - Redwood Riders Board Meeting. If you'd like to attend. contact one of your Board members for details.

## **New style hats are a success!**

So far, we have sold 26 of the new design.

The new design incorporates a sandwich bill (visor) with a red line, red accents, and **your name** on the back. It is fully adjustable, and best of all it is only \$15.00 with no tax.

If you want one of these, you can get it yourself by contacting Toni Morrison directly. Her phone

number is on the contacts page of the newsletter. Optionally, you can order one from Marcel at a meeting, on a ride or by Email. [foxxnetmarcelo@yahoo.com](mailto:foxxnetmarcelo@yahoo.com)

## **Please don't forget to send in your membership dues.**

If you did not get a renewal notice email, contact Marcel at: [membership@redwoodridersmc.com](mailto:membership@redwoodridersmc.com)

You can also download a form on our main website under the "Membership" tab of the menu.

Send your dues to the address on the renewal form.

2017 membership cards will be handed out at general meetings and on rides.

See Dee Dee or Marcel.

## **New 2017 Ride schedule announced:**

See the Calendar on the Meetup site or main site for details.

## **Club Gear**

Please note, we have added the contact information for ordering patches, T-shirts and hats on the Contacts page of the newsletter. If you prefer, you can give your order to Marcel.

## **Be proud to be a Redwood Rider**

Next general meeting, please order your Redwood Riders hat. Be proud to be a Redwood Rider and show our colors. Many of you do not agree with the old style of vests and patches. I get that and it is OK. However, we can wear hats that show our logo and still be in the current style. It is also good for name recognition. It gets our name out to the public. Name recognition also helps get new recruits for our club. New members are the lifeblood of any organization.

## **Road Rules Safety reminder**

We do not ride side by side. We ride staggered. We never pass another rider in the same lane, at any speed. It is OK to get next to the rider in front of you when coming to a stop sign or a red light but never when the bikes are moving.

## **RRMC Membership Cards**

If you don't have your membership card yet, check with Marcel. You need this card to get the discounts offered by our sponsors.



## Safety Officer's Tip of the Month



George Homenko

### Motorcycle Cornering

April 2017

Hello Redwood Riders,

At the club's February meeting, while discussing the last safety email, the question came up if you are on a road that is unknown to you how do you know how fast to negotiate a corner. One way is to analyze a corner is using it's "vanishing point". This was also touched briefly in last months video. This video goes into much more depth with the concept of analyzing corners by watching the vanishing point or limit point and other markers in a corner.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WkAtWiRq8Q0>

I know some of this is intuitive and it's how most of us have always instinctively know how to judge a turn. But for me it was good to break it down into its components and really understand what I was doing subconsciously and why. Consider it another tool in your arsenal to understand and use as we ride. I did find it helpful.

This following video was forwarded to me after I sent out the video of the guy in Japan doing the tight turn competition. This one is of our very own CHP officers doing a tight course competition on a 1000 pound Harley while trying to see how much chrome he can scraped off the bottom of his bike. Definitely something to strive for, this guy is good!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M9MVY8swO5M>

Sorry that the first video is again done by one of those weird people that insist on driving on the wrong side of the road. I found that if you watched it while reflecting the image against a mirror it looks kinda normal. Keep the the rubber side down!

Safety Officer  
BMW George

By George Homenko ~ Safety Director

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## Editorials

### Wisdom of the month

• While riding one day, alone Biker met a Farmer riding a horse with a dog and a sheep alongside. The biker began a conversation .

...

- Biker: "Hey, cool dog you got there. Mind if I speak to him?"
- Farmer: "Dogs don't talk."
- Biker: "Hey dog, how's it going?"
- Dog: "Doing' alright."
- Farmer: Look of shock.
- Biker: "Is this your owner?" pointing at the farmer.
- Dog: "Yep."
- Biker: "How does he treat you?"
- Dog: "Really well. He walks me twice a day, feeds me great food, & takes me to the river once a week."
- Farmer: Look of total disbelief.
- Biker: "Mind if I talk to your horse?"
- Farmer: "Horses don't talk."
- Biker: "Hey horse, how's it going?"
- Horse: "Cool."
- Farmer: Extreme look of shock.
- Biker: "Is this your owner? " pointing at the Farmer.
- Horse: "Yessiree Bob."
- Biker: "How's he treating you?"
- Horse: "Pretty good, and thanks for asking. He rides me regularly, brushes me down often, and keeps me in a shed to protect me."
- Farmer: Total look of utter amazement.
- Biker: "Mind if I talk to your sheep?"
- Farmer: "The sheep is a liar."



From various Internet sources, public domain ~ Editor



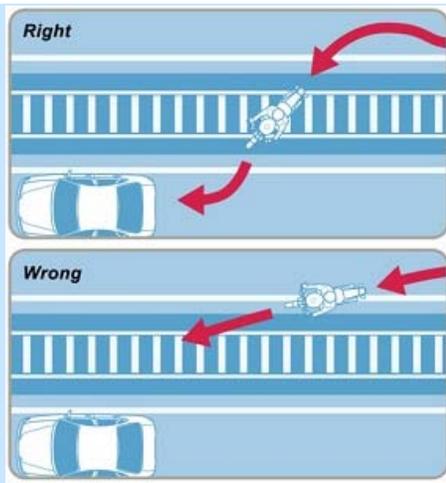
**Tom's Take** ~ Submitted by Tom Cooke, Newsletter staff writer/researcher



## How to cross railroad tracks on your motorcycle

Tom Cooke

By Mark Lindemann, Reprinted from Cycle World



Railroad tracks can be intimidating to new riders, and even experienced riders need to treat them with respect. But crossing them is easy if you know how. Most important: Attack them from a perpendicular angle—cross them at 90 degrees to the way they run, or as close as you can to that. This may mean you need to swerve in your lane, cross the tracks, and then swerve back.

Stay on the gas while you cross them. Better still, slow before the tracks, and then gas it as you cross. Why? You'll lighten the front end so you maintain more steering authority, and the tracks won't grab the front wheel.

Finally, weight the pegs. You don't have to stand upright, but lifting your butt an inch (2.5 cm) above the seat turns your legs into a live part of the bike's suspension, and pushes your weight/contact point lower into the chassis (where the pegs join the frame). Keep a firm grip on the handlebar and look ahead. Congrats! You're safely on the other side.

Article Reprinted from AMA ~ Editor



**Paul's Tech Corner** ~ by Paul Albert, Newsletter staff technical writer

## Action Cams

This month's tips are on Action Cams. There is nothing better than watching a video of your latest ride/vacation with or without friends on video. And for you bloggers, you may even choose to post your adventures on Youtube. Unfortunately it is not a simple project. There are a few requirements prior to just buying an action cam. Does my computer offer enough storage on the hard drive and can it render video in a reasonable time? What camera to buy? How to edit? Waterproof or water resistant? Brand research and how much to spend is involved. Choosing which accessory camera mounts for the bike or helmet are needed. Brands like Sony, and Go Pro are available and currently top choices in the action cam market. Both sell a wide variety of accessories. Both are HD. And both offer remotes to turn on the cams. Sony offers a real cool remote that has a wrist band with real time video so you can see if your camera is positioned properly, view your recording, and also includes gps tracking. Extra batteries are easily installed in the cam. You cannot change battery quickly on the sony remote recharge only. But the remote battery can be replaced if it fails by removing screws. Record video battery life is about 1 1/2 hours before recharge. 64 gig mini sd memory cards are inexpensive and offer hours of recording. The only issue I have seen with Sony is not all of their Action Cams offer an external mike input for those who wish to blog. Not all cams come with anti shake, so I would make sure that option is included. New, and upcoming from Sena is a combo model that potentially has everything in one. It will be available at Cycle Gear and other online sellers. For those of you who don't know, Sena is the motorcycle communication go to company. The Sena 10c EVO, will have a suggested retail \$399, and it needs to only mount to your helmet eliminating the need for any mounting extras. Best of all you can buy just an additional helmet mount/speaker kit for a second helmet. So, you can communicate with friends, call home, listen to FM, or Bluetooth music from a smart phone, and record video for a blog thru the helmet mike. An item I plan to check out in May when it is released. Mounting your cam on a helmet or bike can be a daunting task. You can find ideas and how to's on youtube. There is a company called Ram Mounts that has a variety of mounts for bicycles, motorcycles, cars, trucks, boats etc. They offer a variety of mounts for your cams, cell phones, or gps. Get this, Ram Mounts are made in USA and reasonably priced. Ok now you have decided on a camera. How to get the video into the computer for editing. Basically plug in a usb cable from the camera to the puter and download. Or buy a mini sd card reader and plug it into a usb port. Editing is another project you will have to learn. Too complicated is a comment I hear all the time. Yes it is. But once again my handyman's helper youtube offers lessons on how to do the impossible. A good software is by Cyberlink. I found last years Power Director Ultimate Suite on sale for \$69 on ebay, and this years version retail is over \$400. Only problem is it takes a lot of

free time to learn a new career..lol. I hope this helps a bit, and I will show up on a couple of Videos. Over and Out!

More information about this action cam can be found at the link below.

<https://www.sena.com/product/10cevo/>



## Members' views, stories and helpful tips

### This month's review, Castrol Power 1 Motorcycle Oil.



#### Castrol Power 1 Full Synthetic Motorcycle oil

- Formulated with Trizone technology to protect all 3 critical zones: engine, clutch and gearbox
- Race derived technology for maximum engine acceleration
- Extreme high temperature air-cooled performance and water-cooled engine performance
- Excellent shear stability to prevent viscosity breakdown
- Exceeds API SL and JASO MA-2
- 10 weight for cold, 50 weight for hot desert temps.

\$47.92 for 6 pack on Amazon with free shipping, (4 quart oil change costs \$31.68.) Relatively inexpensive for full Synthetic.

Did lots of research online, many sites and reviews. There are several very good oils for motorcycles such as Mobil 1, Amsoil, Redline, Lucas and Royal Purple. The order changed but the one that consistently got the best reviews was the Castrol. ~ Editor

**Next month, oil filters**

### This month's 50/50 raffle winner



Dee Dee Dargence

**Other winners:**

**Dave Donati** won a dozen fresh eggs.

**Barry Kessey** won a club T shirt and Fogg Off.

**Michael Turpin** won a Starbucks Card.



editor@redwoodridersmc.com

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# rides

**March**  
Ukiah





**We go places!**

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# Club Contacts

## Officers and Road Captains

### RRMC Board of Directors

President: Ben Johnstone  
 Vice President: Gretchen Tomm  
 Secretary: Sharon McMillan  
 Treasurer: Dee Dee Dargence  
 Tours & Events: Mike Holden  
 Safety: George Homenko  
 Membership: Marcel Svizzero  
 Member at Large: Wade Roberts  
 Sgt. at Arms: Rosalie Mack  
 Past President: Terry Perry

### Contacts

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 secretary@redwoodridersmc.com  
 treasurer@redwoodridersmc.com  
 tours&events@redwoodridersmc.com  
 safety@redwoodridersmc.com  
 membership@redwoodridersmc.com  
 memberatlarge@redwoodridersmc.com

### Road Captains

roadcaptains@redwoodridersmc.com

Mike Holden, **Senior Road Captain/Trainer**

Wade Roberts

Ben Johnstone

Terry Perry

Gretchen Tomm

George Homenko

Michael Turpin



## Sponsors\*

Northbay Motorsports	Santa Rosa	Honda, Kawasaki	707-542-5355	northbaymotorsports.com
Mammoth Motorsports	Rohnert Park	All makes + tire specials	707-585-7677	mammothmotorsports.com
Cycle West	Petaluma	Honda, Suzuki	707-769-5240	cyclewest.net
Penngrove Motorcycle	Penngrove	Harley	707-793-7993	penngrovemotorcycleco.com
Mach 1 Motorsports	Vallejo	Honda, Yamaha	707-643-2448	mach1motorsports.com
K & B Motorsports	Petaluma	Yamaha, Kawasaki	707-763-4658	kandbmotorsports.com
NorCal Power Sports & Marine	Santa Rosa	Harley, Victory	707-527-1515	norcalpowersports-marine.com

\*See Sponsor page for discounts



## New

**Club Gear:** See Marcel for Pins, Patches, T-shirts, hats. Or you may call direct, order and pick up at your convenience.

Tony Morrison: 707-217-5912



**Anyone wishing to help with the Newsletter or the main website, please contact editor below.**

**Editor**

Send your suggestions to: [editor@redwoodridersmc.com](mailto:editor@redwoodridersmc.com)

**Webmaster**

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## This Month



## Happy Easter

