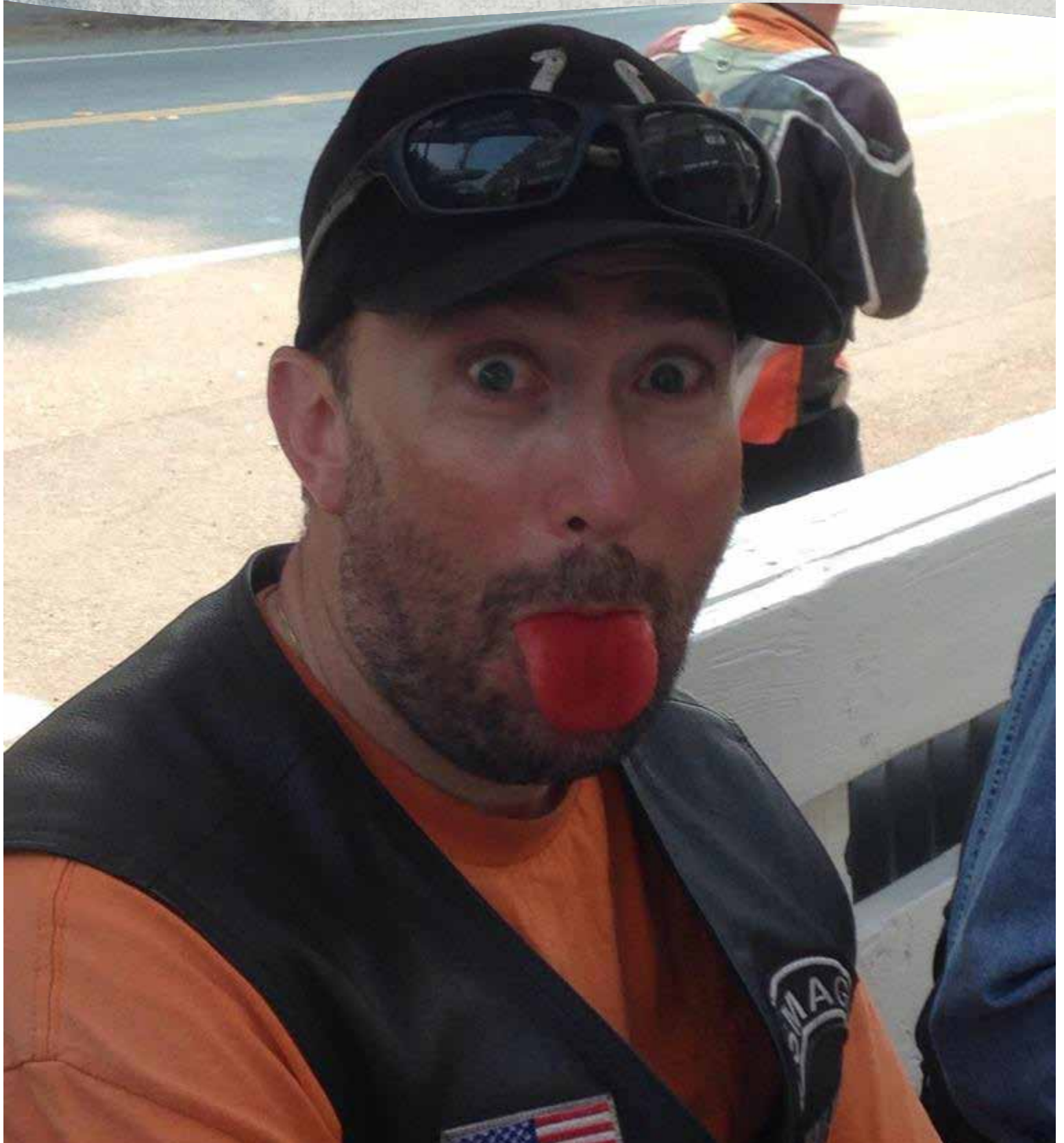


TALES FROM THE REDWOODS

SEPTEMBER 2017



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:
Friday, December 2
RECHOG HOLIDAY PARTY

Another For The Books

Summer Run 2017 is now behind us and in just a few short months we will start preparing for next years event. I wish to thank each of you that helped make this a huge success! From the core group that attended the meetings and made things happen, those that helped conduct the rides, everyone that showed up at the dealer and asked how they could help, vendors, those that made donations and Sonoma Co. Harley-Davidson. It took all of us to make this event great!

Next month we will hold nominations for the officers that will run the Chapter in 2018. This year we will do things a bit differently, we will nominate and elect only the four Primary Officers (Director, Assistant Director, Secretary and Treasurer) the remaining positions will be appointed by the new Director. A few officer positions will also be combined or absorbed by other positions to help streamline meetings and help keep overhead down, this though will be determined by the Primary Officers and the Dealership.

It would be nice to have a real election and not just a White Ballot this year, if you know of someone that would like to run for a primary position or would like to hold one yourself then please speak up at nominations.

The Holiday Party is a 'GO!' We will once again be at the Hilton Round Barn in Santa Rosa. The date is December 2nd, 6:00pm social, 7:00 pm dinner and party till 11:30pm. There is a block of 20 rooms held for us at a rate of \$109 for the night of the party on a first-come first-serve basis. So, if you are planning on staying, reserve your room early. The cut off for room reservations at this rate will be October 18th.

The Holiday Party tickets are printed and ready for sale. As stated before, S.F. Marathon Volunteers will get their ticket for ½ off, Berkeley Marathon Volunteers will also get ½ off on their ticket, so if you helped with both marathons, your ticket will be free! The problem is you will still have to pay for your ticket if it is purchased before the Berkeley Marathon, this is to help in preventing a free or discounted tickets going to persons that can't or don't show up to help with the last marathon. Money will be refunded to those that have done one or both marathons. Full ticket price is \$25 and only 80 are available.

We are working on a Volunteer Appreciation Event for those that have helped with the Summer Run, and we will keep you posted on the date and time as progress is made.

That wraps it up for this month, now "LETS ALL GET OUT AND MAKE SOME NOISE!"
Dave Mc.



hello RECHOG!

I have to start off by saying GYSOT! ("Get You Some Of That!") Yup! It was great seeing all those bikers and bikes who got some of that good riding and great fun at our 29th Annual Summer Run last month. We did it RECHOG! I cannot thank enough our dedicated and hardworking volunteers and the Summer Run Committee who worked tirelessly to make sure we put together a safe and fun event for all. I am happy to report that there were no incidents or injuries to speak of.

The success of our Summer Run has boosted our resources to ensuring we have the capacity to put together a great Christmas Party! We can't wait to start finalizing those plans and getting them out to y'all. One thing we can report on is that rooms are ready to be booked at the Hilton for our December 2nd party. We have 20 rooms reserved for our chapter so book yours before they run out. Please use the group code: RECHOG when reserving your room. We will have a more detailed event plan out very soon. We will also have the Christmas Party tickets for sale at the September General Membership Meeting. Make sure to inform our director if you volunteered at the San Francisco Marathon so you can avail of your 50% ticket price discount.

October is coming up quickly. And with that, comes the time of the year to start thinking about the future of OUR chapter. The current Board of Directors has decided that on the October officer nominations, the chapter will only be nominating the four (4) primary officers. Those positions include the Director, Assistant Director, Secretary, and Treasurer. Whoever is elected to lead our chapter next year will appoint the rest of the officers as he/she sees fit. This was designed in an effort to give the next director the freedom to pick the team that they feel gives them the best chance of success. I encourage everyone in our chapter to give some thought on how you would like to make a difference. Get involved. Together let's make our chapter better.

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 chapter 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 safe. Ride hard"



**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**

**Linnea
Carter**

Mike Faria

Ian Refugio

**Marc
Mendelson**



Strategic Lane Position

Safety in traffic often begins with *where* we ride our motorcycle in the lane. The right lane position provides visibility, escape routes, and more reaction time.

Even when you're just trying to get away from it all on a day or weekend motorcycle ride, we will more than likely be confronted with heavy traffic. We encounter drivers who will cut into our painstakingly created following distance. And the more we try to follow the guidelines for having two to four seconds of space between our motorcycle and the car ahead, the more likely it is that another car will cut into that cushion. At times it feels like we are going backwards! So, our natural reaction would be to tighten up our following distance, which is what everyone else seems to be doing out on the highway. Believe it or not that's how we end up with highways being clogged with vehicles platooning along at 60 mph with barely a car length between them.

There is a way for us the "motorcycle rider" to safely deal with this frustrating and potentially hazardous traffic condition. It all starts with how we position ourselves to see what's happening ahead. On a motorcycle we really only have two basic strategic advantages over cars "our less obstructed view" and "our overall size" but, please don't believe the old myth that motorcycles can out stop and out maneuver cars. This may be true in some cases under the best conditions but not for most of us riding baggers in traffic. Our primary source for information while riding is visual. Very little useful information comes from the seat of our pants or from our other senses.

The Lane of Less Pain: The lane of less pain is what I call it as I am riding on the streets around town. My best strategic position lies somewhere between maintaining as much separation as possible from that potential left turning driver, and having the adequate distance to the right side to avoid roadside obstructions, and being able to see the road and traffic ahead. In a multilane road this puts me in the left portion of the right lane.

Avoiding the conflict: My "avoiding the conflict" while on the highway, the conditions are much different than surface streets. The limited-access highways (by definition has the absence of oncoming and crossing traffic) the conflict points tend to be toward the right side of the highway where the ramps funnel traffic on and off, if you aren't entering or exiting, stay away from these conflicts. Once you're up to speed and in moderate-to-heavy traffic, the best place to be is in the left lane. The left lane will limit your exposure to traffic conflicts on all sides (essentially eliminating the concerns to the left) significant reduction in area that you have monitor. In less congested traffic, just go with the flow. Follow the basic, and generally ignored, rule of the road and stay to the right except to pass.

Remember the line-of-sight priority. When we position ourselves in the right portion of the left, and the left portion of the right lane puts us in the best place to see well ahead and anticipate traffic movements that could lead to conflict. The farther to the left within the lane that you ride, the less you can see ahead.

Art of the Compromise: Compromising in moderate to heavy traffic is by far one of the best strategies. Not every vehicle intended or intends to cut you off, it happens. So by anticipating and compromising, letting the vehicle in and not forcing the situation, getting angry, gesturing, posturing, and rapping the throttle, simply wave and move on.

"As always, have fun and keep the rubber side down and the shinny side up" - Vincent Mulligan, Safety Officer

Rec-Hog:

Last month we thanked Larry Jacobs for his help and donation for rebinding the Rec-Hog archives.

Larry is the owner/operator of GW2 Printing (see ad towards the back of this newsletter) and Rec-Hog member. He prints the newsletter, flyers, posters, and tickets for Rec-Hog. If you, or any one you know, needs or wants anything printed for personal or business reasons, please contact or refer GW2 Printing. He supports us and we should support him. **Thanks again Larry!!!!!!**

By the time this goes to print the Annual Rec-Hog Summer Run will have come and gone. A BIG THANK YOU to any and all who attended and volunteered to make the Run happen. Hours and hours of work go into this event. So please know that your time and energy is greatly appreciated.



Rec-Hog History:

Alta Gardner (aka: The Steel Magnolia) was the director of 400 members, a very active LOH, and the charity was the Valley of the Moon Children's Home. They had 70 bikes and Santa in a side car for the Christmas Run. Many today have no idea how instrumental our HOG chapter has been in not only supporting but also the construction of this Home. Rec-Hog members Jerry & Rosemary Shafer traveled to Bali, Indonesia and contacted their HOG Chapter who showed them the wicker Harley's they actually race downhill! Another article told of the annual Tarantula mating migration across Hwy 25 between Hollister and Coalinga in October. In case you're looking for a free pet. Does your pet guard your money?

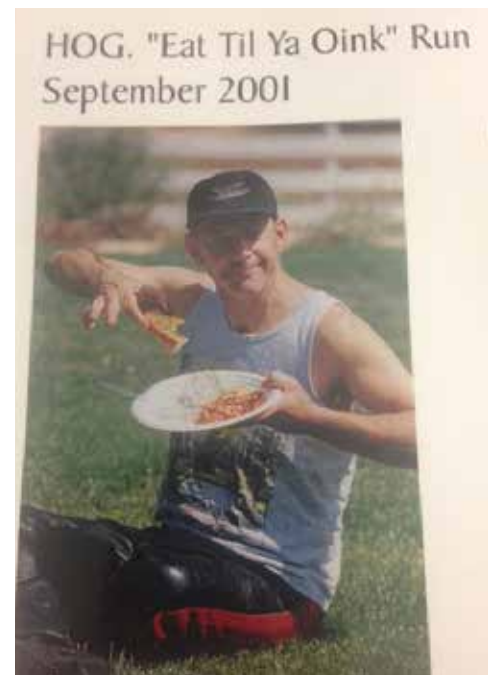




Harley-Davidson History:

Another post-World War II side effect was that Harley acquired the design for a 125cc two-stroke machine from the German Co. DKW as part of war reparations. Production of the small bike began in 1948 and, though it was Harley's first two-stroke and a radical departure from its traditional machines, its later derivatives such as the Hummer sold well in prosperous 1950's America. The other major new model from 1948 was an updated version of the "Knucklehead" big-twin, dubbed the "Panhead" due to the appearance of its rocker covers. The following year the arrival of Harley's first hydraulically damped telescopic forks announced the appearance of the "Hydra-Glide".

Away from Harley's big-twin development things were moving fast in the motorcycle market. The arrival of British motorcycles in the U.S. from the late 1940's saw a real overseas threat to H-Ds dominant position. These bikes were lighter, quicker, and handled better than traditional Harleys, with an emphasis on performance and looks rather than rugged durability and long-distance comfort. In the WWII movie "The Great Escape" Steve McQueen rode a 1961 Triumph TR6 disguised as a German BMW R75. Harley responded in 1952 with the new side valve K Sport, but the limitations of the flathead engine layout meant that it wasn't until the bike got overhead-valves and was named the Sportster in 1957 that it became a real success. It is now the longest surviving motorcycle model in the world!



RECHOG HOLIDAY Party • 12/2/17

Hilton Sonoma Wine Country

20 rooms are reserved for our chapter so book yours before they run out! Use the group code: **RECHOG** when reserving your room: **1.800.486.1542** or online at **HiltonSonomaHotel.com**

ROOMS: Standard \$109, Pool View \$259, Lanai \$284, King Jr. Suite \$284

20 rooms are being held only until Oct 18.



AUGUST General Meeting



MONDAY FUNday Ride





21th ANNUAL SUMMER RUN



Please review website calendar at rechog.org & call the Ride Hotline for latest updates and additions 707.575.6786.



SEPTEMBER

01 Friday Off Work Ride
This is a ride to brunch at Marvin's in Novato. Meet at Sonoma County Harley-Davidson at 10:00 am. Depart at 10:30 am. AD will lead ride.

07 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 the birthday raffle drawing; next month's birthday list for the Tales of the Woods; and the guests list.



09 Fallen Warrior Memorial Ride. This ride will head up to Windsor in support of the American Legion Riders Post 111's 8th Annual Fallen Warrior Ride. **This year's ride is in memory of US Army Ranger Corporal Timothy Shea, born & raised in Sonoma.** He enlisted in

the US Army in 2003 becoming a Ranger assigned to 3rd BN 75th Ranger Regiment in Fort Benning, GA. Cpl. Shea was deployed 5 times during his 2.5 years in the service. Cpl. Shea was killed in action by an IED during Operation Iraqi Freedom on August 25, 2005. **This ride will benefit US Army Ranger Veterans at the Pathway Home in Yountville.** Registration: Cafe Noto, 650 McClland, Windsor Town Green at 8:30am. Ride departs: 9:15 am. Followed by a 2.5 hour ride. Cost: \$20/ rider; \$10/passenger. Tri-Tip BBQ at Villa Chanticleer Picnic Grounds. **RANGERS LEAD THE WAY!!!**

10 Ride Planning Meeting. Meet at SCHD at 10:00. All road captains and anyone interested in being a road captain are encouraged to attend. Those who would like to meet for breakfast before the meeting are welcome to make their own arrangements.

16 Lane Splitter HOG B.A.D. Ride This is a B.A.D. target ride. We will be heading to Lane Splitter HOG for their Scrabble Run. Cost is \$25 per rider. Registration cost includes lunch. They will have games, raffles, 50/50, live music, and more. Meet at Johnny's Java at 7:30 am. Depart at 8:00 am. Director will lead ride.

18 Monday Fun Day Ride. Details TBD. Glen will lead.

21 RECHOG BOARD 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.

OCTOBER

01 Ride to Alice's Restaurant. The group will ride to Woodside, CA for lunch at Alice's Restaurant. We will be taking the coastal route most of the way there. Meet at Johnny's Java 9:00 am. Depart at 9:30. A.D. will lead ride.

05 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 the birthday raffle drawing; next month's birthday list for the Tales of the Woods; and the guests list.

06 Friday Off Work Ride TBD

Mark your calendars.



07 **RIP City Riders "12th Annual Chilly Billy Fun Run"** plus Hot Rod and Motorcycle Show. Registration 8-10:30am at Sonoma County Harley-Davidson. *First 500 signed-in get run pins. *Ride ends at the Sonoma-Marin Fairgrounds, Petaluma. Admission into the fairgrounds is free. Famous BBQ chicken served from 11:30 am -3:30 pm. There will be live music, vendors, raffle prizes including a 2017 Harley Davidson Street Bob. Donations for bike raffles to benefit the Blue Star Moms and Ranchin' Vets.

15 **Ride Planning Meeting.** Meet at SCHD at 10am. All road captains and anyone interested in being a road captain are encouraged to attend. Those who would like to meet for breakfast before the meeting are welcome to make their own arrangements.

16 **Monday Fun Day Ride.** Details TBD



19 **RECHOG BOARD 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.

20 **-22 Rechog Overnighter:** Road Trip to Monterey, Carmel, Big Sur. Details to follow.

NOVEMBER

02 **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 the birthday raffle drawing; next month's birthday list for the Tales of the Woods; and the guests list.



03 **Friday Off Work Ride** TBD

19 **Berkeley Half Marathon.** Director will lead ride. Details to follow. Members who volunteer receive 50% off Christmas Party tickets (100% off for volunteers of SF AND Berkeley Marathons!).



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!
Marc Mendelson, Activities Director,
2017

September 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

October 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	31				

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HARLEY-DAVIDSON CRUISES INTO 2018 WITH NEW MODELS

By Charles Fleming / LA Times / August 22, 2017

Harley-Davidson is betting big on cruisers.

The Milwaukee motorcycle company has turned eight of its bestselling Dyna bikes into new Softail bikes, hoping to attract new riders to the brand and keep current riders riding longer.

For 2018, the following Dyna line machines will be part of the Softail family:

Fat Boy
Heritage Classic

Low Rider
Softail Slim

Deluxe
Breakout

Fat Bob
Street Bob

The new motorcycles will arrive with a new chassis that is stronger, stiffer and lighter than on 2017 models, improved suspension that performs better and is more adjustable, and will weigh up to 35 pounds less than previous units.

They'll all get new fuel tanks, and will be powered by bigger engines. All come with either the Milwaukee-Eight 107 V-twin or, available on the Fat Bob, Fat Boy, Breakout and Heritage Classic, the larger Milwaukee-Eight 114.

Promising "a new base of style, comfort and performance," Harley said the bikes represent a new generation of "factory custom cruisers."

Upgrades such as LED headlights, keyless ignition and USB ports will be standard on all models. Cruise control will be standard on Heritage Classic and optional on all other models. ABS will be standard on Fat Boy, Heritage Classic, Deluxe and Breakout, and optional on all other models.

Pricing on the 2018 models will range from a low of \$14,999 for the basic Low Rider or Street Bob to \$20,299 for the Heritage Classic or Fat Boy with the 114 engine.

The motorcycles are already at Harley-Davidson dealerships, including Sonoma County Harley-Davidson.

<http://www.latimes.com/business/autos/la-fi-hy-harley-davidson-cruisers-20170815-story.html>



GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

BY JIM WHEELER

August 2017 General Meeting

Call to Order: Dave called the meeting to order at 7:00pm

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

July General Meeting Minutes: A motion was made by Vince Mulligan to accept the July meeting minutes as prepared with a second from Mike Faria

Assistant Director: Ian introduced our Members having August birthdays; Steve Pehargou, Conci Mack, and Tammy Mulligan; Tammy won a \$25 gift card from SoCo HD; Honored guests were welcomed Dave & Anne Screen, Ron Krudop and Tim Maduva of American Legion Riders, and Bruce Wing. American Legion Riders spoke of their fallen warrior ride.

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

Membership Report: Rob noted we are at 139 members, Announced new member Mel Stireman, the member drawing was held and Shirley Jones was called and collected her bounty

Safety Officer Report: Vince talked about having a chp officer come to our meeting to discuss lane splitting, he then discussed the importance of hearing protection while riding

Historian: Marty gave a presentation regarding speed and motorcycles which included photo slide show and video displays

Director Time: Dave thanked everyone who came out and volunteered for the SF Marathon, He also asked for volunteers for the Berkeley marathon, while at the Oakland BAD ride the chapter won 3rd place for participation, Our Summer Run still needs a couple of volunteers and would like everyone to come out and enjoy the event,

Open Mike: Mare announced that Doug Barnes is back home and is improving, Tammy Mulligan encouraged everyone to patronize our vendors at the Summer Run, Karen Knapp encouraged everyone to come out to the lunch ride they are leading, Dave talked about the Calistoga half mile race and all the fun everyone had, Mare will be at the dealership selling quilt raffle tickets

50/50 Drawing: Won by Mike Faria (ticket #392148)

Meeting Adjourned: 7:47pm

Minutes compiled and submitted by Jim Wheeler



Raffle Prize Winners: Ticket Number Name

3944396	Karen Knapp
3944348	Anne Screen
3944368	Dave McCombs
3944427	Marc Mendelson
3944333	Vince Mulligan
3944422	Marc Mendelson P

Prize

Cell Phone Holder
Travel Coffee Cup
HD Tin Sign
SoCo HD patch & key chain
Bungee net
ig Spit Shine Spray



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SUBMIT YOUR MATERIALS

Send your comments, photos, anecdotes and jokes for the
RECHOG Newsletter to newslettereditor@rechog.org.



Common Courtesy

It has come to my attention (and many others) that our manners are slightly lacking at our General Meetings...

The conversations going on around the room are quite a distraction to the rest of the group, as well as the person at the mic. Now, I know the sound system in our meeting room leaves much to be desired. Add to that the other noises going on and side-conversations, and it's very hard for the speaker to get the message out and for the membership to hear and understand what is being said - leading to extended meeting lengths. Attendance at general meetings is not mandatory and we all attend of our own free will. We want to be there to learn what is going on, and to visit with friends. I realize this is an opportunity to socialize, and we do have ample opportunity for this before the meeting starts and what we call the "After-Meeting Meeting" once our business is through, everyone is welcome to join! Please show courtesy to the person with the mic, and keep the chatter to a minimum during the meeting.

The wait staff also deserve your respect and courtesy. Because of smaller meeting attendance and many members eating *before* arriving at the venue, the number of waiters in our meeting area was cut. If we all arrived at the same time and were seated by them things might work a little smoother. But, we all arrive at different times and sit at different tables and sometimes switch places before (and even after) ordering our meals...this makes it hard for our waitresses to remember who is where and who gets what, leading to frustrations for both parties involved.

Remember we are guests at their establishment and they do deserve our respect. We get the room at no cost and the Management only ask that our members make purchases of food and beverages for using the room. This helps to offset the wages of the extra employees that are needed to staff our meetings. These ladies ask to work this particular shift and serve us (and if we are not ordering, they are not making much money). Think about it, except for a very few individuals, the staff at a family restaurant do not make a large check and rely heavily on tips for their service. Granted there is an 18% banquet gratuity added to each bill (as is common at any establishment when there are more than six guests) but when we make minimum orders that is not much money. Example, I generally order an appetizer that cost \$9 and a beverage that is \$6 add taxes and the bill is \$16.50 now add in the 18 % tip (\$.83! That's not much for the service I get) and my bill is \$17.33. My waitress has put in my order and had to go into the bar to get my beverage, wait for it to be poured and return to me, then when my meal is ready she must once again return to me with it before it gets cold and all this for only .83 cents? I leave them a few extra dollars for their efforts and ask that you would too! After all, if it were not for their efforts in serving us, we would have to wait in line for a table in the regular dining area to get our meals.

So, please be respectful and courteous at the meetings both to the members of the Chapter and especially to the waitresses that serve us. Remember your behavior is not only a reflection on you but also on the Chapter and our Sponsoring Dealer! (And please leave the ladies a little extra).

Thank you for your cooperation,
Dave McCombs



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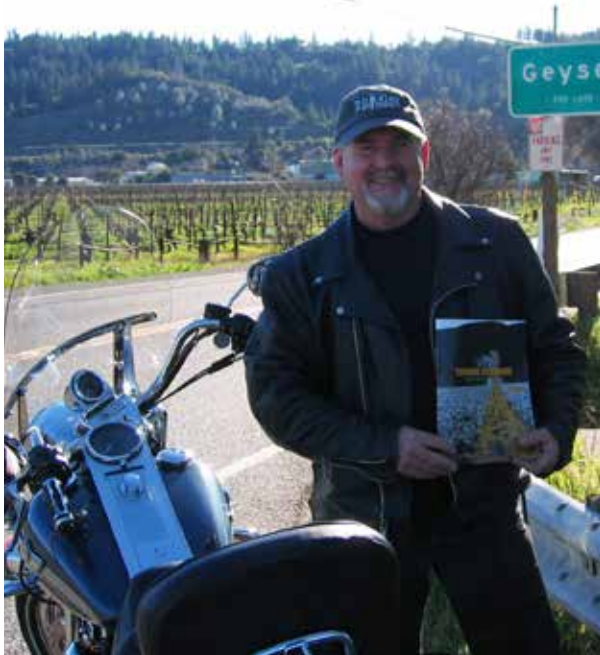
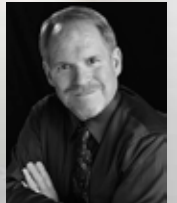
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RECHOG.ORG | HOTLINE 707.575.6786

**Keep your bike in good repair:
Motorcycle boots are NOT
comfortable for walking.**

TALES FROM THE REDWOODS

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



SUMMER RUN 2017 *success*

Thank you, Volunteers!

Donna Fess	Conci Mack	Lonnie Olaeta	Mike Faria
Steve Reed	Marty Hlusak	Dorene Barnes	Carole Behlke
Jack Reed	Dave McCombs	Jim Jones	Darryl Keseker
Antonio Lemos	Linnea Carter	Barry Wenderoth	Jim Strange
Glen Childers	Rob Carter	Jean Riggs	Mark Hilla
Stephen Pehargou	Jim Wheeler	Tammy Mulligan	Katrina Freitas
Brian Bokkin	Cherie Wheeler	Vince Mulligan	Freddie Freitas
Shelly Bokkin	Susan Kirkpatrick	Bill Parker	Heidi Faulkner
Sergio Bravo	Debbie Mentz	Dan Marshall	Jim Montenegro
Sean Smagalski	Sara Licea	Mare Skipper	Laurie Mackenzie
Randy Mack	Ian Refugio	Kathy Avila	

Thank you, donors!

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Bear Republic Brewing Co.	BJ's Brewing	Sonoma's Best Guest Cottages
Cinnabar Theater	Driven Raceway	Dan & Helen Marshall
Snoopy's Home Ice	Sam's For Play Café	San Jose Sharks
Six Flags	Jacuzzi Vineyards	Dave Sullivan - Riding School
Sebastopol Hardware	Cold Stone Creamery	Lavendar Bee Farm (Rick & Joann)
Village Therapeutics	Luther Burbank Center For the Arts	Mobile Sound+Video (Darryl & Sandra)
Scandia Family Fun Center	Williams Selyem Estates Winery	Mare Skipper, Esquire
Little River Inn	Fountaingrove Inn + Steakhouse	Brian & Shelly Bokkin
Toast Restaurant	Black Bear Diner	Susan Kirkpatrick



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