

# TALES FROM THE REDWOODS

FEBRUARY 2018



REDWOOD EMPIRE CHAPTER #3494





RECHOG is proudly sponsored by  
**Sonoma County Harley-Davidson**

7601 Redwood Drive, Cotati, CA 94931

800.400.2011 | [sonomacountyhd.com](http://sonomacountyhd.com)



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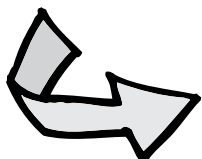
**RedwoodEmpireHOG**

**NEW GENERAL MEETING LOCATION:**

**First Thursday of the month: 6pm social hour, 7pm meeting**

**China Village, 8501 Gravenstein Hwy, Cotati, CA**

[www.chinavillageca.com/](http://www.chinavillageca.com/)



## Greetings Redwood Empire!

Who else is ready for all this rain to quit? I know I am! But fear not, I've got a feeling that sunny days are in the horizon. I am glad we were able to put in a few great rides this month. We've been busy planning new rides and activities for the chapter. We have a few chapter picnics planned throughout the year. I'm also bringing back the Director's Rides and the New Member Rides. I am focusing on doing more for the membership as a whole and trying new methods to attract other Harley Davison enthusiasts to join our chapter. I would like to encourage everyone to join me in doing the same. I understand that one person is not able to steer the chapter in the direction it needs to be. But with everyone's effort and commitment, I am confident we can all make a positive impact for OUR chapter.



We have started plans for our **30th Annual Summer Run, on August 18th**. Once we have more details available, we will start putting out the information and begin to ask for help in organizing our event. This is our chapters 30th anniversary and as I've mentioned before, we want to improve our Summer Run and we are going BIG! There are a few things we are trying to improve on. How we plan our rides will be better streamlined and inclusive of all members. We want an enjoyable experience for all and more importantly, safer. Another thing we want to encourage y'all to participate on is submitting content for the newsletter and our chapters website. If there's something cool or unique that happened on a ride (personal or group) I encourage you to write about it. If you're a bit shy then we can make your article anonymous. Same thing goes for pictures and videos for the website. We would love to show off what you are able to capture out on the rides we do. We're all about the Harley-Davidson life and ride. Write about it or take a few pictures and videos. Let's show these curious folks and potential members what we're all about. I hope y'all take me up on this offer (and challenge).

I look forward to seeing y'all on one of our upcoming rides. Get out on your Harley Davidson and have fun. Remember, each member can invite one guest to our closed chapter rides. We are here to make our chapter the best we possibly can and to ensure everyone has a positive and safe experience.

Please check the calendar at <https://www.rechog.org/calendar> or call the ride hotline at (707)575-6786 for ride updates. You can also check out our **new Facebook page** for more chapter and dealership related content at <https://www.facebook.com/redwoodempirehog/>.

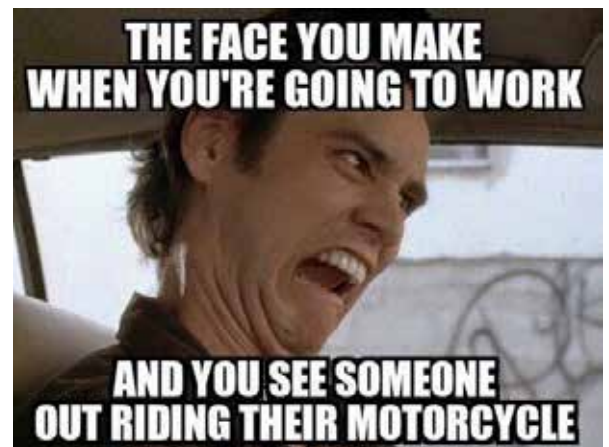
## Wheelie-Tales

Happy Valentine's Day everyone. There was an author that wrote, "There is only one happiness in life: to love and be loved." Obviously, they did not own or have a ride on a Harley Davidson motorcycle! Valentine's Day is the day we are supposed to honor and recognize the one we love with gifts or special treatment. Though, to preserve ones happiness from an angry significant other, I highly recommend at least a card, why not take them on a nice motorcycle ride. We are fortunate enough to own these beautiful machines on two or three wheels that allow us to experience the ride and the wind in our faces. In addition, take a moment from time to time to give that special someone a treat or little surprise throughout the year instead of just in February. It might earn you some brownie points you can save up for later use. Not that I am speaking from experience being gone every weekend for a little over 14 weeks for duck season (grin).

January is in our rear view mirror now and kicked the New Year off with some fun rides. The officers have been busy trying to think of new and exciting places to take the chapter on rides and adventures. February has some great rides lined up and hope you can make it out and enjoy the riding and camaraderie of our chapter. There is planning going on to put on a camp trip and some overnight rides. If you have some suggestions for activities or rides we can do would be greatly appreciated. Remember, this is your chapter and the officers are here to serve you and help guide the business side of the chapter. Let us know what you would like to do.

Ian and Cherie have been doing a lot of work on our chapter web site. All of the pictures have been added to the photo section among other things. I recommend you visit [rechog.org](http://rechog.org) and take a look at what they have done. My hat goes off to them for doing this. I just finished perusing the photos from a lot of the previous years. Looking through the albums brought back a lot of memories for me. It also encourages me to make new memories this year with everyone as we ride together through 2018.

See you on the road,  
Wheelie



# The Harley Davidson Electra Glide!

The 2015 model year marked the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Harley-Davidson Electra Glide. But, the bike didn't just appear out of thin air in 1965. A new version of the "Knucklehead" engine was offered for the 1941 model year, and the motorcycle designated "FL." In 1949 an all-new telescopic hydraulic front fork began to replace the old "springer" front end, and the bike eventually became commonly called the Hydra Glide. For 1958, rear suspension was added and the name changed to Duo Glide. The next big improvement came in 1965 with the addition of an electric starter. The name Electra Glide was a perfect fit. Wrestling with a kick start engine would become a thing of the past. As the 1965 sales brochure read, "We've taken a few of the kicks away, but none we thought you would miss." A new era was dawning for the rider who had miles to cover. With their removable windshields and hard saddlebags, the Electra Glides of the 1960s gave rise to the iconic H-D touring motorcycle that carries into the present day. Within four years of the introduction, designers crafted an accessory fairing specifically for the Electra Glide to keep more wind off of the rider. The "windshield fairing kit," as it was first listed in 1969 became a standard feature for 1971. It's more commonly known today as the "Batwing" fairing.

Numerous features now accepted as standard on H-D motorcycles were first used in the touring models, such as disc brakes and electronic fuel injection. It was with that spirit that the Project Rushmore upgrades for the 2014 came to fruition. The Batwing fairing was redesigned to reduce buffeting, but the classic shape remained. Saddlebags and Tour Pak were streamlined while increasing capacity. These features and many others marked the single largest product launch in Harley-Davidson history. The importance of the Electra Glide goes far beyond its versatility and popularity. It is the modern standard for touring motorcycles. Competitors have increasingly tried to copy everything from the fairing to the luggage units, but always missing the mark. H-D remains the dominant force in North American touring and is gaining ground in other nations.



2018 New  
Harley-Davidson  
Touring Electra  
Glide Ultra Classic



# Thinking Three Wheels

Are three wheels in your future? Or are three wheels your current ride? The Tri Glide, one wheel forward two wheels aft (early trikes were often propelled by the ever popular VW 1600cc engine in the day) has become more and more popular. In 2008, Harley-Davidson the industries leader in large touring bikes announced that it would enter the market with the Tri Glide, working with a smaller company called Lehman Trikes. In 2010, Harley moved its production in house. The Tri Glide is now a consistent top 10 seller in several demographic groups. Industry experts say the sale of tens of thousands of Tri Glides, whose sticker price that can now rival the upscale sedan has helped stall a slumping industry and kept a generation of born-to-run riders (the baby boomers) on the roads as we are aging.

Riding the Tri Glide is very similar to riding a regular two wheeled motorcycle? Well, a lot of the controls are very similar, but there are one or two differences, one you can't lean around corners for one thing. If you're used to riding a two wheel Harley, then a Tri Glide won't make such a big difference to you? Not so true! Some training experts find it easier to train a new rider on a three wheeler because of the lack of two wheel experience, but one thing is for sure "it's a much different kettle of fish to driving a car"

## Top 5 Rules to riding the Tri-Glide

First Rule: Never, ever, put your feet down. There are three wheels, so you won't tip over. But most certainly you can "mouse trap" your feet under the body or rear wheels so this will not be an enjoyable experience.

Second Rule: All Tri Glides have a hand brake, just like the one in your car, and you must release it before moving out. Tri Glides don't have a kickstand, there's nothing but the hand brake to keep the three wheel beauty from rolling into Grandma's Corvette.

Third Rule: The wheelbase of a Tri Glide is about the same as that of the two-wheeler, but because of its bodywork, it's slightly longer and a whole lot wider. To determine just how wide, once seated, stretch out your arms, that's the width you must allow for proper and safe cornering.

Fourth Rule: The Tri Glide involves "direct steering" instead of "counter steering." Point the front wheel into the direction of travel, lock your outside elbow into the turn, and then roll on the throttle through the turn. This differs from a two-wheeler where you counter steer and lean through a corner. Using the Point, Lock, and Roll system, you will go into, and out of, every type of corner quicker than when riding any comparable two-wheeler. Point, Lock, and Roll system increases confidence from not having to brake or steer around light road debris, such as sand and gravel.

Fifth Rule: Always use both front and rear brakes. On a two-wheeler, your rear brakes are 30 percent of your stopping power. On a trike, though, two rear wheels mean twice the stopping power, so you don't want to override your front wheel. Even in panic stops, the trike stops quickly and keeps straight.

As experienced riders, we can bring a number of habits and expectations from riding two wheels, all of which must be unlearned. There are a lot of preconceived notions that tend to be inaccurate and are led by the lack of knowledge. But the bottom line is this, whether you're 75 years old, or whether you were born in 1975, the Tri Glide is for anybody who wants performance, comfort, and the perpetual grin. So test drive a Tri Glide to understand what the big deal is all about, you certainly won't regret it.

Vincent Mulligan

Secretary/Membership Officer

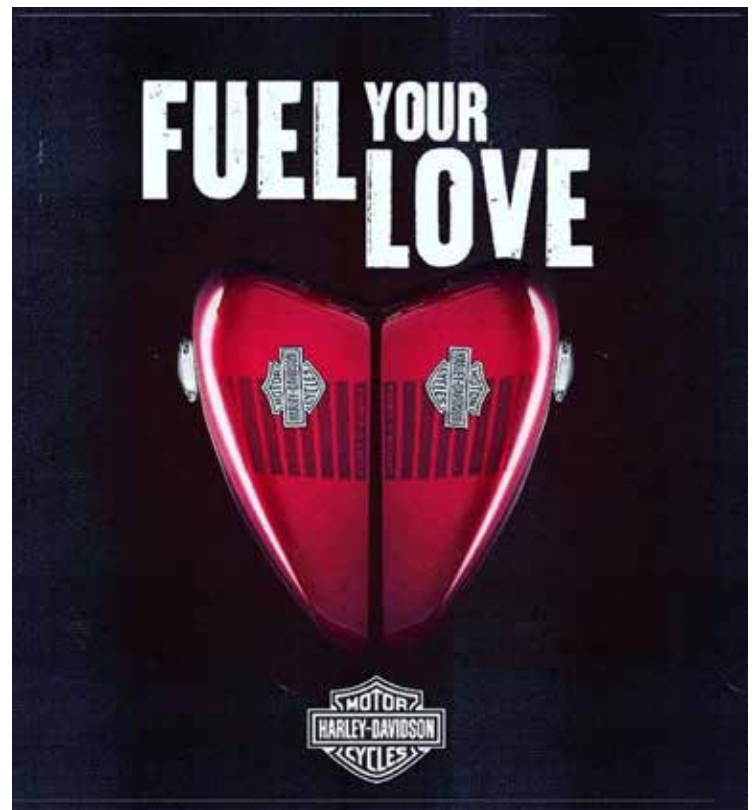
"as always, keep the rubber side down and the shiny side up"

## Happy Valentines Day

AKA hug your Harley month! Seriously, make sure you also hug and shower tons of love on those special people in your life. We ladies never get tired of hearing our man say, "I love you, wanna go on a ride?" Shelley Bokkin has a fun ride planned for your sweetheart to the Jelly Belly factory on February 11. We hope you can join us!

I will be leading my first ride on February 24<sup>th</sup>. I will be taking you along some of my favorite backroads in Sebastopol (some of which you might have never known were there). It's a leisurely ride and we will be stopping at Freestone for a leg stretch and ending at Charlie's Grill in Windsor. Check the RECHOG Activities Calendar for details. Also, I am planning a Spa Day in Calistoga March 20. Enjoy a great ride, lunch and pampering at Calistoga Spa Hot Springs. This event will happen rain or shine. Details on how to make reservations, etc to come soon.

Love,  
Heidi





SERGIO'S CHOWDER RIDE





**JANUARY General Meeting**



**WELCOME BACK Ride**



## UPCOMING RECHOG ACTIVITIES

Please review website calendar at [rechog.org](http://rechog.org) & call the Ride Hotline for latest updates and additions 707.575.6786.



## FEBRUARY

### 01 RECHOG General Membership Meeting.

Our general membership meeting is held the first Thursday of every month at **China Village Restaurant located at 8501 Gravenstein Hwy, Cotati**. Eat and socialize beginning at 6pm. Meeting begins at 7pm. Please sign-in for the birthday raffle drawing; next month's birthday list for the Tales of the Woods; and the guests list.

### 04 Ride Planning Meeting.

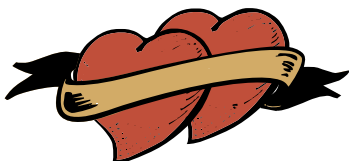
Anyone interested in planning or leading a ride are encouraged to attend. Open to all current Redwood Empire Chapter HOG members. Meet at Marvin's Restaurant in Cotati at 9am.

### 04 Road Captains Mystery Ride.

We will meet at SCHD at 10am and depart at 10:30 am. The road captain will lead the group on a mystery ride with the route kept secret. This will surely keep everyone guessing. Brian and Shelly Bokkin will lead this closed chapter ride.

### 11 LOH Sweethearts Ride.

Nice and slow is how we'll go. Shelly Bokkin will lead the sweethearts on this ride. Meet at SCHD at 10am and departing at 10:30am. This is a closed chapter ride.



### 15 RECHOG Board of Directors Meeting.

Board of Directors will meet at SCHD at 6pm. Members are encouraged to attend and observe the workings of our chapter and participate in the round table discussion. If you want to learn about how you can participate in our events, rides, and activities this is a good meeting to attend. Anyone considering becoming a chapter officer in the future is encouraged to attend.

### 16 Dinner Ride.

Let's go for a short ride and grab some dinner with our riding buddies. Ride, hangout, and socialize. Meet at SCHD at 5:30 pm and departing at 6:00 pm. Destination will be The Villa Restaurant located at 3901 Montgomery Drive, Santa Rosa. Vince and Tammy will lead this ride. This is a closed chapter ride.

### 17 Cloverdale Citrus Fair Ride.

We are riding up to Cloverdale for a fun time at the Cloverdale Citrus Fair. This is a great family event. <http://cloverdalecitrusfair.org/cloverdale-citrus-fair/tickets-rates/> Meet at SCHD at 9:30am and departing at 10am. Steve Read will lead this closed chapter ride.



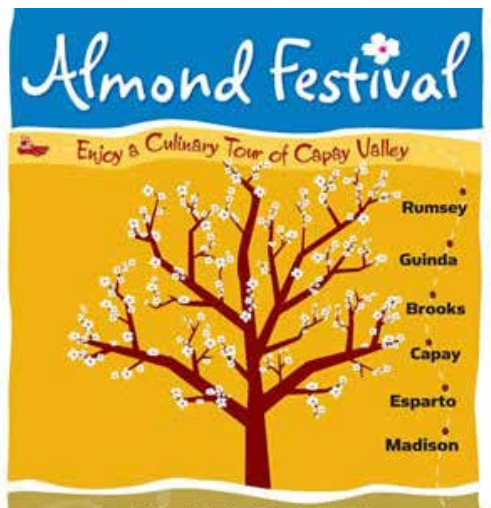
**19 Commander in Chief's Ride.** Sean will be leading the group for a ride. He's promised to come up with something surprising for Presidents Day. Meet at SCHD at 10:00 am and departing at 10:30 am. This is a closed chapter ride.

### 24 LOH Ride.

Meet at SCHD at 10:30 am. Leave at 11am. Enjoy a leisurely ride through Sebastopol country back roads. First stop Freestone bakery. Continue on back roads to Charles Grill in Windsor for lunch. Ride will take about 1 ½ hrs. LOH Officer Heidi Faulkner will lead this ride. This is a closed chapter ride.

### 24 LOH RIDE

Meet at Dealership at 10:30 am. Leave at 11am. Enjoy a leisurely ride through Sebastopol country back roads. First stop Freestone bakery. Continue on back roads to Charles Grill in Windsor for lunch. Ride will take about 1½.



### 25 103rd Annual Capay Valley Almond Festival

The Capay Valley Almond Festival began in 1915 and has long been a Northern California tradition. The only six town event in Northern California, the festival is a showcase of the Esparto/Capay Valley Region.

The communities of Madison, Esparto, Capay, Brooks, Guinda, and Rumsey all have something exciting to offer the whole family, all day long! Entertainment, crafts, good food and fun for all to enjoy. It is a wonderful time to see the beauty of the whole Capay Valley and to meet many of the wonderful people who live and work in the area. Meet at Johnny's Java at 9am and departing at 9:30am. Steve Pehargou will lead this closed chapter ride.

# MARCH

## 01 RECHOG General Membership Meeting.

Our general membership meeting is held the first Thursday of every month at China Village Restaurant located at 8501 Gravenstein Hwy, Cotati. Eat and socialize beginning at 6pm. Meeting begins at 7pm. Please sign-in for the birthday raffle drawing; next month's birthday list for the Tales of the Woods; and the guests list.

## 04 Napa Valley Marathon.

We are ironing out details with the Napa Valley Marathon coordinators. Details will be available shortly. This is a closed chapter event.

## 10 Ladies of Harley Spa Day Ride.

Beautiful ride to Calistoga. Lunch and Massage. Rain or shine event. Meet at Johnny Java 10am. Leave at 10:30 am. Ride to Calistoga for a day of pampering. Details to follow.

**11 Ride Planning Meeting.** Anyone interested in planning or leading a ride are encouraged to attend. Open to all current Redwood Empire Chapter HOG members. Meet at Marvin's Restaurant in Cotati at 9am.

**11 Directors Ride.** We've heard that the Director is planning a special ride for his first quarterly Directors Ride. Are you curious? Well, come on out and get on your Harley Davidson. Let's go ride! Meet at SCHD at 10am and departing at 10:30am. Ian Refugio will lead this ride. This is a closed chapter ride.

## 14 Pi(e) Is Life Ride.

It's pi(e) day! Come and meet up for some coffee, some cool riding, and some pie. Join the dessert guru in search for that perfect slice of pie. Meet at Johnny's Java at 10am and depart at 10:30am. This is a closed chapter ride.



## 15 RECHOG Board of Directors Meeting.

Board of Directors will meet at SCHD at 6:00 p.m. Members are encouraged to attend and observe the workings of our chapter and participate in the round table discussion. If you want to learn about how you can participate in our events, rides, and activities this is a good meeting to attend. Anyone considering becoming a chapter officer in the future is encouraged to attend.

**17 Little Leprechauns Ride.** Our Secretary himself, Vince Mulligan, will lead this ride in search of the perfect corned beef and cabbage spot in the North Bay. Meet at Johnny's Java at 9am and departing at 9:30am. This is a closed chapter ride.

## 18 Easter Run to Valley of the Moon Children's Home.

Our annual ride to VOM to reaffirm to the children that they have our chapters continued support. Please bring unwrapped toys or school supplies for boys and girls ages 6-15. *(They have specifically requested lots of blank journals, a few coloring books, markers and gel pens [no crayons are needed]).* The Foundation's unwavering goal is to provide ongoing support to the Valley of the Moon Children's Home, which is Sonoma County's only 24-hour emergency shelter for abused, abandoned, and neglected children. Meet at Johnny's Java at 9am and depart at 9:30am. This is a closed chapter ride.

## 21 Dinner Ride.

Let's go for a short ride and grab some dinner with our riding buddies. Ride, hangout, and socialize. Meet at SCHD at 5:30 pm and departing at 6:pm. We will be having dinner at The Casino Bar and Grill located at 17000 Bodega Hwy, Bodega, CA. The Casino Bar and Grill changes their menu nightly. They keep their guests guessing and coming back for more. Ian Refugio will lead this ride. This is a closed chapter ride.

FEBRUARY						
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MARCH						
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## Greetings everyone.

Shelly and I are happy to support the Chapter this year, sharing the Head Road Captain position. We had a great turnout at last month's ride planning meeting, with three new faces in attendance. Collectively, we're coming up with some great new rides for this year. Spoiler alert: one involves a train ride and another a pirate treasure hunt. Look to the calendar for these and other upcoming rides.

We've had great turnouts so far this year. Sergio's Bread & Clam Chowder ride was very well-attended with 30 members and 10 guests enjoying the beautiful weather we had at Bodega Head on January 1st.

If you have any special requests for a particular ride or ideas you'd like to see implemented, please send a message to [roadcaptain@rechog.org](mailto:roadcaptain@rechog.org) and we'll try to accommodate you. Let's keep the fun rolling this year – come out and ride!

Brian & Shelly



## GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

BY VINCE MULLIGAN

RECHOG January General Meeting Minutes

Location: China Village Cotati Ca

Date: 04, January, 2018

Call to Order: Director Ian Refugio called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

Flag Salute: Emily Morales led the Chapter in the pledge of allegiance

December 2017 General Meeting Minutes: A motion was made by Steve Reed to accept the December 2017 meeting minutes as prepared with a second from Mike Faria.

Assistant Director: Jim Wheeler introduced our January Birthdays Bruce Macdonald, Caroline Hlusak, Dorene Barnes, Ken Croneis, and Brian Bokkin. Brian Bokkin won a \$25 gift card courtesy Sonoma County Harley Davidson. There were no Honored or Special Guest present. The Jim welcomed Southern California HOG Rally March 01-04 starting in Los Angeles California. Jim mentioned we had a great turn out for the 3rd Annual Bread & Chowder Run on Sunday January 1st where 32 bikes showed up for the Ride.

Raffle Prizes: Raffles were conducted throughout the evening and a list of prizes and their respective winners are listed below.

Treasurer Report: The chapter is solvent.

Membership Report: Secretary and Membership Officer Vincent Mulligan noted we are at 91 paid members out of the 160 listed on the January General Meeting/Ride Sign-in List. Vincent also announced RECHOG's Newest Member Lisa Merilatt.

Safety Officer Report: Vincent Mulligan discussed the new California Marijuana Law and how it will affect RECHOG. As it stands the new law will be treated as any other drug or alcohol use during club rides which will be no use. What you do after the ride is "called" is the member's responsibility and RECHOG will not sponsor any use of the above mentioned. Vincent also mentioned that it's RECHOG Members' and Road Captains' on chapter rides to make sure Ride Waivers are signed by non-members before the ride.

Director Time: Director Ian Refugio talked about trying new things this year, bringing in new rides and visiting old rides, enlisting chapter members to give ideas or lead rides they would like to see happen. Suggestions can be emailed to any of the Board Members or himself. Ian understands that Target Rides are hard to attend, but will work hard this year to try and get Target Rides closer to our chapter. Our Non-Profit Valley of the Moon Children's Home will once again be our charity for this year. Ian expressed he was very proud of the chapters turn out for the Christmas ride to the Valley of the Moon Children's Home where plenty of gifts were given to the children. All chapter ride raffles & 50/50s proceeds generated from this year's rides will be put into a pot and donated at the end of the year to the Valley of the Moon. Ian mentioned that this chapter does three marathons a year (Napa Marathon) being the first we helped with was a big hit. All club members who volunteer for the Napa, SF or Berkley Marathons will be automatically put into the \$100.00 cash raffle at the end of the year. Announcement was made of the official opening of the new RECHOG Facebook page.

Past Director: Dave McCombs announced 2017's Participation Point Winners: Top Points were Ian Refugio 58 pts, Steve Reed 40 pts, Dave McCombs 38 pts, Jim Jones 37 pts, Shelly Bokkin & Sergio Bravo 36 pts, and Mark Hilla & Stephen Pehargou 34 & 31 pts. Ian Refugio won the Top Points and received a Crisp \$100.00 bill. Participation Points Jim Jones Winner for the Target Rides also won a Crisp \$100.00 bill. Dave also mentioned "Going big for the Summer Run" since its our 30th Anniversary and announced this years theme for our Summer Run as the "Empire Strikes Back" and wants to talk with local and out of town motorcycle clubs to join in the fun.

Open Mike: Lonnie Olaeta, mentioned can we "sweep the sweeps" for those who choose to drink, smoke or use narcotics. A strong "NO" was voiced and members who show up (stoned or buzzed) will not ride and will be asked to leave. Steve Pehargou, special event coordinator will be coming around to enlist volunteers for special events. Sergio Bravo mentioned New Years Day 2018 3rd annual Bread & Chowder Run was a huge success and wanted to thank those who came out. Ian regarding the new meeting location asked if the club enjoyed the China Village (parking was voiced a problem) but the room, service, and food were all very good.

50/50 Drawing: Won by Linea Carter ticket # 0781180 \$100.00

Auction: Ian auctioned off a \$350.00 Jacuzzi Winery & Olive Press Gift Certificate (held over from last year's summer run). It was won by Donna Fess for \$225.00. The \$225.00 was placed in the Valley of the Moon Children's Home Charity Pot.

Membership drawing: After several attempts to draw a winner, an attending member's number 35, David Donati number was drawn and won paid Membership dues for 2019.

Road Captain: Brian Bokkin thanked previous Road Captains for their support over the years. Brian mentioned with Shelly Bokkin's they will be the lead road captains this year. Brian mentioned he is going to streamline the ride details and have them available by each month's board meetings, and he will be reaching out to more experienced riders to see if they would like to lead rides or join the road captains. Brian went over the upcoming rides for January.

LOH: Heidi Faulkner was very thankful for this year's selection as the lead the LOH. Heidi mentioned she is planning to lead rides throughout the back roads of Marin and Sonoma Counties for the fun and excitement and the enjoyment of company of chapter riders.

Meeting Minutes compiled and submitted by  
Secretary Vincent Mulligan

### Raffle Prize Winners:

Ticket Number	Name	Prize
4971750	John Henderson	HD Bottle Opener
4971770	Marty Hlusak	HD License Plate FRM
4971663	Heidi Faulkner	Gift certificate
4971728	Jack Reed	HD Metal Sign
4971711	Bruce Wing	HD Ball Cap
4971765	Glen Gillis	Gift Certificate
4971776	Caroline Hlusak	Gift Certificate

# Save the Date: August 18 RECHOG SUMMER RUN



## Flashback Photos RECHOG - 1990s



Recognize anyone?



1998 - Ten Year RECHOG Anniversary





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VINCENT MULLIGAN

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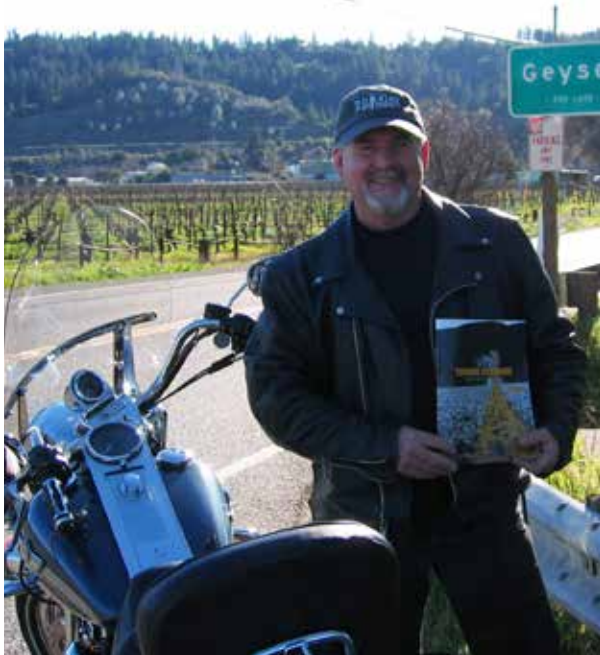
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// A motorcycle can't sing on  
the streets of a city. //

**TALES FROM THE REDWOODS**  
c/o Sonoma County Harley-Davidson  
7601 Redwood Drive  
Cotati, CA 94931



**1974**  
**XLR8**



**1997**  
**CUSTOM BUILT SPEED DEMON**



**2011**  
**SOFTAIL SLIM**



**1937**  
**BLACK RIDER**



**1973**  
**FL ELECTRA GLIDE**



800.400.2011

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