



May 2010

THE "PREZ SEZ"

Greetings, and isn't it great to finally have some great riding weather on the weekends again!!! I would like to thank George and Bob for really taking all of us out "ridin in the sticks" in April with magnificent views, great roads, and fun had by all. As the warm weather comes, please remember to bring / drink plenty of water on our rides, and if necessary, pack your cooling vests.

This past month, thanks to an invitation extended from my friends at the GWRRA, Larry and I rode up to the Snell Memorial Foundation to get a first hand understanding and demonstration of motorcycle helmet testing; the difference between DOT and Snell, and what it takes to gain a Snell approval rating. This was a fascinating day, and an eye opener for me as to the rigorous tests Snell puts all helmets they test through. From various testing stages of Impact Energy Management, Peak Acceleration, different impacted surfaces, impact area coverage and the most demanding tests on shell penetration via a conical point (similar to if one hit a rock / foot peg, etc.). Snell also stresses the helmet with an "edge" impact surface (they used something similar to an axe blade if I remember correctly). This definitely would be an interesting destination in the future to check out, but also reminded us that wearing the proper protective gear, all the time, can help should an incident ever happen.

HOG ROAST is here! Let's keep the fingers crossed for a great weather day, and as of this writing, it looks like it will be. We might need a little extra help if some of you could assist with that: pre-registrations are up from last year, and who

knows how many more we may get at the gate. **GREAT job** to all who have worked so hard already, and thank you, in advance, to those who will be helping out.

Please check our website and calendar page, because we have changed a couple of rides and / or dates around. For those considering our upcoming weekend trips, whether it be the High Sierra STAR-B-Q, Jeff's July Mammoth / Mono Lakes Ride, Ken's August Trinity ride, please get your hotel / motel reservations in early to guarantee the room (if something came up, you could always cancel 72 hours ahead). The summer months book up fast everywhere, and we would love to have you make these if possible.

Finally, I would like to thank our guests who participated with us this past month – Jaime and Gene. We look forward to seeing you on upcoming rides in the future.

Be Safe, Ride Smart, and Have Fun!

Victor Tibbs
President

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Check the website calendar for further information

**** 2010 ****

CHAPTER RIDE / EVENTS INFORMATION

Chapter Rides: 2nd Saturday / 4th Sunday
Chapter Meetings – red

May 7th INTERNATIONAL FEMALE RIDE DAY
http://www.motoress.com/readarticle.asp?articleid=469&c=fe_malerideday

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May 8th - CHAPTER BBQ

May 15th - Blessing of the Bikes

May 19th - Chapter Membership Meeting

May 23rd - Sunday Chapter Ride

AND THE MEMBERS SAID ...

This is your section to share with other Chapter members
Ride Reports, etc.

TALE OF TWO LITTLE DRAGONS CHAPTER RIDE

Saturday, April 10th, 2010

By Tony Johnson

This was a wonderful ride though the hills and through the woods to Santa Cruz by way of China.

We met at Denny's where Lin greeted us with a smile and hug, but really wanted \$25 per person for our Going Hog Wild II BBQ. After breakfast, we were briefed by Victor and George on the Tale of Two Little Dragon ride. It was overcast with temps in the mid 50's, but we all were hopeful that it would clear up.

We started riding the first tail in Moraga on Pinehurst and then Redwood Road.



As we traveled through rolling green hills, it was a very easy and slow pace but the clouds did not pass. As we were approaching a farm, Jeff was attacked by a wild turkey (not knowing Victor wanted him to catch lunch for us). Jeff used his great motorizing skills and was able to avoid the attack though. **WAY TO GO Jeff!** We rode 45 miles in one hour and 30 minutes to where we had our first break. On the break it started to sprinkle.

We checked the weather and saw where it was going to pass over and temps would hold in the 60's.

We continued another 20 miles on Niles Canyon Road to Milpitas for our 1st gas stop. From there we took a quick ride on the freeway to Santa Cruz, and had lunch at the Santa Cruz diner. After lunch rode into the 2nd second tail of the ride. It had started to sprinkle again but did not last long. We approached the beautiful redwoods of Big Basin where we stopped in the park for a group photo and break. We ended up on skyline and had a break at Alice's restaurant.

Wow what a great ride!! Thanks George.

Comments: *Note from the Prez:* Let it be noted (heehee) that Dave/Pearl, Dan/Christine, and Larry were thinking we were going to get pelted with rain; therefore they left the ride early after our first main stop to head back "to the barn" to avoid any potential experience of getting caught in the rain. Though we didn't really catch anything more than sporadic sprinkles, I applaud them for their decisions, and consideration of their navigators LOL.

Had a blast on the ride, my 1st ride in the rain ever or was it just a sprinkle? Whatever it was ... wet road.....lol This was good for me as I knew that day would come, so glad I did it with an experienced group.
Thanks, Tony

We stopped for a nice lunch in Pleasanton, then went our ways. We enjoyed the portion of the ride we went on and glad it sounds like the rest of the ride went well. See you next time and hopefully with more seasonable weather. Dan

Good lunch for the wuzzy bikers club as Larry proclaimed us. (Of course Dan and I were able to blame the wives, (not sure what Larry's excuse was ☺ Glad the rest of you enjoyed the ride and avoided the rain! Dave and Pearl



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EAST BAY HILLS – SKYLINE CHAPTER RIDE

Sunday, April 25, 2010

Note from the Prez: I was actually going to do a ride report, BUT ... I think our members expressed this fantastic ride the best! Fortunately (unlike the pre-ride we did a week before), we didn't have too many bicyclists to contend with which made for a very enjoyable ride.

Comments about the ride: (20 Bikes ... 20/23 people)

Yeah this is a great ride miss all who couldn't make it ... Christine

Awesome ride and very well organized and lead. Excellent weather to really enjoy some of the East Bay's finest riding roads. great time! Dan

This is so very cool. Thanks for sharing. Cool DudesQ

AWESOME RIDE, THANKS BOB

WOW! Yeehaw, whoopee, great Great job Bob! Cul8rlt

Charming ride through gorgeous back roads, incredible scenery and views. Amazing what is in our back yard. Great ride, Bob. Lone Eagle

What a great ride. Thanks Bob for putting for this one. Rich

What a great ride..... Jerry

This information was reported recently in "WebBike World": **2009 Report: Motorcycle Thefts Decline in 2009**

April 20, 2010 - The latest information from the National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB) shows that motorcycle theft has declined, possibly due to a variety of factors. 56,093 motorcycle thefts were

reported in the U.S. in 2009, a 13% drop from the 64,492 thefts in 2008.

The top five motorcycle brands stolen in 2009 were: Honda (13,688); Yamaha (11,148); Suzuki (9,154); Kawasaki (5,911); Harley-Davidson (3,529). These 5 brands totaled 43,430 thefts, which is 77.4% of the total number of motorcycles stolen in 2009.

The top five states with the most motorcycle theft in 2009 were: California (6,273); Texas (5,526); Florida (5,009); North Carolina (3,045); and Georgia (2,067). These five states accounted for 21,920 thefts or 39% of the total.

The time of year was a factor also, with the most thefts reported in July (6,319); August (6,079); and June (5,672). The fewest number of thefts were reported in December (2,927); February (3,100); and January (3,570).

The Legend of the Bell

By Mike Prawicki

Have you noticed that small bell on some people's bikes and wondered why it was there? It's more than just decoration, it has a specific function.

As we all know, life has many mysteries that have no apparent solutions, and one of these is the Evil Road Spirits. They are the little gremlins that live on your bike. They love to ride. They're also responsible for most of your bike's problems. Sometimes your turn signals refuse to work, or the battery goes dead, the clutch needs adjustment, or any of several hundred other things go wrong.

These problems are caused by Evil Road Spirits.

Road Spirits can't live in the presence of a bell. They get trapped in the hollow of the bell. Among other things, their hearing is supersensitive. The constant ringing of the bell and the confined space drives them insane. They lose their grip and eventually fall to the roadway. (Have you ever wondered how potholes are formed?) The bell has served its purpose.

If you have picked up a bell of your own, the magic will work. But if your bell was given to you, the power has been doubled, and you know that somewhere you have a special friend helping to look after you.

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So, if you have a friend that doesn't have a bell, why not give them one? It's a nice feeling for the recipient to know you personally cared. The bell, plus a good preventive maintenance program by the bike's owner, will help eliminate the Evil Road Spirits.

(Note from the editor: the Legend continues. Check out next months' edition for the 2nd installment)

For those in the job market, don't make these mistakes: Here is Our Top 20 of the Most Hilarious Spelling Mistakes on Resumes and Cover Letters:

20. "I have a known track record and excellent experience with accuracy and fixing errors"
19. "Strong Work Ethic, Attention to Detail, Team Player, Attention to Detail"
18. "My experience include filing, billing, printing and coping"
17. "Demonstrated ability in multi-tasting."
16. "My work ethics are impeachable."
15. "I have nervous of steel."
14. "I consistently tanked as top sales producer for new accounts."
13. "I am a perfectionist and rarely if if ever forget details."
12. "Dear Sir or Madman,"
11. "I can type without looking at thekeyboard."
10. "Instrumental in ruining entire operation for a Midwest chain store."
9. "I am anxious to use my *exiting* skills"
8. "Speak English and *Spinach*"
7. "I am a Notary *Republic*"
6. "I attended *collage* courses for *minor public relations*"
5. "Following is a *grief* overview of my skills."

4. "I'm *attacking* my resume for you to review."
3. "I am experienced in all *faucets* of accounting."
2. "Hope to hear from you, *shorty*."

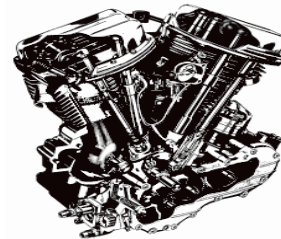
And the most embarrassing one to finish off our list:

1. "Directed \$25 million *anal* shipping and receiving operations."

KEEP THE SHINY SIDE UP!

Safety Tips/Tech Talk

This is your section to share "techie" stuff



PRODUCT REVIEW(s)

From Lin Tomy: I purchased a new Helmet from Sierra Electronics - <http://www.sierra-mc.com/> This is the second helmet that I have purchase from them. I was very happy with the first one and although there is nothing wrong with it, I decided to purchase a new one that matches my new bike. After using the new helmet for a few days, I discovered that the left speaker is not working. I called the company and the customer service was awesome. They're sending me a shipping label to return the helmet so they can fix it the same day they get it and ship it back. (BTW- when I ordered my first helmet, I also ordered my CB system. I called them then and over the phone they helped me design my system advising me of all of the parts I needed to order for the complete system.)

and ...

I recently was at CA Sport Touring to purchase a light bar, tank cover, windshield bag, new horn, highway peg extenders, and magnet for the signals to detect the bike. Kim, the owner had to order all

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of the parts for me, but they were in within a week. He called personally to let me know that the parts were in. Great customer service and a very personable group of people working there. Additionally, you are greeted at the dog by Sophie, the shop German Sheppard, with loves and kisses. Sophie is happy to keep you entertained with a game of fetch while you wait for any work being done on your bike. Check them out at <http://www.casporttouring.com/>.



OTHER SAFETY INFORMATION

FOOD FOR THOUGHT ON SAFETY

Most every motorcyclist that has survived years of riding in traffic with minimum personal injury has a developed sense of "intuition" relative to traffic. This is the sense of riding they had developed that helps them see things in traffic before it happens, and helps them avoid situations that could cause them to react in a panic mode. This intuitive knowledge, developed over years of riding in varied conditions is the knowledge base we experienced riders draw from for our daily riding. Its also the knowledge many of us draw from to help others on this forum develop their riding knowledge base to get over that "anxiety" about riding. But, this knowledge base can be learned fairly quickly of course by reading books and information from other experienced riders. Here's a method to consider.

Instead of getting ticked when some no-brain in a cage causes us to pucker the vinyl in a panic reaction, use that charged mental state to your benefit. Hopefully you cleared the hazard, so take a moment to think of everything that got you to that precise moment of potential conflict. Then,

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honestly, really think about everything you did or could have done to not get in that position. Were you being inattentive? Distracted? Wrong mental attitude? Were you following too close? Were you in the wrong lane position? Were you not analyzing traffic conditions? Were you not looking far enough ahead? Whatever the situation, look for something YOU did/didn't do that you could change about your riding to avoid that situation. Over time, applying that learning attitude will constantly setup your riding guidelines to the point that you see things happening before they happen. Over time, less surprises and panic reactions will be the result of your fine tuned riding intuition. This is a mental aspect of riding that should be active 100% of every moment your bike is moving.

The tough part of this is to take the blame of what the cage-drivers do to us, and put it on ourselves to honestly review on what we do to ourselves in our riding.

Please be safe this coming year when riding.



STAR KNIGHTS RIDE: I would like to share this event / ride with everyone. This is a great time for all of us to remember those who have served our country. For those interested in participating on this ride, please contact me as soon as possible, and I will either put something together, for ourselves and/or coordinate with Eddie with the Napa Chapter. Note, the ending time of this event is different from that of last year (8PM in Sacramento).

Pre-Registration
(postmarked prior to May 12, 2010)

Rider \$15, Passenger \$10

NOTE: ADDITIONAL ITEM CHOICES:
(Optional) Ride Pin \$6.00
(Optional) Rocker \$8.00

Postmarked after May 12, 2010

Rider \$20, Passenger \$15 - NOTE:
ADDITIONAL ITEM CHOICES: (Optional) Ride
Pin \$6 (Optional) Rocker \$8

If you need further information, please contact
myself or Dave Sledge, STAR Knights 2010
Coordinator, dsledge@surewest.net



For any current or new members that want to
become a Star Vet, go to the National Web Site
www.startouring.org to get the Star Vet Application
(DD Form 214 required) as well as the form to get
Star Vet Patches. I'll have a hard copy of the Star
Vet Application and Patch Form on our rides.

Let's Say Thanks :

This site allows you to pick out a card, select a
message or type one of your own, and is then
printed out and sent to the military member. You
only have to provide minimal info - your first name
and city.

<http://www.letsaythanks.com/Home1024.html>



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HAPPY May BIRTHDAY !!!

[Editor's Note: From the responses that I received]

1st – Mike Karrer
6th – John Brackett
9th – Mike Zachry

CHAPTER RIDE /
EVENTS INFORMATION
Chapter Rides: 2nd Saturday / 4th Sunday
Chapter Meetings – red

June 4 – 5 – High Sierra BBQ
June 12th – Fricot City Chapter Ride
June 23rd - Chapter Meeting
June 27th – Sunday Chapter Ride

July 10th – Chapter Ride – Coastal Ridge Area
July 16 – 18 Mono Lake Chapter Weekend Ride
July 25th - Sunday Chapter Ride
July 28th - Chapter Meeting

August 14th – Chapter Ride - TBD
August 20th – 22nd – Chapter Weekend Trip
(Trinity Chapter Ride)
August 25th Chapter Meeting
August 29th - Sunday Chapter Ride to Woodland

September 11th – Tahoe Chapter Ride
September 15th - Chapter Officer's Meeting
September 22nd - Chapter Meeting
September 26th – Chapter Ride - TBD

October 9th - Chapter Ride
October 20th - Chapter Officer's Meeting
October 24th - Sunday Chapter Ride
October 27th - Chapter Meeting

November 7th – Daylight Savings Time Ends
November 13th - Chapter Ride
November 17th - Chapter Meeting
Nomination of Officers

December 11th - **Christmas Party**

Election of Officers

OTHER EVENTS Notification

May 15th – Holy Horsemen’s BLESSING OF THE BIKES (Wesleyan Church, Antioch)

May 22nd – Modesto/Merced STAR Chapters
Poker Run supporting their charity Sierra Vista Children’s Services

June 4th-5th HIGH SIERRA STAR-B-Q

June 19th – Ride to River Rock with Santa Clara

June 21st - **National Ride to Work Day**

July 3rd - Holli-STAR Rally

July 20-23rd – **STAR DAYS** (Chattanooga, TN)

August 14th - (The date TBD Santa Clara County
STAR Chapter #209’s BBQ Camp-Out)

August 20th-21st – **NW STAR-B-Q** (Prosser, WA)

Sept. 18 – Redding Chapter #302 Poker Run

September 22-26th STREET VIBRATIONS, Reno

Saturday, October 2nd: - HOLY HORSEMEN’S
Feed the Children Food Drive

Sunday, October 3rd: Northern California Ride
for Kids.

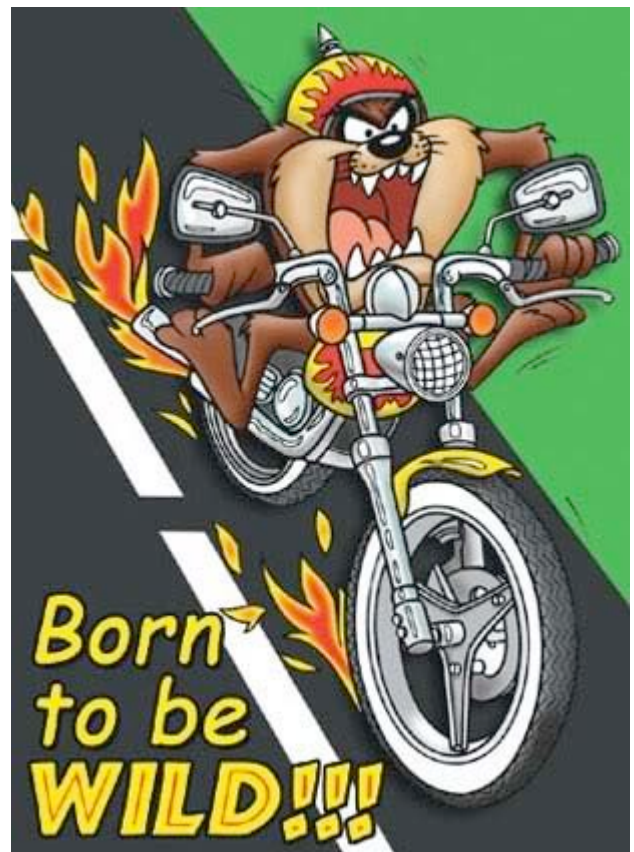
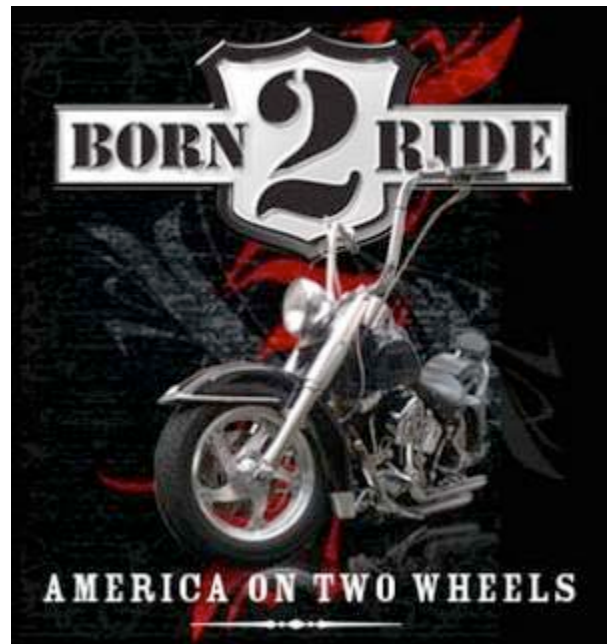
October 8th-9th **BIG BIKE WEEKEND** -

Saturday, October 30th: **RIDE OF THE
HEADLESS HORSEMAN** – Chico STAR Chapter

Saturday, November 20th: **Sacramento STAR
Chapter’s 2nd annual COATS FOR KIDS**

November 19th – 21st - (Date to be verified)
International Motorcycle Show

<http://www.motorcycleshows.com/5daystoSave>



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