



Redwood Riders Review



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"Prez Sez..."

by Gretchen Tomm - President

Happy Holidays!

In The Wind - Gretchen



Biker Claus

'Twas the night before Christmas, and all through the house,
not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse.

The owner's were all snug and warm in their beds,
With visions of this summer's great rides running through their heads.

The cycles too were all tucked in for the season,
Having been winterized so thoroughly it was beyond reason.

They'd been given fresh oil, fresh wax and had their batteries tended.
Not a scratch or a chip or a ding could be found that hadn't been mended.

Now off in the distance, arose such a rumble,
It made the ice crack, it made the snowmen crumble.

Yes, it was beyond belief, that jolly old elf known as Biker Claus,
Riding up on his chopper, truly a rebel without a cause.

He came bearing bright gifts of chrome and steel
Sure to make good biker boys and girls everywhere delightfully squeal.

He deposited those gifts under the tree with care,
Being careful not to disturb the pet bunny or the hare.

Once done he immediately headed outside to get back on his trusty steel steed,
He had many other gifts to deliver, for many had done a good deed.

A burnout he did, right there in the driveway,
Yes, that motor was runnin', as he headed out on to the highway.

And he could be heard saying to all as he rode out of sight,
Merry Christmas to all, ride safe tonight!

Membership

by Dee Dee d'Argence - *Membership Director*

Membership

MEMBERSHIP

Paid Memberships	59
Co-Riders	20
Provisional Members*	29
TOTAL	108

RIDER STATISTICS

Men	64
Women	23

**New Riders & Co-Riders 2019*



We Have Members from 5 Counties & 17 Cities!

2020 RRM Board of Directors & Officers

PRESIDENT:.....Gretchen Tomm

VICE PRESIDENT
NEWSLETTER EDITOR
WEB MISTRESS:.....Robyn LaMantia

SECRETARY:.....Sharon McMillan

TREASURER:.....Michael Turpin

MEMBERSHIP:.....Melisa Brown

TOURS & EVENTS:.....Dan & Jennifer Shilling

SAFETY OFFICER:.....George Homenko

SERGEANT AT ARMS:.....Rosalie Mack

PAST PRESIDENT:.....Ben Johnstone

MEMBERS AT LARGE:.....Wade Roberts
Ben Johnstone

Effective January 1, 2020

DECEMBER BIRTHDAY WISHES

Graham Balfour
Paul Benkover
Dee Dee d'Argence
Mark Hilla

William Faulkner
Gary Fisher
Larry Petrucci

Silent Auction Items

The RRM After Holiday Party is coming up! Last year, the Silent Auction netted a hefty \$739 which was donated, in its entirety to our charity, The Ceres Community Project. Melisa Brown will once again be heading up this effort and we ask you follow the below guidelines in order to make her job a bit easier.

- Only new or gently used items should be donated.
- Include the approximate purchase price if known.
- Descriptions of parts and value appreciated.
- Melisa will start taking donations at the October General Meeting and at every meeting thereafter.
- If you can't make it to the meeting, contact Melisa directly to arrange a possible pick-up or meeting point.
- If no bid is made on the item it will be returned to the donator who will be responsible for its removal.

Safety Report

by “BMW George” Homenko - *Safety Officer*

Target Fixation & Counter Steering



This month I would like to talk about two linked problems that can affect all of us sooner or later, Target Fixation and Counter Steering. We have talked many times in the past that your bike wants to go where you are looking. We use this to our advantage in a turn, but it can be a disadvantage in a panic situation.

If you don't believe me the next time you are driving down the freeway and no one is around, look left, your bike will go left. The same thing works if you look right. It's not a lot, but the bike wants to go where you look.

Counter steering is the effect that if you want your bike go left you must first turn your bars right. This is something we all learned when the training wheels first came off our two wheeled bicycles. I think it is so ingrained in most of us we never even think of it. Experiment on the same open freeway, try to go left. You have to first put your bike into a slight lean to the left. How do you do that? You first turn your bars to the right. The problem raises its ugly head when a dangerous situation occurs, and we have to turn towards the hazard in order to avoid it. Let's face it this is not a natural thing. It is even harder when we our eyes fixated on the hazard.

In the two following videos these concepts are demonstrated in a very graphic way. I will say that no one was killed in these videos, but they are tough to watch.

In this video a rider comes out of a turn and two bicycles are on his right shoulder. As he comes out of his turn, he is fixated on the bikes in front of him and he runs right into them. This is a good example of target fixation; he is staring right at them. On impact his bike is hardly leaning/turning at all. From what I can see in the video if he looked around them and put his bike into a lean (counter steered) it would have been an easy miss. The video link also has an excellent description with causes of Target Fixation.

<https://www.motorcyclistonline.com/news/street-savvy-target-fixation/>

I have to admit this video is hard to watch. On the good side the rider fortunately ran into an ambulance the bad side is that it was very large. Again, though and excellent example of Target Fixation and Counter Steering and that you sometimes have to turn into what you are trying to avoid.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VVE79XT8-Mg>

Your Friendly Safety Officer

BMW George

Ceres Community Project Amazon Smile Program



HOLIDAY SHOPPING? Don't forget to sign up with Amazon Smile and select The Ceres Community Project as your Amazon Smile charity of choice. It's 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*

November 18th 2019



Meeting called to order at 7^{PM} by Sgt. at Arms, Rosalie Mack

Opening Statement: President Gretchen Tomm announced that nominations for next years' officers is still open. Dan and Jennifer Shilling have accepted the office of Tours and Events again for next year. There were no new nominations.

Nominations for next year, 2020 are:

President – Gretchen Tomm
 Vice President – Robyn Chosy LaMantia
 Secretary – Sharon McMillan
 Treasurer – Michael Turpin
 Membership – Melisa Brown
 Tours and Events – Dan and Jen Shilling
 Sgt. at Arms – Rosalie Mack
 Safety officer – George Homenko

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

Treasurers Report: Michael Turpin provided the treasurers report as of October 31st.

Membership Report: Dee Dee reported that our current membership is 108 She passed out club business cards to the members.

Tours and Events: Dan Shilling gave his report.

November 16th – Saturday is our annual Road Captains meeting to plan for next year's rides.

November 17th – Sunday is the annual RKA Food Drive ride. Not an official club ride at this time.

December 1st – Sunday - Annual Cloverdale Toy Run. Meeting at Shari's.

Safety Officer: George talked about group responsibility while on our club rides. Our rides are having more attending which goes along with our membership increasing. Be responsible for the guy behind you. At a turn, stop so that those behind you can stay with the group and not get lost. Catching up can be done on the straight a ways. General discussion followed including input from the members.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Ben Johnstone is on the mend. He is not here tonight due to coming down with the flu.

Paul Benkover announced to the members that his neighbor has two BMW's for sale.

Michael Turpin will be Santa again at Pet Club in Santa Rosa which includes having your pets' picture taken with Santa. The proceeds go to support Countryside Animal Rescue.

General Meeting Minutes

After Holiday Party – Melisa announced that it will be held on Saturday, January 11th here at the China Village. The cost is \$20 per person and it will be from noon to 3. There will be a gift exchange and other games. Bring in any new or slightly used items for the silent auction. Michael Turpin will play Santa for us again.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50^{PM}

Raffle:

1st prize was gold candy coins and lotto tickets. This was won by Paul Benkover.

2nd prize went to Tresha Holloway which was truffles.

3rd prize was anti fog spray and lotto tickets which was won by Tom Cooke.

4th prize went to Gary Fisher which was a bottle of wine.

5th prize was pistachio's and lotto tickets. This was won by Dee Dee D'Argence.

6th prize was a bottle of wine that went to Rosalie Mack.

50/50 raffle this month was \$67/\$68. Gretchen Tomm was the winner. She donated the winnings back to our Ceres Charity which makes for a total of \$135 going Ceres.

General Meeting Photos in Google Photo Album: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/KqxjvJjhDRX7tdxDA>



Tom's Take

by Tom Cooke - Contributor

Oh Deer...

Excerpt from an informative article published in Consumer Reports aimed primarily towards automobile vs. deer incidents but an interesting read none the less. For complete article, visit <https://www.consumerreports.org/car-safety/how-to-avoid-collisions-with-deer-this-fall/>

The State Farm insurance company estimates that there were over 1.9 million animal collision insurance claims this past year. The costs really add up. The Highway Data Loss Institute (HLDI) reports that the severity of crashes also increases in the fall.

"Fall brings the dangerous combination of the deer being more active when we're driving more in the dark due to the shorter daylight hours," says Jen Stockburger, director of operations at Consumer Reports' Auto Test Center. Deer are most active at dawn and between 6 p.m. and 9 p.m., so use your high beams, Stockburger says.

These collisions can be fatal to the animals, and the most recent data from the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety show that 211 people were killed in crashes involving animals in 2017.

"The best defense is common sense," says Russ Rader, an Insurance Institute for Highway Safety spokesman. "Slow down in areas where deer are prevalent. If you see one deer cross the road ahead, others are likely to follow."

He notes that most human deaths in these crashes happen when a vehicle runs off the road or a motorcyclist falls off the bike after a collision. "Most of the human deaths would be prevented if every driver buckled up and every motorcyclist wore a helmet," Rader says.

How to Avoid Hitting a Deer

- Slow down. Watch for deer especially around dawn and between the hours of 6 p.m. and 9 p.m., when they're most active.
- Be aware. Look out for deer-crossing signs and wooded areas where animals are likely to travel. If you travel the same route to and from work every day, you may find deer consistently grazing in the same fields. Make a mental note of when and where you regularly see the animals.
- Be alert. If you see an animal on the side of the road, slow down. At night when traffic permits, put on your high beams for improved visibility.
- Brake, don't swerve. Swerving to avoid an animal can put you at risk for hitting another vehicle or losing control of your car. It can also confuse the animal as to which way to go. Instead, just slow down as quickly and safely as you can. Your odds for surviving an accident are better when hitting an animal than hitting another car.

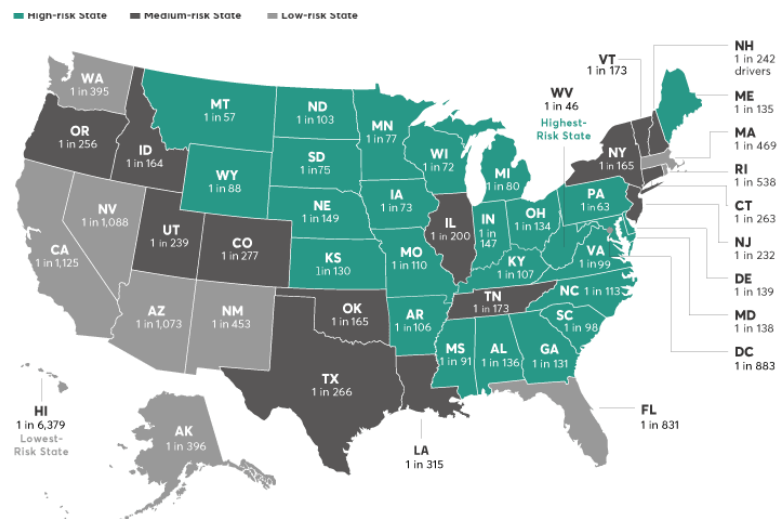


- Assume they have friends. The "where there's one, there's usually more" often holds true. Deer travel in groups, so if you see one run across the road, expect others to follow.
- Don't rely on deer whistles. These are aftermarket devices that some drivers put on their front bumpers to scare off animals. But animal behavior remains unpredictable, even if you use one of these.
- Buckle up. A seat belt is your best defense for minimizing your risk in a crash. An Insurance Institute for Highway Safety study found that 60 percent of the people killed in animal-vehicle collisions weren't wearing their seat belts.

If you hit an animal, move safely off the road and call the police or animal control. Don't attempt to touch an injured animal. Photograph the scene, then call your insurance company when you get home. Damage from animal collisions is usually covered by auto insurance policies.

The map below shows the state by state likelihood of an impact. Drivers have the greatest risk in West Virginia, where the chance of an accident is 1 in 46, according to the insurer.

Over and Out, Tom



SOURCE: StateFarm deer-vehicle collision study, July 2017 to June 2018. Numbers represent the likelihood of having an insurance claim involving a deer.

Blast from the Past (President)

by “Big” Ben Johnstone - *Past President*

Dawn of a New Era in Technology

Motorcycle technology comes to the United States in 2020. Actually, it has been here for quite a while, we just had to import it. Indian motorcycle company has finally brought modern day technology to the large V-Twin motorcycle industry in the US. The 2020 Indian Challenger arrives with a water-cooled v-twin utilizing traction control, and lean control technology. Other motorcycles have had these features for quite a while, but the US market has stubbornly held on to their “old school” ways; only recently offering ABS as a standard item.



Traction control in all its forms involves applying Automatic Braking Control (ABS) selectively to prevent unwanted wheel spin not just when traveling in a straight line, but also by sensing the lean angle of the motorcycle and automatically adjusting the speed in the corners to prevent wheel skid. This technology originated in racing bikes that had enough power to break loose the rear tire in a turn resulting in a dangerous skid. With an inexperienced rider this often would lead to a crash. Non-US manufactures have been delivering this technology in production bikes for quite a while. It is only with the 2020 models that US motorcycle manufactures have copied this trend. Indian is the first to deliver production bikes with automatic “lean control” technology. Perhaps this was brought on because their production bike now has enough power to actually break loose the rear wheel in a curve. Harley (always late to incorporate new technology) has hastily cried “me too” by adding the lean control function only as an option on their CVO touring bikes.

Indian upped the game by also providing rider selected driving modes. The rider can choose Sport, Standard, or Rain mode which modifies the throttle response accordingly. The foreigners maintained their lead on the US by also modifying the suspension settings with these mode changes.

The race to new technology in the US has begun. I expect to see these important technologies become standard soon on US manufactured motorcycles in the near future. Hold on to your hats! The future has arrived!



2020 Harley-Davidson



2020 Indian

December Meeting:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/KqxjvJjhDRX7tdxDA>

Clear Lake Ride:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/46wj9UfSS1O3rsy5A>

Boat Trip & Ice Cream Ride:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/dH9ozCzp5D9NbtP67>

October Meeting:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/tT2Pk5H5cB4LUUk48>

Power Outage Ride:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/FMy4iWJMBPRoevzq6>

Woodland:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/FStiPVvBXGt4JX436>

Oregon Adventure:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/tB4HEcKBpYvMB3bH8>

September Meeting:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/8Mrh7cDhezZ4bxLg6>

Western Railway Museum:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/W3s3nb2TJk4xSpTv5>

Bale Grist Mill:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/jNZ2PW1cbjkzG4wS6>

August Meeting:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/KF9hUnkJGN389YzG6>

Capay:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/zyMv5hKnWC8kYCz67>

Lakeport:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/u3Owyhp9qkAq9NFK9>

Calpella:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/fWxsny2ydTc9ehYL7>

July Meeting:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/7weyumHx93HPxJFP9>

Stinson Beach:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/6kIQ3YgRVz2NhFx98>

Chester:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/7kNyXvZ7Z1eXheu16>

June Meeting:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/R8i9TA7DitSXvJbg9>

Cabrillo Light House:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/oAQvTTYpys1dgLej8>

May Meeting:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/PV1TyG9Bn2btDgPo7>

Middletown:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/gezhTukn8VPO8ZWB7>

Hearst Castle:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/38ADjo28zx3H8oEt8>

April Meeting:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/xb383wJTfqsJM1Yq9>

Alice's Restaurant

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/MqlsPVjzq8Ng8rwy5>

Point Arena

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/sbmMqjmFrTzmRdcF6>

March Meeting:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/V3YtAienzkR2sunT7>

St. Patrick's Day Williams Ride:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/v5sqa9XCgissuCUS7>

Busters Ride:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/RZa6qzeGHD3owD7K6>

February Meeting:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/8Lsab5b6iC7eG3Py9>

January Meeting:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/VSyaiywkrxfstH1T9>

After Holiday Party:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/dcsFsgZNj9gAgGY56>

2018 PHOTOS**December Meeting:**

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/xetbdyRaenq6F6dm8>

Cloverdale Toy Run:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/qtxulJfaMT59zMBj9>

Redwood Riders Motorcycle Club

Annual After Holiday Party

Saturday, January 11, 2020

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 maximum suggested)

**ALSO – don't forget about our silent auction to raise
money for our charity - CERES**

PLEASE RSVP by giving Melisa Brown your money
NO LATER THAN JANUARY 3
Or at the next few general meetings
(Nov 19 or Dec 17)

or mail to: Melisa Brown,
200 4th Street, #240,
Santa Rosa, CA 95401

make checks payable to RRMC
– please no cash thru mail

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



Redwood Riders Motorcycle Club

PRESIDENT:	Gretchen Tomm	President@redwoodridersmc.com
VICE PRESIDENT / NEWSLETTER EDITOR / WEB MISTRESS:	Robyn LaMantia	VicePresident@redwoodridersmc.com Editor@redwoodridersmc.com WebMaster@redwoodridersmc.com
SECRETARY:	Sharon McMillan	Secretary@redwoodridersmc.com
TREASURER:	Michael Turpin	Treasurer@redwoodridersmc.com
MEMBERSHIP:	Dee Dee d'Argence	Membership@redwoodridersmc.com
TOURS & EVENTS / SR. ROAD CAPTAIN:	Dan & Jennifer Shilling	ToursAndEvents@redwoodridersmc.com 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:	Wade Roberts	MemberAtLarge@redwoodridersmc.com

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

Wear Your Gear! Club Gear that is.... Contact Gretchen to order RRMCM 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	penngrovmotorcycleco.com
K&B Motorsports	Petaluma	Yamaha, Kawasaki	707-763-4658	kandbmotorsports.com
NorCal Powersports & 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		bikebandit.com
Super-Bike Coach	Stockton	MC Riding Classes		superbike-coach.com

See Sponsor Page on our website for discount details