

# TALES FROM THE REDWOODS

MAY 2016



REDWOOD EMPIRE CHAPTER #3494





## REDWOOD EMPIRE HARLEY OWNERS GROUP

HOTLINE 707.575.6786 (RIDE INFORMATION)

NATIONAL HOG 800.258.2464

WWW.RECHOG.ORG

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

7601 Redwood Drive, Cotati, CA 94931  
800.400.2011 | [www.sonomacountyhd.com](http://www.sonomacountyhd.com)



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For more information, email [webmaster@rechog.org](mailto:webmaster@rechog.org)



General Meetings: 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of every month at Cattlemen's Restaurant, 5012 Petaluma Blvd N, Petaluma, CA  
Board Meetings: 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month at Sonoma County Harley-Davidson, 7601 Redwood Dr, Cotati, CA

SUBMISSION OF MATERIAL FOR PUBLICATION: TFTW gladly accepts articles, photos and anecdotes for publication! Please send text, and high-res images in a .jpg or .pdf format. Deadline: 20<sup>th</sup> of the month. Please email: [newslettereditor@rechog.org](mailto:newslettereditor@rechog.org)

Chapter website submissions and info, please email: [webmaster@rechog.org](mailto:webmaster@rechog.org)

On **Sunday April 24<sup>th</sup>** with heavy hearts Conci and I made our way to meet with friends and to celebrate the life of Joline Levesque. As we rolled into Sonoma County Harley-Davidson I was awe struck to see a full parking lot of smiling faces, beautiful bikes and people waving hello. I have never in my life experienced a community like this before; "bikers," a brotherhood and sisterhood coming together to celebrate the life of one of their own. Joline was truly loved and will be missed. Farewell my friend and comrade. A big thank you to those who took the time to organize this day, you did her proud.

**Sunday May 1<sup>st</sup>** is our Burgers and Brats Picnic at Lake Berryessa. Come join us to celebrate Spring with a picnic at Lake Berryessa. Ian will lead this year's ride meeting at Johnny's Java in Cotati at 9:00 with kick stands up at 9:30. His 2.5 hour route to the Oak Shores Day Use at Lake Berryessa covers some great country roads with lush scenery from this year's rain.



2015 RECHOG PICNIC

Members and guests will be treated to lunch with hamburgers (and some veggie burgers), bratwurst, sauerkraut, baked beans, fruit salad, chips, and cake for dessert. There will be plenty of water and sodas also. This is a closed chapter ride, each member may bring one guest.

If you cannot make the ride but would like to join us at Lake Berryessa we will be at the Oak Shores Day Use Group Shelter Foxtail #1, lunch will be served around 12:30 when the riders arrive. For more information please call Randy Mack (707) 696-6272.

**Saturday May 14<sup>th</sup>** is the Mt. Diablo May-Ham ride; this is a Bay Area Directors (BAD) ride and will be a lot of fun. We will meet at Johnny's Java at 7:00 and depart at 7:30. They came to our chapter last month to drum up support so let's show up and give our fellow chapters a hand.

Our first Summer Run meeting was well attended and some great ideas were brought up. With some fine tuning regarding food, poker stops and games it looks like this year's run and venue are going to be a blast. If you would like to participate or at least contribute some ideas please attend our next meeting **Thursday May 26<sup>th</sup>** at the Round Table in Rohnert Park located in the Raleys shopping center. The meeting starts at 6:30. See you there.



2015 RENO ACES GAME & RIDE



## April Showers - May Flowers

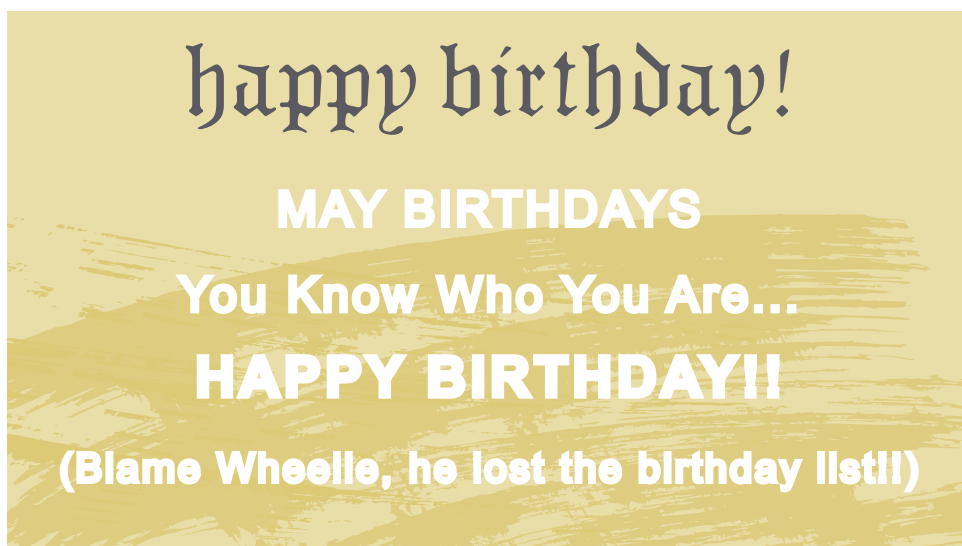
Well April showers bring May flowers. It also brings pollen and bugs. This year seems to have started this a lot sooner. Make sure you are wearing eye protection. I have heard from some riders that they wished they had their full face helmet on after they got smacked by a big bug. One big item that came out of the HOG training session last month was be aware when riding around a semi. The bumper sticker on the back of the semi that says "If you can't see my mirrors I can't see you" believe it. They showed us numerous positions around the semi where a bike is not seen by the driver. I know we are trying to set something up to demonstrate this, but for now be careful.

Ride safe.

Jeff Baron, Safety Officer



H.O.T. (HOG OFFICER TRAINING) LAS VEGAS



## Greetings Lady Riders,



Since we missed our LOH ride to Vacaville due to rainy weather, I thought I'd do a little history checking to see how long we ladies have been enjoying motorcycle riding. The story below about Sally Robinson was pretty entertaining, so thought I would share it with you this month.

I did get to enjoy the 339 mile excursion over to Folsom for their target event on Saturday the 19th. They have roads over there that rival ours here on the coast. Wish you had come along! We missed getting to participate in the chapter challenge – there was only one challenge and I wasn't able to finish my lunch in time to participate (maybe my failure will cause Randy to rethink volunteering me as the challenge representative next time!!).

Kathy Avilla, LOH 2016

Sally Robinson, shown below in front of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington D.C., was the first woman to receive a motorcycle license. This happened in September of 1937, but it didn't come easy. Read more about her experience on the next page.





Reprinted from the The Washington Post, September 11, 1937

## **D.C.'s Lone Girl Motorcyclist Stormed Loudly to Get Permit**

*"Sally Robinson - She Weighs Only 88 Pounds - Had to 'Buffalo' Stalwart Policeman but Finally Won His Praise - and License.*

By dint of stamping her foot Sally Robinson, of 2120 H Street Northwest, has become the only girl in Washington licensed to ride a motorcycle.

Miss Robinson—all 88 pounds of her—has been operating motorcycles on and off since 1928, but last spring she decided she wanted a permit. The policeman assigned to officiate at her examination had different ideas, however. Although the District has no law against women motorcyclists, this examiner apparently thought it should have.

"First he said I was too little, then he said I was too young," Miss Robinson declaimed yesterday, malice toward all policeman shining in her eyes." She is 27, years old and 4 feet 11 inches tall, and didn't see what either factor had to do with her sitting behind the handlebars of a motorcycle.

"I passed the written examination all right—passed it twice, in fact. The first time I got 80 on it, but that wasn't good enough for him so I went down again and got 92, when that didn't satisfy him, I got my lawyer.

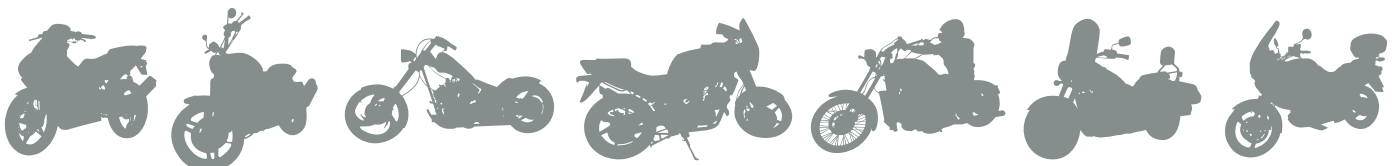
"Well, that cop looked from me to the lawyer, and from the lawyer to me, and then he said I could take my road test," she continued. Her difficulties had not ended, however. Thinking all was well, she said goodbye to her lawyer and started out for the road test.

Then the policeman announced he would not ride with her in the sidecar of the machine he provided for the test —he said he was afraid to.

But when the test was over, the examiner announced, "Lady, you handle it as well as a man could. Your balance is swell and you know the machine. But I didn't see you kick it over so I can't give you the permit."

That was when Miss Robinson started "cussing him out."

"I called him such names - well, I was ashamed of myself. But it worked, and I have the permit."



Miss Robinson uses the smallest type of machine built, but at that it weighs 325 pounds, nearly four times as much as she does. Despite the fact, it occasionally falls on her, she insists she would rather ride that machine than eat when she's hungry. As for automobiles, she has no use for them whatsoever.

At present her chief goal is membership in the Capitoliens, a newly formed motorcycle club of which Lynn Cook, 1515 U Street Northwest is president. She will be on the only girl in the club, which does not share the Police Department's prejudice against the sex."



*Sally Robinson—licensed motorcycle rider—a first for women!*

On a group ride, Donna is asked whether she's plugged in... She replies, "Just because I'm plugged in doesn't mean I'm turned on!"

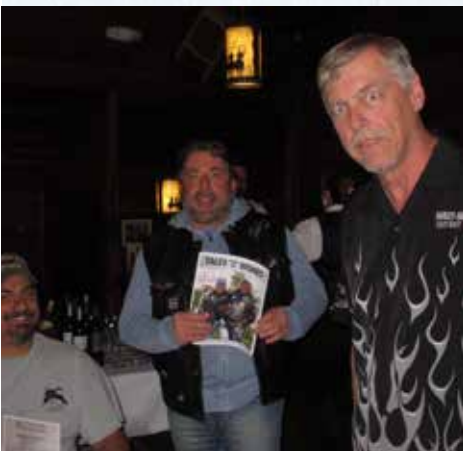




**FAKAHWE RIDE**



**APRIL GENERAL MEETING**







**HAMBURGER RANCH RIDE**



**JOLINE LEVESQUE MEMORIAL RIDE**





Current info as of April 26<sup>th</sup>. Please review website calendar at [rechog.org](http://rechog.org) & call the Ride Hotline for latest updates and additions 707.575.6786.



## MAY

### 01 Road Captain Breakfast Meeting

First Sunday of the month. Meet at Marvin's Restaurant, Cotati at 9am. All Road Captains are encouraged to attend, as well as anyone who would like to become a Road Captain.

### 01 RECHOG PICNIC

Come join us celebrate Spring with burgers and brats at Lake Berryessa. Ian will lead this year's ride meeting at Johnny's Java in Cotati at 9:00 with kick stands up at 9:30. His 2.5 hour route to the Oak Shores Day Use at Lake Berryessa covers some great country roads with lush scenery from this year's rain. Members and guests will be treated to lunch with Hamburgers (and some veggie burgers), Bratwurst, sauerkraut, baked beans, fruit salad, chips, and cake for dessert. There will be plenty of water and sodas also. This is a closed chapter ride, each member may bring one guest. If you cannot make the ride but would like to join us at Lake Berryessa we will be at the Oak Shores Day Use Group Shelter Foxtail #1, lunch will be served around 12:30 when the riders arrive. For more information please call Randy Mack (707) 696-6272.



### 05 RECHOG General Chapter Meeting

General membership meeting held the first Thursday of every month, at Cattlemen's in Petaluma. Eat and socialize beginning at 6pm. Meeting begins at 7pm. Please sign-in for: Birthday for that month drawing, next month birthdays that go to Tales of the Woods, Guests, and get your FREE Member ticket.

### 06 Friday Off Work Ride

Meet at SCHD at 10:00 leave at 10:30. Lead RC Steve Fisher, sweep Ian Refugio.

### 08 Happy Mother's Day

LOH Officer Kathy Avila will lead a ride to the Petrified Forest in Calistoga. Meet at Johnny's Java at 8:00am, Depart at 8:30am. Ride will go west and through some back roads, stopping for a break in Occidental by 9:30am. Ride continues along Bohemian Highway and connects with River Road, heading for Petrified Forest National Park. Docent-led tour begins at 11am. It is a 90-minute walking tour so a change of shoes from riding boots may be desired. Admission: Adults \$10, Students and 62+ adults \$9, Children 6-11 yrs \$5, Kids under 6 are free. *Please bring a picnic lunch and drinks with you.* There are picnic tables available in the shade of Redwood Trees at the park.

### 11 Dinner Ride, Meet at SCHD

at 5:30 leave at 6pm

### 14 Mt. Diablo BAD Event,

Randy Mack will lead the ride to the Mt. Diablo BAD Event. Meet at Johnny's Java at 7:00, leave at 7:30.

### 16 Monday Funday Ride.

Meet at SCHD at 10:00, leave at 10:30. Lead RC Donna Fess, sweep Glen Childers.

### 19 RECHOG Board of Directors Meeting

6pm at Sonoma County Harley-Davidson. Members are encouraged to attend and observe the workings of their club and participate in the round table discussion. If you want to learn about RECHOG and how you can participate in our events, rides and activities. this is a good meeting to attend.

### 22 Ride to Putah Creek Café in Winters.

Meet at Johnny's Java at 9:30, leave at 10am. Lead RC Steve Reed, sweep Glen Childers.

### 26 Summer Run Meeting

at 6:30 at Round Table Pizza in the Raley's Shopping Center, Rohnert Park.

### 28 Sacramento BAD Event

Randy Mack will lead the ride to the Sacramento BAD Event. Meet at Johnny's Java at 7:00 leave at 7:30.

### 30 Happy Memorial Day!

Memorial Day Ride will be lead by Steve Pehargou. Meet at Johnny's Java at 9am, leave at 9:30. Sweep Glen Childers





# JUNE

## 02 RECHOG General Chapter Meeting

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## 03 Friday Off Work Ride, meet at SCHD at 9:00 leave at 9:30. Lead RC Ian Refugio.

## 05 Road Captain Breakfast Meeting First Sunday of the month. Meet at Marvin's Restaurant, Cotati at 8:00am. All Road Captains are encouraged to attend, and anyone who would like to become a road captain.

## 11 Golden Gate BAD Event, LOH Officer Kathy Avilla will lead the ride to the Golden Gate BAD Event. Meet at Johnny Java's at 8:00, leave at 8:30. Ian Refugio will sweep. See flyer on page 13.

## 19 Happy Father's Day Meet at SCHD at 10:00 and leave at 10:30 for the Papa's Day Ride lead by Sergio Bravo, sweep Glen Childers.

## 20 First Day of Summer! Let's celebrate with a Monday Funday ride. Meet at SCHD at 9:30, leave at 10:00. Lead RC Donna Fess.



## 23 Summer Run Meeting at 6:30 at Round Table Pizza in the Raley's Shopping Center, Rohnert Park.

## 25-26 Reno Aces Baseball Overnighter Meet at Bad Ass Coffee, SR at 7:30am with kick stands up at 8am. Reno Aces game at 7pm. Return home on Sunday. Randy Mack has 24 game tickets, and 30 hotel rooms blocked out at Harrahs Reno which is 2 blocks from the stadium. (Central Reservations at 1-888-726-6311, Group Code:T06RED6), The cut-off date is June 11th and is first come first served.

# JULY

## 01 Friday Off Work Ride, meet at SCHD at 10:00 leave at 10:30.

## 03 Road Captain Breakfast Meeting First Sunday of the month. Meet at Marvin's Restaurant, Cotati at 8:00am. All Road Captains are encouraged to attend, and anyone who would like to become a road captain. Ian Refugio will lead a ride to the Jelly Belly Factory after the meeting, more details to come.

## 04 Independence Day! We will be participating in the 4th of July Parade in Calistoga, more details to come.

## 07 RECHOG General Chapter Meeting General membership meeting held the first Thursday of every month, at Cattlemen's in Petaluma. Eat and socialize beginning at 6pm. Meeting begins at 7pm. Please sign-in for: Birthday for that month drawing, next month birthdays that go to Tales of the Woods, Guests, and get your FREE Member ticket.

## 09 Golden Gate BAD Event, More details to come.

## 18 Monday Funday Ride. Meet at SCHD at 9:30, leave at 10:00.

## 28 Summer Run Meeting at 6:30 at Round Table Pizza in the Raley's Shopping Center, Rohnert Park.

# AUGUST

## 21 RECHOG Summer Run Ride through beautiful Sonoma County, ending at Lake Sonoma. Ride cost is \$15 for single rider and \$25 for a couple, benefitting Valley of the Moon Children's Foundation. Lunch will be separate.



### May 2016

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

### June 2016

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Date: 4/7/16 Call to Order: 7:00 pm Pledge of Allegiance led by: Jack Read  
 Previous Meeting Minutes Motion to Accept: Steve Pehargou Second: Ian Refugio

Director Randy Mack: Randy told us that Assist. Director Dave McCombs could not be with us tonight due to having other responsibilities. Dave and Steve Pehargou set up a visit with Joline for Randy. Randy reported on her status. At the Summer Run meeting, on 3/31/16, we determined that the Valley of the Moon Children's Foundation will be the charity we are going to support with this year's event. Our ride will end at Lake Sonoma. Cost to participate in the ride is \$15 for single rider and \$25 for a couple. We still need help setting up the poker stops and in getting vendors to attend the event. Next planning meeting is at the Rohnert Park Roundtable at 6:30 pm, on 4/28/16. At the last BAD meeting there was a focus on Road Captains. Randy let us know that our Lead Road Captain, Steve Pehargou represented us well.

Those riding to the HOT training on Wednesday should meet at Johnny's Java at 8:00 am and depart at 8:30 am. The Reno Aces sent the wrong tickets so Randy is still waiting for the tickets to the 6/25/16 event. If you're interested in going see Randy to sign up for tickets. We will be spending that night at Harrah's. Randy told us that former Lead Road Captain John Christenson has been diagnosed with stage 4 mouth and throat cancer.

Guest Speakers: Four members from Mt Diablo HOG spoke about their upcoming BAD event on 5/14/16. This year's theme is Mayhem Run. If you've attended their prior H2O rides, you know what to expect. Mt Diablo goes all out on their events and those who ride to that event will not be disappointed. To attend the ride being led by Randy, meet at Johnny's Java at 7:00 am and depart at 7:30 am.

Membership, Lonnie Olaeta: Lonnie introduced new members Mark Newton, Ron Fischer and Michael Turpin. New members were called forward and give a brief comment about what they road. Next, Lonnie introduced our Honored Guests for the month. From Mt Diablo HOG we had Larry and Romina Hanson and Vicki and Rob Wieben. Other guests included Cassandra Fischer and Bill and Heidi Faulkner. Former RECHOG member JM Cercley who is now a member of Sacramento HOG dropped in to tell us that he has moved to Sacramento and now is a Sacramento HOG. Member's having birthdays this month are Mark Newton, Vincent Mulligan, Sergio Vial and Walter Kettler. Winners of the \$25 gift certificates were Mark Newton and Walter Kettler.

Treasurer, Linnea Carter: Linnea gave an accounting of our current funds.

Lead Road Captain Steve Pehargou: Steve talked about the rides cancelled due to weather and reminded everyone about checking the HOG Hotline before rides. Summer Run route has been determined and Steve pointed out that he expects all current Road Captains to be ready and able to participate on the ride. New Road Captain Brian Bokkin was awarded his Road Captain patch.

Activities Director, Donna Fess: Donna spoke about some changes on the calendar. On 4/10/16 member Stacy DeVoy is opening a new Pet Care store in Novato. There will be a ride to the new store followed by dinner at Mary's Pizza. If it rains, we can still visit the new store and then meet at Mary's. The ride scheduled for 4/16 has been changed to 4/17 and will be led by Glen Childers. Meet at Johnny's Java at 9:30 am and depart at 10:00 am. There will be Monday Funday Ride on 4/18/16, meet at SCHD at 10:00 am and depart at 10:30 am. A dinner Ride to La Casa Restaurant in Sonoma on 4/19/16, meeting at SCHD at 5:30 pm and departing at 6:00 pm. There is a RECHOG Picnic pre-ride on 4/25/16, meeting at SCHD at 10:00 am, departing at 10:30 am. Next Summer Run meeting is on 4/28/16, at the Rohnert Park Roundtable Pizza, at 6:30 pm. On 5/1/16 there is a Road Captain meeting then a ride to the RECHOG picnic then a ride to Lake Sonoma for the picnic. Meet at Johnny's Java at 9:00 am, departing at 9:30 am. On 5/11/16 there will be another dinner ride with details to TBD. On the 14th there is the BAD ride at Mt Diablo. Randy will lead it and we will meet at Johnny's Java at 7:00 am, leaving at 7:30 am. Lot of rides scheduled for June. Check the newsletter. LOH Officer Kathy Avilla will lead a ride to Golden Gate's BAD ride on 6/11/14, meeting at Johnny's Java at 8:00 am and depart at 8:30 am. Check the calendar for additional rides that are already on the schedule.

Ladies of Harley, Kathy Avila: There is an LOH ride to the Petrified Forest on 5/8/16. The ride is about 90 miles and will head to the forest. Entry into the venue is \$10 regular and \$9 for seniors. After touring the park the ride will head to a restaurant in Calistoga for lunch. Meet at Johnny's Java at 8:00 am and depart at 8:30 am.

Safety Officer Jeff Baron: Jeff pointed out the increase in the number of motorcycle accidents in the news lately. Due to the improved weather more bikes are on the road and drivers may not be paying enough attention, so be careful.

Historian Doug Barnes: Doug shared some history of the development of motorcycles, going back to 1894 and Germany's Motor Rat and the first U.S. motorcycle, the Orient Astor, in 1894. He then shared quotes from celebrities and their views on motorcycles.

Open Mike: Sergio, new members can find out about rides on the RECHOG calendar page or check out the RECHOG Facebook page. To join, send him a "friend request." Donna, reminded everyone that lunch will be cash only on the Skunk Train ride.

Opportunity Drawing: Ticket 4382427, Mike Farias won \$50 in tonight's drawing.

Monthly Gift Card Drawing: Karen Knapp's name was drawn for the \$50 gift certificate. She was present and claimed her prize. Next month the drawing will start over at \$25.

Raffle Winners:

4382371	Glen Gillis	4382423	Randy Mack	4382366	No Response
4382379	Jeff Baron	4382456	Vince Mulligan		
4382311	Marc Mendleson	4382311	Heidi Faulkner	4382463	Vince Mulligan

Meeting Adjourned: 7:57 pm

John E. Mentz, Secretary - Redwood Empire Chapter





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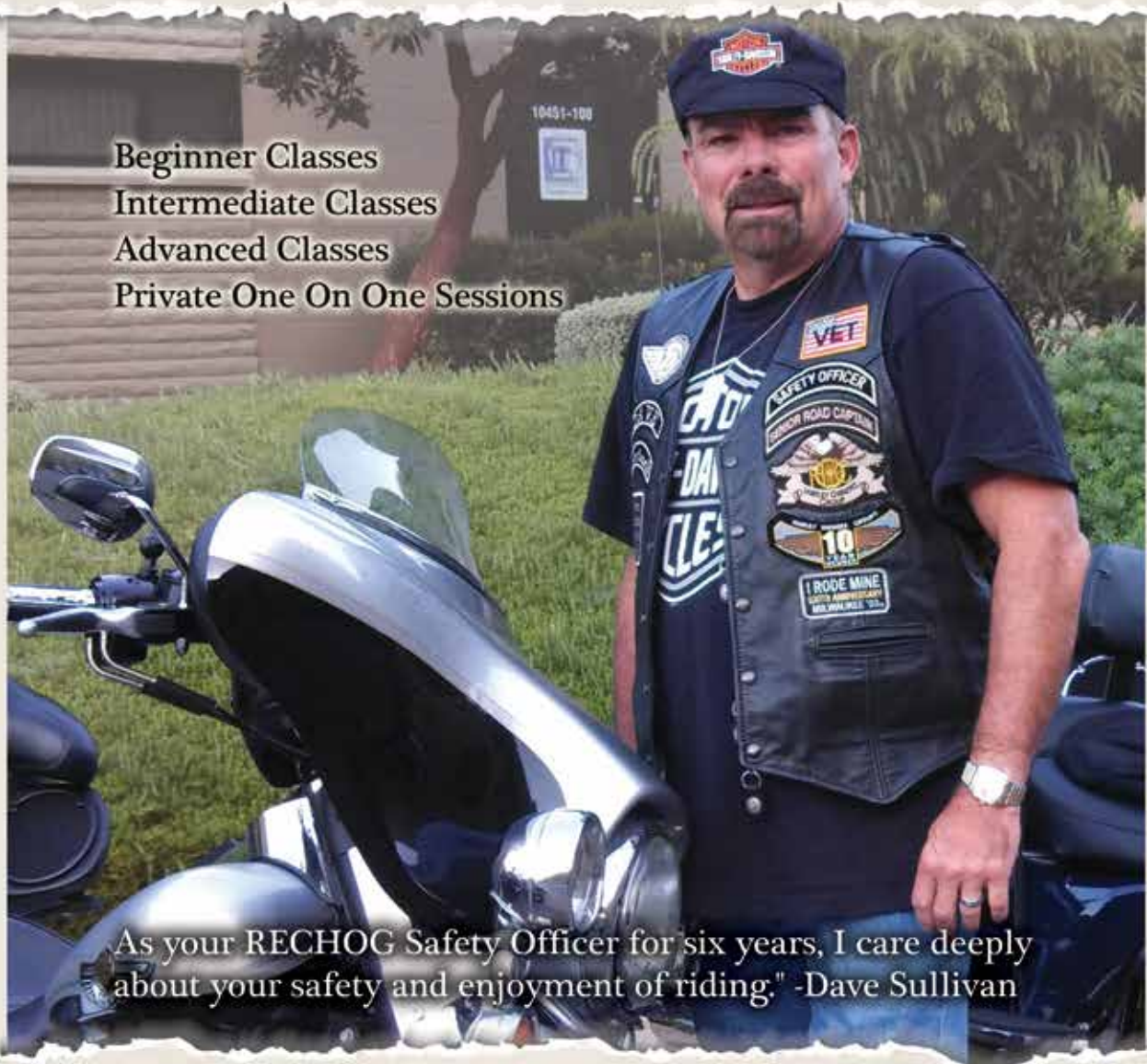
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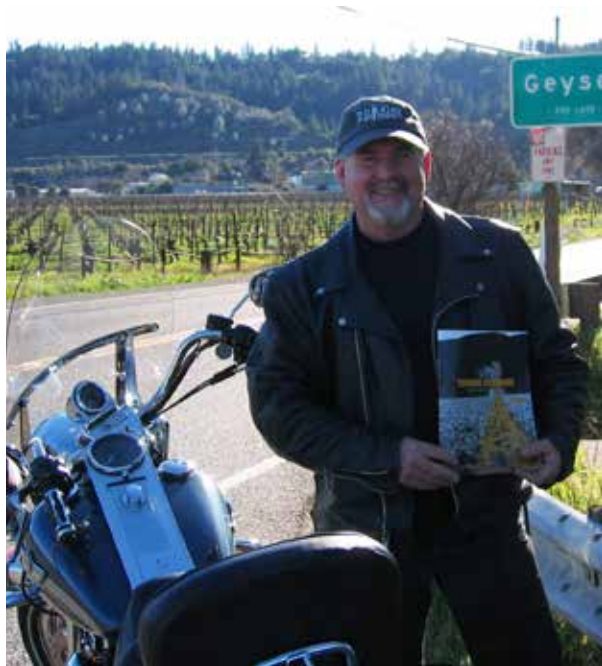
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RECHOG.ORG | HOTLINE 707.575.6786



“Most motorcycle problems are caused by the nut that connects the handlebars to the saddle.”

## TALES FROM THE REDWOODS

c/o Sonoma County Harley-Davidson  
7601 Redwood Drive  
Cotati, CA 94931



THANK YOU, SONOMA COUNTY HARLEY-DAVIDSON  
for your continued support of RECHOG!

