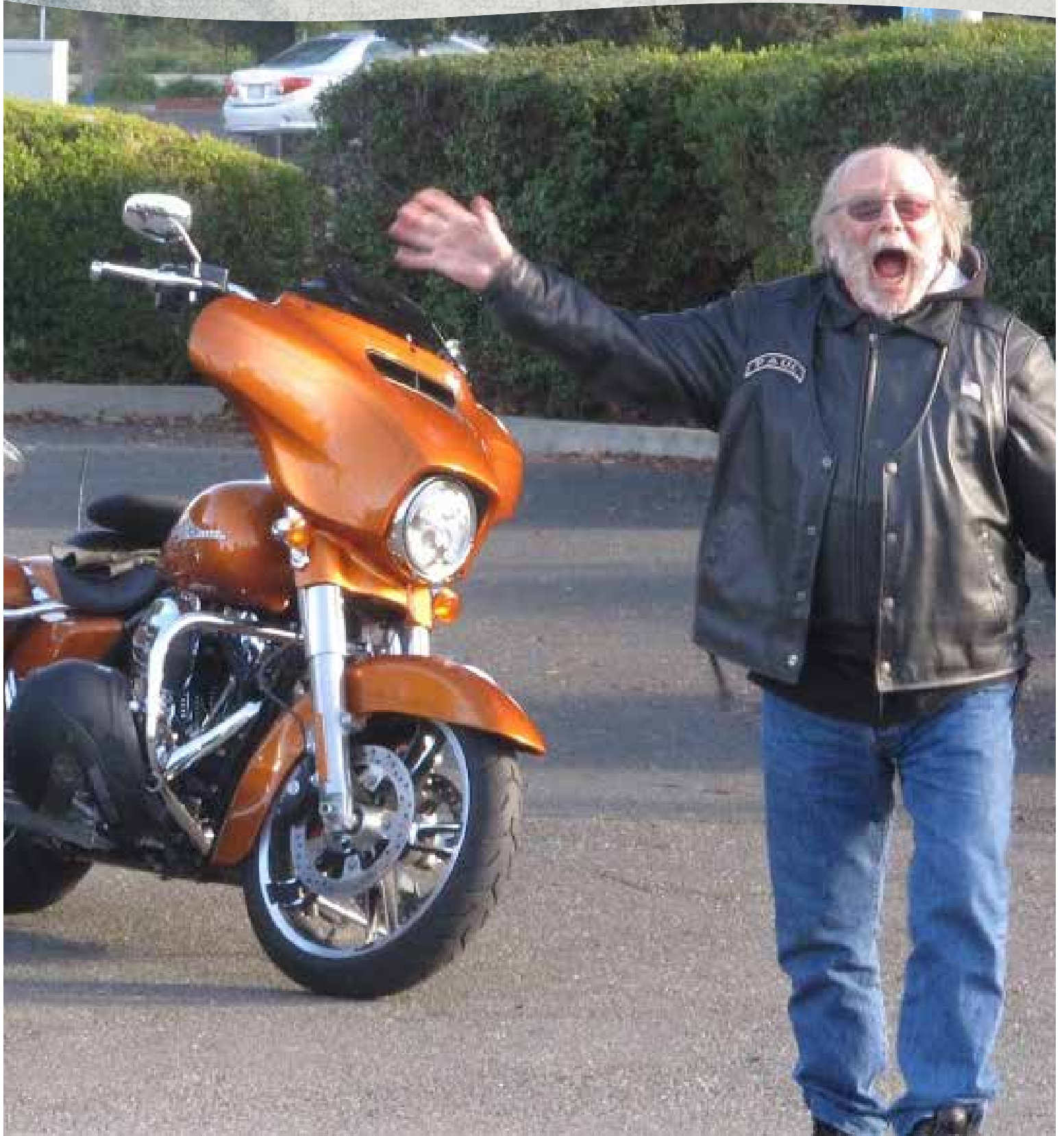


TALES FROM THE REDWOODS

DECEMBER 2016



REDWOOD EMPIRE CHAPTER #3494



REDWOOD EMPIRE HARLEY OWNERS GROUP

HOTLINE 707.575.6786 (RIDE INFORMATION)

NATIONAL HOG 800.258.2464

WWW.RECHOG.ORG

WWW.HOG.COM



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

7601 Redwood Drive, Cotati, CA 94931
800.400.2011 | www.sonomacountyhd.com



RECHOG OFFICERS 2016

Director: Randy Mack	707.696.6272	director@rechog.org
Assist. Director: Dave McCombs	707.696.1388	assistantdirector@rechog.org
Secretary: John Mentz	707.292.7791	secretary@rechog.org
Treasurer: Linnea Carter	415.596.7587	treasurer@rechog.org
Membership: Lonnie Olaeta	415.755.8519	membership@rechog.org
Activities Director: Donna Fess	707.479.0016	activitiesdirector@rechog.org
Road Captain: Steve Pehargou	707.287.5785	roadcaptain@rechog.org
Newsletter Editor: Cherie Wheeler	707.479.7596	newslettereditor@rechog.org
Communications: Jim Jones	707.888.7381	communicationsofficer@rechog.org
Historian: Doug Barnes	707.664.0713	historian@rechog.org
Safety Officer: Jeff Baron	707.495.0567	safetyofficer@rechog.org
Sergeant at Arms: Jack Read	707.525.1375	sergeant-at-arms@rechog.org
Photographer: Steven Reed	707.292.5329	photographer@rechog.org
Webmaster: Sergio Bravo	415.420.3867	webmaster@rechog.org
Ladies of Harley: Kathy Avilla	707.318.7116	LOHofficer@rechog.org
Dealer Liaison: Phil Eiselin	800.400.2011	lacustomc@aol.com

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Official RECHOG pages:

Visit the RECHOG.ORG website.

Visit the facebook page. Please select 'Follow' and 'Like' the page so you get last minute updates.

For more information, email
webmaster@rechog.org



Redwood Empire Chapter #3494

HOME

OFFICERS

CALENDAR

PHOTOS

VIDEOS

SUMMER RUN

NEWS

LOH

IN MEMORY

MEMBERS ONLY

LINKS

General Meetings: 1st Thursday of every month at Cattlemen's Restaurant, 5012 Petaluma Blvd N, Petaluma, CA
Board Meetings: 3rd 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: 20th of the month. Please email: newslettereditor@rechog.org

Chapter website submissions and info, please email: webmaster@rechog.org

Holiday greetings to all,

As I look back over the last two years I have a sense of gratitude for serving with such a dedicated group of board members and an awesome dealer and dealership. We were given a clear message “we are a riding club, nothing else” and it was fun to take that message into every board meeting. It kept things simple and focused on riding, having fun and encouraging everyone to come out and ride with RECHOG. I can honestly say I enjoyed every meeting. No wonder it seems like only yesterday when we started. I know I thanked you all last month but I will say it again, thank you for allowing me to serve. I am looking forward to next year, Dave McCombs and your new board of directors are a fine group and I wish for them all the fun and camaraderie we enjoyed.

If you have not purchased your Christmas Party tickets yet you will find them at the Dealership or you can call me (707) 696-6272 at the last minute.

This is Randy Mack signing off. I will see you on the rides in the middle of the pack.

Ride safe and have fun.
Randy Mack



Merry Christmas!

Happy Holidays

It is hard to believe, but this year is quickly coming to an end. The Presidential Elections are just a memory, Thanksgiving left-overs are long gone, the Holiday Party is just days away, various Religions have Holidays ready to begin and in just 31 short days we celebrate the new year.

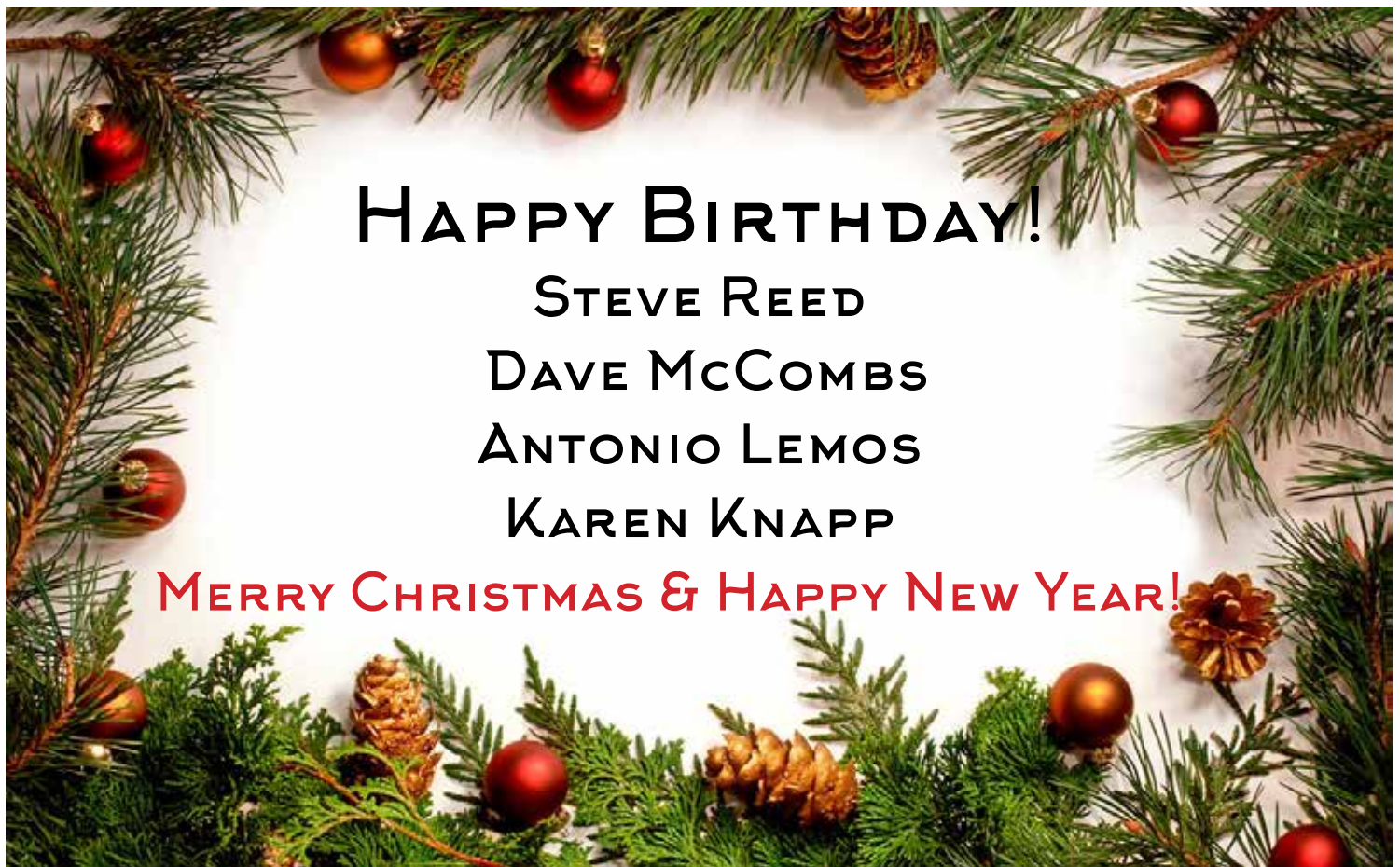
I would like to thank the out going Board Of Directors for their efforts in helping this H.O.G. Chapter prosper over the past year. A special Thanks goes out to Randy for his work, dedication and business ideas in running this chapter.

I would also like to thank the incoming Board of Directors, be it a changed position, another term in the same position or as a new comer to the board. I will be relying on you to help keep R.E.C H.O.G a viable and fun organization during my up-coming term as Director.

I have had a chance to talk about some of my plans and ideas with a few of the in-coming board members and am excited to hear about the plans and expectations of the of the other officers. I try to be very approachable and would like to hear input and ideas from the general membership, remember this is your chapter also and it will be more fun with your involvement.

I Will See You In 2017

Dave McCombs



Final Update from LOH Officer Kathy Avilla

With the much needed rain visiting us, some rides were cancelled or rescheduled, but that didn't stop us from some impromptu fun times! Our 85-year young passenger, Laurie, didn't know one of her 'bucket list' items was to be fulfilled until the night before. Randy gave her a helmet and a new Sonoma County HD T-shirt (under the sweat shirt she's shown wearing below). With her daughter, son-in-law and granddaughter standing by, Randy helped Laurie onto the passenger saddle of his bike. We mounted up and as we started our engines, the smiles began. We headed over to the Marin Headlands for a nice climb and decent over the mountain (at one point we were above the fog, looking down onto a sea of clouds!). The weather was brisk, but not cold. The ride went for about 45 minutes, and well, by the looks of the photo, was successful!!!

Laurie shared with us that her husband of 65 years had owned a bike and that they loved going on rides together. Her husband passed away in 2010 and she said "when I would hear Harleys go by, it would bring back such sweet memories. I told my kids I wanted to ride a Harley one more time, but had no idea they were going to surprise me with this today. This is great!" One other goal on her list was to see the Redwood forest, which she did... Laurie said she lives in Minnesota and was headed back home the next day.

At the board meeting on Thursday the 17th, we learned that Director—elect had just gotten information from the Berkeley Marathon commissioner that morning! The good news was we might not have to leave town so early this time. Milkman suggested (well, predicted, really) that we should consider driving cars down and he was absolutely right.

Sunday morning came, and the rain was falling.....10 of us gathered at 5:30am at the Petaluma Chevron station to get our instructions and coordinate carpooling. The trip without traffic was quick, so we arrived at 7am, and distributed by car to our work posts. Runners started passing by at around 8:45, and we made sure cars and people didn't collide. There were a ton of marathon participants in this race!!!

Probably around 9:15, we began to feel a drizzle start up and by 10am, it was full-on raining! Many of us thought the weather would hold, but no such luck. Runners were drenched, splashing through puddles but toughing it out. We all got wet, even through rain jackets. Thank goodness leather doesn't mind getting wet....

The final racer padded through at about 11:45am, and we headed for our cars and Chevy's in Novato for a much needed cup of something hot, and a hardy lunch (thank you RECHOG!)

Wet or not, we got it done and have stories to tell! (Drivers in Berkeley don't like having to be stopped for anything, even for people!)

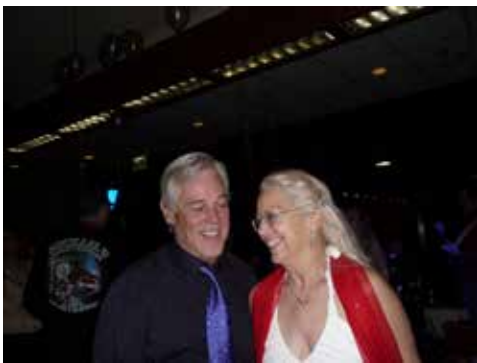
Thank you everyone for allowing me to serve as your LOH officer this year. I wish I could have offered more rides but Shelly will be awesome! She's got some great ideas and I look forward to following her around on the roads this next year.



Photos of Christmases past...



Holiday Party 2011



Cloverdale Toy Run 2009

Cloverdale Toy Run 2014



I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Here is some HD history I hope you enjoy.

July 9, 1917

The Harley-Davidson Service School was born out of necessity during World War I. With the company concentrating on military production and shipping motorcycles overseas, military quartermasters and mechanics needed extensive instruction into how the motorcycles were built and how to maintain them. This led to the creation of what was then known as the Harley-Davidson Quartermasters School and was a three week intensive course.

After the war, Harley-Davidson chose to maintain its highly successful program and re-named it the Service School. Classes were opened up to all Harley-Davidson employees and dealers, offering the same type of instruction once given to military personnel. Harley-Davidson also operated a Sales School and classes for those who operated and maintained Harley-Davidson's commercial vehicles, such as police motorcycles and golf cars. World War II saw a brief resurrection of the Quartermaster School, but, as before, the Service School returned after the war was over. In the 1990s, Harley-Davidson consolidated its various training programs into Harley-Davidson University.

April 6, 1931

On April 6, 1931, Harley-Davidson announced that it would begin offering a built-in reverse gear on all 74 Big Twins. This gear allowed the motorcycle to run backwards, something that wasn't possible on previous motorcycles. Motorcycles at the time had three-speed gear boxes and the addition of this fourth gear required a design change in the gear box and cover. This meant that anyone wanting the reverse gear had to purchase a new motorcycle, as it could not be added to older machines. Furthermore, the reverse gear was only available on 74 Big Twin VL models.

July 21, 1947

On July 21, 1947, LIFE magazine ran an article describing a recent motorcycle rally in Hollister, California as a riot that terrorized the small town. The photograph that accompanied the story showed a drunken man sitting on a motorcycle surrounded by empty beer bottles. The photo was later revealed to have been staged and the motorcycle rally in Hollister was actually a peaceful event. It was too late, though, and the image of drunken, out-of-control motorcycle gangs became seared into the public's imagination. The image of a motorcycle rider as a lawless, violent rebel would be reinforced throughout the fifties and sixties, showing up in films like "The Wild One," "Dragstrip Riot," and "The Wild Angels." Such imagery was more closely related to societal fears surrounding rebellious youths of the era than to average motorcycle riders.

And I'll leave you with this....

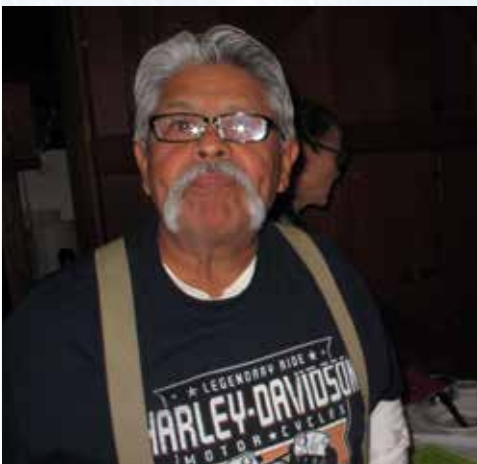
I changed my password everywhere to 'incorrect.' That way when I forget it, it always reminds me, 'Your password is incorrect.'



RECHOG MEMBERS PICNIC



NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING





VETERAN'S DAY RIDE



Current info as of Nov. 22nd. Please review website calendar at rechog.org & call the Ride Hotline for latest updates and additions 707.575.6786.

NOVEMBER

24 Happy Thanksgiving!

27 **NEW DATE!** *Previously cancelled due to rain.* **Remembrance Ride**
Meet at Sonoma County Harley-Davidson at 10am, depart at 10:30am.



DECEMBER

01 **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.

02 **Road Captains Christmas Party,**
6:00pm at the Vineyard Club on Rockmound Rd, Geyserville, CA. If you would like to participate in the gift exchange, bring a nice gift with a minimum value of \$20.00 to \$25.

04 **Cloverdale Toy Run.**
Meet at Johnny's Java at 9:00, leave at 9:30am. Bring an unwrapped toy.

07 **Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day**



10 **Christmas Party at The Flamingo Hotel, Santa Rosa**
Tickets are available at the dealership or by contacting Randy Mack (707) 696-6272. Ticket price is \$30 (an \$80 value) which includes a free gift from the chapter, free door prizes, music, dancing and dinner. There will also be raffle prizes, opportunity drawings and a whole lot of fun. Come join the party. If you would like to stay the night at the Flamingo please contact them at (707) 545-8530 or email Shannon@flamingoresort.com

Got Your Tickets?

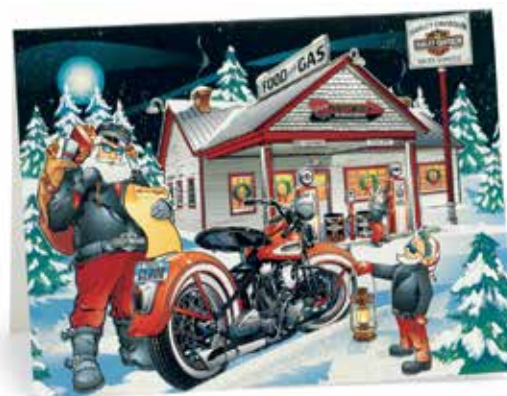
11 **Skills Training by Sean Smagalski.**
Meet at Johnnys Java at 9am, leave at 9:30am.

15 **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.

17 **Valley of the Moon Toy Run.** Meet at Johnny's Java at 8:30, depart at 9:00. We will ride to the VOM Children's Center and have brunch with the children. To participate, please bring an unwrapped toy.

18 Brian Bokkin will organize a ride to a shooting range. Details to be announced.

25 **Merry Christmas!**



25 **Chanukah/Hanukkah begins**

26 **Kwanzaa (until Jan 1)**





JANUARY

01 Happy New Year!
New Year's Day ride.
Details to be announced.

05 RECHOG General Chapter Meeting
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08 Sean Smagalski will organize a ride, details to be announced.

14 FYI - Easy Riders Bike Show, Sacramento Convention Center Show Hours: 10am-7pm. Tickets: Sold at the door the day of the show, or get your tickets early at the Convention Center Box Office (approx 2 weeks prior to show) Admission Adults: \$20 Active Military Discount *\$5 OFF WITH MILITARY I.D.*



15 Road Captains Meeting.
11:00am at Carmen's Burger Bar, 90 West Mark Springs Rd.

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.



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FEBRUARY

02 RECHOG General Chapter Meeting
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For more outside activities please pick up a copy of Thunder Press at Sonoma County Harley-Davidson. If you have an idea on a place to go, or an event that the group might like to do, please send an e-mail to the Activities Director at: activitiesdirector@rechog.org

Ride and have fun,
Donna Fess,
Activities Director, 2016



December 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

January 2017						
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					

General Meeting Minutes Redwood Empire HOG

Date: 11/3/16

Call to Order: 7:00 pm

Pledge of Allegiance led by: Jack Read

Previous Meeting Minutes Motion to Accept: Vince Mulligan Second: Jack Read

Director Randy Mack: Randy welcomed everyone to the meeting and made sure that everyone had a ballot for tonight's elections. Then he called on Jack Read and Mare Skipper to give a short speech on why they want to be the next year's Sergeant at Arms, the only contested position on the ballot. When they were done the vote was held. On a different note, Randy told us that Larry Jacobs was in the hospital but is now home. He pointed out that Larry's crew did a great job of getting the newsletter out in time for the meeting. There is an eighty-six year old woman in Sausalito who would like to check off an item on her bucket list by getting a ride on a Harley. There will be a ride to go down and get her and take her for a ride on 11/14/16. Riders can meet at the dealership at 1:00 pm. Randy will lead the ride. Randy reminded everyone to turn back their clocks on Saturday night. We are looking to improve the website and bring it up to date with a more user friendly system that will be easier to pass on if we change webmasters. The Remembrance Ride will be held on 11/10/16. There will be a general meeting on the first Thursday in December. Don't forget the upcoming Christmas Party on 12/5/16, at the Flamingo Hotel in Santa Rosa. Randy is planning another overnight trip up to Plumas Pines Resort next year, 7/6-9/17. If you're interested in going start planning soon.

Asst Director Dave McCombs: Dave started off by drawing names for birthday gift card winners. Sean Smagalski and Rick Wallerstein were the November winners. Next Dave brought up the need for more volunteers for the Berkeley Marathon. There are 14 more paying spots that need to be filled. The marathon is in November 20th. He will get out specific information as soon as he gets it.

Membership, Lonnie Olaeta: Lonnie introduced new member Susan Kirkpatrick. The white ticket drawing went to Vince Mulligan. We currently have 165 members.

Lead Road Captain Steve Pehargou: Steve told us that the Twisted Tunnel ride has been rescheduled. The Johnny V toy ride will be on 11/5/16. There are several upcoming rides scheduled. Check the calendar, hotline and watch for e-mail blasts.

Ladies of Harley, Kathy Avila: Kathy thanked those who participated on the LOH rides.

Safety Officer Jeff Baron: Jeff mentioned that everyone should watch for hazards on the ground. He also pointed out that when riding in a group, it is important for riders in the left column to make the turn wide enough to allow those in the right column to safely make the turn.

Historian Doug Barnes: Doug mentioned that he hopes everyone can get into the spirit of the Thanksgiving celebrations.

Open Mike: Susan Kirkpatrick invited members who have no other plan for Thanksgiving to join her and Jack Read for dinner, at their home.

Members only drawing: Member drawing went to member number 154, Paul Smith. He was not present at the meeting so next month the gift cards will be up to \$150.

Opportunity Drawing: Ron LaMariana won the opportunity drawing.

Monthly Gift Card Drawing:

Raffle Winners: 6766158 Karen Knapp
766218 Michael

6766058 Jeff Baron
6766009 Walter Kettler

6766062 Jeff Baron
6766032 Sher Shipway

Election Results:

Director	Dave McCombs
Asst Director	Ian Refugio
Treasurer	Linnea Carter
Secretary	Jim Wheeler
Road Captain	Donna Fess
Membership	Rob Carter
Activities	Marc Mendleson
Ladies of Harley	Shelly Bokkin
Historian	Marty Hlusak
Webmaster	Sergio Bravo
Photographer	Steve Reed
Safety Officer	Vince Mulligan
Newsletter	Cherie Wheeler
Communications	Ron LaMariana
Sergeant at Arms	Mare Skipper

Meeting Adjourned: 7:50 pm

John E. Mentz, Secretary - Redwood Empire Chapter





JOHNNY V TOY RUN



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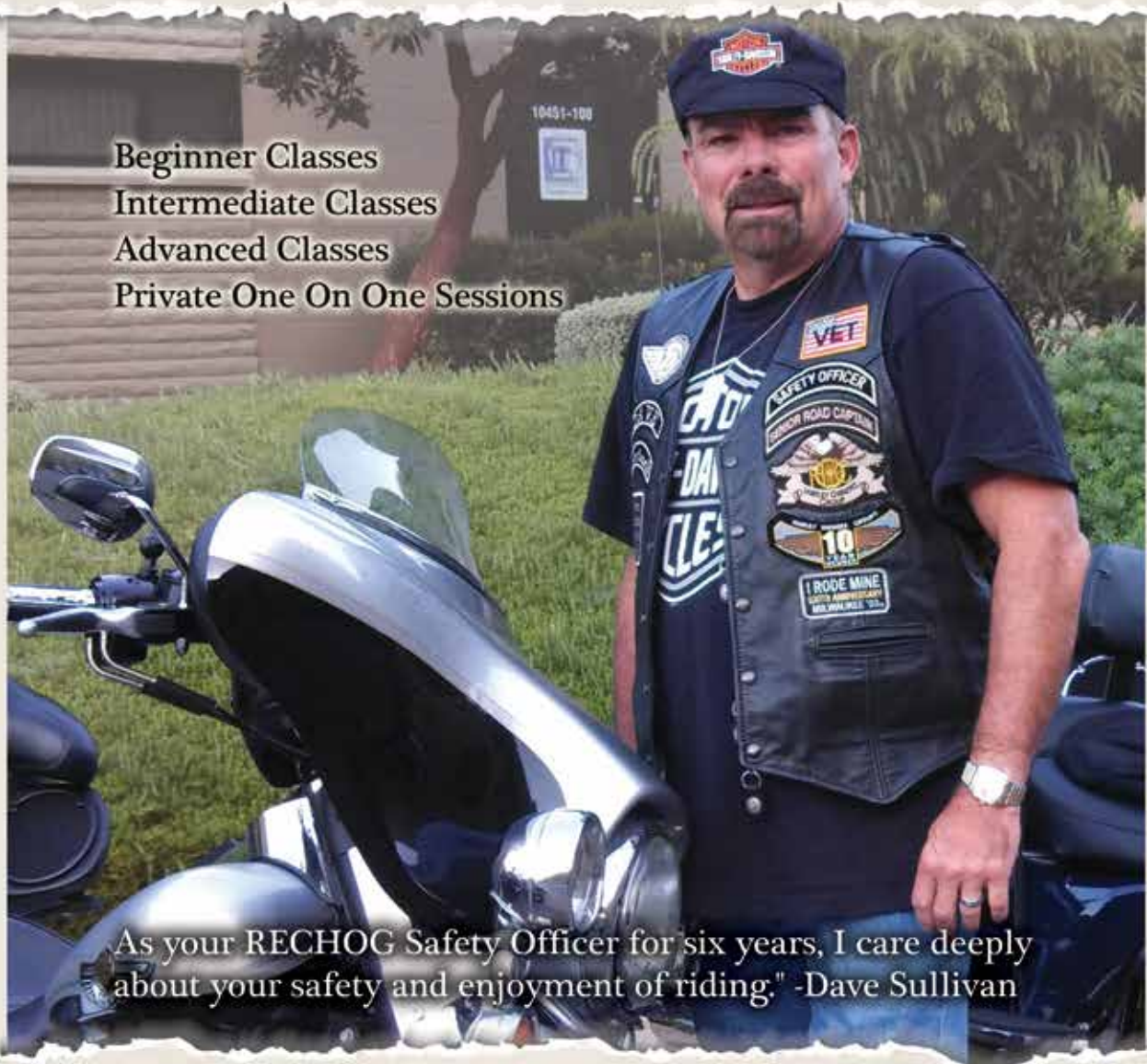
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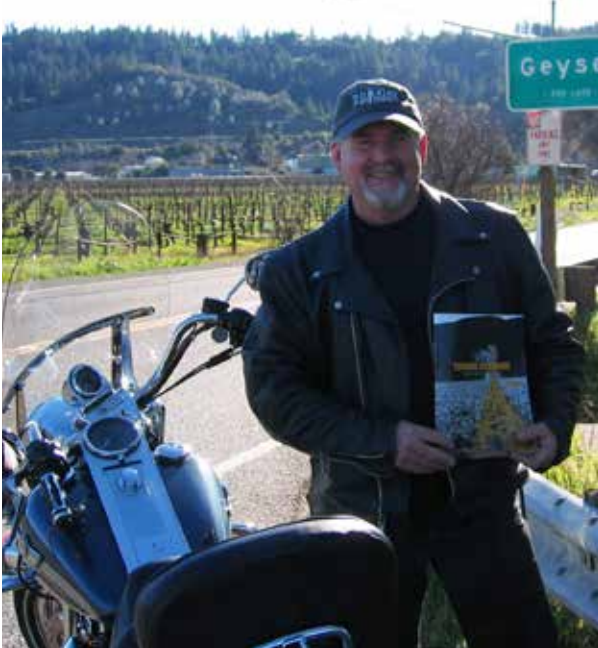
412 Cambiaso Place, Santa Rosa, Ca 95409

Telephone: 707-538-7420

Cell: 707-975-3992

FAX: 707-538-8849

E-mail: VGMPHOTOGRAPHY@comcast.net



Randy Mack Realtor, CRS, RECHOG
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**The only good view of a
thunderstorm is in your
rearview mirror.**

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

