

Daily Planet

June 2003

Vol. 28 Number 6

Official Newsletter of the San Francisco Northstars Motorcycle Club

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

JUNE 13-15 King's Canyon (Gretchen)
STREET

JUNE 28-29 Elkin Flat (Earl)
DIRT

JULY 11-13 World Superbike at
STREET Laguna Seca

JULY 20 Around the Bay in a Day
STREET 1-day street ride (Craig)

JULY 27 Mendicino Madness
STREET 1-day street ride (Jim)

AUG 9-10 International Trials
STREET Competition

MEETING MINUTES June 25.....

Members **Mark, Ken, Bob, Wendy, Gary, Craig, Earl, Rene, Gretchen, Lisa, Allen, and Kari** were joined by guests **PeeWee** and **Sally** (Sally of McGuire's HD/Walnut Creek), and later **Jennifer** (of Werkstat for the May meeting). **Gretchen** began the meeting by offering a gift to **Ken**. Ken has not made the last two Songdog rides due to inclement weather and Ken's lack of raingear. Do the British call raingear a "rubber"? 'Cause that's what Ken got, as well as a little plastic chicken to model the raingear. It was just a little peaker, though. **Lisa** read a couple of emails between original Northstars **Pat M. and Rene**, and **Rene** noted he is T-minus 41 to retirement but who's counting, right Rene? **Lisa** also reminded the Club that **Pat Lydon** needs support as he and his wife cope with his wife's illness. Dina Anderson is organizing meals and support for Patrick.

Old Business: The T-shirt ordering has been completed, but not yet ordered. The Club will order a dozen extra shirts of various sizes for future sales. **Lisa** reported that she has contacted the person from the Blue Ribbon Committee concerning the off-road funding discussed at the last meeting.

New Business: **Wendy** discussed the 30th Northstar Anniversary party: **Allen** offered up the S.F. Brewing Company as the venue, and the party was scheduled for Oct. 19th. \$15 per person for grilled chicken/gardenburger/hamburger and fries, with B[buy] Y O Beer. The Club will chip in \$5 for paid members, and **Rene** will treat any Northstars who were members in the 70's to dinner.

Upcoming Rides: **Lisa** outlined details of the Ahwanee Brunch Ride (see inside for details). **Craig** asked for anyone else going on the Mt. Hamilton/Kart Racing to let him know ASAP so he could reserve the track. The ride will leave at 8:30 from the

Oakland Grill in Jack London Waterfront in Oakland. **Gretchen** changed the details for the King's Canyon ride to leave "clutches out" at 8 am due to the warm weather she will be ordering up for the weekend. The breakfast spot is Steven B's [formerly the Buttercup]. Gretchen will send these details out over email. Also, "there is no room at the inn" but will still be room to squeeze in at the campground with Kari, Craig, and Jim.

Ride Reports: The Ride reports started out with a couple of "Kaiser Moments".

Wendy went on a 2-day ride in Mammoth with a bunch of other dealers that saw a little snow and a lot of dust. The first day Wendy rode mostly by herself, and had one instance of coming around a corner and meeting a snowdrift half-way. She popped right up and got going right away with her electric start, while her similarly disposed riding buddy was left kicking away. The second day, Wendy went into a dusty/silty area a bit too slow and wiped out, with a resulting dislocated shoulder which left her with the choice of having it popped back into place in the field or waiting until she got to the hospital. She chose the field fix, and then rode the cash truck the rest of the trail. Wendy then made a lot of folks turn green; both those who helped put humpty back together but also the

Minutes continued on p. 4

OFFICIAL 2003 RIDE CALENDAR

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)

September 24 Northstar Meeting

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

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)

October 29 Northstar Meeting

- 4-5 Fall Songdog Rally
2-Day Street Ride
- ? Post-Songdog Ride to Utah: Zion, Bryce,
Lake Powell, etc. ??
Street Ride (Craig)
- 19 Northstars 30th Anniversary Party
S.F. Brewing Co.
(Details in minutes)
- 26 Vice Ride Misery (or Mystery)
1-Day street ride by the Vice Prez (Wendy)

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
- 24 Scoot and Shoot
1-Day Street Ride and Shooting (Craig)

November 26 Northstar Meeting

- 2 Prez Ride
1-day street ride (Lisa)
- 16 10th Annual Steve Mitoma Memorial Ride
1-Day Street Ride or Track Day (to be
determined) (Craig)
- 21-23 California City

December 30 Northstars Meeting

Ahwannee Brunch Ride...

5:20am, The alarm goes off, and I crawl into my Aerostich and head out the back door of Petaluma to San Anselmo via Nicasio and Fairfax to meet up with Jim.

We join 10 other bikes in Livermore and head across the valley to Yosemite. After no more than 1 gas stop we roll into the park for our Noon reservation in the Ahwannee lodge where we hit the breakfast buffet followed by a power nap under the trees.

Earl rounded up a group and headed for the Tiago Pass. Liza, myself, Jim and 3 others brain dead from over eating, headed home.

I logged 502 miles by the time I rolled back into Petaluma around 6:30pm.

Great days riding. Wicked hot coming back across the valley. No crashes, tickets but some mild heartburn. :<

Thanks Liza!

-Tony T.



photos by tony tugwell

Minutes continued...

x-ray technician who found a chip at the end of the bone. **Rene** suggested that “implants” might be a good solution for a little “extra padding” on the shoulder.

Rene then described how to hit a deer twice without falling... He was headed home from work north on the 101 in Marin when he saw a deer staring like, well, a deer in headlights. He swerved as much as possible and aimed for the ass of the deer because “they don’t tend to run backwards.” He hung on as he hit the deer with fairing and headlight and again hard enough to end up riding side-saddle as he came to a stop at the side of the road. He did about \$1600 damage to the plastic and sheered off the left footpeg; we’re all just glad his foot wasn’t on that peg when it sheered.

Craig described a run-in he had last week with a pickup truck that left him with a few bruises and a sore knee but otherwise his Kaiser Moment checked out ok.

Lisa then described a very harrowing experience as her first run out of gas on her GB550....at one of the worst possible spots, the 24/580/880. She managed to get onto the shoulder with a little “Flintstone” action on the pegs, then called Berkeley Honda-Yamaha and got a little spare gas brought down.

Earl described the dirt ride down in Clear Creek that went on in spite of the high asbestos levels; **Mark, Steve H., 13 year old C.J., Patty, and Earl** were all there. C.J. crashed, screamed, then popped up and rode on, but later discovered that she had broken a bone in her foot. Earl admitted his DR popped out from under him while he was showing off.

Lisa and Kari described a gorgeous ride down the coast on Highway 1 via Nepanthe to Avila Hot Springs for a soak, a movie, and a campout with the requisite merlot, toblerone, and strawberries. The morning saw a great breakfast on Morro Bay and a smooth ride inland through Atascadero, up Indian Valley Peach Tree and 25 to the slow down just before Tres Pinos where, sure enough, a couple of CHP lay in wait, but not for us! A quick ice cream at the shop and then the scoot home. Although there wasn’t too much “splash” this year (only in the pools at Avila), we got info for next year for the kayak bit.

Gretchen described her weekend up in Alaska with a friend who had a garage full of toys as well as 47 dogs...well, 48 if you include the harley. She went up for some fishing, until she realized she doesn’t like fishing; instead, she talked her friend into letting her ride his Fat Boy. In just a beanie helmet, she got to see the other side as an R6 zoomed past her. Glad you didn’t try too many stunts in that little helmet, Gretch.

Earl described a Sunday Sierra ride up to the Hetchy Hetchy via the southerly backroads for just under 400 miles. On Monday he went out with Lonna to ride some East Bay backroads, and made the mistake of letting Lonna try his R1. Looks like Earl might be riding the VTR 250 more often unless he gets another of those in his stable soon!

New Bikes: **Mark** has a new 2003 LeMans Moto Guzzi. **Bob** will soon have a new bike in the stable as his son gets a Karaszki ZR750 this coming weekend.

King’s Canyon Pics!



photos by craig hightower

Dave Does the 49er (yes, this is a little dirty)



photos by david rivers

Mt. Hamilton and Kart Racing!

Despite the cold and the gray weather there were 8 of us hanging out at the Oakland Grill on Sunday morning. The food was great as was the company. Soon we were off riding up 580 heading for my favorite East Bay Backroads. Greg, Holly, Jeff, Evelyn, Don, Gretchen, Tom and myself. Redwood road was slightly damp but still a lot of fun. Palomares was rather chilly but because of the early hour no one was there to disturb our play. Niles Canyon was nothing to write home about. Just a way to get from Palomares to the real fun, Mines Road.

Ripping up Mines road I was passed by a mad man on a big Kawi. Don couldn't take it anymore and let her rip! He was doing a respectable job of shredding the pavement and leaving nothing but gravel and rocks in his trail. By the time I caught up to him at the Junction his grin was wider than the Cheshire Cat's.

Unfortunately Evelyn missed the turnoff and zoomed by on her little SV. Poor Don had to suit up and chase her down. Said he saw a buck 40 heading down that long straight on San Antonio. The rest of us settled down to sodas and a little shade. The sun had come out in a big way. It was downright hot up there.

After Don returned with the wayward Evelyn we remounted and took off for the top of the hill. Gretchen got the jump on us and soon became queen of the mountain. The road is still a bit sketchy but overall no traffic and no cops to speak of. The view from the top was fantastic and the weather warm and nice.

After a reasonable break we suited up, fired up and then put her in neutral. Time for the best coast race on the planet. Don's Kawi set the pace. Jeff was not far behind. I did my best to get the Tiger rolling but it was feeling pretty sluggish. I had to take a few shortcuts in order to catch up the guys. Luckily a few rolling chicanes provided the impetus for me to catch and pass the guys. Whooo hoo!

At the bottom of the hill Gretch came by at warp speed. Seemed she wanted to tease the boys a little. It worked. Don and I gave chase. It was so much fun to blast down that last little downhill section heading into San Jose. You gotta love it.

But the fun wasn't over yet! From there we superslabbled it up to Fremont and met up with Lisa, Erik, Sue and Duffy at Lemans Karting. I managed to secure 30 minutes of track time for \$450. We got a 10 minute practice and then followed that up with a 20 minute race. I got lucky and nailed down the pole position with Duffy and Erik hot on my tail. Jeff Lee was in the mix as was Tom. This was gonna be fun!

I can't describe the mayhem! Spinouts, bumps, rubs, outright ramming and more!

These people are nuts! We had so much fun out there it musta been illegal. All in all I think everyone had a good time. We even got to see Duffy take his SuperTT XR650 out for a few laps. I think he managed to surprise the staff with his 23 second lap times....

Thanks to all for coming out to the first but not last Mt. Hamilton Go Kart ride!

Craig

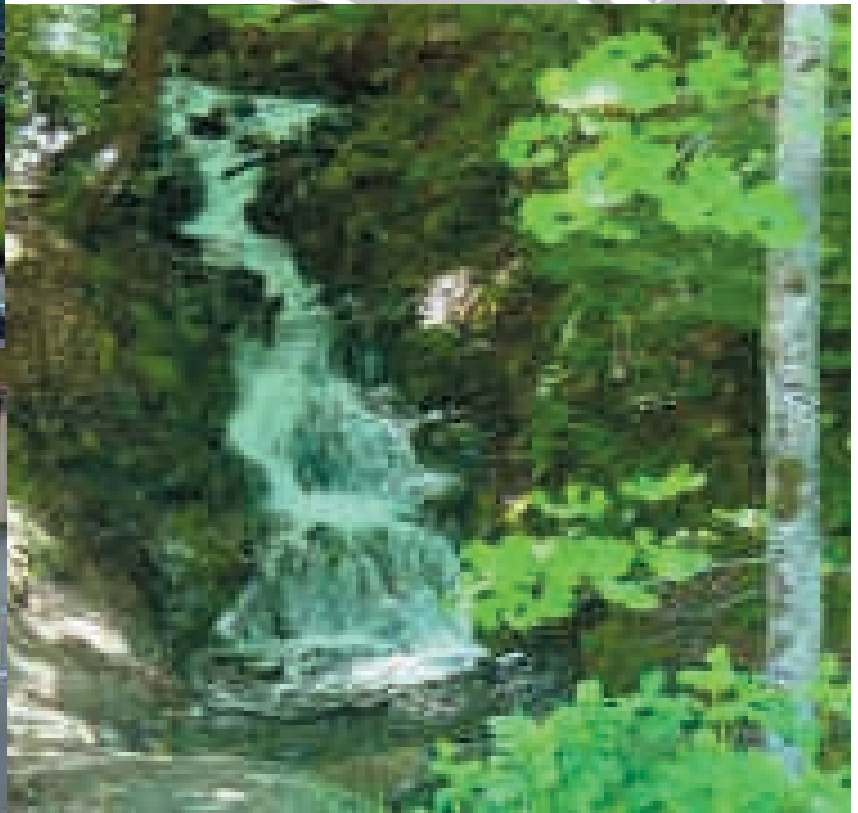
Lost Coast Luau



You folks would've fit in nicely at the Lost Coast Luau. Have a look at Julio & Shebahhh! Roozbeh never did tell me what her name was, so I got to use a little redneck creativity!

The LCL was a BLAST! The weather, the scenery, once-a-year Idiot(tm) friends, and the roads were ALL perfect! Julio & I ran Hwy-36 (+ Hwy 3 + Wildwood Rd.) in both directions!!! Three days filled with lusty motosex on the best roads in Northern California! Roozbeh, thanks for a GREAT weekend!

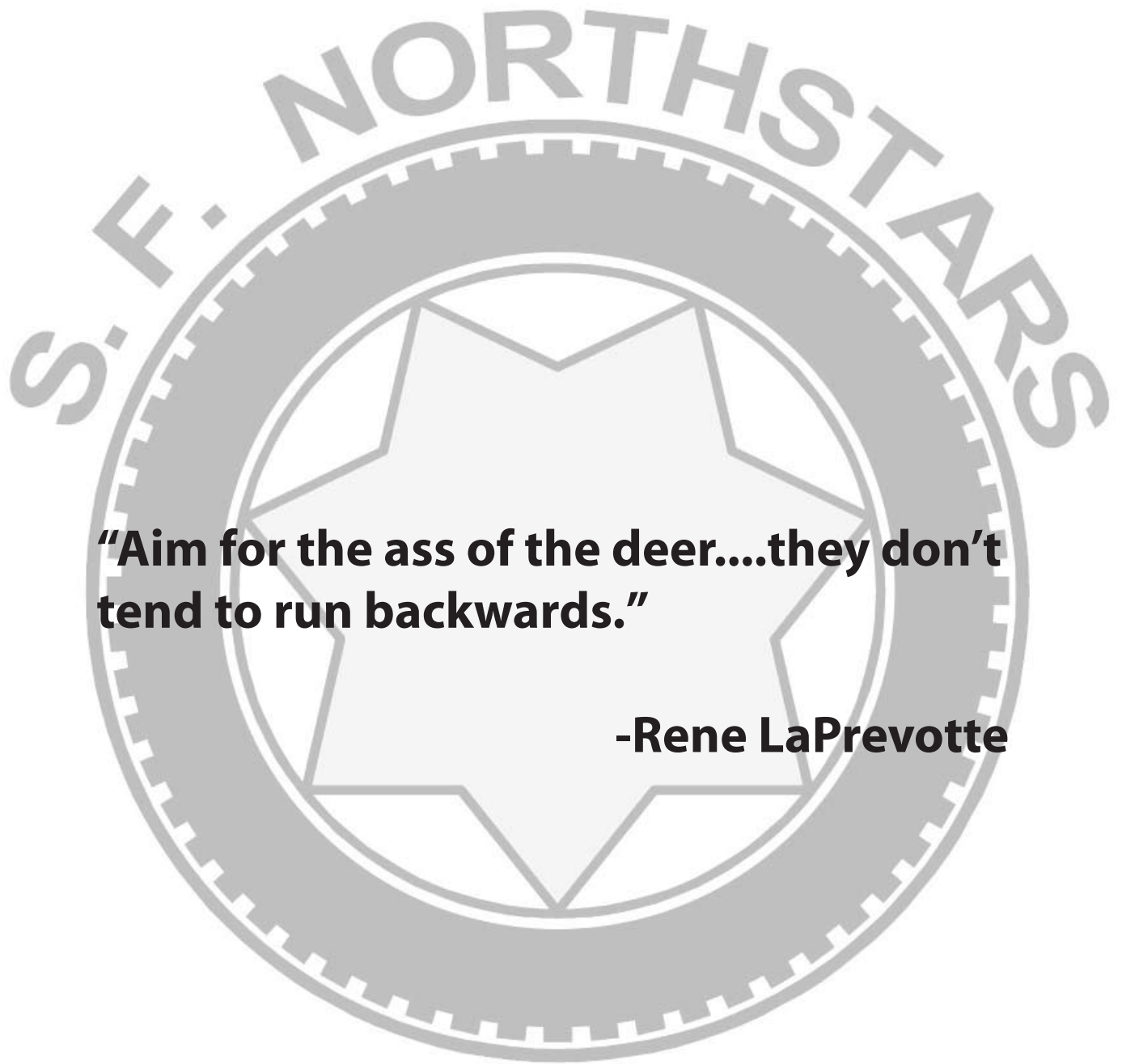
Words and photos by Catfish. Sheep by ????



photos by mike chaplin

Things that make you go "hmmm...."





**“Aim for the ass of the deer...they don’t
tend to run backwards.”**

-Rene LaPrevotte

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