



IN THIS ISSUE

"Prez Sez"

٠ 1 ٠

Membership Report

2

Safety Report

• 3 •

General Meeting Minutes

· 5 ·

Tours & Events

· 7 ·

August Calendar

8.

Ride Travel Info

9.

Tom's Take

• 11 •

Blast from the Past (Prez)

· 12 ·

Ride & Event Photos

· 13 ·

Photo Album Links

· 16

Credits & Contacts

· 17 ·



by Gretchen Tomm - President







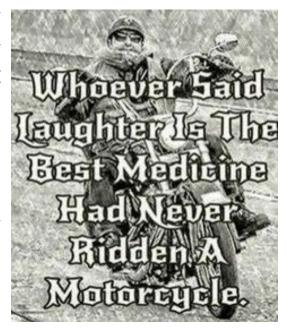
What makes one person want to ride motorcycles and others could care less?

I never knew I would love to ride my own bike but about 31 years ago I met a guy that had a Harley. He asked me if I wanted to go for a ride and I said yes. After a few months I realized this guy wasn't for me. But, I missed the riding.

A very wise friend of mine suggested I take the Motorcycle Safety Course and get my own motorcycle. What a concept! So I took the course and purchased my first motorcycle. I was very fortunate to have quite a few friends that did ride and took me "under their wing", even some cool women that rode for many years. I'm so glad they did!

Still in the wind..... Gretchen





Membership

by Dee Dee d'Argence - Treasurer & Membership Director

Membership

NEW MEMBERS

James Hammer Kurt Mitchler Dick Rome Mike Rooney Brian Schultz Mare Skipper

AUGUST BIRTHDAY WISHES

Jack Baglietto
Tresha Holloway
Darren Holloway
Conci Mack
Eric Walters
Dominic Nuccio
Richard Arrow
Gretchen Tomm
Steve Darling

We Have Members from 5 Counties & 18 Cities!





MEMBERSHIP

Full Memberships	50
Co-Riders	10
Provisional Members*	23
TOTAL	83

*New Members in 2018

RIDER STATISTICS

Men	57
Women	16

RRMC MEMBERSHIP CARDS

Check with Dee Dee to get your membership card. You need this card to get discounts offered by our sponsors. For the full list of sponsors, visit the Sponsors Page under About RRMC on our website; www.redwoodridersmc.com. This page is protected; use the password provided in the newsletter email to access.

Changed your address, bought a new bike? Let Dee Dee know so she can update your membership - membership@redwoodridersmc.com

Safety Report

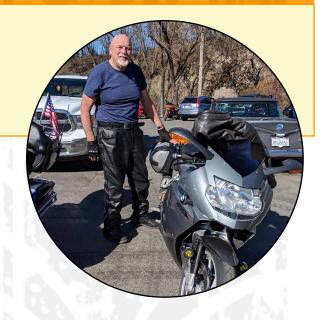
by "BMW George" Homenko - Safety Officer

I Don't Ride Without It...

I have recently had a bad run of motorcycle luck.

For this story, I was riding up the coast, with the club in the middle of nowhere. Locales will know the place, about 5 miles north of Gualala. I was just cruising along in Big Blue a 2002 BMW R1200CL in third gear. Not fast not slow, just going with the flow. And then I had no gears, motor ran fine, just no go forward in any gear. Now what do you do? Ben and Barb Johnston who were running sweep stopped to see what the problem was. I said no go. Ben then reminded me of my most important tool on my bike, my AAA card. Within about 45 minutes my bike was on a trailer, I was in a warm truck and we were heading for my house. A 75 miles prepaid trip with no additional charges directly to my garage.

I am a do it yourself kind of guy. But let's face it, with today's modern motorcycles there is not much that can be done on the road if you break down. Yes, you can get gas or plug and fill a tire but not much else. When a little black component of a sealed computer that is buried in the center of your motorcycle goes blink, you are toast. All you want to know is how in the hell am I going to get me and my bike back home. For me it's my AAA card.



Below I have done some research on towing services that are available near here. I certainly may have missed some. The reason I like AAA is you can use them for towing 4 times a year without a additional charge and they have towing providers all over the place, even Elk California. In addition, they tow the furthest.

Another great thing about my AAA card is they will even tow a friend's bike using your card. I am not sure how this works, but I have firsthand experience in having an unmentioned friends inoperable Harley towed from my house to the dealership using my card.

Your Friendly Safety Officer - BMW George

Company	Cost	Distance Towed	Fuel Delivery	Battery Jump
AAA	Premier \$119/year	1-200 and 3-100 miles	Yes	Yes
Hogs	Standard \$79	Nearest Harley Dealer or other up to \$100 Dollars once per year/ 1 Motorcycle	Yes	Tow
	Ultra \$89	Nearest Harley Dealer 35 miles Unlimited times 2 Motorcycles	Yes	Tow
	Ultra Plus \$99	Nearest Harley Dealer 35 miles Unlimited times Motorcycles and other	Yes	Tow
Best Roadside Service	\$75.00	75 Miles nearest service 1 motorcycle 1 time	Yes	Yes
	\$100.00	75 Miles nearest service 1 motorcycle 4 times	Yes	Yes
AMA Motorcycle Towing	\$85.00	35 Miles nearest service	Yes	Yes

Safety Report

by "BMW George" Homenko - Safety Officer

Bad Day for "Big Blue"

Here are a few pictures of "Big Blue" on the day of the ride and a couple of days later. If ever someone says to you they like BMW motorcycles because of the great engineering you have my permission to tell them they are full of it! All this to get to the clutch!







Ceres Community Project Amazon Smile Program

Shop on Amazon? Who doesn't? Put your shopping addiction to good use by signing up with Amazon Smile and selecting the RRMC's official charity, The Ceres Community Project as your Amazon Smile charity of choice. It is easy, fast and Amazon will contribute 0.5% of EVERY PURCHASE to Ceres. You shop - Ceres receives! A true win-win!

Sign up at https://smile.amazon.com/

General Meeting Minutes

by Sharon McMillan - Secretary

July 17th 2018

Opening Statement: President Gretchen Tomm opened the meeting welcoming everyone for being at the meeting. Gretchen introduced Vince Mulligan who is with the Redwood Empire HOG Chapter. Vince talked to the group regarding the annual HOG chapter's Summer Run coming up on August 18, 2018 which is the club's 30th anniversary. Ride starts at Sonoma County HD dealer and ends up at Lake Sonoma. The theme for the ride is the Empire Strikes Back with a costume judging. Proceeds from the event will go to the club's charity which is Valley of the Moon Children's home.

Minutes: Sharon McMillan read the minutes from the June meeting.

Treasurers Report: Dee Dee d'Argence provided the treasurers report.

Membership Report: Dee Dee reported that our membership now stands at 76. New members in attendance were introduced. They are: Mare Skipper and Brian Schultz.

Tours and Events: Wade Roberts gave his ride report. He said we have been having good turnouts on our rides. Thanked everyone that comes out for our rides. We do it for the members to have fun and to go riding with some great people.

July 7th ride was led by Randy Mack. There were 23 in attendance on 21 bikes. Lunch was in Point Arena at the Chowder House. Ride went up Hwy 128 into Boonville, and south on Hwy 1 after lunch.

July 11th, Wednesday ride. Wade led the group of 5 riders to Fort Bragg with lunch at the Crow's Nest. Route was Hwy 101, over Hwy 20 to Fort Bragg and back through Boonville.

July 21, 22 and 23 is our three day ride to Gold Beach which will be led by Gretchen Tomm. We meet at Shari's at 7^{AM} with a departure time of 7:30.

July 28th, Saturday will be a special meeting at Wade's house for the club's 9-day ride through Oregon, Washington and into Canada for anyone going on the ride or maybe interested in going. The ride will leave on Sept 8th and returning Sept 16th.

August 4th is our ride to Sausalito. This was to be led by George Homenko. George advised that he is not able to lead the ride that day.

August 8th, Wednesday, is a ride to Winter's. This was to be led by Bob Gonzales who is not able to make the ride that day. Wade will take the group that day.

August 18th & **19**th – overnight ride to Fort Bragg with a ride on the Skunk Train. Wade has flyers for those that have not signed up to go yet.

General Meeting Minutes

Safety Officer: George talked about breaking down with your motorcycle. Shared his recent experience on Hwy 1 while on a club ride. Suggested that everyone have motorcycle towing insurance. AAA has a Premier Towing service which covers motorcycles and a 200 mile tow. There are other tow services available as well.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Michael Turpin said he attended last year's HOG summer run and had a good time.

Raffle:

 1^{st} prize – was a Redwood Riders visor which was won by Michael Turpin 2^{nd} prize – went to our new member, Mare Skipper which was homemade Apple Butter, Peach Butter & Tuna

3rd prize – was a dozen of fresh eggs and Mare Skipper had the winning ticket

4th prize – went to Laurie Darling. She won a bottle of white wine

5th prize – lavender honey which was won by Rick Wallenstein who donated the item. He traded Laurie Darling for her bottle of wine

6th prize – went to Michael Turpin. He won a Starbucks gift card

7th prize – was Gorilla Tape and Super Glue. Gretchen Tomm was the winner.

50/50 raffle this month was \$70. This was won by Sharon McMillan who donated it to our club charity. Total amount of \$140 going to Ceres.

More General Meeting Photos in Google Photo Album: https://photos.app.goo.gl/phy5W1sXVmJa64LZ8











Tours & Events

by Wade Roberts - Tours & Events Director

Ride Reviews & Upcoming Rides

Bye-Bye July, and Yep August is here already. Summer is winding down, but Riders we still have some warm and beautiful days ahead so let's get out there and do some riding.

July Updates

Saturday July 7th - Point Arena. Randy Mack led 23 Riders and 21 Bikes on a great ride up highway 101 to Highway 128 to Boonville, over Mountain View Rd, down Highway 1, to Pier/Chowder House in Point Arena for a great lunch. After lunch we continued down Highway 1 enjoying the sun and ride home. Thank you, Randy, for leading us, it was a great day

Wednesday July 11th - Fort Bragg. I led 5 Riders and 5 Bikes up Highway 101 to Willits, over Highway 20 for lunch at The Crow's Nest in Fort Bragg. After lunch we continued down Highway 1 to Navarro River, Highway 128 to Boonville, then back to Highway 101 home. It was very hot inland that day and cold and foggy at the coast, but overall the ride was a good one.

Friday July 20^{th,} Saturday July 21st & Sunday July 22nd - 3-Day Gold Beach Ride. Gretchen Tomm led 21 riders and 19 bikes on this wonderful ride. We headed up Highway 101 with stops in Willits and Garberville for gas then on to Eureka for lunch at Adele's. After lunch, staying on Highway 101 to Crescent City for gas, then on to Gold Beach where we stayed at Jot's Hotel. Saturday, we took Jerry's Boat Ride up the Rogue River for lunch and then back to the hotel. Mike Sherman, who grew up in Gold Beach, led a ride around his hometown. Thanks Mike! Sunday we got back on the bikes and headed south on 101 with stops in Crescent City for breakfast and Willits for lunch. After which we said our good byes and headed home. Gretchen, thanks for such a great weekend and a marvelous ride, we had a great time.

August Rides - Updated

Saturday August 4^{th} - Lavender Bee Farm Tour and Ride. Gretchen Tomm will be leading this ride to one of the Redwood Riders Members (Rick Wallenstein) Lavender Gardens to take a tour and taste some of the honey they produce on their farm. Afterword, Gretchen will be leading you on a surprise ride and lunch. This ride will meet at Shari's at 9^{AM} and leave at $9:30^{\text{AM}}$.



Wednesday August 8^{th} - Winters. I will be leading this ride meeting at Shari's at $9^{\rm AM}$ and leaving a $9:30^{\rm AM}$.

Saturday August 18th & Sunday August 19th - 2-Day Skunk Train Ride. I will be leading this ride up Highway 101 to Highway 1. We will be stopping at a deli to pick up lunch or you can bring a sack lunch from home. Sunday morning, we will be riding the Skunk Train and then heading back home, with lunch along the way. This ride will meet at Shari's at 8^{AM} leaving at 8:30^{AM}. If you have not made plans yet and would like to come, see page 9 for reservation info.

Tuesday August 21^{st} - General Membership Meeting held at the China Village Restaurant in Cotati. Greet & Eat 6^{PM} to 7^{PM} ; Meeting starts at 7^{PM} sharp. This is a wonderful way to see how the club works, and to WIN some great Raffle Prizes, hope to see you there.

Upcoming Overnights

There is still time to join us on the 9-day Oregon, Washington, Canada Ride. See page 9 for reservation info.

If you have never been on an overnight ride, please join us. It is a great opportunity to get to know fellow club members and share time riding with the group. This is what the Redwood Riders Motorcycle Club is all about!

Thanks to everyone for making our club great, and for coming out to the rides. I enjoy meeting all the new members and always, of course, the old members that make this club work. THANK YOU!!!

Your Tours & Events, Wade



Ride Travel Info



Skunk Train

August 18th Saturday:

Seabird Lodge 191 S Street, Fort Bragg, CA 95437 (Phone 707-964-4731) \$117 - King or 2 Queens. 10 rooms reserved under Redwood Riders until August $1^{\rm st}$

Skunk Train Ride:

Sunday, August 19th @ 9:00 Pudding Creek Express, Ft. Bragg \$25 Per Person. Book online <u>www.skunktrain.com</u> or call (707-964-6371)

Oregon, Washington, Canada: September 8th - 16th

Sept 8th Saturday:

Best Western 655 Highway 101 South, Crescent City, CA (Phone 707-464-9771) \$144 - 2 Queen beds

Sept 9th Sunday:

Quality Inn 12 SW 4th St, Madras, OR (Phone 541-475-6141) \$122 - 2 Queen beds. \$115 - King (AARP or AAA)

Sept 10th Monday:

Best Western 211 W Umptanum Rd, Ellensburg, WA (Phone 509-925-4244) \$139 - 2 Queen beds (AARP or AAA). \$136 - 2 Queen beds (Best Western Club)

Sept 11th Tuesday:

The Marina Inn 3300 Commercial Ave, Anacortes, WA (Phone 360-293-1100) \$138 - King or 2 Queen beds (AARP or AAA)

Sept 12th Wednesday:

The Orca Inn 770 Mullis St, Friday Harbor, WA (Phone 360-378-2724) \$99 - 2 Queen beds

Sept 13th Thursday:

Red Lion Inn 221 North Lincoln St, Port Angeles, WA (Phone 360-452-9215) \$173 - 2 Queen beds or 1 King

Sept 14th Friday:

Comfort Suites Columbia River 3420 Leif Erikson Dr, Astoria OR (Phone 503-325-2000) \$125 - King or 2 Queen beds (no View). \$129 - 2 Queen beds. \$134 - King (with river view) (AARP or AAA)

Sept 15th Saturday:

Westward Inn 1026 Chetco Ave, Brookings OR (Phone 541-469-7471) \$99 - King or 2 Queen beds (AARP or AAA)

Continued Next Page ---->

Ride Travel Info

Oregon, Washington, Canada: *Continued...*

Ferry Crossings:

Purchase online at www.wsdot.wa.gov/Ferries

Wednesday September 12, 2018 9:05 AM departs from Anacortes to Friday Harbor \$27.80 / \$21.00 (65+) Vehicle:: Motorcycle - Vessel:: Samish

Thursday September 13, 2018 9:45 AM departs from Friday Harbor to Sidney BC \$21.00 / \$14.70 (65+) Vehicle:: Motorcycle - Vessel:: Chelan

Purchase online at www.cohoferry.com/reservations/ferry

Thursday September 13, 2018 7:30 PM departs from Victoria BC to Port Angeles WA \$37.50 Vehicle:: Motorcycle



Want to get away?

Check out these links for more ways to get out & enjoy a great ride!

Thunder Press - NoCal Edition http://calendar.thunderpress.net/no-cal-nv-bikerevents/

Cycle Fish - California Edition
https://www.cyclefish.com/motorcycle_events/
CALIFORNIA

Born to Ride - California Edition http://borntoride.com/california-motorcycle-events/

Editors Note: Know of an event our members might be interested in attending? Shoot me the info for review and publication in the club newsletter.



Tom's Take

by Tom Cooke - Contributor

Buying a Used Bike? Consider This...

Brand new bikes are beautiful and seductive. Lots of riders lose some of their decisionmaking smarts when they see that shiny new thing on the showroom floor, or even in a motorcycle magazine.

That is just fine if "price is no object". For most of us, however, price plays an important part in our purchasing.

Here is the good news/bad news depending on if you are selling or buying a used bike. For the seller, bad news... the used bike market is soft. How soft? Lightly used bikes just a few years old can be had for 50% of their new cost. When a bike is more than a few years old but still all-together serviceable, it's book value may drop to as little as 25% of the new price. Bad news for sellers. But great news for buyers.

As a buyer, what should you take into account when shopping for a "new to you" used bike?

- 1. Judge the market and availability of the model bike you are looking for. Time is on your side. A decision made in haste may cost you. Look at many bikes of the model you are after and compare them to one another for overall condition.
- 2. Low mileage. In general, the lower the miles on the odometer the better, assuming good maintenance. But other factors like maintenance records showing excellent service record are also important.
- 3. Fewer owners are better than multiple owners. It stands to reason that the condition of a bike is harder to predict and verify when it has been through multiple owners.
- 4. Look closely at the tires. If the tires are neglected chances are the bike has been as well.
- 5. Cosmetic perfection. OK, maybe settle for near protection. Have little scratches and dings been touched up nicely? If yes it shows attention to detail on the part of the previous owner. Buy a well-cared for bike vs. one routinely "rode hard and put away wet".



6. Oil change history. Is the current oil clean? Can the seller show you evidence of regular oil changes?

7. Maintenance records. It is best to buy a bike from a seller who was very much on top of all called for maintenance. They should have records that confirm the service history of the bike.

- 8. Title, and all paperwork. Do not buy a bike, even at a discount, if all the legal paperwork is not in order. Do not fall for a creative story teller as a seller. Show me the title, proof of insurance and anything else deemed legally relevant.
- 9. Little pieces of the bike, even just nameplates and cosmetic pieces are expensive to replace. If the bike has missing parts, price them out before you buy the bike to avoid those unhappy surprises.
- 10. Color. Save the "silly" for last. Don't buy a bike, new or used, expensive or cheap, that you do not find attractive. If you buy a color or design you do not like, you may not keep the bike.

Rubber side down - Tom

Blast from the Past (Preside

by "Big" Ben Johnstone - Past President

August 2018

NOBODY LEFT BEHIND. If you have recently joined the Redwood Riders, you may not be aware that the club motto is: "Nobody Left Behind".

This is something the club has always felt strongly about. One of the benefits of riding with a group is that there are others there that can help out if something goes wrong. Not only are we more visible when we ride together, but we bring help along with us, and there is always someone there to lead us home. A pretty great way to ride.

The club continues to grow, and we are getting more and more participants on our rides. This means more fun for everyone, but it also makes it easier for someone to drop out and not be noticed. The Road Captain and Sweep are there to make sure that this doesn't happen, but each rider can help as well. Road Captains don't always have radio communication with the Sweeps. You can help the RC know what is going on by never letting the person behind you out of your sight. If the person behind you is falling back, you should fall back as well while keeping the person in front of you in view. If everybody does this, the fall back will soon reach the RC and they will know to slow and wait, or pull over and send someone back to see what has happened. In this way we can all take care of each other.



Julee Sherman considering her next vehicle. Honorary "dust mop" behind the sweep scooter. 2-wheels are in your future, Julee!



an IED attack during

BBQ Picnic and Raffle Open To All. Be there 12 noon to Welcome Riders as they arrive! All Motorcycle Riders are Welcome on the Ride. Wear your Colors -- and Never Forget! Sotoyome Post #111 is a 501(c)(19) Veteran's Organization Tax ID 94-1377252

Operation Endouring

Freedom in Afghanistan

June 24, 2008 Ryan leaves behind his widow Stefanie and daughter Kayla Clair now 12 years old,

as well as many loving family members and friends.

Never Forget Our Heroes!

INFO: madmitch55@gmail.com or 707 $\,975$ – $1541\,$

www.healdsburglegionriders.org

Healdsburg, CA

\$10 BBQ Only

Donated Raffle Prizes

Benefit: Ryan Connolly

Tech/Trade Scholarship

Point Arena Ride

More Pix Online - See Page 16 for Link - Photos Courtesy BMW George



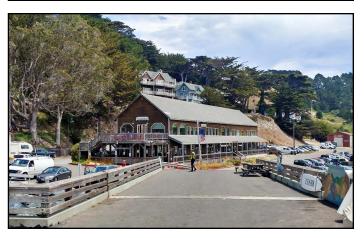
















Gold Beach Ride

More Pix Online - See Page 16 for Link - Photos Courtesy Robyn, Gretchen, BMW George & Mike H.





















Gold Beach Ride

More Pix Online - See Page 16 for Link - Photos Courtesy Robyn, Gretchen, BMW George & Mike H.

















RRMC Pix Online

Ride & Event Photos Links

Anyone who would like to share their photos is invited to upload them. Please <u>contact Robyn</u>, to obtain the credentials. ENJOY!

Gold Beach Ride:

https://photos.app.goo.gl/yXx1jic6Rj5xkmAYA

July Meeting:

https://photos.app.goo.gl/phY5W1sXVmJa64LZ8

Point Arena Ride:

https://photos.app.goo.ql/ki19KUJxtHPDKcqy6

Freeport Ride:

https://photos.app.goo.ql/BMfcUcy4noXTBTLf9

June Meeting:

https://photos.app.goo.gl/OBwUEvdhkZGgpnj3A

Randy's Aces / Reno Ride:

https://photos.app.goo.gl/eKJXtRZ4ONTs0tDJ2

Oakdale Ride:

https://photos.app.goo.gl/zRuGvOOFJ7YlsXI32

May Meeting:

https://photos.app.goo.gl/OGtiHOW4eFFtlfrg2

Solvang Ride:

https://photos.app.goo.gl/MRJr0MCS1iir0anO2

April Meeting:

https://photos.app.goo.ql/StDMl1lpzY2daEHU2

March Meeting:

https://photos.app.goo.gl/ZwSX397BWOZrY0kZ2

10,000 Buddhas:

https://photos.app.goo.gl/5kVgV71zpvTOVHdT2

Ceres Visit:

https://photos.app.goo.gl/Fqw8oChA6DximiHX2

February Meeting:

https://photos.app.goo.gl/oA6o9TFz7h4tP1FA2

Capay Ride:

https://photos.app.goo.gl/C0kDVTSdRSUo3vi2

Suisun Ride:

https://photos.app.goo.ql/SJbKXRwszXVpX1MY2

After-Holiday Party:

https://photos.app.goo.ql/FmA7dDlbrdtLLF8n2

Stinson Ride:

https://photos.app.goo.gl/NkHePJIf69iy9lg52

Coppola Ride:

https://photos.app.goo.ql/uDZ0WrpppX9er6fH3

Redwood Riders Motorcycle Club

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SR. ROAD CAPTAIN: RoadCaptains@redwoodridersmc.com

SAFETY OFFICER: George Homenko Safety@redwoodridersmc.com

SERGEANT AT ARMS: Rosalie Mack smoke signals

PAST PRESIDENT / Ben Johnstone MemberAtLarge@redwoodridersmc.com

MEMBER AT LARGE:

Ride Info Hotline - Coming Soon

Ride Info MeetUp Page - https://www.meetup.com/Redwood-Riders-Motorcycle-Club/

Wear Your Gear! Club Gear that is.... Contact Wade to order RRMC hats & shirts!

General Meetings are held monthly on the 3rd Tuesday at 7:00^{PM} and located at China Village, 8501 Gravenstein Hwy, Cotati (Central Cotati exit, one block west.) Come early & have dinner!

Sponsors

Northbay Motorsports Santa Rosa Honda, Kawasaki 707-542-5355 northbaymotorsport.com

Cycle West Rohnert Park Honda, Suzuki 707-769-5240 cyclewest.net

Penngrove Motorcycle Penngrove Harley Service 707-793-7993 penngrovemotorcycleco.com

K&B Motorsports Petaluma Yamaha, Kawasaki 707-763-4658 kandbmotorsports.com

NorCal Powersports & Marine Santa Rosa Harley, Victory, Can-Am 707-527-1515 norcal powersports-marine.com

Mach 1 Motorsports Vallejo Honda, Yamaha 707-643-2448 mach1motorsports.com

Bike Bandit Online All makes bikebandit.com

See Sponsor Page on our website for discount details