



# Redwood Riders Review

May 2022

## “Prez Sez...”

by Heidi Bigall - President

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Happy May fellow RRMC members! Though we needed the rain in April, it wreaked havoc on our riding schedule, requiring the cancellation of two out of our three rides. Those May showers better provide some pretty spectacular May flowers!

In regard to club business, the Board of Directors held a virtual meeting on April 9 to discuss several items. One decision impacts each member directly. The board voted to increase dues in 2023 to \$25 per year. This is the first dues increase I have experienced since joining in 2016. I hope you feel as I do, that our dues are the best value of any annual membership I pay. Even at \$25 a year, as a member we get several benefits, namely: 1) belonging to a group of people who have a mutual love of motorcycle riding, 2) having Road Captains who plan wonderful local and long distance rides, including rest stops, lunch destinations, and lodging arrangements, and 3) riding with a group of members where safety is our number one goal, and knowing that no rider will be left behind!



Speaking of safety, May also brings us Motorcycle awareness month! Motorcycle Awareness Month was started to raise awareness of motorcycles on the road because almost all motorcycle accident cases involve a driver who didn't see the motorcycle. As riders, we should also do our part in reducing accidents by doing regular pre-ride safety checks on our bikes, not riding under the influence of any mind altering substance, wearing proper safety protection, and minding the rules of the road!

~ Heidi Bigall ~ Humble President of RRMC

# Membership

by Melisa Brown - *Membership Director*

## Membership

### MEMBERSHIP

Returning Members	63
Co-Riders	13
2022 New Members	6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>82</b>

### RIDER STATISTICS

Men	55
Women	14

### WELCOME TO THE CLUB

Kurt Seel



## RRMC May General Meeting

Tuesday, May 17<sup>th</sup>

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

China Village

8501 Gravenstein Hwy, Cotati

### MAY BIRTHDAYS

Lynn Anderson  
Robin Castiglia  
Mark Quam  
Michael Simi  
Heidi Bigall



## Ceres Community Project Amazon Smile Program

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ENJOY.  
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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!

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# General Meeting Minutes

by Sharon McMillan - *Secretary*

## April 19<sup>th</sup> 2022



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

**Opening Statement:** President Heidi Bigall opened our meeting with a synopsis of the zoom board meeting held April 9th. The annual dues starting 2023 will be \$25 instead of the current \$24. Rosters need to be provided to the road captains. The newsletter will have a new feature each month which will a short write up sharing with the membership something about each of our members. Ceres was contacted for a date that our club can present our annual donation which as of today is \$1626. They will get back to us with a date and time.

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

**Treasurers Report:** Vickie Weber provided the current treasurers report.

**Membership Report:** Melisa Brown reported that our membership is now at 82 members. That includes 63 returning members, 6 new members and 13 co-riders.

**Tours and Events:** George Homenko said he missed last month's meeting as it was his birthday. There were 3 rides scheduled this month. Two were cancelled due to rain except for Melisa's Lake County on April 2nd. Mark Hilla's overnight to Monterey on April 15 and 16 was cancelled due to rain. He asked about rescheduling it in the fall. George asked if everyone liked the email format that he is sending out each month with the ride information.

### Upcoming Rides:

Saturday, May 7th is the Three Bridges ride being led by Mark Hilla.

Wednesday, May 11th is a ride to Lake Berryessa being led by Ben Johnstone.

Sunday, May 15th George will lead the ride to the town of Locke with lunch at Al the Wop.

George talked about having a Road Captain's meeting and discuss items relating to putting the rides together. Suggested a Road Captain's ride and meeting.

**Safety Officer:** Ben Johnstone talked about the issues of aging and riding. Discussed different ride positions going into corners and practicing.

**Old Business:** Tom Holwerda advised that he didn't make it to go out and try to line up club sponsors.

**New Business:** Richard Alpert told the members that Mammoth Motorsports is no longer in business. He also shared that in the Wilco Shopping Center is ARC Motorcycles and that they have a dynamometer if anyone is interested. Discussion followed.



# General Meeting Minutes

**Raffle:** Jackie Bartch thanked everyone that has donated to the raffle prizes.

1st prize was a chocolate bunny, hand soap, kleenex, hand sanitizer and toe warmers. The winner was Richard Alpert.

2nd prize went to Phyllis Stireman which was a metal water bottle, cleaning rag, toe warmers and a chocolate bunny.

3rd prize was a cleaning rag, coffee, hair gel, toe warmers and a chocolate bunny. Heidi Bigall was the winner.

4th prize was won by John Bartch which was a dozen eggs.

5th prize winning ticket was Richard Alpert. He said to call another ticket which was Sharon McMillan's. Raffle prize was candy, toe warmers and a cleaning rag.

6th prize, was coffee, a cleaning towel and foot warmers. That was won by Gretchen Tomm.

7th prize went to George Homenko who asked that another ticket be drawn. That winning ticket was Lonnie Oleata's which was a bottle of wine. He declined so the next ticket drawn went to DeeDee d'Argence. She gave the bottle of wine to our new member Victor Soares.

50/50 raffle was won by Sharon McMillan which was \$55. Money was donated back to Ceres for a total amount going to the charity of \$110.

Donate Back drawing Sharon was truffles, toe warmers, Dollar Tree \$10 gift card and a portable pill carrier.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.



## This Space Intentionally Left Blank....

But not for long! Reserved for our newest addition to our newsletter, the ***“Member Spotlight”*** section. Each month I will randomly contact one of our unsuspecting members and ask if you are willing to complete a short questionnaire and provide a few pictures. This little snippet of your life will be included in the next newsletter. Should be fun!

# Safety Report

“Big” Ben Johnstone - *Safety Officer*

## When Should You Replace Your Helmet?

I just bought a new helmet. I purchased it for esthetic reasons, but when I did, I wondered how to know when to replace a helmet for safety reasons. I searched the web in an attempt to find a definitive answer to this question. I found a lot of opinions, but few facts. There are many who advised to replace every 5 years without any good reason. There were some who opined that the interior (crushable foam) would lose some of its ability if it absorbed sweat or hair products. They then recommended a milage based replacement (shorter in hot climates) of around 20,000 miles. Nobody (except helmet sellers) said to replace after dropping the helmet from less than 50 feet.



I did find opinions that seemed to make sense to me:

- Replace if the helmet becomes loose (implying that the inner lining has shrunk).
- Never buy a used helmet.
- Replace if you can see cracks on the inside of the helmet.
- Don't buy a helmet if it was manufactured more than two years ago.
- Replace if the strap or cinch is excessively worn.

Your head is a valuable asset, replace your helmet if you have any doubts about the condition of your helmet.

~ Ben



***It's always difficult to choose a new helmet!***

# Tours & Events

by George Homenko - *Tours & Events Directors*

## Ride Reviews & Upcoming Rides



### RIDES & EVENTS

#### Upcoming Rides & Events

Saturday, May 7: **3 Bridges Ride**. Road Captain: Mark Hilla

Wednesday, May 11: **Lake Berryessa**. Road Captains: Ben Johnstone

Sunday, May 15: **Locke**. Road Captain: George Homenko

Tuesday, May 17: **RRMC General Meeting @ China Village, Cotati**

**\*\*Saturday - Sunday, May 21-22: Morro Bay. Road Captain: Ben Johnstone**



**\*\*NOTE:** Because of a several things, that I won't go into, we have decided to re-schedule the Morro Bay ride back to its original date of May 21-22. We are sorry for the short notice. Hotel reservations should be booked as soon as possible. Ben has blocked rooms at the Pacific Shore Inn in Morro Bay, phone number 805-772-4435. The price on Hotels.com is \$237 for a double queen room.

This is an overnight ride to Morro Bay. The trip down will be on highway one. The ride back on Sunday will be back up the valley. This is about a 640 mile round trip. I would call this ride moderate to expert. Almost all of the ride will be on back roads but there will be several freeway stretches too. Here is a video that was made of the same ride back in December 2021: <https://youtu.be/W1wO9GBo-jg>

**Kickstands go up at 8am at Shari's in Rohnert Park, so get there by 7:30.** Questions can be directed to Ben at [benjohnstone@sbcglobal.net](mailto:benjohnstone@sbcglobal.net)

# Rides & Events May

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	<b>7</b> <b>3 BRIDGES</b> Road Captain: <i>Mark Hilla</i> 9:00 <sup>AM</sup> Meet 9:30 <sup>AM</sup> KSU
<div> <b>Check the MeetUp site for updates &amp; last minute changes!</b> </div>						
<b>8</b> <b>MOTHERS DAY</b> 	9	10	<b>11</b> <b>LAKE BERRYESSA</b> Road Captain: <i>Ben Johnstone</i> 9:00 <sup>AM</sup> Meet 9:30 <sup>AM</sup> KSU	12	13	14
<b>15</b> <b>LOCKE</b> Road Captain: <i>George Homenko</i> 9:00 <sup>AM</sup> Meet 9:30 <sup>AM</sup> KSU	16	<b>17</b> <b>GENERAL MEETING</b> 6:00 <sup>PM</sup> Dinner 7:00 <sup>PM</sup> Meeting	18	19	20	<b>21</b> <b>MORRO BAY OVERNIGHT</b> Road Captain: <i>Ben Johnstone</i> 7:30 <sup>AM</sup> Meet 8:00 <sup>AM</sup> KSU
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	<b>30</b> <b>MEMORIAL DAY</b> 	31	1	2	3	<b>4</b> <b>PEG HOUSE</b> Road Captain: <i>Gretchen Tomm</i> 9:00 <sup>AM</sup> Meet 9:30 <sup>AM</sup> KSU

# Tom's Take

by Tom Cooke - *Contributor*

## Be Prepared!



Whether you were once a Boy Scout, serving your country in the military, or even involved in rigorous outdoor adventure, one requirement made the difference between joy and pain, between success and failure—preparation.

Old Col. Smith beat it into my Scout troop: “Be prepared.” This month I am channeling his advice, because for motorcycle riding to be all it should be, it requires smart and thorough preparation.

If you are just out for an hour or 2, you can probably sneak home if a lack of preparation threatens your good time. But since most of our rides are full-day or longer, preparation is critical.

Preparation is required in a number of areas in addition to your planned route: clothing, seat comfort, and food should be considered.

Let's start with what you are wearing. Think in terms of layers. Since we never know for certain what the weather will do, the ability to add and subtract layers of gear is smart. Most riders prefer an outer layer of “leathers” to protect our hides should we go down. This is an unfortunate and uncommon rarity, but as we know, it can happen. Under the leather, denim is a good choice. Under the denim, a wicking layer will keep you more comfortable when the sun gets strong and you sweat a bit. If the weather is cold, use a layer of wool, too, to prevent hypothermia. And it is smart to have rain gear stowed away on your bike, as well. On your feet, most prefer a sturdy boot or shoe made for riding. And if the day of riding may include a fair bit of walking, a lightweight hiking shoe stored in your saddle bag will save you from hiking in a heavy motorcycle boot.

A DOT-approved helmet is important, even if riding in a state where one is not legally required. A full-face or modular style helmet offers much more face, mouth and jaw protection than beanie type helmets. If your comfort requires you to wear the beanie style, add a good pair of goggles to keep debris and insects out of your eyes.

A good fitting seat will be worth its weight in gold, allowing hours of riding with minimal discomfort. It is hard to love a ride if your butt is hating life.

Don't let yourself get too hungry. Hunger will interfere with your riding skills and pleasure. It is smart to pack some emergency high-calorie snack food. Many of our destinations offer very little good food choices along the way. And do not overeat at mealtime. A full belly draws blood away from where you need it, which is your brain. No need to get groggy after a giant lunch.

All of these kinds of preparation will add pleasure and fun to most rides. When you are feeling good, and having fun, your senses will be sharp. And we all know that nothing is more important than sharp senses to make rides safe and memorable.

Rubber side down ~ Tom



# Classified

## 2007 BMW R1200 RT

Includes side cases and BMW tank bag  
 Good condition; Just had all fluids replaced and valves adjusted  
 80,000+ miles  
 Reason for selling:  
 lifestyle change; bought a maxi scooter (550cc)

**\$3,700**

The picture was from earlier date and it is a little worn now but still looks good.  
 Interested?

Contact Warren 707-303-0550



## 2008 Yamaha FJR for sale.

- 55K miles, never down
- Full maintenance record + shop manual
- Pilot Road 4 tires, low miles
- Heated grips
- Custom paint job
- Frame sliders
- Yamaha touring windshield
- Stebel airhorn
- 24 liter Pelican top case
- Fender Extender
- Accessory fuse box
- Hyper-Lite brake light enhancer
- Garaged and meticulously maintained

Asking \$5K for this bulletproof, sport touring mile muncher.

Contact Chris Goodfellow @ [calgoodfellow@gmail.com](mailto:calgoodfellow@gmail.com)



# Auction Items

## Last Chance Auction items!

We have a few items left over from the After Holiday Party Silent Auction. These items are in great condition and can be yours for a song (and a few bucks). The prices listed are suggested purchase prices but reasonable offers will be considered. Contact Melisa at 707.246.3520. **Remember ALL proceeds will go to our charity Ceres!**

Saddlemen Hard Case Travel Bag - \$75



Lady Ryder Jacket (Small) - \$75



2 HJC helmets (XL and M) w/blue tooth between helmets - \$200



Harley Davidson Long Sleeve Shirt (XL) - \$10



Black Vest (L) - \$255



Heated Gloves w/re-chargeable batteries - \$50



Harley Davidson 1/2 Helmet - XL - \$30

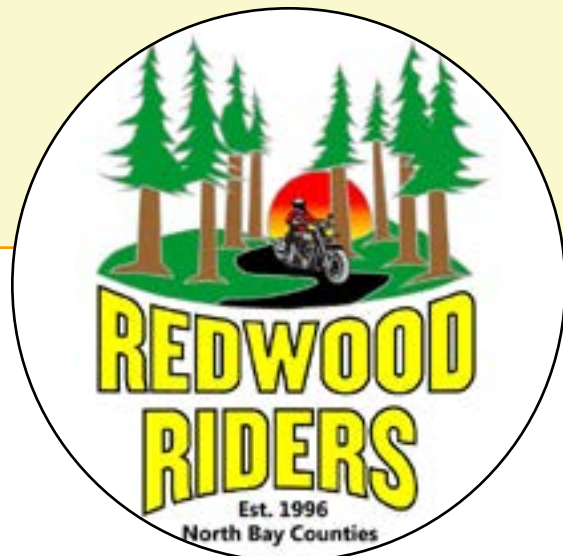




# Club Gear

## RRMC CLUB GEAR IS STILL AVAILABLE!

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



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
3	2				1 - Medium
			1 - Large		
		1 - XL	1 - XL		2 - XL
			2 - XXL	1 - XXL *\$22	



***RRMC Pix Online*****Ride & Event Photo & Video Links****Fairfield March 20:**<https://photos.app.goo.gl/DbBs7hAR9VcByiP68>**Ferndale/Ave of the Giants March 12-13:**<https://photos.app.goo.gl/CTfmbkATYBCXPvu99>**Winters March 5:**<https://photos.app.goo.gl/5kXLA4yzabDYfc8EA>**Ukiah February 20:**<https://photos.app.goo.gl/wnE5LDvpXifrj4Ca7>**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/AUubjuZswV4plqpX7>**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/eaj5ny4rXDbDkpjSA>**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/QkWGsuZU3vQjHqaj6>**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/rV7kZi4Uk7BzIqAe6><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>



# Redwood Riders Motorcycle Club

<b>PRESIDENT:</b>	Heidi Bigall.....	<a href="mailto:President@redwoodridersmc.com">President@redwoodridersmc.com</a>
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<b>SERGEANT AT ARMS:</b>	Paul Benkover .....	
<b>PAST PRESIDENT:</b>	Gretchen Tomm.....	<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