



# Redwood Riders Review



Happy  
St. Patrick's Day

March 2022

## IN THIS ISSUE

"Prez Sez"

• 1 •

Membership Report

• 2 •

General Meeting Minutes

• 3 •

Safety Report

• 4 •

Tours & Events

• 5 •

March Ride Calendar

• 7 •

Tom's Take

• 8 •

Ride Photo Links

• 9 •

Credits & Contacts

• 10 •

## "Prez Sez..."

by Heidi Bigall - President

Happy March fellow riders and co-riders! First, I want to go back to February and give a big shout out to Melisa Brown for organizing another fabulous Redwood Riders After the Holidays Party. Organizing the party is a big undertaking and I can tell it is a labor of love for Melisa - we salute you, Melisa! We had a nice turn out, plenty of good Chinese fare and some great silent auction items. You may not be

aware, but all money collected from the silent auction is donated to our charity Ceres, which is a non-profit organization that mentors teens in nutrient-dense food preparation as well as chef, employment, and business skills, then works with volunteers to deliver the food to people with life-threatening illnesses and their families in Sonoma County. Lastly, my favorite part of the party, the white elephant gift exchange, provided some great laughs and a few disappointed members who had their gift "stolen". I would say the beneficiary of the gift exchange was the Girl Scouts - I've never seen so many boxes of cookies given away.



I'm excited as March brings us our first overnight ride. Our Veep, Robyn LaMantia, will be leading the group to Fortuna. Always a great ride, the overnights allow members to socialize in a relaxed atmosphere and get to know each other on a deeper level. I would be remiss in not noting St. Patrick's Day is Thursday, March 17. Don't forget to wear green, or you risk getting pinched!

In closing, for many of us riding is a form of therapy, and with all that is going on in the world, I certainly need more wind therapy than ever. May we all be grateful for where we live and may we be kind to everyone! ~ Heidi

# Membership

by Melisa Brown - *Membership Director*

## Membership

### MEMBERSHIP

Returning Members	59
Co-Riders	12
2022 New Members	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>75</b>

### RIDER STATISTICS

Men	50
Women	13

### WELCOME TO THE CLUB

Richard Arrow  
Marc Guthormsen  
Steve Holly  
Jim Montenegro



## RRMC March General Meeting

Tuesday, March 15<sup>th</sup>

6:00<sup>PM</sup> Eat & Greet / 7:00<sup>PM</sup> Meeting

China Village

8501 Gravenstein Hwy, Cotati

### JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Mike Holden  
Robert Gonzales

### FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Karl Svendsen  
Jeff Orr  
James White  
Lonnie Olaeta  
Glen Gillis  
Randy Mack



### MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Rosalie Mack  
Carole Gonzales  
George Homenko  
Sue Burkett  
Darren Holloway

## Ceres Community Project Amazon Smile Program

SHOP.  
CONNECT.  
ENJOY.  
amazon

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/>



## Club Gear Makes a Great Gift!

Contact Heidi Bigall for Details



# General Meeting Minutes

by Sharon McMillan - *Secretary*

## February 15<sup>th</sup> 2022



**Meeting called to order** at 7<sup>PM</sup> by new Sgt. at Arms, Paul Benkover

**Opening Statement:** New President, Heidi Bigall introduced the new officers and board members to the membership.

**Minutes:** Sharon McMillan read the minutes from the December meeting.

**Treasurers Report:** Our new treasurer, Vickie Weber provided the current treasurers report.

**Membership Report:** Melisa Brown reported that we have 72 members that renewed their membership and 4 new members. So far, there are 30 members that have not renewed.

**Tours and Events:** George Homenko, our new Tours and Events coordinator mentioned that we have been having 20+ bikes on our rides. So far, there have not been any rides cancelled.

### Upcoming Rides:

February 20th, Sunday, Robyn will be leading this ride which ends up in Ukiah for lunch.

March 12 & 13th will be an overnight ride to Fortuna. Robyn will be leading the group.

George talked about his long ride heading north to include Anacortes, WA, Friday Harbor and will be including a ferry ride.

**Safety Officer:** Our new Safety Officer, Ben Johnstone, was not in attendance. Heidi said she talked to Ben and he will script up some ride rules due to our rides having large numbers making the rides.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** None

**After Holiday Party** – changed to Saturday, February 19th. Melisa Brown said the party will be Noon to 3 PM. She has 17 items for the silent auction so far. The proceeds from the silent auction goes to our Ceres charity. We will have our annual gift exchange and buffet lunch.



# General Meeting Minutes

**Raffle:** Our monthly raffle is now being handled by Jackie Bartch

1st prize was won by Dave “Taz” Tinkler. He received a Starbucks card, mints, chapstick and toe warmers.

2nd prize went to Mel Stireman. He won a polishing cloth, water jug and toe warmers.

3rd prize was truffles, chapstick, first aid kit and toe warmers. James White was the winner.

4th prize went to Melisa Brown. She won a lighted hat, toe warmers, phone wipes and chocolate.

5th prize was won by John Bartch. He won toe warmers, flashlight, chapstick and a polishing rag.

50/50 raffle this month was a total of \$110. The winner was Paul Benkover. He donated back to Ceres Community Project his \$55 winnings which made the \$110 total going to the charity.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30<sup>PM</sup>

## Safety Report

“Big” Ben Johnstone - *Safety Officer*

### Safety While Group Riding

Do you feel safer when riding in a group? I do. A group of motorcycles is easier to see than a single rider. If something happens, there are others there to help. I can see the rider ahead of me hit a rough spot on the road and be able to either miss that spot or otherwise prepare myself. I can see the rider in front of me enter a curve and that gives me information about the sharpness of the curve. If I am connected via bluetooth, the rider ahead will warn of traffic/obstacles ahead.

When does riding in a group feel unsafe? If the rider ahead of me gets too far ahead, then I lose all of the benefits listed above. When the rider behind me falls back, I always slow until they catch up so that they can keep me in sight. If the rider behind me gets too close, or especially if they pass, my room to maneuver is significantly reduced. Someone passing me usually startles me to the point that I momentarily lose my concentration of the road. A too close or passing rider really makes me feel uncomfortable. When the rider in front of me doesn't hold their formation in the group, I always fall back to give them more room since I can't be sure what they might do next. This isn't really a unsafe condition, it just spreads the group out more.

The most important safe group riding rule is: Just like riding alone, don't ride beyond your skills! If you don't feel safe, slow down. Hopefully, the rider in front of you will notice the gap and also slow down. If we all do this, eventually the Road Captain will get the message and slow down as well.

Ben



# Tours & Events

by George Homenko - *Tours & Events Directors*

## Ride Reviews & Upcoming Rides



### RIDES & EVENTS

#### Past Ride Reports & Photos:

Saturday, February 5: **Tour of the 3 Valleys**. Road Captain: Mark Hilla  
[-See Ride Report & Pix](#)

Wednesday, February 9: **2 Bird Cafe**. Road Captain: Melisa Brown  
[-See Ride Report & Pix](#)

Saturday February 19: **After Holiday Party @ China Village, Cotati**  
[-See Pix](#)

Sunday, February 20: **Ukiah**. Road Captain: Robyn LaMantia  
[-See Ride Report & Pix](#)

#### Upcoming Rides & Events

Saturday, March 5: **Winters**. Road Captain: Jeff Orr

Wednesday, March 9: **Stinson Beach**. Road Captain: Heidi Bigall

Saturday - Sunday, March 12-13: **Avenue of the Giants / Ferndale**. Road Captain: Robyn LaMantia

Sunday, March 13: **Daylight Saving Time BEGINS**, all rides meet at 9:00 AM and leave at 9:30 AM

Tuesday, March 15: **RRMC General Meeting @ China Village, Cotati**

Sunday, February 20: **Capay**. Road Captain: Gary Pope



### CHANGE TO RIDE CALENDAR

Due to issues with crossing the Canadian Border, we are changing the destination and dates of our long ride this summer. See Page 7 for more information.

In addition, the Topaz Lake overnighter will be moved to August 13th.

## Pacific Northwest Ride - July 9<sup>th</sup> to July 16<sup>th</sup>

I have finally set the route and time to our ride to the Pacific Northwest. We will leave on Saturday July 9th and return on Saturday July 16th. I apologize for changing the dates from what was originally scheduled. These dates are as fixed as possible.

I also changed the route and we will now stay in the USA. Because of Canada's restrictive Covid rules I thought it would be better to play it safe. These days you cannot count on the border being open at the time of the ride, so we stay in the states.

Here's the plan:

- Three days to go up Hwy 101 to Anacortes WA. Average miles per day 298.
- Next day we take a ferry to Friday Harbor and a tour on San Juan Island. Then back to our hotel in Anacortes for another night. Under 100 miles riding.
- Now we head Southeast on Hwy 90 to the Columbia River Basin. Hotel up in The Dalles at 318 miles.
- On the 14th we cross Oregon with a detour to Crater Lake. Our hotel is near Klamath Falls. That's 330 miles.
- The next day we tour Burney Falls and Lassen Volcanic Park with a hotel near Chester. That ride is 238 miles.
- The last day on the 16th we ride home via Hwy 20 and that's about 200 miles.

The total miles for this ride is about 2050 miles. I have tried to make the ride days as even as possible. I also have tried to stay off the freeway and find the most scenic roads to ride. As always, I am planning stops every hour or so. I like to take pictures, so figure on stopping at scenic sites.

Hotels are much more difficult to find than pre-pandemic times. I would say the average night's hotel cost is \$150. I have reserved mostly double queen rooms, so it best to double up with a partner. Prices are higher and services are cut, it just a fact of life.

I will have an official sign up and booking instructions out very shortly. If you are planning on doing this ride sign up early and book your rooms or they won't be there. Look for the email with all the booking and sign up information. I will email it to all members soon. This is a members only ride.

Road Captain – George ghomenko@gmail.com



# Rides & Events March

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
27	28	1	2	3	4	5 <b>WINTERS RIDE</b> Road Captain: <i>Jeff Orr</i> 9:30 <sup>AM</sup> Meet 10:00 <sup>AM</sup> KSU
<div> <b>Check the MeetUp site for updates &amp; last minute changes!</b> </div>						
6	7	8	9 <b>STINSON BEACH</b> Road Captain: <i>Heidi Bigall</i> 9:30 <sup>AM</sup> Meet 10:00 <sup>AM</sup> KSU	10	11	12 <b>AVE OF GIANTS OVERNIGHT</b> Road Captain: <i>Robyn LaMantia</i> 9:00 <sup>AM</sup> Meet 9:30 <sup>AM</sup> KSU
13 <b>DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS</b> Spring Ahead! Move Clocks Up by One Hour	14	15 <b>GENERAL MEETING</b> 6:00 <sup>PM</sup> Dinner 7:00 <sup>PM</sup> Meeting	16	17 	18	19
20 <b>CAPAY</b> Road Captain: <i>Gary Pope</i> 9:00 <sup>AM</sup> Meet 9:30 <sup>AM</sup> KSU	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	1	2 <b>ALICE'S RESTAURANT</b> Road Captain: <i>Mike Holden</i> 9:00 <sup>AM</sup> Meet 9:30 <sup>AM</sup> KSU



# Tom's Take

by Tom Cooke - *Contributor*

## Not to Channel Emily Post but Here Goes...



Most of us Redwood Riders have been riding for many, many years, though some are semi-newbies. We often participate in wonderful, scenic, sociable group rides that place a top value on safe and sane biking. The “red ass” biker brigade would likely not feel the love for our preferred style. To that end, let's take a moment to review a few of the riding habits that make our group rides safe, sane and fun.

Show up on time. Since our rides are carefully scheduled to allow time for the planned route—and out of respect for your fellow riders—show up on time, or even early to allow time for schmoozing. Fifteen or 20 riders would take a dim view of being asked to wait for a late arrival.

Be sure your gas tank is full when you arrive. Again, no one wants to hang around at Shari's (pie or no pie) while someone goes for gas.

These obvious bits of protocol are simply to show respect for the leader and the planning they did, as well as to the pack, who should not be expected to put with unnecessary waiting around.

Inform the ride leader. Of course, there are sometimes good reasons for delays, like medical issues. If you have a medical issue that might show its effect during a ride, inform the leader of that before the ride begins. And bring along any medications you might require, even if the odds of needing them are low. Better safe than sorry, right? And if you have specialized food needs, it may be wise to bring along what you need to eat. Many of our dining venues are not equipped to accommodate special diets.

Know the destination and the route. If the route is unfamiliar to you, ask the leader for a map. That way, if you somehow get separated from the group, you may be able to locate them at a gas, rest or food stop—or at the motel/hotel in the case of overnight rides.

Abide by the leader's information as to duration of the breaks. If you need extra time, let it be known to the leader, who will deal with it accordingly. If, for whatever reason, you think you may become separated from the group, attempt to locate a “travel pal” who would agree to stick together with your as a pair, in the event of a separation from the group.

This list is by no means exhaustive. There are other riding habits that also affect our rides.

So, to be continued...

Too old to rock and roll, but too young to die,

Tom





**RRMC Pix Online****Ride & Event Photo & Video Links****Winters March 5:**<https://photos.app.goo.gl/5kXLA4yzabDYfc8EA>**Ukiah February 20:**<https://photos.app.goo.gl/wnE5LDvpXifjrj4Ca7>**After Holiday Party February 19:**<https://photos.app.goo.gl/11m9qAF3acXTXzcg7>**2 Birds Cafe February 9:**<https://photos.app.goo.gl/AkSA69fDD2LUkKjr6>**3 Valleys February 5:**<https://photos.app.goo.gl/nJGTp1VcXzE2S5Hq9>**Cabrillo Lighthouse January 19:**<https://photos.app.goo.gl/xoRPtcDNqVcie8Wc8>**Drakes Bay January 12:**<https://photos.app.goo.gl/L4rFwiehi298qDwU6>**Cloverdale January 1:**<https://photos.app.goo.gl/9DCRGoGmvkCnfnsO6>**General Meeting December 21:**<https://photos.app.goo.gl/CcE13aHN37M1Ww3D8>**Capay November 21:**<https://photos.app.goo.gl/W4vcMC4bT9rtChs76>**Clear Lake November 6:**<https://photos.app.goo.gl/pe1fM2HJnJHk9MiXA>**General Meeting October 19:**<https://photos.app.goo.gl/AUubjuZswV4pJqpX7>**George's Boat Ride October 2:**<https://photos.app.goo.gl/EXuibp9fkaJVtoGe6>**General Meeting September 21:**<https://photos.app.goo.gl/2Txgb3Mx3EuVdaEC9>**Ft. Bragg September 19:**<https://photos.app.goo.gl/ufUrrTgcyxJCqyxT6>**Williams September 4:**<https://photos.app.goo.gl/D69EA2Zyk2sdh4tu7>**Twisty Mt. Tam August 25:**<https://photos.app.goo.gl/eaj5ny4rXDbDkpiSA>**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/QkWGsuZU3vOjHqaj6>**Gold Beach July 23-25:**<https://photos.app.goo.gl/1V7YUdpzM9SXsZtNA>**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/DEsiuqPdLzQ3tTiV8>**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/j8MUUpYtNEqVegyHw6>**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>

# Redwood Riders Motorcycle Club

<b>PRESIDENT:</b>	<b>Heidi Bigall</b> .....	<a href="mailto:President@redwoodridersmc.com">President@redwoodridersmc.com</a>
<b>VICE PRESIDENT / NEWSLETTER EDITOR / WEB MISTRESS:</b>	<b>Robyn LaMantia</b> .....	<a href="mailto:VicePresident@redwoodridersmc.com">VicePresident@redwoodridersmc.com</a> <a href="mailto:Editor@redwoodridersmc.com">Editor@redwoodridersmc.com</a> <a href="mailto:WebMaster@redwoodridersmc.com">WebMaster@redwoodridersmc.com</a>
<b>SECRETARY:</b>	<b>Sharon McMillan</b> .....	<a href="mailto:Secretary@redwoodridersmc.com">Secretary@redwoodridersmc.com</a>
<b>TREASURER:</b>	<b>Vickie Weber</b> .....	<a href="mailto:Treasurer@redwoodridersmc.com">Treasurer@redwoodridersmc.com</a>
<b>MEMBERSHIP:</b>	<b>Melisa Brown</b> .....	<a href="mailto:Membership@redwoodridersmc.com">Membership@redwoodridersmc.com</a>
<b>TOURS &amp; EVENTS / SR. ROAD CAPTAIN:</b>	<b>George Homenko</b> .....	<a href="mailto:ToursAndEvents@redwoodridersmc.com">ToursAndEvents@redwoodridersmc.com</a> <a href="mailto:RoadCaptains@redwoodridersmc.com">RoadCaptains@redwoodridersmc.com</a>
<b>SAFETY OFFICER:</b>	<b>Ben Johnstone</b> .....	<a href="mailto:Safety@redwoodridersmc.com">Safety@redwoodridersmc.com</a>
<b>SERGEANT AT ARMS:</b>	<b>Paul Benkover</b>	
<b>PAST PRESIDENT:</b>	<b>Gretchen Tomm</b> .....	<a href="mailto:MemberAtLarge@redwoodridersmc.com">MemberAtLarge@redwoodridersmc.com</a>

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