

TALES FROM THE REDWOODS

APRIL 2017



RECHOG REPRESENTATIVES AT H.O.G. OFFICER TRAINING IN ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO



Happy Spring, Harley Riders!

REDWOOD EMPIRE CHAPTER #3494





RECHOG is proudly sponsored by
Sonoma County Harley-Davidson
7601 Redwood Drive, Cotati, CA 94931
800.400.2011 | sonomacountyhd.com



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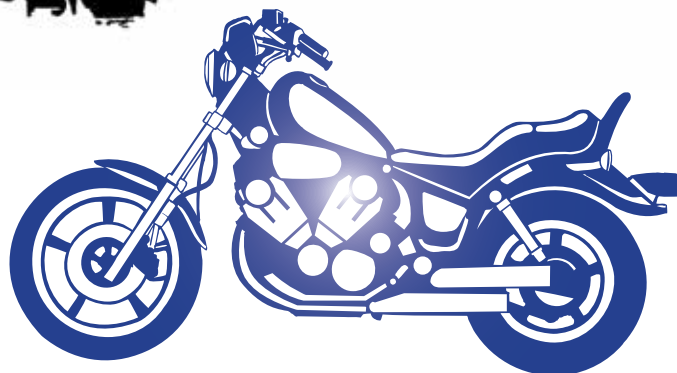
Redwood Empire Chapter #3494

For more information, email webmaster@rechog.org

Save the Date:

August 19

RECHOG SUMMER RUN



A BIG THANK YOU!

"Thank You!" once again to each of you that stepped up to help with the **Napa Valley Marathon** fundraising event for our chapter. The weather was less than desirable and yet several of you were out in the early morning, dressed in your rain gear and helping out others to safely participate in their running event. It is this type of selflessness that helps keep RECHOG what it is, a group of friends and companions with a desire to help keep our organization fun and enables us to fund events that in turn helps us to reward our members, one of which is the upcoming Mothers Day Picnic.

As you may have noticed spring has arrived, we have set our clocks forward to take advantage of the daylight, the winter storms have soaked the ground and now the flora and fauna of the area are showing up in force along and even across our favorite roads. Both of these can be a hazard for us in our daily travels and our group events. The plants are quickly growing both obscuring our view of nearby surroundings and producing pollen's that may affect our senses. Then we have the critters with their new families suddenly darting out across our line of travel to forage where the grass is greener... the combination can be disastrous to us and our fellow riders, so let's be careful and aware of our surroundings whether alone or in a group.

Our up-coming calendar is full of nice rides and events, we have choices from short jaunts to over-night rides, and once again if you have a destination or would like to lead the group out for an event, feel free to talk to Marc our Activities Officer, Donna the Head Road Captain or any of the many other Officers of this chapter. New ideas and destinations are always welcome. Please check the calendar and Hotline often for the latest information on our activities.

Lets Make Some Noise!

Dave

REDWOOD
EMPIRE
CHAPTER



SPRING POKER RUN

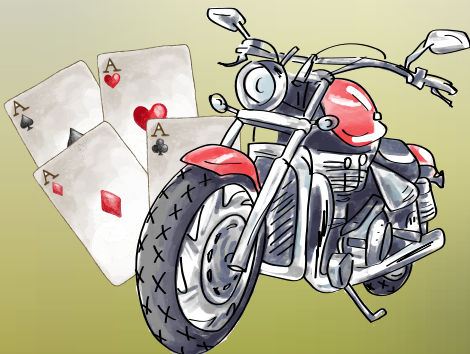
Saturday, May 6

\$10 REGISTRATION 9AM / RIDE DEPARTS 10AM
SONOMA COUNTY HARLEY-DAVIDSON
7601 REDWOOD DR COTATI CA

2+ HR RIDE THROUGH SONOMA'S WINE COUNTRY

DESTINATION: LA PRIMA PIZZA, 1923 LAKE ST. CALISTOGA
LAPRIMAPIZZA.COM

POKER RUN · HIGH - LOW HAND · 50/50



"I just want to go riding and ignore all my adult problems"



April 2017

Let me start off by saying **"THANK YOU"** to all who volunteered at the Napa Valley Marathon. I know we had fun out there despite the interesting weather we had that day. The marathon folks have expressed their gratitude and hopes we can go at it again next year. I would like to mention a few big rides we have coming up. First is a ride to the **Valley of the Moon Children's Home on April 15th**. Next is the **RIP City Riders Spring Bash on April 22nd**. Please check the chapters website and hotline for more fun things we have lined up.

We're definitely in riding season already. And we have a lot of big rides (both RECHOG and non-official rides) coming up. Between all these rides, we are busy planning out for our future events like the **Spring Run on May 6th** and the **Summer Run on August 19th**. If you would like to help out planning these events, please talk to Dave McCombs or myself. We will be asking for volunteers to assist the Summer Run committee soon.

I look forward to seeing y'all on one of our rides. As always, if you have any concerns or suggestions, please do not hesitate to approach me or any of the officers. We welcome any new positive ideas that is beneficial to our chapter. We are here to make our chapter the best we possibly can and to ensure everyone has a positive and safe experience.

Ride Hard. Ride Safe.

AD

Happy
Birthday!

KATRINA BRUCE

SERGIO BRAVO

WALTER KETTLER



What Happened to that Tire?

So if you've been following my stories for the last two months you will know that I've been working my way backwards through the events that took place last summer. This actually happened at the very beginning of my trip on the way to Spokane, WA for the Pacific Northwest HOG Rally last August. I was close to needing a new rear tire and was contemplating whether to get a new tire before I left for my trip or get it once I reached Washington. I had my bike serviced for the trip and was told I should probably go ahead and get the new tire before I left, so that is what I did. With not even 100 miles on my new tire I headed out for Spokane. The first day I rode to Madras, Oregon and spent the night

there and got up the next morning and continued on to Spokane. I was having a great ride until I got about 20 miles from Lone Wolf HD in Spokane. My ride started to become a little bumpy and I was wondering if it was because of the pavement, it was not smooth. I tried changing lanes and eventually it seemed to be better. But before long I could tell something was drastically wrong. Fortunately, I was able to pull over to the side of the freeway without losing control of the bike. There was not much left of my new tire. I had my bike towed to the dealership. They couldn't believe the condition of my tire! They just couldn't imagine what had happened to it!!! And they couldn't believe I was able to pull the bike over without going down. I've been to the Lone Wolf dealership several times since this happened and it's still the talk of the shop! To this day I don't really know what happened to it, speculation is the tire was defective or maybe I ran over a nail and it slowly went flat. I received excellent service there, they put on a new tire that evening and I was able to participate in the rally rides the following days. If you've ever wondered whether having additional wheel and tire coverage on your bike is worth having, I can assure you it is! I've only had three motorcycles but, but I've had an issue with tires on each one of them.

Donna Fess



When riders are discussing Harley Davidson Motorcycles what does "Flathead" refer to?

The Flathead was an engine manufactured in 1929. It was so reliable that it is still available in 1973.

Answer: Engine

Managing the Twisties

Starting off, I want to apologize for last month's general meeting safety rattle about managing the twisties. As I feel I failed to fully explain my thoughts, leaving good information to the side of the road, here is the printed version.

The mountain ranges we have (Sierra Nevada, Cascades, Rockies, Black Mountains) is out of this world for the ideal motorcycle ride, but if you are used to riding in the flat country, here are some new aspects. How do you brake when riding downward, and how do you brake when riding up? What is the ideal line in a switchback or hairpin? How do you cope with the fear and anxiety of heights? Weather?

Starting the outside; very important in the twisties is the line you ride through a corner. Always start at the outside in a corner to the left; and start at the inside, in a corner to the right. If the road is narrow, you can use the part of the road for oncoming traffic. The advantage is that you will see oncoming traffic earlier than when you stay inside the corner, always "Looking through the corner". Do not reach for the lane of oncoming traffic in a left turn; there will be no space if you need more, and at the same time you will train yourself to ride tight corners.

Blind corners, Take extreme care should be taken not only to expect for cars or trucks, but also cows, horses, chickens, sheep or goat! On really narrow roads with hairpins, don't begin on the lane for oncoming traffic; there will not be enough time to get back to the right side of the road.

Gravity and breaking upwards; using the rear brakes when riding upwards during turns, this will help stabilize the bike, allowing you to keep the throttle open during the turn because gravity has shifted weight to the rear of the bike.

Gravity and breaking downwards; with the combination of the front brakes and engine compression is the most effective way of managing the down hill. Downwards, the rear brake will be of no use; the rear wheel will carry little to no weight as gravity has now shifted the weight to the front loading the forks, which means it will stop turning very easily when you apply the rear brake, locking the rear wheel washing the bike out. Using the engine as a brake; shifting down in gears until you have the right speed without the throttle, or with a bit of throttle is ideal while entering a turn, allowing you to open the throttle a bit helping to stabilize the bike.

When it is so steep that your speed is too high, even in the first gear, you will have to use front brakes but ONLY front brakes. If you have to come to a standstill while riding downward, pulling away, start by just letting the breaks go and clutch disengaged without the aid of the engine and then slowly engaging the clutch. Stopping upwards; keeping your foot on the rear brake and in first gear, it will be easier to ride away again.

Fear and Anxiety of Heights? Then I don't know what to tell you other than "don't go up and if you do don't look down". Sounds simple; I have a terrible fear and anxiety of heights but I try and mange it to the best of my ability. What helps to keep the anxiety in check for me is looking to the front of the bike and concentrating on the road ahead and of course not looking down, as this will also help ease the dizziness. Pulling over in safe areas (such as look outs) that you can see approaching traffic in both directions helps as well. But remember park the bike in away that helps you get the bike back on the road easily and watch out for loose gravel.

Weather, high in the mountains can change very suddenly, from summer to winter, from thunderstorm to clear skies, from snow to fog, so warm cloths is a must, a jacket to keep the rain outside, and sunglasses. What will likely to happen is that you will ride in bright warm sun, and suddenly, after a corner or two, you could enter thick fog, and or light rain so be prepared.

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

Vincent Mulligan, Safety Officer

HOG HISTORY:

ABC's of Touring is one of the benefits of HOG Membership. It is a contest created by HOG, where any full or associate member may submit photos of him/herself of their Harley motorcycle, HOG magazine, and an official sign. Official signs are: Cities, Counties, States, Countries, National Parks, National Forests, and HOG Rallies (State, National and International). Points are awarded for each photo. The more points one has, the more prizes one can receive after your photos were submitted at the end of each year. The ABC's come into play by limiting the member to only one photo for each letter of the alphabet for cities and counties. Other categories are not limited. So for the letter "A" one could only have one city, such as Auburn. And only one county, such as Alameda. But for States one could submit Alabama, Arizona, Alaska, and Arkansas.

One of the nice things of this contest is that everyone can play and everyone can win. Although no one wins big. At least as far as the prizes go. Back in 1999 the 1st prize was \$500 and a plaque. Considering how addicting this game has become for some who strive to win, the prize hardly covers the travel expenses. 1st place winners over the years had most if not all States and Provinces of Canada, as well as many State HOG Rallies! Once when I attended the Oregon State HOG Rally, I was told a story that one of their members was so determined to win that upon learning that he was not the only one to have all the U.S. States, he flew to Eastern Canada to rent a Harley to secure all the provinces! But he won 1st place.

This year 1st place is \$1500 H-D gift card plus more. Other changes occurred over the years also. In 1999 one needed 26 points to even enter, today only 5 points are needed. Back then every 10 points over 26 earned one an additional prize. Prizes changed every year. Only 1 point for 1 National Park was given. Same for a National Forest. No points were awarded for any Harley Facilities or Dealerships!

It was common for those on Harley sponsored national rides, like Lewis & Clark, to see a group of ABC-ers huddled in the corner of the hotels pouring over maps sprawled over tables and chairs to find side trips to gain additional points. No GPS or Google Maps on cell phones back then. The rest of the riders were in front of the lobby TV tuned to the Weather Channel.

New this year, we no longer submit printed photos. Rather one submits digital photos online into the HOG members only website. Also prizes are gone. Replaced by pin, patch, and gift cards. Point levels have changed also. Now 0 to 50 pts. = pin & patch. 51 to 91 pts. = pin, patch, \$25 gift card. 100 pts. or more = pin, patch, \$50 gift card.

But we don't really participate for the prizes. Last year I secured 62 points and won a pin, patch, bandana, and a selfie stick. Other members in our chapter had more points than I. John Mentz got a jacket.

The big prize all contestants get is riding. It can be one more incentive to take the bike out. And it can take you to places you might never go, like Umpqua, Oregon or Ziebach County, South Dakota (the only "Z" county in the U.S.).

REC-HOG HISTORY: Larry Komen was the director in 1992. That was the year California enacted the Helmet Law which was fiercely fought by AMA, ABATE, and Harley-Davidson. Other legal issues were: Motorcycles in commuter lanes (HOV lanes today), and motorcycle bridge crossing without a fee. That was also the year Northern Ca. H-D Dealers Assn. chose to no longer sponsor the Redwood Run. Restaurants and merchants dramatically increased their prices. As did law enforcement agencies for overtime for security. The Kiwanis Club started sponsoring the event. In spite of these issues the chapter continued to grow.

Motor Co. History: Following WW 1 production of bikes fell as the market shrank. And Harley went on a search for export markets in Europe, British empire, and Japan. In the U.S., dealers were given increased support for advertising and credit programs were developed. The push was to persuade the fence-sitter that they could and should buy a new Harley-Davidson. Although the factory in Milwaukee wasn't running near the capacity that it had been, it was still doing far better than any other manufacturer. In the 1920's Harley overtook Indian as the biggest motorcycle company in the U.S., and for a time the biggest in the world!

Marty Hlusak



ESPARTO ALMOND FESTIVAL RIDE



NAPA MARATHON VOLUNTEERS





MARCH General Meetings



ANTONIO'S Napa - Petaluma Ride



ACTIVITIES LISTING

BY MARC MENDELSON

Current info as of March 24th. Please review website calendar at rechog.org & call the Ride Hotline for latest updates and additions 707.575.6786.



APRIL

01 -2 Overnight Ride to Ft. Bragg and Mendocino.

Marc Mendelson will lead this fun, springtime ride to the coast with plenty of awesome sights and ample time to visit the Pt. Cabrillo and Pt. Arena Lighthouses, the village of Mendocino, plus the famous Glass Beach. Lunch stop in Booneville at Lauren's Restaurant. In Ft. Bragg, our motel is perched on the bluff overlooking the harbor. After check-in we can go down to the wharf to watch the fishing boats, come in and enjoy craft beers, fish-n-chips, and a big pit-fire on the dock. Sunday morning, join us at Glass Beach at low-low tide to noodle around for weathered beach glass, or have a leisurely breakfast in town. Check out is at 11am. Return home via the coast with a lunch stop at Pt. Arena Cove. Ride ends at Stumptown Brewery in Guerneville. Book your room for April 1st at Harbor Lite Lodge: 707.964.0221 or harborlitelodge.com. Code "RECHOG" for a special \$109 rate for a double queen room. Meet at Bad Ass Coffee with a full tank of gas at 10am, Depart at 10:30.

02 Smag Smaggy will lead an unofficial ride to a Top Secret destination. Meet at SCHD at 10am, depart at 10:30.

06 RECHOG GENERAL Chapter 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.

07 Friday Off Ride. Ian will lead a ride through the Chileno Valley for brunch at Marvin's in Novato. Meet at Johnny's Java at 10am, depart 10:30.

08 Spring Run Pre-Ride "Road Captains Only" on this one. SCHD Meet @ 10am/ Depart @ 10:30. **ALL road captains please attend.**

09 Road Captain Meeting Meet at Marvin's Restaurant in Cotati at 9:30. All road captains and anyone interested in being a road captain are encouraged to attend.

09 Joline's Memorial Ride. Meet SCHD 10:00, Depart 10:30. Dave McCombs will lead.

13 Planning meeting for the Summer Run. 6:00pm. Meet at Round Table Pizza, 40 Raley's Town Centre, Rohnert Park. Anyone interested in helping out with the Summer Run is encouraged to attend. Many volunteers are needed.



15 Easter Ride to the Valley of the Moon Children's Center We will meet at Johnny's Java at 9:00 depart at 9:30 and be at VOM at 10:30 for a brunch with the children. Briana at the center said they will be supplying the children with Easter baskets filled with candy and they could use all kinds of donations, not just Easter things. Some suggestions were pajamas, slippers, board games, card games, school supplies or other Easter items besides candy, such as stuffed animals, etc. Each year we contribute some time to the children for Easter and Christmas (vomcf.org). The Childrens' Home positively impacts the present and future lives of the abused, abandoned, and neglected children of Sonoma County and assures the them positive opportunities, and aids them to become productive, equal members of the community. Meet at Johnny's Java at 9:00, depart 9:30. We will meet with the kids at 10:30.

16 Happy Easter



17 Monday Fun Day Ride. Marc Mendelson will lead a ride to Occidental for lunch. Then over Occidental/Coleman

Road to the coast. Meet at Bad Ass Coffee at 10:00/ Depart 10:30

20 RECHOG Board of Directors Meeting 6pm at Sonoma County Harley-Davidson. Members interested in the workings of the club are welcome to attend.

22 Rip City Riders Spring Run If we support them, they will support us. Meet at Johnny's Java at 9:00, Depart at 9:30 for a ride directly to Spanky's in Penngrove. The Rechog ride will end upon arrival at Spankys. Please wear your RECHOG vests to promote our chapters visibility on RIP CITY's ride. RC will lead ride.

26 -29 Laughlin River Run

29 Bike Blessing. Meet SCHD 10:00, depart 10:30.

MAY 04 RECHOG GENERAL Chapter 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.

05 Cinco de Mayo Friday Off Work Ride. Marc Mendelson will lead a ride to Pt. Bonita Lighthouse in the Marin Headlands and then to the Army Corps of Engineers Bay Model in Sausalito. Meet at Johnny's Java at 9:00, Depart at 9:30.

06 RECHOG Spring Run. Donna Fess will lead a 2+ hour ride to La Prima Pizza in Calistoga. There will be a poker run and a 50/50 at the destination. \$10 registration. Meet at SCHD at 9:00, Depart at 10:00.

11 Planning meeting for the Summer Run. 6pm meet at Round Table Pizza, 40 Raley's Town Centre, Rohnert Park. Anyone interested in helping out with the Summer Run is encouraged to attend. Many volunteers are needed.

13 Mt. Diablo HOG B.A.D. Ride. *Prepare to be boarded. Surrender the Booty.* Raffle, Games, Food and Fun. \$20 per person. Everyone is encouraged to attend the Mt. Diablo May-Ham Ride. Meet at Johnny's Java at 7:30, Depart at 8:00. Dave McCombs and Ian will lead the one hour ride to McGuire HD and the Mt. Diablo ride will go from there.

14 Road Captain Meeting. Meet at Marvin's Restaurant in Cotati at 9:30. All road captains and anyone interested in being a road captain are encouraged to attend.

14 LOH Mother's Day Picnic following the Road Captain Meeting. The chapter is sponsoring a FREE Mother's Day picnic for our current members. There is a \$10 fee for non-members. Meet at SCHD at 10am. Depart at 10:30. Shelly Bokkin will lead. Destination TBD.

15 Monday Fun Day Ride. Smag will lead a ride around Howell Mountain near Angwin. Meet at Sonoma County Harley-Davidson at 10am, Depart 10:30.

18 RECHOG BOARD Meeting, 6pm at Sonoma County Harley-Davidson. Members interested in the workings of the club are welcome to attend.

20 Sacramento HOG B.A.D. Ride / Casino Classic. Meet at Johnny's Java 7:00 am. Depart 7:30 am. It is a 2-hour ride to HD of Sacramento. Ride pins to first 150 registered. Poker run. High hand and Low hand. Raffle Prizes. Registration fee is \$25/rider and \$15/passenger. Prices include LUNCH! Director will lead.



April 2017

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May 2017

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28	29	30	31			

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

BY JIM WHEELER

Location: Cattlemen's, Petaluma, CA

Date: March 2, 2017

Flag Salute: Mare Skipper lead us in the pledge of allegiance

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

Assistant Director: Ian welcomed guest Bill Faulkner, He then recognized birthday's for March: Brenda Albright, Jim Wheeler, Tom Larini, Sheila Hummer-Derby, Darryl Kesecker, and Wayne Hovey. Gift card winners were Jim Wheeler and Brenda Albright, He then discussed the details of the upcoming Napa marathon

Raffle Prizes: Raffle prizes were given away throughout the evening. A list of prizes and their respective winners is below.

Treasurer: Linnea announced the chapter is solvent

Secretary: Announced member Michael Loomis received his doctorate in December, Gave away a HD roadhouse brew flight set to ticket 4971041

Membership Report: Rob mentioned to members to pay their dues and sign a release form, membership is now at 105 members; Rob gave away a \$25 gas card via membership raffle ticket 5636870 held by Steve Pehargou

Activities Officer Report: Marc announced upcoming rides and events

Safety Officer Report: Vince gave some tips on braking, riding on roads and riding up and down hills

Historian: Marty gave a presentation with a slideshow regarding why we ride, this month was themed "The Need for Speed," Walter C. Baker was discussed concerning Baker Torpedo with a 7hp electric motor in 1902, this was first to break the 100mph record

Web Master: Sergio talked about RECHOG Friends Facebook site

Director Time: Ian discussed the Spring Run on May 6th, Mother's Day will have a LOH ride and where it ends their will be a BBQ, Upcoming BAD target events, Summer Run is approaching and we need volunteers, the next Summer Run meeting is Thursday, April 13th

Membership Drawing: Tom Larini won this month and was present to receive his prize

Open Mike: Debby Mentz talked about a St Patrick's Day dinner at Sally Tomatoes; Marty mentioned his ABC ride on March 3 and then delivered a joke for Doug Barnes; Randy Mack discussed the Reno Aces ride, Shasta caverns-Plumas county ride July 6-9, upcoming pancake breakfast ride on March 5, and bodega marine lab tour on March 30

50/50 Drawing: Won by Wayne Hovey (0250442)

Meeting Adjourned: 7:52pm

Minutes compiled and submitted by Jim Wheeler

Raffle Prize Winners:

Ticket Number	Name	Prize
4971047	Cherie Wheeler	Hooters Gift Card
4971089	Jeanne Baron	Saddlebag Cooler Bag
4971066	Sergio Bravo	HD Skull Pint Glass Set
4971135	Heidi Faulkner	Sunglasses
4971186	Wayne Hovey	HD pilsner glass
4971130	Heidi Faulkner	HD Shirt
4971118	Glen Childers	HD Coaster Set



Chartered in 1988 and proudly sponsored by Sonoma County Harley-Davidson

Reno Ace's Baseball Saturday June 24-25

Meeting Saturday June 24th at Johnny's Java at 7am and departing at 7:30am. Ride through the foothills and mountains to Reno. Check in to the Whitney Peak Hotel located two blocks from the ball park. Game starts at 7pm. Sunday take a different route home. It's a fun weekend of riding and baseball. Game tickets are \$16 each paid in advance and no refunds (24 tickets available). Hotel reservations are made by calling the hotel, there are 14 rooms blocked out for the discounted group rate of \$129+ tax.

Whitney Peak Hotel, 255 N. Virginia St, Reno, NV 89501
Booking Link: <https://res.windsurfercrs.com/ibe/details.aspx?propertyid=13492&nights=1&check-in=06/24/2017&group=RECHOG624>

Or call 775-398-5400 and ask for the RECHOG rate or Booking code- RECHOG624

Cutoff date to make reservations: 6/2/2017

Shasta Caverns / Plumas County July 6-9

Thursday we meet at Bad Ass Coffee at 6am and departing at 6:30 am. We ride to Lake Shasta for a 2 hour Shasta Cavern Tour (cost \$26) then ride to Redding for the night at the Best Western Plus Hilltop Inn. There are 20 rooms blocked out under RECHOG motorcycle club at the \$139.99+tax group rate. Friday we ride some great back roads to the River Pines Resort in Graeagle where we stay for two nights rate vary depending on the room but about \$100 per night (there are 20 rooms blocked there also). Saturday you can lounge around the resort or your join me as I will lead a ride to see some of the amazing sites around the area. Sunday we head home. Each person must make their own room reservation at the two different venues:

Best Western Plus Hilltop Inn, 2300 Hilltop Dr, Redding, CA 96002 (530) 221-6100 under RECHOG motorcycle club.

River Pines Resort 8296 CA_89, Graeagle, CA 96103 Email Leslie at riverpines@thegrid.net under RECHOG

RECHOG OVERNIGHTERS

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE:

2005 Softail Heritage Classic

- 1 owner
- Black & Gold two-tone paint
- 29,275 miles
- Heated grips
- Heated plug-in on tank
- Floorboards for rider and passenger
- Leather bags in great shape
- additional leather travel bag to fit over sissy bar
- Ladies leather jacket and chaps
- Maintenance mostly done by Michael's H-D
- Garaged and plugged into trickle charger



It's been a great bike for me! Reliable, comfortable and definitely has some 'git up and go!! Must sell, can't ride for medical reasons:(

Asking \$7,500..

Please contact Katrina Bruce at 707-344-4112 or email k_bruce04@yahoo.com



As many of you know, H.O.G. State Rallies began in the late 80's. In the beginning, rally teams were a core group of six passionate H.O.G. members willing to dedicate their time and energy in creating a good time for H.O.G. members.



As we've moved forward, new activities were introduced that required the core team to grow. So with that growth, the need to add a couple positions became necessary. Today the H.O.G. rally teams are made up of the following positions:

- Rally Coordinator
- Rally Treasurer
- Rally Registration Coordinator
- Rally Secretary
- Rally Site Coordinator
- Rally Event Coordinator
- Rally Volunteer Coordinator
- Rally Marketing Coordinator

These individuals work together as a team along with the H.O.G. Regional Manager to evolve their plan into an active event that ultimately brings H.O.G. members together to ride and have fun.

Earlier this year, we removed the word "state" from the name "H.O.G. Rally". This opened the door for more creativity and eliminated some perceived barriers about these events, such as having to reside in the state where the rally is held.

From changing the planning team's structure to changing the event's name, evolution of these rallies is always taking place. Additional examples of change include some areas throughout the U.S. merging individual rallies into one regional event as well as some rallies moving from stationary events to riding rallies. Along those same lines, rally length now varies from a day and half to as many as six or seven days. Something new for 2016, and still in the planning stages, is a ten-day H.O.G. rally. Talk about evolution! Here are a few more examples of how rallies are different now than just ten years ago: websites, Facebook pages, on-line rally registration and reminders to HOG members from H.O.G national about pre-registration deadlines via targeted e-mail blasts!

What is the next evolution of these volunteer organized H.O.G. events? Only time will tell, but be assured the evolution will always have a focus on improvement and quality and of course, input from H.O.G. members!

Thanks, and see you on the road! —JT Hasley

Your Thoughts Please...

JT just laid out a snapshot of where rallies are going and now we want to hear from you! What elements of rallies do you currently like? What could be improved? Are there new elements you would like to see? Here are some thought starters for you:



- Rides at rally
- What makes a great location
- Activities
- Entertainment
- Length of event,
- Riding vs. stationary rally

Please share your thoughts on these questions, or any others that come to mind. Your feedback is key to how rallies will continue to evolve. Please send them directly to me at samuel.klein@harley-davidson.com or 414-343-4002. Looking forward to hearing from you.

See you on the road! —Sam Klein



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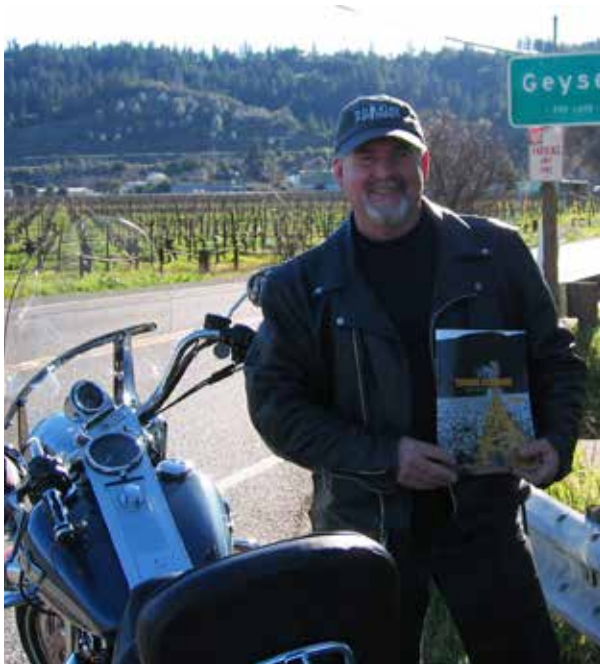
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**Whatever it is,
it's better in the wind.**

TALES FROM THE REDWOODS

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



2017 H.O.G. RALLIES

SOUTHEAST H.O.G. RALLY
November 01 - November 04
Pensacola, FL

CENTRAL H.O.G. RALLY
October 05 - October 07
Ardmore, OK

WESTERN H.O.G. RALLY
September 14 - September 16
Chandler, AZ

GREAT LAKES H.O.G. RALLY
August 17 - August 19
Saulte Ste Marie, MI

HOME SWEET CHROME H.O.G. RALLY
August 15 - August 19
Grantville, PA

**H.O.G. IRON
ADVENTURE OF NEW ENGLAND**
July 27 - July 29
Lincoln, NH

PACIFIC NORTHWEST H.O.G. RALLY
July 20 - July 22
Meridian, ID

H.O.G. REVOLUTION RALLY
July 13 - July 15
Utica, NY

SOUTHERN BACKROAD'S H.O.G. RALLY
July 11 - July 15
Cookeville, TN

LAST FRONTIER H.O.G. RALLY
June 22 - June 24
Fairbanks, AK

ROCKY MOUNTAIN H.O.G. RALLY
June 08 - June 10
Steam Boat Springs, CO

MERGING MOUNTAINS H.O.G. RALLY
June 07 - June 10
Roanoke, VA

SOUTHWEST H.O.G. RALLY
May 18 - May 20
Temple, TX

DEEP SOUTH H.O.G. RALLY
April 06 - April 08
Alexandria, LA



GOLDEN STATE RALLY at Big Bear **June 15-18, 2017**

Golden State Rally at Big Bear is open to all motorcycles and will be an exciting three-day event in the cool San Bernardino mountain air.

Poker Run | Bike Games | Bike Show
Shopping & Dining in the Village
Seminars | Vendors

In addition to spectacular riding routes sure to please all riders, there will be nightly options like a poolside BBQ and an evening at The Cave to enjoy a renowned Rolling Stones tribute band, and more!



Come ride, relax, socialize, and start your summer at the Golden State Rally at Big Bear.

