

Redwood Riders Review

September 2021



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"Prez Sez..."

by Gretchen Tomm - *President*

I can't believe it's Labor Day Weekend! Where did the summer go? Luckily, we have some of the best riding days in September, October and even November.

I think one of the best things our club has, even though we are so individual in our ride choices, backgrounds and even age, is the common bond of riding motorcycles!

Being your club president, I tend to observe our members on our rides, and we always have a good time. You just can't beat wind therapy! I know it does wonders for me!

See y'all in the wind on our next ride - Gretchen aka "Mz. Prez"



We Are Back!

RRMC September General Meeting

Tuesday, September 21st

6:00^{PM} Eat & Greet / 7:00^{PM} Meeting

China Village

8501 Gravenstein Hwy, Cotati



Membership

by Melisa Brown - *Membership Director*

Membership

MEMBERSHIP

Returning Members	57
Co-Riders	16
2021 New Members	28
TOTAL	101

RIDER STATISTICS

Men	63
Women	22

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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/>

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

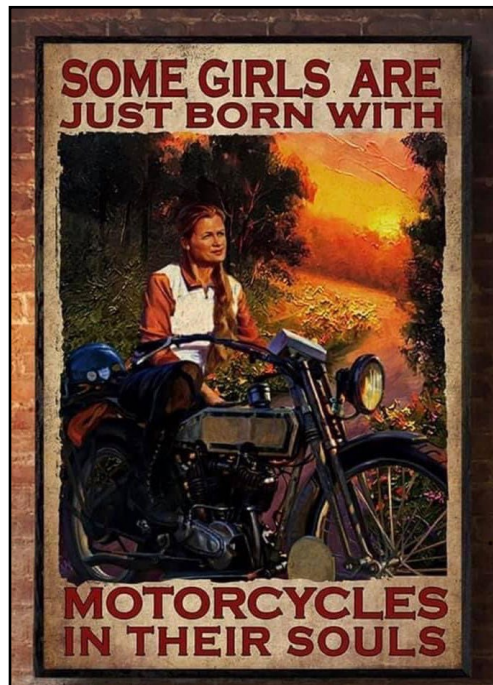
Martin Cazares
Robyn LaMantia
Wade Roberts



MEETUP

We ask that folks use Meetup to RSVP to upcoming rides. This gives the Road Captains a better idea of how many people will be attending.

Also, we have changed our Meetup group from public to private. This requires people to submit a "request to join". All RRMCM members who have paid the annual dues will be approved.



LEATHER WORK & PATCHES

Need some leather work done? Zippers fixed? Patches sewn on to your vest or jacket? Give Araceli a call at 707.623.7272 She has been serving the MC community for over 25 years.

NEW MEMBERSHIP RULES

Effective June 15, the club will no longer offer the "try before you buy" provisional memberships which allowed new members to forego the membership fee for the first year.

New riders may sign the waiver and be allowed to ride ONCE. If they decide to return, they will be required to pay the annual dues and fill out the membership form.

Safety Report

“BMW George” Homenko - *Safety Officer*

A Light Story

I have been a proponent of yellow riding lights for some time now. I have directed several club members to a site where I had purchased my LED yellow riding lights. I have included a link to two places to buy quality riding lights. I also want to tell a short story about why I think yellow lights are better than white riding lights.

A couple of months ago Tom Cooke had a set of auxiliary white LED lights installed on his beautiful Goldwing. These were designed specifically to fit in existing light ports on each valve cover. They looked good and were bright. Tom and I ride together on Tuesdays with the Old Coots, so I got a lot of time to note how the lights looked when I was riding in front of him.

After a month or so of riding with Tom, I mentioned that I might be able to find some yellow lens for his lights and if he was he interested. He said sure and we came up with some yellow lens and installed them. I can't tell you how much more the yellow lights stand out over the white lights. It's a night and day difference. The yellow lights are so much more noticeable and for some reason even seem brighter.

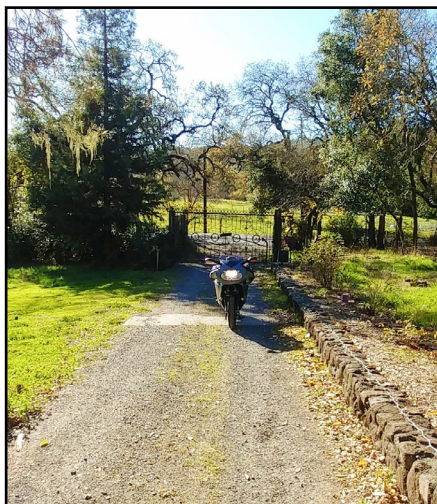
We all worry about that car turning or pulling out in front of us. I can't help but believe that the yellow lights can only help us stand out. Anything I can do to extend my riding days, I will do. From research I have done they are also completely legal in California for day use.

Sources for quality LED bike lights:

<https://www.clearwaterlights.com/>

<https://www.aliexpress.com/item/32804967153.html> (I use these)

Here are some pictures I took of my K1200s showing how much more the yellow lights help being seen then just the headlight.



General Meeting Minutes

by Sharon McMillan - *Secretary*

August 17th 2021



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

Opening Statement: President Gretchen Tomm opened the meeting welcoming everyone. Two new members were attending their first meeting tonight. Gretchen had them introduce themselves. They were Kelly Webb and Rob Castiglia.

Gretchen advised the membership that we have club clothing items. Rosalie Mack modeled our T shirt with our club logo on it. Other items include short sleeve tee shirts and hats.

Minutes: Sharon McMillan read the minutes from the last meeting which was July 20, 2021.

Treasurers Report: DeeDee d'Argence read the treasurers report.

Membership Report: Melisa Brown was not at the meeting. Robyn LaMantia provided the membership report. We have four new members, Miguel Zarate, Evelyn Cazares, Dori Estrella and Shaun Morin bringing our membership total to 101.

Tours and Events: Heidi Bigall was not in attendance. Last ride was on Sunday, August 15th, with Gretchen leading the group to Woodland.

Upcoming Rides:

August 25th, Wednesday ride will be George Homenko's Twisty Ride.

September 4th, Saturday ride to Williams which will be led by Gretchen Tomm and Wade.

September 10-12, Emerald Bay 3-day ride put on by Melisa Brown. May have some issues due to the current fires.

October 16-17, overnight ride to Chester being led by Sharon McMillan. This ride too, may have some issues due to the severe fires in Lake Almanor area known as the Dixie fire.

Safety Officer: George Homenko was away for this month's meeting. Ben Johnstone provided a safety report in his absence. Ben shared his experience in attending a four hour class put on by the Yamaha Champions Riding School. Techniques on turning and the dynamics that your tires have on said turns was covered in the class as well as braking. Ben thought it was a very good course to take.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Gretchen asked the members for any input they wanted to share with the group.

Lyndasue Christensen shared with us that the club ride to Burney the last weekend of June was a great ride and everyone had a good time.

Dave "Taz" Tinkler wanted to remind the members to let the ride leaders know if you plan on leaving the group and heading home on your own earlier or taking a different route

Meeting adjourned at 7:35^{PM}

General Meeting Minutes

Raffle:

Conci Mack took care of our monthly raffle prizes and selling the tickets.

1st prize was glass cleaner. This was won by Dave "Taz" Tinkler

2nd prize went to Wade Roberts. His prize was homemade applesauce and pickled beans.

3rd prize was water with electrolytes. Dave "Taz" was the winner.

4th prize went to Kelly Webb which was a bottle of wine.



50/50 raffle this month was \$65. The winning ticket went to Rob Castiglia.

The remaining \$65 goes to our club charity, Ceres Community Project

General Meeting Photos in Google Photo Album:
<https://photos.app.goo.gl/p3L1o1DdKNgsXgsZ>



Tours & Events

by Heidi Bigall - *Tours & Events Directors*

Ride Reviews & Upcoming Rides

RIDES & EVENTS

Past Ride Reports & Photos:

Sunday, August 7: **Foster's Big Horn**. Road Captains: George Homenko & Robyn LaMantia - [See Google Photo Album](#)

Sunday, August 15: **Backroads to Woodland**. Road Captain: Gretchen Tomm - [See Ride Report](#)

Tuesday, August 17: **RRMC General Meeting @ China Village, Cotati** - [See Goggle Photo Album](#)

Wednesday, August 25: **Twisty Road Ride**. Road Captain: George Homenko - [See Ride Report](#)

Saturday, September 4: **Williams**. Road Captain: Gretchen Tomm & Wade Roberts - [See Ride Report](#)



Woodland Ride

Wednesday, September 8: **Valley Ford via North, Southeast, Southwest, Northeast and West**. Road Captain: Robert Gilford

Sunday, September 19: **Ft. Bragg**. Road Captain: Wade Roberts

Tuesday, September 21: **RRMC General Meeting @ China Village, Cotati**

Saturday, October 2: **Annual Delta Boat Ride for Ice Cream**. Road Captain: George Homenko

Again, I would like to give a big "shout out" to our dedicated team of Road Captains. We are always looking for a few good people to join this elite team. Please reach out to me at hbigall@gmail.com if you are interested.

Upcoming Rides & Events

Unfortunately, due to the major fires in Northern California, the three day ride to Emerald Bay scheduled for September 10 - 12 has been cancelled in addition to the overnight in Chester scheduled for October 16-17. This is very disappointing news to those who were planning on riding. Let's hope we can talk the Road Captains, Melisa Brown & Sharon McMillan respectively, into doing these rides next year!



Rides & Events September

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	31	1	2	3	4 Williams Road Captains: <i>Gretchen Tomm & Wade Roberts</i> 9:00 ^{AM} Meet 9:30 ^{AM} KSU
Check the MeetUp site for updates & last minute changes!						
5	6	7	8 VALLEY FORD Road Captain: <i>Robert Gilford</i> 9:00 ^{AM} Meet 9:30 ^{AM} KSU	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 FORT BRAGG Road Captain: <i>Wade Roberts</i> 9:00 ^{AM} Meet 9:30 ^{AM} KSU	20	21 GENERAL MEETING 6:00 ^{PM} Dinner 7:00 ^{PM} Meeting	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	1	2 BOAT RIDE Road Captain: <i>George Homenko</i> 9:00 ^{AM} Meet 9:30 ^{AM} KSU

Blast from the Past (President)

by “Big” Ben Johnstone - *Past President*

Wobble & Weave

Everybody has heard the talk about “tank slappers” and “the death wobble”. Up until now, I had never experienced this phenomenon. Recently I had the opportunity to purchase a new tire. (Would you believe tires are in short supply?) I found one at Ukiah HD (if you buy the tire from them, they install free). I traveled up there on a hot day; gave them the bike and retired to the waiting room. Soon, the new tire was installed, and I picked up the bike. The first thing I did was check the tire pressure. Sure enough, it was set to spec: 36 front and 40 rear. Off I went heading for home.



On 101 south of Hopland, I experienced a slight wobble. It occurred at 75 mph and went away at 80 mph. I thought it might be the road, so I rode on testing for the wobble. It persisted. I stopped in Healdsburg and called the dealer. They checked with the tech and verified that everything had been installed correctly and checked. Since the tech had discovered that my left shock was blown, I told the dealer I would repair the shock and get back to them.



When I got home, I researched wobble and weave. It is a documented phenomenon, and everybody had a pet opinion about what caused it. I found a very interesting YouTube blurb done by Dunlop tires some time ago (probably in the 80's) (39) Dunlop Wobble & Weave.wmv - YouTube So I went back to my bike. When I checked the air pressure it was 31 in the front and 38 in the rear. I adjusted to 40/40. Next, I removed the shocks and replaced with a OEM pair kindly loaned to me by Glen Gillis. Then I tested for wobble. The wobble was gone, but the front end felt light at 75 mph.

My guess was that the tech adjusted the tire pressure when the front tire was still hot. Low front pressure was a commonly named culprit in my research. The rear tire was NOT Dunlop, which I usually ride on. There being a shortage of Dunlop's, I took what I could get which was a Shinko 777, 180/15-18 84h. I have been warned previously not to mix brands. That could have been a contributing factor.

The Blown Shock

Tom's Take

by Tom Cooke - Contributor

If I Have to Explain it... You wouldn't Understand...

The unfettered joy that comes with motorcycle riding is unique and life-affirming. Sometimes it's hard to explain. Though riders tend to hang out with other riders who share our passion, we are sometimes asked to explain our hobby to the uninitiated. Why we ride is tough to explain in a way that does it justice.

Exhilaration is one familiar notion that often comes to mind, along with the freedom of the open road. Living in this lovely part of the country, we can add appreciation of the beauty of nature to our list of reasons we ride. Our esteemed club President, Gretchen, often uses the term "wind therapy." This is a perfect expression! No matter how good or poorly our day is unfolding for us, an improved mood is only one ride away.

And then there are the social rewards that come with riding. It is doubly-fun to ride with friends, who also enjoy the wind therapy. Many long-lasting and rewarding friendships have come about via riding with those who share our pleasure. Of course, most riders feel that riding in groups vs. solo also adds a valuable safety feature. Knowing someone "has your back," always produces just a touch of added security. And security, especially in an occasional far-flung, remote area, is a comfort.

That said, riding solo has its place, too. Sometimes we just need to be alone on our bikes, ripping through the countryside with no particular place to go, and all the time in the world to get there.

So, no matter what we ride, who we ride with, or how long we ride, we all are fortunate to have discovered motorcycle riding. There are only a few other pastimes which can match riding for sheer joy and unbridled exhilaration.

Keep smiling and keep riding. And share it whenever possible.

Over & Out - Tom



Williams Ride

Club Gear

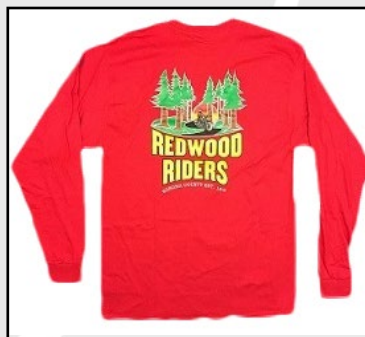
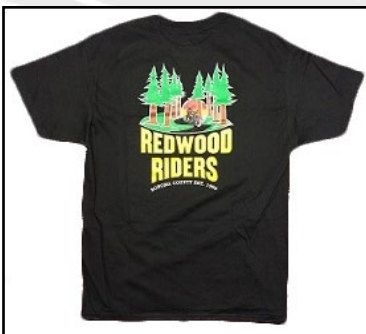
RRMC CLUB GEAR IS AVAILABLE!

We have a limited supply so order yours today! Contact Gretchen for details and to arrange purchase.

We have 1 additional item for sale; 3/4-Zip Red Sweatshirt 2XL for \$32. Same logo placement on front & back as shirts.



Baseball Caps - \$15	Visors - \$10	T-Shirts - Short Sleeve - \$20		T-Shirts - Long Sleeve - \$20*	
QTY in Stock	QTY in Stock	Available in Black & Red		Available in Black & Red	
		Black	Red	Black	Red
8	2			1 - Medium	1 - Medium
			1 - Large		2 - Large
		2 - XL	1 - XL	2 - XL	1 - XL
			2 - XXL	2 - XXL *\$22	1 - XXL *\$22



RRMC Pix Online**Ride & Event Photo & Video Links****Williams September 4:**

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/D69EA2Zyk2sdh4tu7>

Twisty Mt. Tam August 25:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/eaj5ny4rXDbDkpjSA>

August General Meeting August 17:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/p3L1o1DdKNngsXgs7>

Woodland August 15:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/7C8H2RBboMTxbGCo9>

Rio Vista August 7:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/OkWGsuzU3vOjHqaj6>

Gold Beach July 23-25:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/1V7YUdpzM9SXsZtNA>

July General Meeting July 20:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/Uy9tpKqV8pj5Knd39>

Lakeport July 3:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/95Vx7Mjjg4D3Z3W46>

Waterfall Tours June 25-27:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/MfmbDBppEtEquEiv9>

Capay June 20:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/HNgxtugVDuAXJb8C7>

East-West Ride June 5:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/DEsiuqPdLzO3tTiV8>

Utah May:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/rV7kZi4Uk7BzJqAe6>

<https://youtu.be/wHmTXOyHBd4>

Calpella May 10:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/jXiAjzR2KLqnuqXTA>

Town of Mendocino April 18:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/j8MUpYtNEqVegyHw6>

Lake Berryessa April 14:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/NV4zE7bMCd243TbP8>

Cache Creek / Capay April 3:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/m5gp19Nrndyd2c789>

Ferndale / Ave of the Giants March 27-28:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/yexnFLPNKsHcxJA3A>

<https://youtu.be/IByeAxBZY-k>

Fairfield March 21:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/wKQwfFwoviNwESTe6>

Gualala March 7:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/r9r8BG3EWnTOovDL7>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OmrAoGMHvK4>

Ukiah February 21:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/suPwzQm3Kd61fiAk8>

Suisun February 10:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/unyueirH91JJEgVAZ>

Stinson Beach February 6:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/YphoViqCv5sy5oLD6>

Upper Lake January 17:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/S75zwTvHi4JH6bqx5>

Vines, River & Ocean January 13:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/DumnR3YPcLnBa1Z36>

Pix & Videos from 2020**Follow the Burn November 15:**

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/HpqlCeas7eHJpM92A>

Old Town Sacramento November 7:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/iNrMaHg3RyLODopr6>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GTP52dQU3b4>

Topaz Lake - Sonora October 23-25:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/4EztmndWGVKnw4iF9>

<https://youtu.be/4dshYHzG7Nw>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mvZ6Wf-ekmU>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=98IGxEyOsc&t=5s>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EV6K031fUz8>

Twisty Road Ride October 14:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/65sW6wn3ZXJMgxg97>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JLbz6lCplhs>

Capay & Lake Berryessa October 18:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/5cyWLniLObbGNzoK9>

Stewarts Point Loop October 3:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/E7vbwxsb91HY5nVP8>

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:	Dee Dee d'Argence.....	Treasurer@redwoodridersmc.com
MEMBERSHIP:	Melisa Brown	Membership@redwoodridersmc.com
TOURS & EVENTS / SR. ROAD CAPTAIN:	Heidi Bigall	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 RRMHC hats & shirts!

**REDWOOD
RIDERS**
Est. 1996
North Bay Counties