



**JUNE 2008**

## THE “PREZ SEZ”

### **PARTICIPATION AND CONCENTRATION**

Wow, what a great month May was to “start off” our riding season with a fabulous picnic with the Sacramento STAR Chapter in Jamestown, an “easy” ride up to Mt. Diablo, and a fun ride to Big Sur with the Santa Clara Chapter. A very interesting and educational afternoon, with two potential new members and members of the Napa Chapter visiting Pauline’s friend – Larry – and his Peruvian Horses in Petaluma. Dan Soraoka participating on the STAR Knights Ride (thanks for the fabulous photographs), a “pick up” ride with some Chapter members out to the coast after we had to cancel at the last minute our Redding weekend trip due to “weather”, and for good measure, a motorcycle skills training class with the Sheriff’s department. Moreover, we have only just begun.

Being part of an International Association, such as we are with STAR, affords those of us who like to have fun and participate, 8 great group riding opportunities (the weekend days) per month – not just with our chapter, but also with the “local” groups within our “jurisdiction”. I believe an opportunity to participate is what belonging to an organized association like ours brings to the table. We can make the choice to participate – or not. However, if we choose to, we can broaden our friendships and “excuses” to ride with those friends on the weekends.

I find that for me, it is often easy to lose concentration while riding. Maybe I have been on the road before, maybe, I see something

interesting, or maybe I am having fun “talking” to someone on the CB. Unlike vehicles with four wheels, within a split second, not concentrating can lead to unwanted consequences. Therefore, I ask everyone, and remind myself all the time, to “**stay on top of your game**”, **do not get complacent**, and **ride your own ride**.

Be aware. Perry, our Road Captain with his friend Joe stopped to get gas prior to joining us for the start of our May 10<sup>th</sup> ride to Mt. Diablo. A motorist getting gas ahead of him decided to back up rather than pull forward doing damage to Perry’s bike, but more importantly breaking his arm as he was thrown from his bike while it was parked! Motorists don’t see or hear motorcyclists. Be aware of this fact, and give ‘em plenty of room. We wish Perry (and his wife) a healthy, and speedy recovery period. Thanks, Joe, for being a great witness and taking all the necessary pictures to support Perry as he moves on with this mess.

Let’s get back to having fun. Just to name a few events: the Regional HIGH SIERRA STAR-B-Q in Reno on the 6 – 8<sup>th</sup> (let’s support Dan and his first ever Bike Rodeo at this event); our Father’s Day Ride on the 14<sup>th</sup> to Columbia and Modesto Chapter’s Annual Poker Run on the 21<sup>st</sup> for their very worthwhile charity. A Sunday leisurely paced ride to Old Town Sacramento on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, our 3<sup>rd</sup> Chapter meeting this year at Fuddrucker’s on the 26<sup>th</sup> and finally, for those who wish, the annual Blessing of the Bikes on June 28<sup>th</sup> by one of our own – Tim Forrester.

**Let’s Ride – Concentrate – Have Fun!**

**WELCOME**

**BACK** to our returning member Paul Schwind and Kim Garner, and new member Ken Ayers.

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And last but not least

## HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!

See ya on the road

Victor "Lone Eagle" Tibbs,  
President

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### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Check the website calendar for further information

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- June 6-8 High Sierra BBQ – STAR Regional Event  
June 14<sup>th</sup>: Air Show at Columbia State Park  
June 21<sup>st</sup> Modesto Chapter's Charity Poker Run  
June 22<sup>nd</sup> Old River Road, Downtown Sacramento [joint ride with Hayward Fault #103]  
June 26 Chapter Meeting  
June 28<sup>th</sup> Blessing of the Bikes
- July 12<sup>th</sup> Holli-STAR Rally  
July 20<sup>th</sup> Scandia Family Fun Center
- August 9<sup>th</sup> Competche [Ukiah]  
August 24<sup>th</sup> Chapter Ride TBD  
August 28<sup>th</sup> Chapter Meeting
- September 13 Santa Cruz  
September 14<sup>th</sup> RIP's "BAD" RIDE  
September 21<sup>st</sup> Chapter Ride TBD
- October 11<sup>th</sup> Chapter Ride TBD  
October 23<sup>rd</sup> Chapter Meeting – Officer Nominations  
October 26<sup>th</sup> Chocolate Ride
- November 8<sup>th</sup> Chapter Ride - TBD  
November 15<sup>th</sup> USS Alameda [joint ride with Monterey Bay Chapter #161]  
November 16<sup>th</sup> Chapter Ride - TBD
- December 13<sup>th</sup> Chapter Christmas Party – Officer Elections

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Chapter Sanctioned events are set out in blue

Chapter Meetings – red

Chapter Supported Events - Black

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### AND THE MEMBERS SAID ...

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

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**JAMESTOWN PICNIC with STAR Chapter #153**  
**"Unofficial" Chapter Ride**  
**Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2008**  
*By Pauline Carlton*

**Disclaimer:** This is an "unofficial" Chapter ride.  
Dan Ritter put together the ride route that we're  
using today; no pre-ride has been done, and if we

get lost, then let's go exploring. Did the President know something we didn't when he made this remark?

I swear we were supposed to meet at 8:15. Ask Jerry what that means.

Ada's supposed to be here. [When did she arrive Dan?]

The \$8.00 nap. Paula can explain this ☺

Sure a lot of maps - I think we know where we are supposed to go. Where is a GPS when you need one? Anyone sure they don't want to be Ride Captain? OK, Lone Eagle will lead, and we'll all blend back into the pack

Ice cream a la Bob Bridges for the folks using hand signals today [**keep up the good work troops!!**]

15 Chapter members / bikes today: not a bad showing for an "unofficial" group ride. Dan Soroaka and Dominic met us in Discovery Bay but only for a short period of time [they had other things to do today]. With The President and First Lady in the lead, Larry, Paula, Bob Bridges with daughter Sarah, Bill, Dan [Hughes], returning Charter member Paul Schwind [WELCOME BACK!!] with Kim Garner, new member Ken Ayres, Dan Ritter, Dave and Lynn, Treasurer Jerry, yours truly with Cecil tailgunning, we stopped and picked up (13) South Stockton members in Manteca. Ada is going to meet us up there.

Riding into the Jamestown Railway Train Station, STAR Chapter #153 is already there, the BBQ is fired up, 2 tables lined end-to-end with all the fixins, plus dessert await us. President Sunshine is directing traffic. \$7 buys you a hamburger or chicken breast sandwich, lettuce, tomato, onion to go along with it, potato salad, green salad, chips too. 50/50 raffle tickets are available with the proceeds to go to the STAR KNIGHTS [Ride coming up this month on the 24<sup>th</sup>]. Your lunch ticket will get you other raffle prizes. Our own Larry Thompson won the 50/50 of some \$74 plus a \$15 Chevron gas card.

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**MT. HAMILTON / LICK OBSERVATORY**  
**Chapter Sanctioned Ride**  
Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008

As they say, a picture speaks 1,000 words.



\$8 for a 40-minute scenic train ride showing you the water tower used in *Petticoat Junction*, a riverbank was in another movie, but the oh, la, la was the rock quarry we got to view while switching engines. The train conductor was just a hoot with some of his stories of the past.



Are we there yet?



A special **THANK YOU** to the Sacramento STAR Chapter, and Chapter President Janet "Sonshine" Sturkey for inviting us to their picnic. [They now want to make this an annual event!]

STARS came together today like they always do – to play together and have fun. And fun we did!!

Yes, we got "lost" [see the disclaimer above], made a U-turn once or twice, I missed getting to see Ada [but I left her one of our Chapter business cards], but Lone Eagle and Cecil got us there, got us home, and what a ride in between.

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There it is !!! W O W ...



What a view from up here !!



## PERUVIAN PASO HORSES

RIDE CAPTAIN:  
PAULINE CARLTON  
TAILGUNNER:  
LONE EAGLE/Cecil

**Ride Date:** Sunday, May 18th, 2008

**Meet:** Pleasant Hill at 11:00 a.m.

**Leave:** 11:30 a.m.

112.5 mile ride starting from Location #1 Pleasant Hill and ending at Denny's in Cordelia, **IF** you want to take the "long" way home. After lunch, the ride will officially end, and you'll have 3 choices on how to get home. [About 70 miles at that point]

Starting out, we'll be riding about 15-19 miles of the "back country" of Contra Costa County before getting onto Hwy 80, going through the toll booth [staying in the middle lane, with all riders remaining in formation], onto Hwy 37, right onto Lakeville Hwy Road, a rest stop at Starbucks in Petaluma. Back on the road, a left onto Washington Street which turns into Bodega Bay Avenue, left onto Bantam Way [single file] riding, right onto Western Avenue. .5 miles later, a left into the ranch where we can ride the horses if we want [especially the kids], a little display ringside to show the stride-n-strut of Confetti, Hoya, Principe, or Scooter [the baby of the group]. Larry promises to have on his riding gear to show us what the "official" costume of the parade or competition looks like. The ranch sits on 3-1/3 acres. [An official request from the horses today: bring apples and carrots. *We love those!*]

Doubling back over the same route getting us there for some 15-20 minutes, brings us into Papa's Taverna restaurant off Lakeville Hwy for Greek/American cuisine [belly dancing starts at 5:30 p.m. if you want to wait for that]. We'll talk about the different ride routes home during lunch time for those who need to peel off early.

Start out with a full tank of gas please. You might want to grab a snack before the ride since lunch won't be for some 4 hours later.

We had 21 bikes 🤘 24 people.

Guests included Solano STAR Chapter #315 [Ken Reeder [aka Spiderman] President, Vice-President Pam ["Boots"] Reeder, Art Pufford, and LOS Rep, Ann Davis], Paul Berg [my brother] and Jan Sanchez [his partner], Janet "Sonshine" Sturkey, President, Sacramento STAR Chapter #153, and prospective new members Jerry Tomaszke and Mike Karrer on their first ride with the group.

We spent 20 minutes listening to the history of these amazing animals, what the tack included and why, a jaunt around the arena to show the smooth gait and stride and the reason these horses are so popular: Danielle and Sonshine giving us their version of riding a Peruvian Paso horse. [Check out the photos, folks!] Some of the group left us after lunch at Papa's, and the ride ended at Denny's in Cordelia with my favorite – hot fudge sundaes. 😊

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Other comments:

Hi Pauline,

A great ride thanks for introducing us to Paso Peruvian horses. [Charlotte]

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Hi Pauline,

Thanks again for the great ride to Petaluma. You did a fantastic job of staging and leading the ride. Thank you very much. Best Regards, Art

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Regarding today's ride. You have heard me say that if/when someone comes up with an idea, if it sounds interesting, possibly different, I'm into exploring it. I knew you wanted to do this ride. After our pre-ride last week, I was a little skeptical if everyone would have a good time. I don't know why, but I for one was "imagining" this Kentucky Derby style ranch, etc.

Well, I'm here to tell ya, and I'm not just "saying" this. I think you did a freaking awesome job today, from the initial planning, to road captaining (20 bikes I might add), picking the spot for lunch, and the overall day. I truly believe – and saw – 24 people leave today with very happy smiles and warm fuzzies on their faces – everyone – including me – truly enjoyed themselves.

During the horse presentation, I watched people – and everyone was truly into what Larry was demonstrating, and sharing. And at the end of this day, I also truly believe that everyone who attended enjoyed the idea of something truly unique.

So, GREAT JOB – and thank you for all your efforts and time that went into this. You should be very happy and proud.

Victor Tibbs  
President

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Pauline,

It was my pleasure to share my passion for the Peruvian Paso horse with your wonderful group. I only hope we stopped in time to prevent losing their interest. As you may recall, once I start it's not easy to wind me down. I will let you know of the local shows, in case you or your friends would like to see what our competitions look like.

I will pass on your kind words to Dale and Richard.

Best regards--always,

Larry [Braun – our host today]

*Note from the Editor: This ride was dedicated to Perry Meyer, our Sr. Ride Captain who couldn't make it today.*

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## MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND RIDE REDDING – OR – BUST

May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2008

By Pauline Carlton

OK, we busted. Darn rain anyway. BUT, the fearless leader has another plan for Sunday, a short 200+ mile ride leaving Pleasant Hill, to Bodega Bay, over to Stewarts Point, then coming into Calistoga. That sounds like fun.

Dale and I met everyone at Denny's in Cordelia: Lone Eagle, Larry, Bob Bridges and Charlotte. A change of plans? We're going to the Wild Flour Bakery in Freestone instead. Oh man, that's great; I love those scones they serve.

Stopping at Starbucks in Petaluma after coming down Hwy 37 and over Frates Road, Dominic rides in on the 25 year-old Honda of his joining us, saying *I was there at 8:30!*



No, it wasn't this bike; this is Dominic's new ride since the Liner was totaled. ☺ Just kidding. The one below was what Dominic was riding today.

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this road before [a few years ago] and know what is in store for us for the next several miles: a combination of Deer Park Road, Howell Mountain Road, Knoxville Road coming into Clearlake.

This link will take you to Larry's photo show of our stop before heading up this twisty intense road:

<http://photoshow.comcast.net/watch/Xr7EB6kr>

A stop at the Dry Creek General Store to get a small snack and something to drink, we're ready to start back toward home: Dominic has things to do; Bob and Debby have a hot date when she gets home tonight. Riding out of the parking lot, Larry discovers that grabbing the front brake is a no-no on gravel. Getting the bike back upright and soothing the injured pride, we're back onto Dry Creek Road, and then stopping for gas. The trip down 101 is uneventful. Dale and I peel off from the group in Vallejo while the others head down Hwy 37 and toward home.

We got rained out on the Redding ride, yup, we did, but we still had a memorable ride over this holiday.

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## KEEP THE SHINY SIDE UP!!

Safety Tips/Tech Talk

This is our section to share "techie" stuff

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### Larry's Safety Tips:

- Watch for cars
- Don't tailgate [cars or other motorcycles]
- "Object Fixation" - don't focus on the object – focus on where you want to go.
- Did you check your tires before you rode?
- Did you check your horn?
- Drink water; stay hydrated.
- **DON'T** grab the front brake when riding over gravel.

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1. If your bike becomes unusually difficult to lift off the side stand, check the air in the rear tire.
  2. If the side stand seems to be longer than it usually is, check the air in the rear tire.
  3. If the headlight beam is higher than usual, check the air in the rear tire.
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The ride up to the Wild Flour Bakery is sweet: nice weather [starting to warm up, the sun is out], the roads nice, scenery gorgeous. The guy behind the counter even remembered us from our previous visit, and a local tourist was nice enough to take our group photo



Everyone still wanting to ride, Larry says that LUCAS ON THE WHARF has killer seafood. Onto Bodega Bay then. Coming out of that driveway, I am more than surprised that we rode off that steep hill and onto the roadway as quickly and without a lot of traffic as we did. Stopping for gas, our next destination is Stewart's Point and making a right onto Skaggs Spring Mountain Road. I've been over

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4. If your riding skills seem to have suddenly deteriorated, check the air in the rear tire.
  5. If you have to push harder to back up your bike than you usually do, check the air in the rear tire.
  6. If you find that a familiar road has more than the usual amount of uneven places, check the air in the rear tire.
  7. If it seems like your legs are getting longer when you place your feet on the ground, check the air in the rear tire.
  8. If the windshield seems to be taller than usual, check the air in the rear tire.
  9. If your co-rider complains of unusual riding discomfort, check the air in the rear tire.
  10. If you have been casually checking the air in the rear tire with a kick of your foot, increase the efficiency of this method by first removing your shoe. Then kick the tire as hard as you can. This firm action should jump-start the intelligent part of your brain that says: **"Use a regulation air pressure gauge to check air pressure in the rear tire!"**
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## HAPPY HAPPY BIRTHDAY !!!

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

5<sup>th</sup> – Judy Carreno  
11<sup>th</sup> – Daniel Ritter  
11<sup>th</sup> – David Zachry  
30<sup>th</sup> – Charlotte Jacobsen

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And now, a word from the Editor:

As sent to us by the webmaster of the Antioch GWRRA. Thought I would share.

Victor, I really enjoyed reading your newsletter. I especially like how many of your rides have been described by different people. Maybe we need to incorporate something like that. Thanks for sending it to me.

**As a reminder, come July 1<sup>st</sup>,  
no more cell phones while  
driving.**



*by Bob Bridges*

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For any current or new members that want to become a Star Vet, go to the National Web Site [www.startouring.org](http://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.

**This is pretty nifty. Just enter your zip code in the site below, and it tells you which gas stations have the cheapest prices (and the highest) on gasoline in your zip code area - It's updated every evening. Be a good neighbor and pass this along**  
<http://autos.MSN.com/everyday/gasstations.aspx?zip=&src=Netx>