

Daily Planet

December, 2001

Vol. 26, Number 12

Official Newsletter of the San Francisco Northstars Motorcycle Club

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

DEC 9	Club Ride— <i>Roozbeh</i>
DEC 26	Club meeting
DEC 26, 27, 28...	California City... maybe Pismo DIRT <i>call Hans: 925.443.1269 or check the list</i>
JAN ??	Anyone care to volunteer to lead?
JAN 19	Club dinner
NEW LOCATION	Delancey Street
FEB 3	Two Mountain Ride
NEW DATE	<i>due to 9/11, Superbowl Sun is 2/3</i>

MEETING MINUTES NOV. 28-----

It was a dark and stormy night. Wet and a bit harried from the nightmare commute over the bridge there we sat: Mister President, Lisa B., Mark Boyd, Bret and Barbara, Gretchen, Patrick M., Hans, Gary, Tony T. and his guest Erika, Earl. Eventually in strolled Alan and Marilyn. ☆ RIDE REPORTS: President's ride called for rain and bad weather, but Earl, Tony, Jim, and Mike enjoyed a clear day of riding, experiencing patches of short sleeve weather. They headed out to the Delta while coming across the Benicia bridge, there loomed a huge wall of fog so thick you couldn't see the Antioch bridge. The wind blew the fog away, and they enjoyed a sunny ride across the Delta. They rode more passes and hills and landed at

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9 —RIDE WITH ROOZBEH

Meeting Place: Breakfast at 8:00 @ Royal Café, 811 San Pablo Ave, Albany (510-525-6066)

Directions: Albany/Buchanan exit off I-80 • Turn Left on San Pablo Ave • After one very very long block, restaurant is on right side shortly after you cross Solano Ave

**Alternate meeting place for those who prefer sleeping-in over breakfast:
9:00 am @ The Wall (Grizzly Peak Blvd), Berkeley**

The Route

- * The Wall to Skyline Blvd
- * To Redwood Rd, pass Chabot
- * To Castro Valley
- * I-580 East to Palomares Rd
- * To Niles Canyon Rd
- * To Calaveras Rd.
- * Left onto Felter Rd
- * Piedmont to White Rd to San Felipe Rd
- * Metcalf Rd to Monterey Rd
- * Left to Baily Ave
- * Right on Baily to McKean Rd
- * Right on McKean... (continued above)

- * Left & left onto Almaden Rd
- * Right onto Hicks Rd
- * Left on Shannon Rd (GAS)
- * Left on Los Gatos Blvd
- * Hwy 17 South
- * Right on Bear Creek Rd
- * Boulder Creek (LUNCH)
- * Hwy 9 North to Skyline Blvd
- * Alice's
- * ... home?

Since some of these roads are prone to slides in the rainy season, we may have to make some route changes at the last minute.

Mike's house for a scrumptious dinner thanks to Mike's wife (and Earl's recipe for grilled salmon). ☆ DESERT RIDE highlights: Successful turn out with about 30 people total. Conditions were outstanding! Mid 70's, light breeze. ☆ Hans taught Gretchen how to "swish her tail" and experience a powerslide. He and Gretch and Sam rode to Ransburg. Gretchen sees a pink no trespassing sign which she proceeds to follow. She fell off her bike four times within a foot. (Check the short bike riders web site, Gretch. They may have some suggestions for bike modifications...) She finally finds a rock in order to put her foot down. ☆ Father and son each experienced a flat tire that weekend, Sam riding his XR80. After enjoying Earl's 100, he commented, "Dad this bike has a lot more power than mine. Can I have an XR200 for Christmas? ☆ Bret, Barbara, Steve, Deb, her son, Earl and John on the '84 Maco enjoyed a day of ridin' Thursday. It took Matt three tries before he made it up the hill. Earl spotted an easier route, and chose to go around the hill. Bret stalled out. Everyone followed Earl's path. ☆ Then they played follow the leader, all following Matt on the XR650. As they approached the five-foot drop offs, Matt exclaimed, "Stop! Stop! Wrong way! 100-foot drop-off ahead!" No one followed after that.

☆ Earl was whackin' the hills on the sandpit. ☆ Hans launched two rockets and a box of fireworks over the weekend. Explosions of a gasoline propane something or other were witnessed. A poor Australian Shepard hid in Gretchen's tent, but chose to pee on Patrick's picnic basket. ☆ No injuries, only broken motorcycles. The KDX ate a washer; had no compression and made it twelve miles, then seized up. ☆ Little kid ridin' on a fifty hitting a tree... he tapped out first gear all weekend. There were threats of strangulation by some. ☆ Interesting trivia: Houses in California City are \$39,095 brand spankin' new! Gas in Bakersfield is .94 cents. ☆ Apparently the Highway Patrol is writing RADAR tickets out on Mines and San Antonio road just past the junction. They were pulling over everyone a few weekends ago! ☆ Don't forget about this year's annual Northstar dinner being held at a restaurant **other than** the New Pisa. See pages to follow for dates and your choice of menu items. Send them into Alan M. ☆ NEW BIKES: Patrick bought his nephew a Honda Relfex 200 trials bike with 21/18 wheels. Mike put a deposit on a Caponord; they're not available yet and won't be coming in until after the first of the year.

—Lisa B.

ECLIPSE

As long as I've been riding, I've owned the same sport tank bag for over eleven years. It's my purse, technically. I carry it with me wherever I go.

I own the Eclipse sport tank, which has served me well. The only maintenance I've had to do on it is to replace the neoprene pad that comes with it. So every few years or so, I call up Joe O'Connor, one of the owners of Eclipse, and order a replacement pad.

This month during our phone conversation Joe got to talking about the company as a whole. He informed me that they had sent production away from the U.S. creating a cheaper product. Also, one of the owners was considered a cheap bastard, and began to cut costs by choosing a weaker material to make the bags. He let go of a lot of the designers, and as a result their product wasn't as well made.

Well, Joe's taking control back, making some changes and updating the Board of Directors to include men who are more interested in the industry, and who aren't as cheap.

He's getting ready to set up a test group and is looking for willing participants to test some of the new products coming out in the upcoming year. Interested? Call Joe. He'd love to get your feedback on his product, and maybe even let you test out some new gear.

Eclipse: 800.666.1500

Officer Nominations

send in your ballot to Lisa: must be received by 12.24
3861 Greenwood Avenue Oakland CA 94602

President *Earl Minkler*
 Gretchen Hoffman

Vice President *Roozbeh Chubak*
 Gretchen Hoffman

Ride Steward *Patrick Moriarty*
 Jim Cairnes

Dirt Steward *Patrick Moriarty*
 Steve Hursh

Word Steward *Lisa Brazieal*
 Earl Minkler

Treasurer *Allan Paul*
 Alan Macias

Sargent at Arms *Hans Koolhoven*
 Lisa Brazieal

Web Slut *Mike Chaplin*

NEW CATEGORY:
Trailer/RV Liason *Earl Minkler*

President's Ride

Tony Tugwell

So they said it would rain today. It didn't. Catfish said the Delta area would be fogged in. It wasn't. I met Earl and Jim at Denny's at 9:15am for breakfast and El Presidente rolled into the gas station at 9:55am. Four of us left towards the Delta as the skies cleared into what turned out to be a clear, dry day.

Stopped a couple of times around the Delta and then we did some big loops around Livermore out towards the Carnegie OHVRA.

The BBQ salmon dinner was hosted by El Presidente which was delicious. Lisa and her S.O. showed up for dinner with a good selection of excuses.

Fun day. No tickets, no crashes. —Tony T.

"Lisa and her S.O. showed up for dinner with a good selection of excuses." —Tony T

"We were busy ridin' alright... just not our motorcycles." —Lisa B.

"Hey, Lisa, we are all looking forward to your ride report, and hopefully some pictures!!" —Matt

FOR SALE!

1995 Honda CR500—\$3,150
JN suspension, professionally maintained, original owner. FMF pipe and spark arrestor, Green sticker, owner's manual, new chain & sprockets. Contact Erik Schaffer: 510.786-1644.

East Oakland Moto Bros Annual Christmas Party

WHEN
Saturday, December 22, 2001
7:30 p.m. 'till whenever...

WHERE
Lisa B, the new chick's house
3861 Greenwood Avenue • Oakland • 415.377.0134

BRING
your own booze and one meal to share

Please rsvp
to Lisa B. with
menu items

DIRECTIONS 580/Park Blvd. Exit—Buy a map... look up your own directions!

*gag
gift exchange!*

*bring
tunes!*

**All
Northstars
are invited!**

No Tolls On the GG Bridge

If you read CityBike's December issue, you know about the petition to eliminate tolls for motorcycles on the Golden Gate Bridge. But we need to write letters to be heard.

AMA's Western States Rep., Nick Hatis sent letters to 5,000 Bay Area motorcyclists, urging them to send letters in favor of eliminating bridge tolls for motorcycles. He suggests making the following points:

- The light weight and single-track design of motorcycles cause virtually no wear and tear to infrastructure, so no toll facility maintenance costs can reasonably be attributed to motorcycle use.

- Motorcycles generally weigh between 400-700 pounds, and even with a trailer or sidecar, seldom exceed 1,000 pounds. Motorcycles reduce congestion and are more fuel efficient than other motor vehicles. They average about 50mpg, vs. about 22.5 for automobiles.

- The wheelbase of a motorcycle is about half that of a car, so they take up less space when parked.

So the benefits of motorcycle use should be recognized by the complete elimination of tolls for motorcycles on the Golden Gate Bridge.

Send letters to:

Golden Gate Bridge Directors
P. O. Box 9000, Presidio Station
San Francisco, CA 94129

COPIES TO:

San Francisco Board of Directors
1 Dr. Carleton B. Goodlet Place #244
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

EMAIL TO:

jtarantino@goldengate.org

EMAIL COPIES TO:

Board_of_Supervisors@ci.sf.ca.us

*Credit for this article goes to CityBike.
Thanks to "Vera Cruz" Halton*

ANNUAL NORTHSTAR DINNER

Saturday, January 19, 2002

Meet at the bar at 6:00

Dinner served at 7:30 p.m.

Delancey Street Restaurant
600 Embarcadero @ Brannan
San Francisco
415.512.5179

Dinner Menu

Beer and wine bar only, so bring your flasks!

Appetizers

corn chips and salsa cruda

Soup du Jour

basket of assorted breads

Salad

organic field greens with balsamic vinaigrette

Entree

Oak Fired Barbequed Chicken and Baby Back Ribs
collard and mustard greens

Grilled Fillet of Salmon in a light soy glaze
stir fried vegetables and rice

*VEGETARIAN Entree

Pasta Primavera: angel hair pasta in a light red sauce
fresh tomatoes, garlic, basil and asparagus

\$25 per person; \$2 valet parking available. There is a 42 person maximum at this restaurant, so RSVP soon. Send checks and your choice of dinner entree to Alan ASAP. First come first serve!

Alan Macias
64 Ventura Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94116
415.225.6815

Name: _____

Guest: _____

Please choose one entree per person:

Oak Fired Barbequed Chicken and Baby Back Ribs
collard and mustard greens

Grilled Fillet of Salmon in a light soy glaze
stir fried vegetables and rice

*VEGETARIAN Entree
Pasta Primavera: angel hair pasta in a light red sauce
fresh tomatoes, garlic, basil and asparagus

White Trailer Trash Dirt Ride: The Night of The Shooting Stars

Ever heard the expression "These guys could fuck up a wet dream?" Well on **The Night of The Shooting Stars**, I mean **The Night**, the **Trailer Trash**, geniuses that they are, **LITE UP A FUCKING BONFIRE!** —that's kinda' like turning the lights on during a movie.

So I had to get out of my warm van and walk into the desert to restore the incredible drama that was the hour long meteor shower in the California desert, the moonless sky in the black of night. Perhaps a once in a lifetime experience. Pick your dirt riding friends carefully!

The Yahoos shouted and cajoled, harassed and touted and built the fire even higher. Like watching a movie, silence is preferred and darkness must be complete. Just basic, blokes.

I lay on my back in the dirt and watched the comets streak across the sky, double or triples sometimes, burning bright together, leaving an incandescent shadow that lingered long after the comet was spent. I watched hundreds of events in the short hour or so that this spectacular event unfolded.

In the morning we went dirt riding as usual.

—Patrick

Two Special Events coming up:

San Francisco Brewing Company's
16th and Last Annual

Anchor Brewery Christmas Tour

Thursday, **December 13th** at **5 PM**; \$20

Anchor is phasing out evening tours. We've had 15 great years. This will be a memorable evening. As a token of thanks for their wonderful hospitality, a portion of your tour fee will be donated to charity.

16th Annual

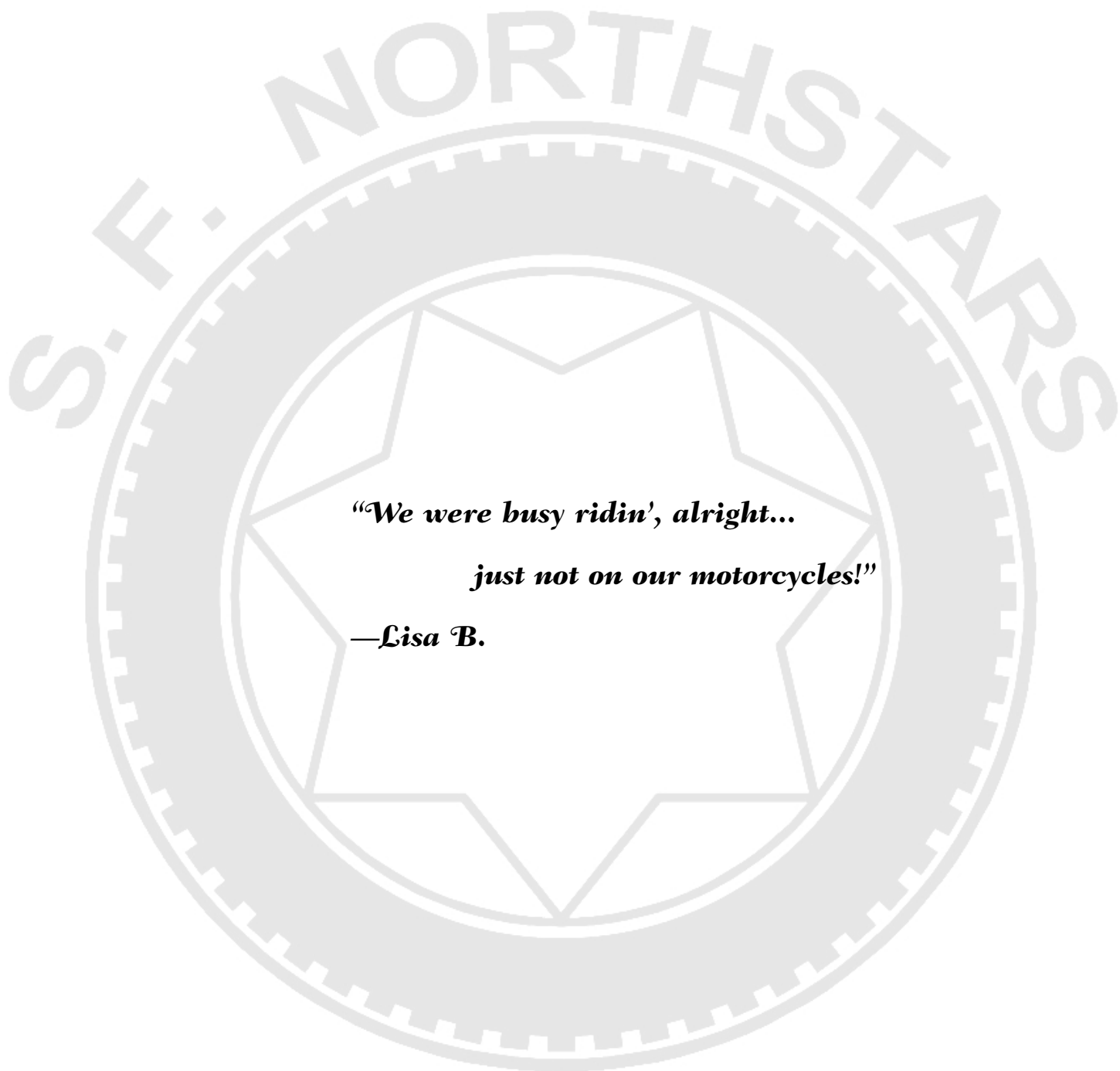
Christmas Ale and Chimay Ale Tasting

Wednesday, **December 19th** at **7 PM**; \$15

Tastemaster Ed returns to pour the spectacular Chimay Ales and a selection of Christmas Ales.

The monks in Belgium have been busy making not only beer, but cheese as well, so we will have the authentic Chimay Cheese with crackers. If you are good, then Santa might also have other little treats in store for you at this tasting.

Christmas Cheers, Allan



“We were busy ridin’, alright...

just not on our motorcycles!”

—Lisa B.

Northstar Publications
c/o Lisa Brazieal
3861 Greenwood Ave.
Oakland, CA 94602

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED