



SEPTEMBER 2010

THE "PREZ SEZ"

WOW – where did this summer go? Fortunately, we only had couple of warm days, making our rides comfortable for all who participated. **Special thanks** to Jeff and Ken for two great weekend outings this summer – the roads and accommodations could not have been better planned out. **You guys did awesome.** And, as shared by our members, additional thank you to all our Road Captains and Tail gunners this year for some safe, amazing rides and routes throughout.

Ride safety continues to be our Chapter's number one priority. I strongly encourage everyone going on a Chapter ride to be at our pre-ride meetings – already gassed up and ready to go. These meetings are critical, and often have additional topics to go over, depending on a specific route / road we may be taking.

I would like to remind everyone that as we enter this last quarter of the year for riding, we will be having many micro-climates that we will be riding through, so, please remember to bring the necessary gear to make your ride comfortable throughout the day.

STAR Touring is about friends and family. This past month I witnessed many of you inviting your friends to come-n-ride with us. That's great, and thank you for sharing your participation within our Chapter with your friends.

This past month saw an opportunity for Pauline to share the Trinity Alps ride with her brother and his partner: something they had wanted to do for quite some time. It also allowed us to share time with

another member of the Brackett family, and, to that I would like to:



Greg Brackett to our Chapter. Greg is John's son – often seen riding the Stratoliner – to carry all of John's gear – LOL.

I look forward to seeing everyone on the roads and our meeting in September. We have a busy month coming up. Let's go have some fun, and, as always, **ride smart** and **ride safe.**

Regards,

Victor Tibbs
President, Chapter 186

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Check the website calendar for further information

**** 2010 ****

CHAPTER RIDE / EVENTS INFORMATION

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

September 11th – Carson River Chapter Ride
September 15th - Chapter Officer's Meeting
September 22nd - Chapter Meeting (Fuddruckers)
September 26th – River Rock Casino Chapter Ride

AND THE MEMBERS SAID ...

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

Riding in the Sticks with #186

www.star186.org

CHAPTER SUNDAY RIDE

Pigeon Point Lighthouse Ride

Sunday, July 25, 2010

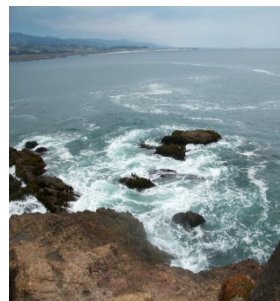
By Mike and Shirley Karrer



We would like to apologize for the lateness of this ride report. Here is our perspective of The Pigeon Point Lighthouse Ride.

Kudos to Mike Smith for putting the ride route together and for being the Ride Captain, it was a fun day for everyone.

The group met at location #1, the pre-ride meeting was at 9 am and kickstand at 9:30 am. Mike led the group from the Denny's location to the hills of Orinda and into Moraga Chevron Station for one of the two stops before breaking for lunch.



The group proceeded from Moraga through Castro Valley and Hayward heading towards Highway 92 over the San Mateo Bridge. The weather changed significantly as we neared the San Mateo Bridge. Thankfully everyone was layered up and was prepared for the cold weather. The ride through the bridge was smooth; although the sky was gray and a bit misty it was still a good ride.

As we left the bridge behind us, we proceeded on Highway 92 to Half Moon Bay. The ride through 92 was pretty good, and we did not encounter too much traffic.

We saw nurseries after nurseries along the way; we finally reached our second stop at the Chevron on Cabrillo Highway North for gas and chance to stretch our legs. Some of us added more layers since we are now closer to the ocean. After everyone has stretched and filled up their bikes, we proceeded to our lunch location less than 15 minutes away. Mike led the way to **Joe's Ristorante**, a quaint restaurant that offers home cook meals from pasta to sandwiches. The group split into groups of four or five, and we all had a hearty meal. It was a good lunch stop for everyone.

After a relaxing lunch, it's off to the Lighthouse area for some wonderful sights and photo opportunities.

We stayed around long enough to see sea lions on some of the rocks and gaze at the strong waves that come in from the Pacific Ocean.

We walked back to our bikes and geared up for our next leg of the trip, Alice's Restaurant. We proceeded from Pigeon Point Road to Highway 1 to Highway 84 / La Honda Rd / San Gregorio Road, turned left at La Honda Road and onto Skyline Boulevard where we had our last stop. At Alice's Restaurant, we started peeling off our layers as the weather turned warm. Some of us took the chance to fill up and walk around.

At this point Mike and I ended our ride while the rest of the group proceeded from Alice's Restaurant through the twisty roads and back to the San Mateo Bridge finally ending at Loard's Ice Cream in Alamo.

CHAPTER SATURDAY RIDE

Point Reyes Station

August 14th, 2010

by Marguerite Brackett

We started at location number 1. There were several new faces and somewhere around 20 bikes.

We headed out through Virginia Hills in Martinez, through Bear Creek and into Pinole. The direction we were headed promised cooler weather which

was the goal of our Ride Captain, Lin. We made our way to the Richmond Bridge where we headed into San Rafael and eventually onto Lucas Valley Road where we picked up Ken at our first gas stop.

Lucas Valley is a lovely area that meanders through sweeping turns that leads towards the coast. We found our way to the little town of Oleama which is the epicenter of the 1906 earthquake. A short distance down the road we stopped for lunch in Point Reyes Station. The majority of the group dined at the Pine Cone Café while a few went to the Cow Girl Creamery.

After lunch we headed to Tomales Bay and viewed the oyster beds and an abundance of restaurants offering barbequed oysters on their patios. The sun was out and the weather was very comfortable.

We made our way along several back roads and into the back side of Petaluma. Even Ken, a veteran rider of the area, was amazed at some of the roads we took. We took the long way around the Infineon Raceway because of an event that was taking place there, and we didn't want to get caught up in its traffic. Then over the Crockett Bridge and on to Ian's Frozen Yogurt in Martinez for our customary end-of-ride treat.

It was a very enjoyable ride with awesome views and much desired cooler weather. Thanks to Lin for yet another well planned ride and to Bob and Rich for tailgunning. We had a great time.

The TRINITY ALPS Chapter Ride **August 20-22 2010**

By Rich Flay

Friday

This day started out like any other, **NOT!!!** I woke up real early and couldn't get back to sleep. Tossing and turning anticipating what I knew was going to be a great three days of riding with great people.

Eventually I got up, double checked my gear, kissed Robin goodbye and headed to the Denny's in Pleasant Hill where some of us met to ride together to the Denny's in Cordelia. There we met up with the rest of the group (12 bikes and 15 people total) and had breakfast.

After breakfast, we had a quick pre-ride meeting then B.O.B. (butts on bike). It was unseasonably cold, so everyone was bundled up in their winter riding gear. We went up Hwy 80 to Hwy 505 and then headed north to Red Bluff on Hwy 5. Going up Hwy 5 isn't the most exciting road to travel on a motorcycle but it sure beats some other things you could be doing on a Friday morning. Like WORK☺.

When we arrived in Red Bluff, we stopped for gas and changed into our summer riding gear. The temperature had gone up and was now perfect riding weather. We still had a lot of riding left so after about a half hour it was B.O.B.

Now we start heading west on Hwy 36 to Fortuna where we would spend the night. We were only about a mile down Hwy 36 and we saw this.



That's right, 140 miles of twisties. Woohoo!! Now you're talking. This is what we've been waiting for all morning. Believe me, we had plenty of twisties and they weren't too difficult.

We stopped for lunch at the Wildwood Store, a little general store in the middle of nowhere with a coffee shop. Population: 10. It's operated by some really nice people. Ken had called the day before to let them know we were coming and find out if they could handle our group. The cook was nice enough to come in on his day off to take care of us.

Lunch was great and it was time to get back on the road. We still had 80 miles of twisties before we could stable our ponies for the night.

We rode into Fortuna at about five in the afternoon. After getting settled in our rooms at the Super 8, we

walked across the street to the Eel River Brewing Company's tap house for dinner. The place was so busy we had to sit outside while we ate. Even though the mercury was on its way down we were all fired up about the fantastic day of riding.

Saturday

7:00 a.m. B.O.B. That's right, **7:00 a.m.** Ken wanted to get an early start so we would have an opportunity to have breakfast at a very unique place, the Samoa Cookhouse. Located just outside of Eureka, the Samoa Cookhouse started serving meals to hungry loggers in 1893 and to the public since 1962. The Samoa Cookhouse can seat as many as 160 people.

They serve three meals a day (breakfast, lunch, dinner). For each meal there is a set menu. For our breakfast they served scrambled eggs, French toast, sausage links and biscuits and gravy. You can have all of that and it's all you can eat. Even though the ride to the Samoa Cookhouse was cold and foggy it was worth it. If you get up that way don't miss having a meal there.



After stuffing ourselves at breakfast, we headed north through Arcata on Hwy 255 and the east on Hwy 299 and then north on Hwy 96 headed for Happy Camp for lunch. On our way to Happy Camp, we rode through The Hoopa Indian Reservation where Jeff claims to have had a sighting.

We had lunch at a small family run pizza restaurant in Happy Camp. The food was very good and the portions were more than generous. Even Dan Hughes was full☺.

Continuing on Hwy 96 for about an hour and a half we turned on to Scott River Road. What a treat. This one lane road took us through some of the most beautiful country I've been on or ever seen. Mountain gorges, rivers, streams and meadow valleys. Nice find Ken.

Scott River Road took us to Hwy 3 where we went south to Weaverville. Along the way we rode through a spectacular mountain gorges, criss-crossing rivers and streams the whole way.

Arriving in Weaverville at 6:30 we checked into the 49er Gold Country Inn and then to dinner at the La Grange Café. The food was good but, what typically happens when you bring a large unexpected group to a small town, the service was slow with a couple other minor snafus. All in all it was a good evening.

Sunday

Day three had us B.O.B. at 8:00 a.m. We got to sleep in. ☺

We continued down Hwy 3 thirty miles to Hayfork for Breakfast. As a side note: GPS devices aren't perfect. We made a wrong turn due to a GPS glitch and had to make a U turn. So that made this an official STAR 186 Chapter ride. The ride to Hayfork took us over Hoosimbim Mountain that provided numerous breathtaking views of the valley.

We had breakfast at Irene's Café in Hayfork. The food was really good and I think everyone was satisfied.

After Hayfork, Hwy 3 heads dead south for a leisurely ride back to Hwy 36. Turning on to Hwy 36 we headed back to Red Bluff. Now this is the same road we were on leaving Red Bluff, but it is

<http://www.samoacookhouse.net/index.html>.

amazing how the same road can look so different when you travel the opposite direction.

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Back in Red Bluff we stopped for gas, a long drink of water and some discussion on which route we wanted to take from there.

We left Red Bluff, heading south onto I-5 to Orland, where we headed through town (around the block once to check the ice cream social sign) on Hwy 32. We turned right on Highway 45 and went south to Colusa. From Colusa we took some back roads where we picked up I-5 south again to 505. Then south of Winters, we turned onto Maxwell road and eventually Pleasant Valley Rd into Fairfield. As we got closer to Cordelia, the herd thinned out to only a few that returned to Denny's for ice cream.

What an absolutely fantastic weekend of riding through some of the best country I've ever been though with a bunch of great people.

Thanks Ken. I give the ride five stars. *****

P.S. Thank you Jeff for doing a great job tail gunning and keeping us safe.

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Barbara's Photo Show:

http://picasaweb.google.com/loneeagle101/TrinityAlpsAndBeyond02?authkey=Gv1sRgCJmD7ve_y8_NTw#



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KEEP THE SHINY SIDE UP!

Safety Tips/Tech Talk

This is your section to share "techie" stuff

Safety Tips:

Remember to T-Clock your bike prior to each ride. Here is a web link with a great check list to insure you properly check and inspect your bike. <http://micapeak.com/info/T-CLOCK.html>



TECH TALK

This is your section to share "tech" stuff

Hey guys: check this out ☺

TireGard Pressure Monitor

Monitor air pressure & tire temps wirelessly

<http://www.pashnit.com/product/tiregard.html>

Riding in the Sticks with #186

www.star186.org

21st – Mike Prawicki
26th – Pearl Nelson



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>

HAPPY HAPPY BIRTHDAY

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

1st – Barbara Medeiros
7th – Julee H
11th – Debby Bridges
12th – Marisa Hummel

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CHAPTER RIDE / EVENTS INFORMATION

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

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 – 6PM**
Fuddrucker's Election of 2011 Officers

OTHER EVENTS Notification

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** –

October 16th – Solano County STAR Chapter
#315's **CHOCOLATE RIDE**

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 - San Mateo
International Motorcycle Show
<http://www.motorcycleshows.com/5daystoSave>

