



Volume 2017

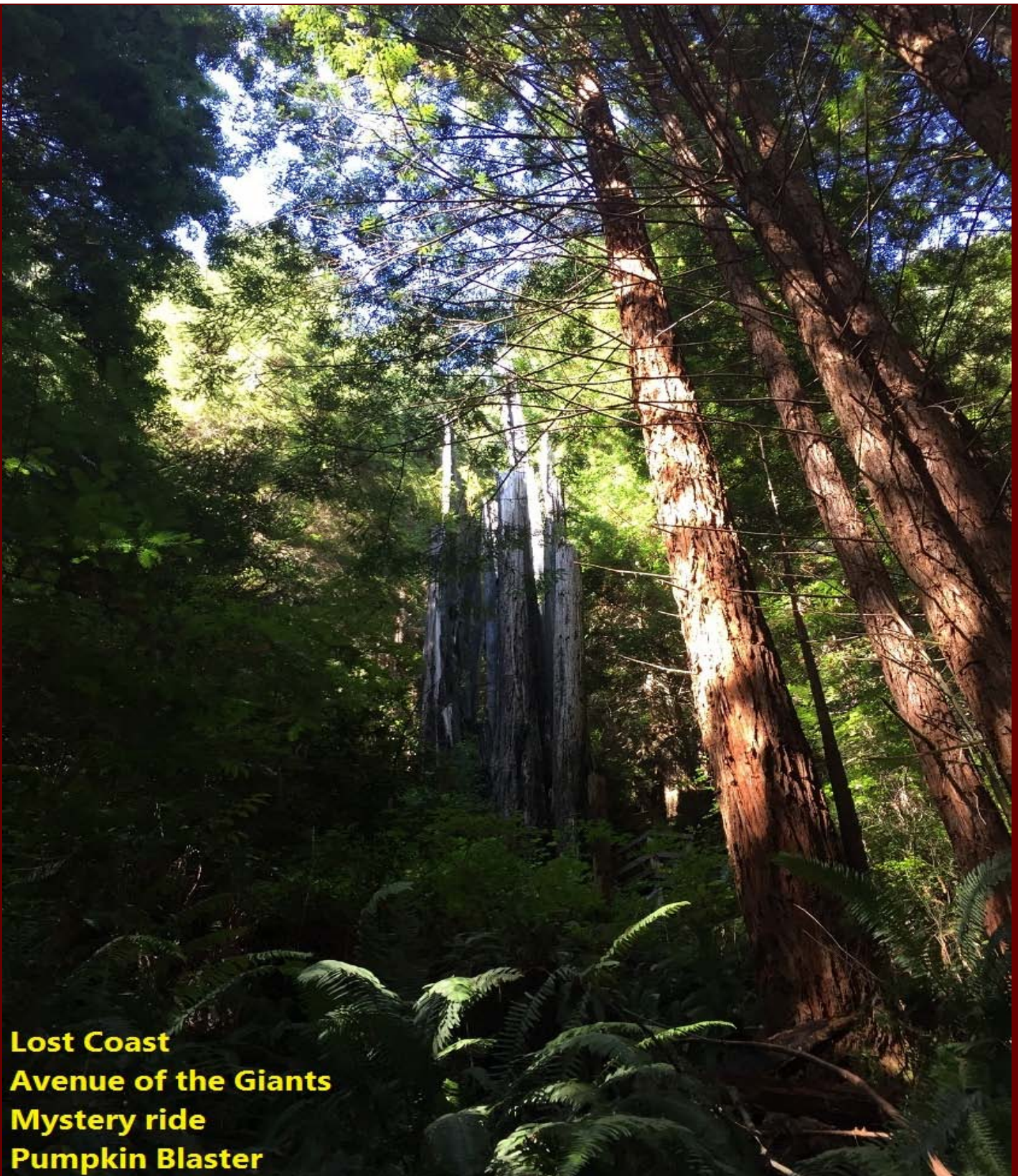
No. 11

Redwood Riders Review



November

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**Lost Coast
Avenue of the Giants
Mystery ride
Pumpkin Blaster**

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Cover photo Avenue of the Giants by Gretchen Tomm

Club Business

President's foreword



Ben Johnstone

Prez Sez

October 2017

The elections are this month and after or November General Membership meeting I will no longer be an officer of this wonderful club. I have been in the club since 2002 and been an officer since 2010 (I think). I have had a lot of pleasant experiences during that time, although I must say that the last 3 years have been the best for me. That is when I met and made friendships with most of you. For me, this has been one of my best experiences. Thank you all for allowing me to enjoy knowing and riding with you. I plan to continue having great experiences with the Redwood Riders as long as I can.

I have heard it said that "if you love it, let it go". This is much easier to say than it is to do. I believe in this principle and am putting it into practice starting immediately after the November meeting. However, I am not worried! I only have to look at the enthusiastic participation of our members and how well we all like each other to have confidence that this club will continue to grow and prosper. I look at the recent rides to Fortuna and George's mystery ride and can clearly see that this club likes being with each other and having fun on rides. I think next year is going to be very exciting, and I am looking forward to experiencing it with all of you.

By the way, I haven't completely gone away. As the Past President I will have a seat on the board for 2018; just in case any questions come up about how things were done on my watch.



By Ben Johnstone ~ President



Secretary's report



Sharon McMillan

Redwood Riders Monthly Meeting

October 17, 2017
China Village, Rohnert Park

Opening Statement: President Ben Johnstone opened our meeting talking about the tragic fire that swept through parts of Santa Rosa. One of our former members, Steve Bowen and his son lost their homes in the Fountain Grove area. Melisa suggested that a card be sent to them and she offered to take care of it.

Mike Holden, Tours & events coordinator would not be at our meeting as he was on vacation in North Carolina. He will be back Saturday. On Sunday, he will be hosting a road captains meeting at this house at 4 PM to plan for next years rides.

Our After Holiday Party will be held on Jan 27th at China Village from 12 to 3.

Nominations: Nominations were open to the membership for next year's officers.

President - Gretchen Tomm was nominated by DeeDee Dargence

Vice President – Robyn Chosy by Sharon McMillan

Secretary – Sharon McMillan by Vicky Weber

Treasurer – DeeDee Dargence by Paul Benkover

Tours and Events – Wade Roberts by George Homenko

Safety Officer – George Homenko by Paul Benkover

Sgt at Arms – Rosalie Mack by Laurie Darling

Membership – Marcel Svizzero by Ben Johnstone

Road Captains were discussed, the need for more and upcoming rides.

Minutes: Sharon read the minutes from the September meeting.

Treasurers Report: DeeDee gave treasurer report.

Membership Report: No report as Marcel was on vacation.

Tours and Events: No report due to Mike away on vacation.

Upcoming Rides in 2017:

Oct 21st George will lead a ride over to the Delta and then on his boat for a ride to Walnut Grove for ice cream and return. We will stop in Rio Vista on the way to pick up lunch at a deli and have lunch on the boat.

Oct 25th will be our annual Pumpkin Blaster ride to Lathrop which will be led by Ben. The venue includes the pumpkin blaster, a corn maze, zip lines and food is available.

Nov 14th we will ride to the Point Cabrillo Lighthouse in Mendocino which will be led by Ben.

Safety Officer: George didn't have a formal report this month. Mentioned to check tire pressure as it drops in cold weather. He now has yellow lights on his bike on will have more information later. The yellow offers more visibility.

Old Business: Correction on riding videos. They can be found at mcrider.com. The prior incorrect information was

motorcyclider spelled out.

New Business: None

50/50 Raffle: The 50/50 raffle was won by Carole Gonzales

First prize was won by George Homenko - a bag of Peets coffee

Second prize was won by Sharon McMillan which was a "dew rag".

Third prize was a gift certificate for China Village won by Melisa Brown

Fourth prize - dozen of fresh eggs went to Rosalie Mack

By Sharon McMillan ~ Secretary



Tours & Events



Mike Holden

Rides and Events

October 2017

October Rides & Events

6th, 7th & 8th - Gretchen led our last overnight ride up to the North Coast and Avenue of the Giants.

15th - George led a ride to the Delta and treated everyone to a ride on his little boat.

17th - November General Meeting.

22nd - Road Captains Meeting to discuss the 2018 ride schedule (more shortly).

25th - Ben's ride to Lathrop for the Del Osos Farms "Punkin blaster" event.

Upcoming Rides & Events

November 4th - Ben will be leading a ride to the Point Cabrillo Lighthouse, just North of Point Arena. Make this one if at all possible because the weather on the coast is generally stunning in early November and Pt. Cabrillo is a very nice little lighthouse out on the Point.

November 19th - Mike will lead a ride to Gold Country with lunch at the Jackson Rancheria or the restaurant at Sloughhouse ((TBD)).

November 21st - The November General Meeting will be held at China Village restaurant in Cotati. You need to come to vote for the officers of your club for next year.

December 3rd - Our last sanctioned ride for 2017 will be the ever popular Cloverdale Toy Run where you'll be able to ride through the Sonoma County wine country behind Santa on his motorcycle. Bring a toy for a needy child and have a wonderful barbecue.

And now a short preview of some of the rides and events in 2018.

January 27th - Our "After Holiday Party" Will again be at China Village. If you missed Last year's party you missed an absolute throttle-twisting great time and this year looks to be even better!

February 18th - Wade will be leading a progressive ride to namers' houses for a little food and a lot of fun.

April 20th, 21st & 22nd - Ben (and Barb) will lead us down to Solvang for a visit to this unique Dutch Village. Lots of shopping for those so inclined and some wonderful rides for non-shoppers. Oh yeah, and great food.

June 1st, 2nd & 3rd - Randy will lead a ride to Reno for Street Vibrations and rides around the Sierras. If you haven't

been on one of Randy's rides, talk to someone who has - you'll be convinced this is one you won't want to miss!
July 20th, 21st & 22nd - Gretchen will shepherd us up to Gold Beach Oregon. Last year's outing was a kick in the tailpipe. We will again take the exciting jet boat upriver and have the best fried chicken lunch (with all the trimmings) you'll ever have. If you don't agree, I'll eat your dessert! I promise you that the ride back will be memorable.

August 18th & 19th - We'll follow Wade North (not to Alaska) to take a ride on the boat Skunk Train. If you haven't done it, do it!

September 8th - 16th (tentative) - Mike will lead a ride somewhere. Details are still being developed but the ride could include riding in Utah, Colorado, South Dakota, Wyoming, Montana, Oregon, Washington and maybe even California. The dates and itinerary will be finalized soon so those poor souls still working can seek vacation forgiveness.

October 6th & 7th - George will lead a ride down to Monterey. George always chooses very interest routes. The destination speaks for itself - and George will do his normal great job in laying out our itinerary.

Those are some of the tentative highlights for our '18 calendar.

RORS - Ride Often Ride Safe!

By Mike Holden ~ Tours and Events Director



Safety Officer's Tip of the Month



George Homenko

Fire call

George has been busy with the devastating fire in the Santa Rosa area. He will return with a safety tip next month.

By Safety Officer BMW George



Membership



Marcel Svizzero

Membership Report

November 2017

New members

None this month

Current membership

Full memberships	66
Co-riders	8
Provisional members	<u>6</u>
Total Club members	80

Membership Statistics

Men	52
Women	28
Members from	
5 Counties	
25 cities	



John Bischak
Dave Droker
Tom Holwerda

Laurie Darling
Richard "Sky" George

By Marcel Svizzero ~ Membership Director

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Buletin Board

New Newsletter Index.

Now you can find past articles and product reviews easily with the new index page. Check it out - [INDEX](#)
The index can be accessed by clicking the "Newsletter" tab on our main site, Redwoodridersmc.com or by clicking any "Archive" link in the newsletter.

Upcoming elections.

The elections will be at the November meeting. We have a slate of nominations but further nominations can be made at the meeting before the election. Be sure to attend the next meeting to vote for your favorite candidate.

Annual "After Holiday" party date announced. See flyer below.

The party will be held at the China Village, Cotati on Saturday, January 27 at 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm. Besides the great food, there will be games and prizes. Last year was one of the best parties ever and we expect to eclipse it this year.

New ride time coming soon.

November 18 will be the first ride to start at 9:30 am and departure by 10:00 am from Shari's in Rohnert Park. Be sure to check the departure time on the calendar.

Ride Photos (Please)

Please, everyone take pictures on the rides. Even if you only think of taking one, send it to me. Everyone has a different point of view when it comes to taking pictures. It is great to get a variety of shots for the newsletter. The best picture of the month will go on the cover of the newsletter.

Hotline

For last minute ride changes due to weather, call the hotline. 707-636-4811

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.

Club shirts

If you want a club shirt, here are the choices.

T shirts - Long sleeves or short sleeves

Sweat shirts - with or without hood

Colors - Black, Red, White

Sizes - Any size you specify

Every shirt will come with an embroidered RRMC Logo on the front and a silk screened logo on the back.

We must have a total of 24 items to submit an order. See Marcel to order or email at.

membership@redwoodridersmc.com

All preorders must be paid in advance.

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.

New style hats are a success!

So far, we have sold 35 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 \$20.00 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 mail. Contact for questions - foxxnetmarcelo@yahoo.com

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.

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. If for some reason you must pass, do so in the other lane.

By Marcel Svizzero ~ Membership Director

Redwood Riders Motorcycle Club

Annual After Christmas Party

Saturday, January 27, 2018

Location: China Village
8501 Gravenstein Hwy, Cotati

Time: Noon - 3

Cost: \$20



Gift Exchange: bring a gift as we will be doing a gift exchange
(\$10 suggested maximum)

SILENT AUCTION

Bring some extra cash to bid on our auction items. This is to
help raise money for our charity – Ceres.

PLEASE RSVP to Melisa Brown

You can give Melisa money at our December meeting or mail to:
Melisa Brown, 200 4th Street, #240, Santa Rosa, CA 95401
if mailing – please checks only AND
make payable to RRMC



RSVP NO LATER THAN JANUARY 20

For further info call
Melisa Brown at 707-246-3520

Editorials

Wisdom of the month



"THE DOWN SIDE TO BEING A BIKER ON
THANKSGIVING IS TAKING HOME THE
LEFTOVERS."

From various Internet sources, public domain ~ Editor



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



Tom Cooke

What makes a great bike for long rides?

November 2017

What features make a bike a great bike for multi-day tours?

First let's acknowledge that any bike can be used for long tours if it works for the rider.

For example, Marcel's son Christian, rode our 3500 mile Colorado tour with us this summer on a Triumph 700 sans windshield. And he still had energy left over to fly his drone many days. Of course Christian, energetic young man that he is, still has 2 in the 10's place.

Alas, for most of us "mature riders, light, naked bikes are less and less fun as the daily miles climb into the hundreds and the consecutive long days come fast and furious. But no need to despair, comfort, and long days in the saddle, and thus more scenery to enjoy can be facilitated by certain features of a bike that lend themselves to high mileage days.

Here are some features that add to touring comfort.

Windshields. You may give up a few style points with a windshield, but keeping the road grit, bugs and sundry highway flotsam off of you sure is nice. And your laundromat time is lessened to boot.

Protective fairing. See windshields. We've all been beat up by wind, rain, and weather while riding. A full fairing will protect you from most of these discomforts.

Shaft drive. You want a smooth ride? Try a shaft drive bike. Yep, smoother, less maintenance and cleaner. You can hit the pool at the motel while your chain drive pals are cleaning and lubricating their chains.

Dry luggage space. Sure you can bungee any old duffle bag to your bike and hope it does not hop loose. or soak through in the rain. But a secure, built in, waterproof saddle bags and top case set up sure does eliminate another worry. And your gear won't "grow leg's" while you have lunch or take a walk to unwind your road weary bod.

Comfortable seat. This one is the most obvious, I suppose. A good, ergonomically well designed, saddle will make a huge comfort difference on a long day. If your bike came from factory with a "basic" seat, many after market options are possible.

Plenty of fuel capacity. Who wants to be the "goat" who requires the pack to stop every hundred miles for gas? A large tank, 6 gallons or better, eliminate frequent gas stops. You can still stop to rest or "see a man about a dog" as often as you need to but you don't need to be searching for gas stations to make that work.

These are just a few items to consider when you think about touring consecutive high mileage days.

What ever you choose to ride....enjoy every minute of it.

Rubber side down.

Out.



Tech Corner ~ by Scott Thompson, technical advisor and staff writer

picture
coming
soon

New Technical Advisor next month

Scott Thompson

I am pleased to announce that we have a new mechanic and technical advisor. Scott "Psycho" Thompson. I have known Scott for a number of years. He was in the original Redwood Riders Club. He first joined in 2003 and rejoined in 2017. Welcome Scott.

Scott has worked on many motorcycles, repaired and built, especially Harleys.

Paul Albert has decided to retire as a newsletter staff writer. I want to thank Paul for the great job he did for us bringing his expertise as a mechanic with his detailed reports often with great humor. We will miss his articles.



Need cold weather gloves without breaking the bank?

Tour Master Polar-Tex 2.0 Cold Weather Gloves



Cold and wet weather is what the Tour Master Polar-Tex 2.0 Glove is made for. Thinsulate Flex Insulation and a waterproof, breathable barrier offer the best protection from a cold, wet ride.

Features:

- 600 denier polyester upper with padded knuckle protection
- 100g DuPont Thermolite Plus insulation
- Soft, polyester fleece lining
- Waterproof and breathable barrier
- Goatskin leather palm and thumb with a padded palm patch
- Leather throttle guard between the thumb and index finger
- Adjustable gauntlet closure
- Elasticized wrist band
- Reflective piping

MSRP \$65

On sale at [Revzilla](#) for \$51.99



This month's 50/50 raffle Grand Prize winner



Carol Gonzales

Other winners:

First prize was won by George Homenko - a bag of Peets coffee

Second prize was won by Sharon McMillan which was a "dew rag"

Third prize won by Melisa Brown a gift certificate for China Village

Fourth prize won Rosalie Mack a dozen of fresh eggs



editor@redwoodridersmc.com

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local rides

George's Mystery Ride to the Delta

October 21, 2017







Annual Pumpkin Blaster

October 21, 2017





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

Volunteers for road captain contact Mike



Sponsors* New addition. See below

Northbay Motorsports	Santa Rosa	Honda, Kawasaki	707-542-5355	northbaymotorsport.com
Cycle West	Rohnert Park	Honda, Suzuki	707-769-5240	cyclewest.net
Penngrove Motorcycle	Pengrove	Harley service	707-793-7993	penngrovemotorcycleco.com
K&B Motorsports	Petaluma	Yamaha, Kawasaki	707-763-4658	kandbmotorsports.com
NorCal Power Sports & Marine	Santa Rosa	Harley, Victory, Can-Am	707-527-1515	norcalpowersports-marine.com
Mach 1 Motorsports	Vallejo	Honda, Yamaha	707-643-2448	mach1motorsports.com
Bike Bandit	Online	All makes	Online	bikebandit.com

*See Sponsor page for discounts and codes.



Club Gear

Marcel Svizzero for Pins, Patches, T-shirts, hats.

membership@redwoodridersmc.com



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

Editor

Marcel Svizzero

Send your suggestions to: editor@redwoodridersmc.com

Webmaster

Marcel Svizzero

webmaster@redwoodridersmc.com

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Long Rides

Lost Coast/Avenue of the Giants

October 7 - 8, 2017













Photos by Robyn Chosy, Gretchen Tomm, George Homenko, Wade Roberts, Ben Johnstone



We go places!

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