

# Daily Planet

April 2003

Vol. 28 Number 4

Official Newsletter of the San Francisco Northstars Motorcycle Club

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- APR 11-13 Songdog---Catfish  
(OR 12-13)
- APR 17-21 Dirtbiking with Catfish  
DIRT and son
- APR 27 Cow Mountain  
DIRT Contact Earl \*need ride leader
- MAY 3-4 AMA Superbike (Sear's Pt.)
- MAY 9-11 Lost Coast Luau w/ Village  
STREET Idiots (Roozbeh)
- MAY 17-18 Scoot and Splash (Kari)  
STREET
- MAY 24-26 Clear Creek (Earl)  
DIRT
- JUNE 1 Ahwanee Brunch (Lisa)
- JUNE 13-15 King's Canyon (Gretchen)

## A Dirty Easter

Chris & I are going dirtbike riding over the Easter weekend, specifically April 17-21. Chris wants to go to the desert, but I doubt that the weather is going to cooperate. More than likely, we'll be going to the Stonyford area. I hear a rumor today that Steve Hursh, Joel Buck, & maybe others are thinking of going to Stonyford that same weekend.

So, how about EVERYONE going up to the Little Stony (Digger Pine) campground on Goat-Mtn Rd.

<<http://sfnorthstars.tripod.com/images/fout-springs-area1.gif>>  
for that weekend? Chris & I will arrive on Thursday & stay 'til Monday.  
Catfish ...

## MEETING MINUTES Mar. 26 .....

Members **Lisa, Wendy, Bob, Earl, Catfish, Pat M., Pat C., Jim C., Allen, Gretchen, Ken, Gary, and Kari** were all present, as were guests **Tom Hung, Ian Cooper and Ali Biagi**.

**RIDE REPORTS:** **Jim C.** did a honeymoon ride with his new love--the 636, that included Cambria, 46, 58, rescuing dogs, receiving balloon rides, and helping out at the scene of an accident. You sure know how to show your new girl a good time, Jim! **Lisa B.** did Stonyford for the first time, and made it up the hill of doom! Way to go Prez! Takers on this trip got to play in a bit of snow, too! **Earl** reported on the big desert ride "As the ride leader, I chose NOT to give fuck-up stickers to the only two guys who had GPS who managed to get lost." **Wendy** reported on her new WR250, which got some dirt time as well.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Lisa B. introduced Ali Biagi as a guest speaker. Lisa is also thinking of getting more guest speakers on a variety of topics, from insurance to safety. The idea was well received and Lisa will look into this further. Ali presented information on the Alameda County Sheriff Office's Civilian Motorcycle Training Program, a 2 day program (16 hours, all on bike) that teaches a lot of the same skills officers undergo, including evasive maneuvers (from other vehicles, not from police). For more info, [www.sheriffacademy.com](http://www.sheriffacademy.com). There are also discounts if they get 10 students to sign up (filling the class).

**OLD BUSINESS:** T-shirts were finalized, and for those of you who missed the meeting, you also missed the modeling/strip-teases of T-shirts by both Wendy and Gary! The final details are now in place, and we will be taking orders through the next meeting. -Shirts will be long sleeved 100% Cotton shirts with 3" or so embroidery logo. See inside for further details AND the ORDER FORM....Form can be mailed to Kari (at the address on this newsletter or bring to the next meeting.

**NEW BIKES, NEW BABES:** Congrats to Allen for his new 5 lb 1 ounce, Alexander! The Northstars also gave Allen a high chair and "baby cage" for the new tot.

# OFFICIAL 2003 RIDE CALENDAR

## april

30 Northstar Meeting

- 5-6 Carnegie Hill Climbs
- 11-13 Songdoggie!  
2/3 Day Street Ride (Catfish)  
Mike leading 3-Day Ride  
Tony T. leading 2-Day Ride
- 27 Cow Mountain  
1-Day Dirt Ride (Earl)  
With option to go up 26<sup>th</sup> (See Bret, Craig)

## may

28 Northstar Meeting

- 3-4 AMA Superbike Races in Sonoma
- 9-11 Lost Coast Luau  
w/Village Idiots (Roozbeh)  
3-Day Street Ride
- 17-18 Clear Creek  
2-Day Dirt Ride (Earl)
- 17 SheetIron 300 Dual Sport Ride
- 17-18 Scoot and Splash  
2-Day Street Ride to Avila Hot Springs and  
Morro Bay (Kari)

## june

25 Northstar Meeting

- 1 Lisa's Ahwanee Brunch Ride (Yosemite)  
1-Day Street Ride (Lisa)
- 13-15 King's Canyon (**FATHERS DAY IS 6/15**)  
3-Day Street Ride (Gretchen)
- 28-29 Elkin's Flat or Georgetown  
2-Day Dirt Ride (Earl)

## july

30 Northstar Meeting

- 11-13 World Superbike at Laguna Seca
- 20 Around the Bay in a Day  
1-Day Street Ride (Craig on his Birthday)
- 27 Mendicino Madness  
1-Day Street Ride (Jim)

## august

27 Northstar Meeting

- 9-10 International Trials Competition  
Ride up to Donner/Trials  
1-Day Street Ride (Wendy)
- 16-17 Old Highway 40 Motorcycle Days  
1-2 Day Street Ride  
(Allen and Bambino and Trudy?)
- 24 Street Ride t.b.d.  
1-Day Street Ride (Kari)

## september

24 Northstar Meeting

- 6-8 Hot Spring's Ride  
2-3 Day Street Ride (Craig)  
options for both 2 or 3 days
- 19-22? Late Sept./Early Oct:  
Mike's Rogue River  
3-4-5 Day Street Ride (Mike)

## october

29 Northstar Meeting

- 4-5 Fall Songdog Rally  
2-Day Street Ride
- 4-12/13 Songdog and then on to Baja  
Street Ride (Craig)
- 26 Vice Ride Misery (or Mystery)  
1-Day street ride by the Vice Prez (Wendy)

## november

26 Northstar Meeting

- 2 Prez Ride  
1-day street ride (Lisa)
- 16 10th Annual Steve Mitoma Memorial Ride  
1-Day Street Ride (Craig)
- 21-23 California City  
3-Day Dirt Ride (Earl)

## december

30 Northstars Meeting

to be scheduled/rescheduled:

Scout and Shoot Ride

1-Day Street Ride with range shooting  
(little dirt into range) (Craig)

# The Spring Songdog Ride APRIL 11-13 (or 12-13)

We had such fun two years ago, we're doing it again. With Jim's minimum head count for a BBQ at 33, the Northstars need some attendance help to carry on our fine tradition of getting Jim to cook for us. 'Course we kinda like the roads heading in that direction too. Not to mention the opportunity to do a little shootin' before dinner. & other libations will help tell stories around the camp fire after dark.

Riding from the Bay Area ...Friday Ride leader: Catfish , Saturday (2-day group from bay area) ride leader: Tony Tugwell  
Duartes Tavern 202 Stage Rd. (Pescadero, CA) 650-879-0464  
Breakfast 7:30AM, be gassed **BEFORE** the ...

## Riders meeting 8:30AM

350 miles of **curvaceous** backroads  
Friday camping at the SongDog Ranch  
Rentals available: tents, 4" thick sleeping pads, & sleeping bags (w clean sheets & pillow)  
SongDog Ranch (Jim Revly) 1-800-766-2461 or [www.songdog.com](http://www.songdog.com)  
Ballinger Canyon Road.  
New Cuyama, CA

**Where?** On Hwy-33 south, about 4 miles south of Hwy 166, turn left (east) on Ballinger Canyon Rd. The SongDog ranch house (with windmill) is about 1 mile up the road on the left, the next dirt road on the right leads you up the mesa to the campground & lodge. Maps will be available soon.

**Friday dinner** at Sagebrush Annie's, 661-766-2319, a couple of miles further south on Hwy-33, on the left.

**Saturday Ride:** Santa Barbara's Outback 260 miles, with the Chumash Painted Cave [www.sbnature.org/research/anthro/chumash/pcart.html](http://www.sbnature.org/research/anthro/chumash/pcart.html) and the Solvang Motorcycle Museum [www.motosolvang.com](http://www.motosolvang.com) **OR** bring a dirtbike & head up Ballinger Canyon to the OHV riding area, or, lounge around the lodge all day & get SHITFACED!!!

**Saturday Night BBQ & Sunday Breakfast \$30**  
**Beverages included; cold beer will be available, @ \$1 each.**

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## SongDog Ride Registration Info

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Friday camping ----->	\$ 10 x _____ = _____
Sat.BBQ+Sun.Breakfast ----->	\$ 30 x _____ = _____
Sleeping pad(s) ----->	\$ 5 x _____ = _____
Sleeping bag (w sheets & pillow)	\$ 15 x _____ = _____
Tent(s) ----->	\$ 10 x _____ = _____
	TOTAL = _____

Make checks out to "Mike Chaplin" & mail with a printed copy of your registration info to:

**Mike Chaplin**  
**3235 San Gabriel Dr.**  
**Concord, CA 94518**

## Reg-info & checks must be received by Monday, April 7th.

Lodge has gas range, kitchen area, wood stove, bathroom with cold shower & flush toilet. (Caution: bathroom odors are lodge odors, the 4-door quadra-poop-o-matic with moon-roof is a short stroll across the mesa.)

A firing-range area will be defined & available to **experienced, sober gun owners** before dinner. Don't forget your ear plugs. Firearms are **NOT** to be discharged at any other time or location on the SongDog Ranch. Period.

Experienced riders with reliable bikes & good tires only, please.

Catfish ...

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Vice

## Column

**“He that’s content hath enough. He that complains has too much.” Benjamin Franklin**

As I’m riding in to work, dressed in 7 layers of clothing, and using my finger to wipe the rain drops off my face shield, I think, “real motorcyclists don’t make good crybabies”. The people in the cars next to me would lose their minds if they had to do the things I (or we) do to ride rain or shine. I was fortunate enough to catch the tail end of the Marlon Brando motorcycle era, where the guys and gals all kick started the bikes, knew how to fix them (they had to, to keep them running), and didn’t have the nifty all weather gear I have now. Many of these guys were Northstars or rode with them. They were a tough breed and not too many CRYBABIES in the bunch. Today however, it is socially expected for the masses to cry about everything. The only whining I want to hear is from the engine of my motorcycle. So today’s advice is, “No Crybabies! Let’s Ride”.

**Which of your five senses tends to diminish as you get older?**



*Charley Weaver: My sense of decency.*

## Lost Coast Luau

As you know, the Northstars have been invited (as usual) by the Village Idiots to participate in the LCL. If you intend to come along, and want to eat with the group on Saturday, check out the forwarded message. Hope to hear from you.

If you’re coming to the LCL, and intend to eat with the group on Saturday dinner, here’s the details.

1. Make a choice of entrees: choices are BBQ pork ribs; BBQ beef tri-tip; Spicy Cajun chicken; Tofu w/ pasta and veggies; Baked salmon  
All of the above come with Rice w/red beans, savory corn, ginger carrots, and rolls.
2. Send me a check for \$16. per person. Address is as below.
3. Anticipate having a very good time.

doug hill  
510-421-0201 (cell)  
510-526-1701

Douglas J. Hill  
107 York Ave  
Kensington, CA 94708

## Song Dog, Revisited May 3-4 or “I want more do you?”

No, this wasn’t a bit of porn spam that made its way into my inbox, but a note from Earl;

If those of you can’t seem to get enough or maybe have a conflict in April. The rally is May 3<sup>rd</sup>. It seems the only conflict on our schedule is the races at Sears Point so I have made reservations with Jim to party all night to his live band.

If any one is interested in joining me call or e-mail Song Dog with your reservations and we can ride down and party.  
Earl the Pearl  
[www.songdog.com](http://www.songdog.com)  
SongDog Ranch (Jim Revly)  
Ballinger Canyon Road New Cayama, CA  
1-800-766-2461

## 3-day June 13-15 King’s Canyon Ride

A beautiful ride down, then a gorgeous ride through the Canyon Saturday and another incredible route home Sunday. Think twisties, no cars, sunshine, but not too hot. You will love the route! Stay tuned...

But book your hotel rooms now at The Buckeye Tree Lodge in 3 Rivers about a 1/2 mile from the park entrance. The rooms are about \$90/night for two people (so about \$45 each per night). Plus you can add a 10% AAA discount if you are a member. For more info, check out their website at: <http://www.buckeyetree.com>. The hotel # is 559 561-5900.

There is a cancellation policy (website says 7 days, but ask when you call) so book now before rooms fill up and you can cancel later if you decide not to go.

If you want to camp, see Kari, she will make campground reservations in the Park once she has a good count (510-847-2942).

Contact Gretchen @ 415 587 2335 if you have questions as she is leading this ride.

# DESERT RIDE

photos by Earl Minkler



## Desert flowers

More Desert flowers:  
Lonna and Joel!



## Scoot and Splash:

May 17-18

A ride, a soak, a paddle, and another ride

Take a ride down the coast, or inland, down to Morro Bay, where we will soak in Hot Springs and camp at Avila Valley Hot Springs. In the morning, enjoy some of the fine roads around the area before heading back, or come out and paddle on Morro Bay. No experience necessary for kayaking, just a sense of adventure!

**Details:** Avila Hot Springs should be around \$10 for both camping and the day-pass for soaking or swimming (they have both a heated swimming pool and a hot mineral pool), presuming we can get about 10 folks to go. Otherwise it may be slightly more. Check out the website at [www.avilahotsprings.com](http://www.avilahotsprings.com)

Kayaking is on the Morro Bay Estuary using one of the outfitters down there, so you won't need to bring anything except a change of clothing. Cost will be about \$12/per person for two hours (probably how long we'll go). The other opportunity is to explore some of the roads down there...Friction Zone just did an article on a bunch of these roads, maps will be available for these for those who want to stay a bit dryer... We'll arrange to meet up and ride back as a group.

Contact Kari (510.847.2942) or [kholmgren@g4arch.com](mailto:kholmgren@g4arch.com) if you're interested in the adventure!



# NORTHSTAR T-SHIRTS:

OK, so the shirt on the left looks nothing like the shirts we will be ordering....ours will be MUCH cooler! So get your order in now, or bring to the next Northstar meeting!

**The details:** Long-Sleeve thick 100% Cotton T-shirts with the Northstar Logo embroidered (approximately 3" logo). The t-shirt will be Northstar blue with the white logo. The club will order a few extras, but don't count on these, be sure to order with this form to guarantee yourself a shirt in the right size. If you are out of the area and want the shirt mailed, please be sure to include your mailing address on your form or mailing envelope.

## The Order:

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

SIZE: XS S M L XL XXL

QUANTITY: \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL: (\$30 x \_\_) = \_\_\_\_\_

**ORDERS WILL BE TAKEN NOW THROUGH THE NEXT MEETING**

**Bring your form to the meeting or mail to: Kari Holmgren,**

**2042 Hearst Apt. B Berkeley, CA 94709**

## Carnegie's National Hillclimb 2003

This year's national Hillclimb competition held at Carnegie park was riddled with everything from on-the-edge of your seat excitement, to goosebumps traveling up your arms, to that horrible feeling of dread when you've just witnessed something really terrible happen, and you don't know what the outcome will be.

Day one provided plenty of entertainment while watching kids on 50ccs try their darndest to climb a hill just like the best of 'em, to watching the national #1 riders attempt to make it over the top. Some did, some didn't. The times Erik ran for his two classes on Saturday were a vast improvement from last year, as he ran an 18.5, and a 17.04 up the hill that had a sharp left hander which, as the day progressed and riders dug it in deeper and deeper, would shot ya' out but also swallow up every bit of speed you had. Those times allowed him to qualify for the BIG MONEY event Sunday; a hill so steep it hasn't been open for ten years.

The scariest moment of the weekend didn't involve a rider, but a hill worker who was knocked in the head unconscious by a falling rock, sending him rag dolling halfway down the hill. What a horrific site to witness. By the time they got the rangers, paramedics, and anyone else up to him, (Erik and I thought we saw them attempting CPR), he was eventually medivaced out, and reported to be in good condition, sitting up and talking in the hospital by the afternoon. He had a large gash on his head and a large bump from the fall. Lucky to be alive, he is.

The average exhibition bike was twelve inches longer than Erik's, who couldn't stretch his CR500 any further. The bike is stretched at 69", which is only nine inches longer than stock. #2 rider Dusty Beer had his stretched 80 plus inches. Travis Whitlock injured his collarbone on the first day after making it over the top, and getting spit off the bike. He was unable to compete on Sunday.

Sunday's race was the big competition, with only the top fifty racers qualifying from Saturday's event. When Erik went to pick up his bike after making it up the hill 270 feet, it was steep enough so that his shoulder was resting on the hill when he stood straight up. Watching these guys drag their bikes down the steep embankment was as much of a show as watching them ride up it. Erik and others had to slide on their ass while the bikes slid down beside them as they walked the bikes down off the hill. His friend Curt was trying to coach him after watching his first run, suggesting that he stand up on the bike rather than sit down as he rode up the hill. Trouble is, if he stood up, the front end would just come up off the ground, since the hill was so steep, and his bike wasn't long enough. Ahhhh the dynamics of hillclimbing.

--Lisa B.



***As the ride leader, I chose NOT to give fuck-up stickers to the ONLY two guys who had GPS...who were the only two to get lost"***

***Earl Minkler***

**Northstar Publications**

c/o Kari Holmgren  
2042 Hearst Ave. Apt. B  
Berkeley, CA 94709

**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**