



Volume 2017

No. 5

# Redwood Riders Review



May

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**Wishing for weather  
like this**

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## Club Business

### President's foreword



Ben Johnstone

### Prez Sez

May 2017

All this rain is making me feel a little sorry for myself. I want to get out and ride. I am considering complaining to the California Chamber of Commerce. I was definitely promised more riding time when I came to this state.

To cheer myself up I went through some old photo's of past motorcycle trips. Below is one I took while traveling through the Sawtooth Mountains in Idaho in 2014. What you see on the bike is ICE!!! Barb and I were staying in a cabin right on the river. As is my practice I got up early, provided Barb with her morning coffee, and then went out to wipe the previous days bugs and grime off of the bike. I do this with a rag soaked in hot water from the room along with one to dry the bike after wiping. When the hot rag touched the chrome back of the first mirror, it froze to the mirror! At that point, I reconsidered our travel itinerary and went back to bed.

We were able to ride to breakfast 3 hours later. While we ate, we waited for the weather to warm up. It was still pretty cold when we left breakfast, and Barb wanted me to ride faster to get to the warmer area south at a lower altitude. I insisted on traveling at a modest speed as there was still black ice on the road here and there.

After seeing this photo, I decided a little rain wasn't enough to make me sad, and I went out for a ride.



By Ben Johnstone ~ President



### Secretary's report



## Redwood Riders Monthly Meeting

April 18, 2017

China Village, Rohnert Park

Sharon McMillan

**Opening Statement:** Ben opened the meeting suggesting that the membership think about next year's officers and board members and who might be interesting in taking on those roles.

Mike added that we could use more road captains. Helpful in putting the rides on and helping out other road captains during rides. Discussed having signup sheets at the beginning of our rides.

Most of our rides so far have been rained out. If a ride is cancelled due to rain and if it looks like it may not rain, members may want to show up and to do an unofficial ride on their own. Possibly unofficial rides could be posted on Meetup.

Our board meetings are held every quarter and members are welcome to attend.

**Minutes:** were read by Sharon McMillan

**Treasurers Report:** DeeDee gave treasurer report.

**Membership:** Marcel reported that we have two new members, Rodney Allen and Dave Finkelstein. We will possibly have 10 members renewing that have not done so as yet. No response from prior members, Mark Exter and Steve Bowne.

Club hats have been ordered for those that turned in their order.

Club business cards available for the members to give out to potential members.

**Tours and Events:** Mike Holden reported that most our rides have been rained out. George's mystery ride on April 1<sup>st</sup> did not get rained out. The ride went to Locke with lunch at Al The Wop's and included a ride on two ferrys.

### **Upcoming Rides in 2017:**

April 23<sup>rd</sup> ride to Sausalito with George leading in place of Mike.

May 6<sup>th</sup> – Gretchen will lead our ride to Lakeport.

May 10<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday ride to Old Sacramento

May 20 & 21<sup>st</sup> – Overnight ride to Redding with Gretchen and Wade leading in place of Ben

June – Mike will lead a non-club ride to Colorado.

**Safety Officer:** George Homenko emailed out a video for this month's safety report covering cornering and the contact of the tires while cornering. Discussion on tire physics and proper front brake vs the rear braking in the curves.

**New Business:** Ben mentioned the non-club long trips and that members may want to get together and do some of these rides with fellow members.

Sharon McMillan extended to the members an invite from Karen Knapp with the HOG chapter to participate in the annual Bike Blessing on April 29<sup>th</sup>. Meet at Sonoma Co HD at 10 AM for a ride and end up at The Promise Center, 791 Lombardi Court, Santa Rosa. Includes a free lunch.

Rip City Riders was having a ride on Saturday, April 22 starting at Spanky's in Cotati 8:30 – 10:30 and ending up in Penngrove Park. Charge of \$25 includes poker hand and lunch.

**Old Business:** None

**50/50 Raffle:** This month's raffle winners were George Homenko who won a Redwood Riders hat. Second prize was won by Robyn Chosy which was a \$10 gift card for The Dollar Tree. The 50/50 charity raffle was won by Laurie Darling.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45

By Sharon McMillan ~ Secretary



## Tours & Events



Mike Holden

### Rides and Events

April 2017

Most of our rides have been cancelled due to rain so far this year. It appears that the rainy season is over so get those bikes cleaned and shined.

#### Upcoming Rides in May:

May 6<sup>th</sup> – Gretchen will lead our ride to Lakeport.

May 10<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday ride to Old Sacramento

May 20 & 21<sup>st</sup> – Overnight ride to Redding with Gretchen and Wade leading in place of Ben

**June 16 to June 25 – Mike will lead a non-club ride to Colorado.** Anyone interested should contact me.

By Mike Holden ~ Tours and Events Director



## Membership

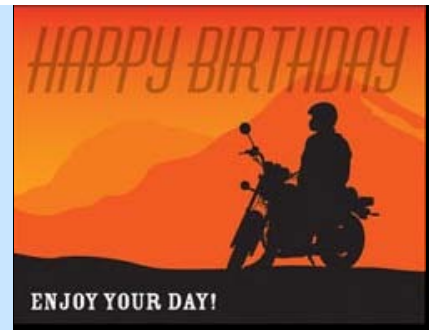
New members	Current membership		Membership Statistics	
David Finkelstein	Full memberships	59	Men	49
Rodney Allen (returning)	Co-riders	8	Women	24
	Provisional members	<u>6</u>	Members from	
	Total Club members	73*	5 Counties	
	*Total to date		25 cities	

### Birthdays in May



Heidi Bigall  
Jimbo Boeddiker  
Lulu Iacoviello  
Terry Wilson

Leonard Frow  
Mark Hemhauser  
Mark Quam



## Bulletin Board

### **Long Ride to Colorado in June.**

Leaving June 16, returning June 25. This is an unofficial ride and is not club sponsored but it is open to anyone who wishes to participate. It is organized by Mike Holden.

If you are interested, contact Mike by email and he will tell you what to do to make reservations

for Motels. His email address is on the contact page of the newsletter.

### **Hotline**

For last minute ride changes due to weather, 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.

### **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)

### **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.

### **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.

### **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.

By Marcel Svizzero ~ Membership Director



## **Safety Officer's Tip of the Month**



George Homenko

### **Motorcycle Cornering, part 3**

May 2017

Hello Redwood Riders,

The last couple of months I have been showing you videos on the cornering. One of the reoccurring themes of the videos is the importance of when to brake and when to accelerate when cornering. This month I would like to give some more detail and elaborate on why this is so important.

As your bike leans in a corner the surface area of the tire contacting the road decreases. When the bike is upright your tire starts off with its maximum amount of surface contact. As the tire rolls on its side the surface contact decreases as the lean increases. This can be easily seen, when your bike is perpendicular to the road the tire has the maximum amount of surface contact with the road. When it is on a kick stand surface area of the tire has less contact with the road. Designers try to minimize this with modern tire designs but only so much can be done. Now you are in a turn with less tire surface contacting the road and an increasing amount of centrifugal force trying to slide you out of the turn. Under normal conditions all is good but then if you add heavy braking or acceleration these additional forces are then added to the existing tire loads. This is when trouble can occur.

This is why it is recommended to brake before the turn and accelerate only as the turn starts to open up and the rear tire regains more surface contact. If you find yourself in a turn too fast obviously back off on the throttle and try to avoid the use of the brake. This is why entering a corner in a lower gear with higher engine RPMs is a good idea. This gives you more engine braking to slow the bike in a turn by gently easing back on the throttle if it becomes necessary.

What you are trying to avoid is having the rear tire sliding out from loss of traction. The worst case scenario is that the loss of traction can cause a high side crash. This happens when the rear of the bike slides out and gets out of alignment a few degrees with the front tire. Then if the rear tire re-establishes traction the bike can violently sling



shot the rider and the motorcycle to the outside of the turn. That is the definition of a high side crash.

Now for the video part of the lecture. I like this guy because I like to watch him drive through the roads and traffic in Taiwan. It's a bit nerve racking and it's hard to believe he is still alive and riding. No comments on his right side passing. It starts a little slow but he does do a pretty good job of explaining a high side and a low side crashes in this video.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0jU-iu7-TAY>

I know for a lot of the members this may seem a little basic. But for me writing about these basic/intermediate concepts has definitely helped me become a better rider. Even though I have owned a motorcycle for almost all of my life.

Safety Officer  
BMW George

By George Homenko ~ Safety Director

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## Editorials

### Wisdom of the month



"First of all, you're the one that wanted me to include your mother more and secondly.. you gotta admire my ingenuity."

From various Internet sources, public domain ~ Editor



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



Tom Cooke

### Why tour on a motorcycle?

We all have varied reasons for choosing Motorcycle touring as our preferred form of vacation or getaway. Here are some of my thoughts after many wonderful motorcycle tours with the Redwood Riders Motorcycle Club and the wonderful collage of varied people who make up our membership.

A sense of Freedom. This may sound like a cliché but I find a mental and psychic freedom while touring that is missing from another day at home, on the job, or traveling by car. Perhaps it is the unboundedness of being surrounded by nothing but the air, climate, smells and sensations of the great outdoors with no steel box of a vehicle to constrain those sensations.

Discovery of the road less traveled. When we tour we intentionally seek out the back roads, the scenic routes and the roads with the least traffic. We care not if these routes are less efficient than the Interstate Highways or the

fastest routes. We want the beautiful and memorable....not necessarily the speedy.

Camaraderie of fellow riders. Can anyone recall being approached by a fellow traveler at a rest stop and having them ask...Hey I see you drive a minivan too. How are you liking it? Not likely. On a bike however, we have instant conversation and fellowship with so many other riders we meet along the way. And it is always friendly and helpful as we enjoy our shared passion of bikes, even if we just met.

Closeness to nature. To be surrounded by the beauty of nature, with no car or truck to limit it is another wonderful gift of riding. We see it all, all of the time and seem to take it in so much closer to the heart than when we travel by other means.

Meditative experience. Often on long days in spectacular surroundings we can go to a place of meditation. This is often marked by a sense of gratitude for where we are and how we traveled there. Quietude, appreciation and gratefulness are wonderful bonuses of motorcycle touring.

Alertness to our surroundings. When we ride we are required by safety to be optimally alert to our surroundings. When we are riding right, we see it all...the good, (scenery) the bad, (road hazards) and the ugly (road rage or inattentive drivers). We process these things instantly and respond to them skillfully as we maneuver our bikes and travel our routes. And on a good day, this alertness we gain by riding can be found throughout life.....and we are richer for it.



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

## Motorcycle RAM MOUNTS.

This month's tech tip is about a company named RAM MOUNTS. I am sure some of you have never heard this name. But those of us who have discovered them, know how difficult it is to find a way to mount an accessory item to a motorcycle. Imagine having a simple system to mount your cell phone, action cam, gps, or just a cup holder for that drink on a long ride. Mounting my action cam was my reason to use a Ram Mount. Searching the web very few companies make mounts that are motorcycle specific. Then I discovered Ram Mounts. **They had hundreds of small parts sold separately to allow me to build a mount specific to my needs.** They also had pre configured kits that have all the necessary items for mounting whatever you have in mind. I chose to buy the individual parts as I knew what I needed. They have their website broken down into specific types of applications. Such as cars, trucks, boats, motorcycles, and bicycles. I really liked the section on helping you build your own motorcycle mount. You can configure a system for a Harley, or other, to your needs using their suggested parts. And actually see the finished product. To begin you pick a ram mount base. Mounting to a brake reservoir, handlebar, or stem. Then an extension. And finally a mount for your cam, phone, GPS, or whatever you have. You can order those parts on either Ebay or direct from Ram Mount. Shown in the help you build are the thread options, for domestic or imports. Many of their items come with both types of bolts so you can save them for future bikes. Another item that they sell is their Ram Claw mount. A simple clamp on bracket for tube/handlebars, that comes off easily and can be transferred from one bike to another without tools. Available on their website is a GPS holder. Let's say you have a car GPS and want it to use on your motorcycle. As an example your GPS is a Garmin 765t, basically a car only model, but, thru Ram Mounts, you can order a holder specific to that Garmin, for around \$12. These holders will allow you to use your Garmin, TomTom, Magellan, on your bike. The holder has a quick release so no worries of theft. Just remember to put it away when the bike is parked. Ram Mounts offer what is called an Xgrip holder for smart cell phones which includes a safety strap. Consider this idea, if you have a Sena 20s headset you can make calls, listen to the Bluetooth GPS directions, and music all thanks to the Ram Mounts system. Making life hands free. Ram Mount website also has videos on how to install and suggestions as to what mounts you might need based on their research. And, if you go to youtube you can also find many videos on how they work, reviews and installs. I guess what I am saying is if you want to mount anything on your bike check out the Ram Mount website first. Later, Paul.



## Members' views, stories and helpful tips

### This month's review, Oil filters.

This is a tough one because everyone has their own reasons for picking out a filter for their bikes. But is your decision based on science? I personally have been using OEM filters for my bikes, assuming my manufacturer will make the best decision based on specifications. This is partially true, however, cost and profit are always a factor and can influence decisions. Fortunately, the Honda filters I have been using are well reviewed, but not the best.

Now I have found the best recommendations for oil, I want the best possible oil filter to match. The below information comes from various internet sources, but the most informative and I believe reliable comes from **California Scientific**, in Sacramento. Their favorite choices are: Purolator Pure One PL14610, Mobil-1, Amsoil, and Bosch. Yes, in that order.

Having said that, the Purolator was designed for cars, not motorcycles. There seems to be a controversy about whether the pressures are too high for motorcycles. I don't use anything that is controversial unless I have excellent data to back the product. In addition, there is not a lot of research available to support nor deny claims by manufacturers. So it seems, the most reliable information recommends the Mobil-1 as best and safest choice.



#### Mobil 1™ Motorcycle Oil Filters provide

- High efficiency – removing up to 99.9 percent of contaminants\*
- High capacity – advanced synthetic fiber blend holds more dirt than a leading conventional oil filter\*

#### Mobil 1 Motorcycle Oil Filters feature

- Steel center tube – to provide added internal strength
- Peel-off label with oil change reminder – to help keep bikes clean
- Chrome and black canister design options

\*Based on ISO 4548-12 test procedure M1-301.

#### Models available for most popular motorcycles.

More information can be seen at: <https://mobiloil.com/en/oil-filters/motorcycle-oil-filters> ~ Editor



## This month's 50/50 raffle winner



Laurie Darling

### Other winners:

**Robyn Chosy** won a \$10 gift card for The Dollar Tree.



**George Homenko** won a Redwood Riders hat.



editor@redwoodridersmc.com

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## rides

### April Fools Day Mystery Ride



Surprise! Its the delta.





The First Ferry



Waiting for the next Ferry







Lunch at the historic town of Locke





## Ride to Sausalito for lunch on the water



**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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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

Need a volunteer for road captain



### 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	penngrovmotorcycleco.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)

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# Long Rides

Next Long Ride  
Colorado, June 16 to June 25

**Happy Mother's Day  
Sunday May 14**

**Happy Memorial Day  
Monday May 29**

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