

Daily Planet

February 2003

Vol. 28 Number 2

Official Newsletter of the San Francisco Northstars Motorcycle Club

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FEB 1	Club Dinner at Delancey St.
FEB 7-9 STREET	Jim's Birthday Ride Contact Jim .
FEB 14-16 DIRT	California City- Campsite #1 Contact Earl
FEB 23 STREET	Mark Anderson Memorial B-Day Ride
FEB 26	Club Meeting -S.F. Brew Pub
MAR 1-2 DIRT	Stonyford Contact Earl

And mark your calendars:

April 11-13 Songdog---Catfish

INSIDE THIS ISSUE!
FULL RIDE CALENDAR

Delta Ride February 23

Memorial B-Day Ride

Meet at 8:00 for breakfast at Coco's, Ride starts at 9:00

Coco's (925-449-7144)

4193 First Street

Livermore, Ca. 94550

Directions;

Hwy. 580 to First St.-Springtown Exit.

South 4 signal lights to North Mines Rd.

On the corner of First and Mines on your left.

PS The ride leader has put a request in for great riding weather.

So be there.

Julio Hot Stuff Sanchez 925-443-4004

MEETING MINUTES JAN. 30 -----

New Prez **Lisa, Wendy, Rene, Earl, Jim, Pete Silva, Pat L., Gretchen, Craig, Mark (w/o puppy), Kari, and Tony T. Allan** made sure we were in good hands before going off to have a birthday dinner for his wife Trudy. Guests included **Dave Rivers** and **Bryan Kletch**; both of whom are one ride shy of membership eligibility. All were ready for a full night of work and play as several new and revived issues were hashed out over delectable brews.

RIDE REPORTS: The Two Mountain Ride, Craig's Baja Ride Dec. 21-30, Trials Event, and Supercross Events were recent club happenings...see inside for more details.

NEW BUSINESS: Wendy introduced the business of Club T-shirts and other gear (see the *Vice Column* for more details). Members discussed whether silk screen or embroidery, and short-sleeved or long-sleeved shirts were the way to go. The general consensus was for long-sleeves...get your preferences in at the next meeting where we will have more info and we'll be making the decisions on this count. Questions of what to do with the Northstar treasury will be solved this year with the women in charge....watch out Allan!

Speaking of T-shirts, Pete Silva introduced the idea of reinstating the Fuck-Up Jersey, and had in hand a bright yellow T-shirt and helmet stickers. After discussion, the Club voted to reinstate the jersey, and after nominations, selected the first recipient of the Jersey to be Catfish for exploits

NEW BIKES: New Bikes include Catfish's WR 450....finally! He'll be testing it at Stonyford the morning after the Dinner. Craig picked up a used '96 Tiger to replace his old Tiger (90,001 miles) that got burnt in a garage fire at his place the weekend before. The new Tiger has 12,000 miles, and we're all hoping he has as much fun with it as he did the last. Wendy announced the addition of another '96 bike to the Club's fleet...an XCCH (Sportster) with massive amounts of powercoating. She tested this bike out on the Two Mountain Ride.

LAST CALL for updates to the online roster;

<<http://sfnorthstars.tripod.com/NS-Roster.pdf>>. I have received numerous updates over the past month or so, and I'm about to release a new version. If you want YOUR'S changed, get it to me ASAP! - Catfish

OFFICIAL 2003 RIDE CALENDAR

january 29 Northstar Meeting

26 Two Mountain Ride
Street Day-Ride (Catfish)

february 26 Northstar Meeting

1 Annual Club Dinner @ Delancey Street

14-16 California City (Ex-Prez;s Prez Day Ride)
3-Day Dirt Ride (Earl)

23 Mark Anderson Memorial B-Day Ride (EARL)
1-Day Street Ride (Earl)

march 26 Northstar Meeting

1-2 Stonyford
2-Day Dirt Ride (Earl)

29-30 Scoot and Splash
2-Day Street Ride - Morro Bay with waterplay (Kari)

april 30 Northstar Meeting

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 26th (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 Armed Forces Day !
Scoot and Shoot Ride
1-Day Street Ride with range shooting
(little dirt into range) (Craig)

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
10 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

From Word Steward.....to President

Change is good!

Since publishing the newsletter the past two years, burnout was setting in. Time to move onward (and upward). Why not accept the nomination for President, and make Northstar history? Somebody's gotta do it, right? Gretchen, being the first woman ever voted in as a member, declined the nomination last year. It could have easily been her writing this column. Granted, I don't consider myself much of a leader, but I'll learn. There are a lot of things that I've learned over the years while riding with the Northstars. Taking on the office of the President shouldn't be any different.

Being a clubmember has made me an all around smarter motorcyclist, as it's helped build my riding and leadership skills when it comes to riding with large (or small) groups. I've learned that you wait at turns until everyone on the ride has shown. I've learned how to read (and follow) a map. I've learned never again to reach for the green handle. You know, the important stuff in life.

This club's gone through much change since I started riding with the guys thirteen years ago. I wasn't the first woman out there riding, either. Barbara Morshead used to wink her tail light, honking as she zoomed by on her ZX6 years back. She was a mentor for me during those early days, and I remember thinking, "God, what fun it would be to be able to keep up with the guys." Well, I still can't keep up, but for me, that's not the point; I hold my own. Camaraderie and sharing something we all have in common is what bonds us: motorcycles.

Hanging around with this family of Northstars has extended my family in numbers. I feel as if I have forty big brothers and sisters who will watch over me in times of need, if ever I get into trouble. Witnessing the way clubmembers pull together during difficult times is always astonishing. As a club, we have experienced accidents, jail time, deaths, the birth of new life, not to mention the basics like the excitement we share when someone buys a new bike.

The San Francisco Northstars has been a motorcycle club since the seventies, and our reputation still holds strong. There's a lot of history among us. Members continue to come and go, but those who have moved away still like to keep in touch with the Club. And that we've continued to vote in new members each year tells me we're here to stay.

Change is good. I look forward to the year ahead.

⟨Lisa B.





Vice

Column

I thought I might use this small space in the NorthStar newsletter to voice my opinions, thoughts, fears, hopes, dreams, your comments, and new motorcycles and stuff.

—The Vice.

On the issue of t-shirts and other NorthStar paraphernalia, the club has been without an identity for sometime now. The club has almost slipped in to anonymity. Lets show some pride in our club by sporting the club logo when we're out and about. Let's support our President by letting her know what items (t-shirt, long sleeve shirt, jacket, patch, hat, coffee mug, you get the idea) you would be proud to wear as a member of the S.F. NorthStar motorcycle club.

What does making love in a canoe and canned American beer have in common?



They're both fucking close to water.

Supercross and Trials!

Both the U.S. National Indoor Trials event at the Cow Palace and the Supercross at PacBell had OUTSTANDING Northstar attendance, with about 20 folks each event, and no one was disappointed by either event. Craig's tailgating setup got everyone in the mood for a spectacular runoff to the end by the top two motocrossers, and pre-event drinks at 21st Amendment prepared everyone for an evening of Supercross....and ensured the Northstar tradition of "eat to ride....ride to eat" was upheld in fine tradition! It was determined later that the fine folks from EOMB actually had the better seats at PacBell taking the "cheap seats on " on the second tier as this view offered a bit better view of some of the jumps. Looking forward to seeing Ricky and James in action again soon!



February 1:

Annual Northstars Dinner

Wasn't that a GREAT dinner Saturday night! Earl's dessert FIRST! Gretchen, the appetizers & additional courses were delicious! Lots of awards & prizes! Great seeing John Munger, Dena, Kelly, Alan, & Marilyn again! I appeared to be the only one drinking the Chardonnay at our table. Then Sherry noticed how empty the bottle was becoming & moved it out of my reach! AAAAAACK, the portion-control queen struck in PUBLIC!!!

Lisa, your new *member* is so ... err-ah ... PINK!!! The facial expressions of those walking down the sidewalk & looking in the window, when you had it kinda flopping around on top of your head, were PRICELESS!!!

SteveHurshjoinedJoel&IatLittleStoneyforsomedirt,mud, snow, & ICE on Sunday! The WR is officially wonderful! After a few minor adjustments, it should be PERFECT!!!

Catfish ...

a small note of thanks!

The Northstars would like to offer a heartfelt thanks to the following businesses for donating raffle prizes for the Annual Northstars Dinner:

Mission Motorcycles

Valley Machine

HK cycles

Berkeley Honda Yamaha

Scuderia West, and

Munroe Motors to name a few.

And one last thanks: To Gretchen, for organizing the dinner; and to the awards committee members Wendy and Mike for their great presentations Saturday night.

Winter in Baja

So there I was facing yet another dimly cold and wet Christmas in the San Francisco Bay Area. The forecast continued to predict rain and more rain for day after day. Typically I just go to work, enjoy my day off for Christmas, eat and drink way too much and then go back to work the next day. This year would be different. This year I wanted something special for Christmas. A nice tan.

I worked out the details with my boss and ended up taking the 21st through the 1st off from work. Seems that I was not so important that they couldn't do without me for a couple of weeks. I went home, loaded up the Tiger and pulled out the maps. First stop, Los Angeles! I decided to hammer on down the freeway to LA for a couple days R and R. I spent my time well hanging with the girls and seeing famous movie stars. Despite the good drenching I got going down (hard rain for nearly 300 miles) the weather in LA was clear and beautiful. But enough of that, it's time to ride South!

Monday morning I rolled out of LA and down I-5 toward San Diego. Normally I would enjoy the fun backroads but today I needed to make time and get across the border. My plan was to head to Canyon de Guadalupe for a little hot water and solitude. I cut across on 8 and then found my way to Highway 94, a fun twisty mountain road that takes you from rural San Diego to the border. I was over the border by 1pm and heading East on Mexico Highway 2. As I slowly rose in altitude I noticed a good wind chill happening. Been there done that. Was reminiscing about my first time in Baja where I got snowed in up at Laguna Hansen when I spied a car coming from the opposite direction. There was something white and shiny on the hood. Snow?

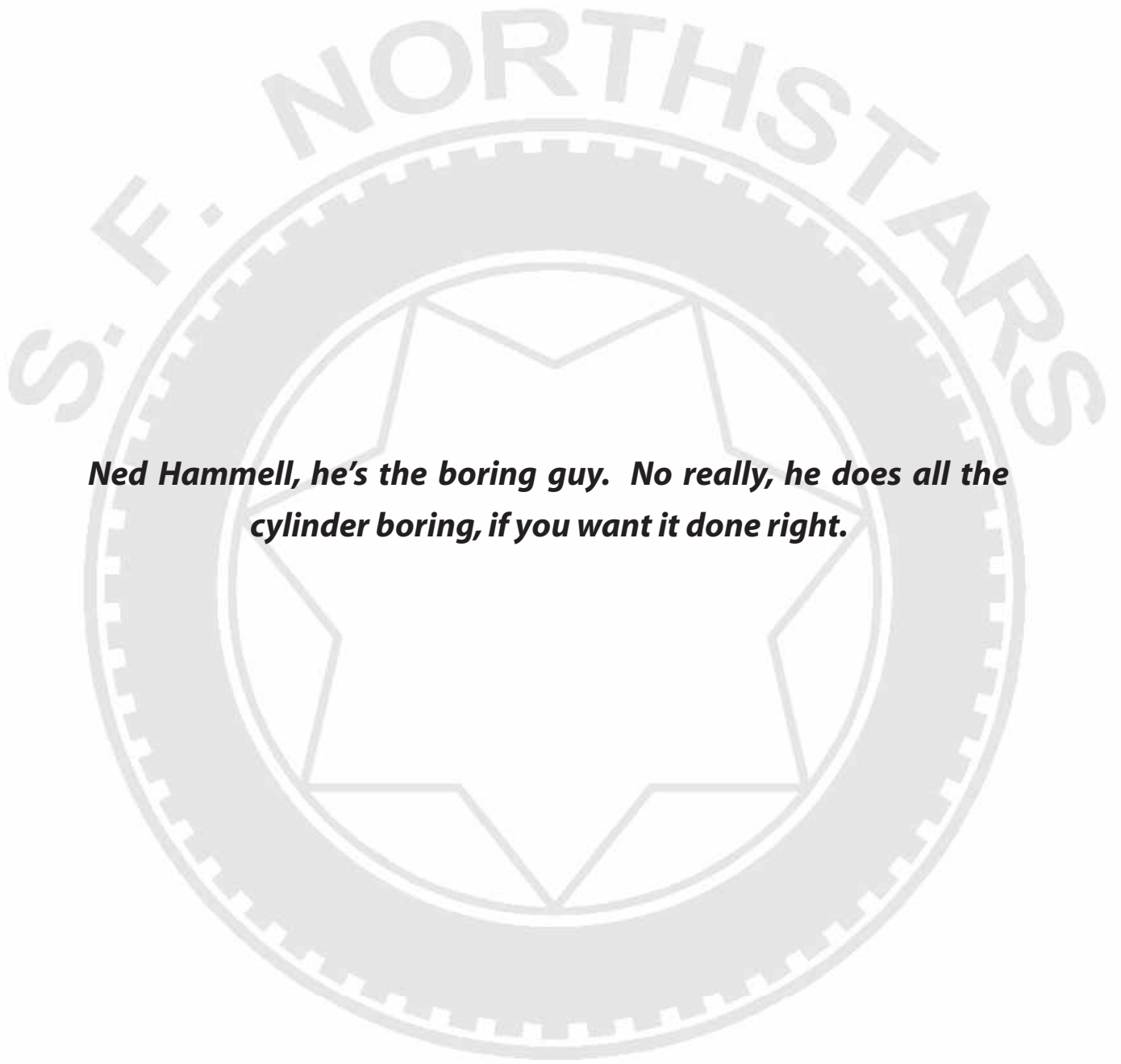
Sure enough as I topped the 1500-meter mark I found bits of snow everywhere in the mountains. It was quite beautiful! I'm sure glad I brought my electric vest and had my electric grips on the Tiger. Life can be wonderful in the cold when you're warm. Thank you Widder! I passed over and down the Rumorosa Grade into the valley West of Mexicali. Soon I spied my turnoff, a little sign next to the road indicating that way to the canyon. Making the right turn to head south I had 30 miles of dirt, gravel, sand and cactus to deal with...not a problem when you ride a Tiger! As I motored along enjoying the wide-open spaces I began to notice little things like fields of newly planted olive trees and other signs of cultivation. This was not quite the wasteland I imagined.

About 25 miles down the road I found the turnoff to head into the canyon. It was pretty nondescript and yet perfect. To the West and directly ahead of me lay the vast chain of mountains that comprise northern Baja. The hot springs were nestled into the side of this mountain chain at the foot of a wonderfully rugged and beautiful canyon. It was the picture of a classic oasis with palm trees and greenery everywhere. I pulled up in front of Arturo's and smiled. I've made it!

--Craig



As most Northstars know, this was the last long trip Craig took on the infamous red Tiger due to a garage fire that claimed his bikes. We'd like to wish him many more happy trails and miles on the new Tiger!!



Ned Hammell, he's the boring guy. No really, he does all the cylinder boring, if you want it done right.

Northstar Publications

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