

Daily Planet

October 2003

Vol. 28 Number 9

Official Newsletter of the San Francisco Northstars Motorcycle Club

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

SEPT 28 Any which way you choose!	S.F. Northstars 30th Anniversary Party!!!! 11-4 @ SF Brewing Co.
DEC 6	Indoor Trials and Tailgate pre-party (Craig)
DEC 17	Northstar Meeting Votes Talled!
DEC 26/7- JAN 1/2 DIRT	California City (Earl)
JAN 10	Northstar Annual Dinner at Delancy Street--see inside for details
JAN 18	SF Brewing Company B- Day Party

VOTE FOR NEW OFFICERS INSIDE!

NOMINATIONS FOR NORTHSTAR AWARDS

Please send nominations/ideas you have for the Annual Northstar Awards directly to the Vice "so as not to let the recipients know what's going on...." 650.992.1234 and ask for Wendy or wendy@missionmotorcycles.com with subject "Northstars Awards"

**Please email me directly with your award recipients, so I can plan an orderly roasting, I mean awarding. Let me know if you already have the award or if you just have a recipient in mind that needs an award. Also, if you want to present your award or have it presented anonymously.

OK, here's the clincher. I will be away from my email from Dec. 25th until Jan. 9th. Get your recipients' names in ASAP. If you think of something after Dec. 25th make sure your email subject is Northstar Awards Night, so I can easily spot it in the 500 emails I will have received while being away. -The Vice.

MEETING MINUTES Oct 29

Members: Lisa, Wendy, Allan Paul, Dave Rivers, Earl, Kari, and guests Chris Bishop, Steve ??? and Dick Gale all braved the darkness to gather at the SF Brew Pub for the meeting. The Prez decided to start the meeting off with....

Ride Reports: The PART-TEE: lots of old and new Northstars showed up to tell tails of tales. Thanks again to Allen Paul for hosting and for Wendy Epstein for pulling it all together!

SongDoggie!! Although there were only 3 Northstars, "they were the cool Northstars." [Want to be a "cool" Northstar?!! Ya Gotta come out and ride!!] Craig and guest Elise then took off for Utah the "morning after", where they wandered through Cedar Brooks, stopped by the Burr Trail and many other sights of Ooo-tah, and then came back up through Benton and hit a few hot springs on the way home. See the ride report in this newsletter.

Hans and Earl ALSO took off for Utah, directly from the Holiday party, but went "clockwise"—hitting Yosemite on the way out, where they were radared 3 times going through on 120...be careful kids! They also went through the terrific rock county of Cedar Brooks, Zion and Bryce, before getting chased—and caught—by monsoons in Monument Valley and Arizona/Navaho County. Petroglyphs, Moab, and the "Island in the Sky"—the meeting of the Green and Colorado Rivers was also on order. Earl reported that the new Michelin Pilot Sports worked very well for the long distance touring they were doing.

Earl also reported on the beginning of the dirt season at California City. Earl put the bikes in his trailer (what a liaison!!) while Hans rode his FJR down the coast (is Earl just that nice, or is Hans just that good a negotiator??) to meet Earl just as dinner was served (nice timing!) Bill Goldfelty was there for the first day, and Joe Volpe showed up the second day. The crew was treated to fireworks and porn over loudspeakers by their camping neighbors....Earl, you gave those neighbors the dates for the next couple of Northstar rides out there, right??

Wendy described her amazing trip to Australia, where every time something went right, two things went wrong, including a trip out 750 kilometers in a rental call only to have to off-road it on washed-out gravel roads, some very close calls and a rear-end on the way back into Sydney trying to get to an event, an episode of "musical rooms" at the hotel trying to get a room that wasn't 150 degrees Farenheit, and a sudden downpour on the way back from the grocery store, only to have to hike back for missing groceries! What a Yamaha trip!

Minutes continued on p. 4

OFFICIAL 2003 RIDE CALENDAR

november 26 Northstar Meeting
Last chance to nominate NS' for next year!!!!!!!

- 16 **10th Annual Steve Mitoma Memorial Ride**
1-Day Street Ride (Craig)
- 20-23 **California City**
3-Day Dirt Ride (Earl)
- 21 **SFMSC Rally at City Hall for SF Motorcycle**
Parking/Rights
- 27-30 **Death Valley**
4-Day Street Ride (Kari)
(this will not be a pre-ridden ride, but will be
a blast! please contact Kari 510.847.2942 if
intrested)

december 17 Northstars Meeting
BALLOTS FOR NEXT YEAR'S OFFICERS COLLECTED
AT THE DEC 17 MEETING--See Ballot on next page!

- 6 **Indoor Mototrials at the Cow Palace**
Start at 7 pm, Tailgate by Craig H. beforehand
in the parking lot
- 26-31 **California City (Campsite to be determined)**
4-Day Dirt Ride (Earl)
- 29-Jan 2
California City - Site #3
4-Day Dirt Ride (Mike)

january 28 Northstars Meeting

- 10 **San Francisco Northstars Annual Dinner at**
Delancy Street
- 18 **San Francisco Brewing Company Birthday**
Party

february 25 Northstars Meeting

- 7 **Supercross at Pac Bell Park**

TO BE SCHEDULED

Blue Ribbon Coalition Speaker at a future Northstar Meeting

Riding with the Prez.... November 2

Sunday's President's ride provided us with a crisp clear morning, as Kari, Craig, and I left the Berkeley Honda parking lot at 7:30 a.m. sharp. My friend Duffy learned that we really are serious when we say "clutches out at 7:30," as he missed us by about four minutes.

Arriving at the square in Sonoma, hands frozen and teeth chattering, up rode Duffy. We then collected Shaun on his VOR, and Jim on his Pacific Coast, where we headed to the Schellville café. Plenty of seats available, the waitress placed a large thermos of steaming hot coffee square in the center of the table where we helped ourselves immediately. In walked Laura who was on her DR. She decided to sleep in a little longer, but made it just in time for breakfast.

After breakie, we rode through Sonoma to Glenn Ellen, then up the beautiful and scenic Bennett Valley road to Santa Rosa. From there we blasted up 101 to Healdsburg, stopping to top off Shaun's small VOR tank. There the riders started droppin' like flies. Tired, cold, wanting to spend a day relaxing in bed, watching t.v. Or, in Kari's case, wanting to search out and discover a new winery in Healdsburg, we bid farewell to Kari, Craig, and Laura. Jim had left us after breakfast, so there remained Duffy, Shaun, and I to head toward the fun, where it all begins on Skaggs Springs Road.

Has anyone ever gone riding with someone who has NEVER experienced Skaggs Springs before? Shaun and Duffy's faces were BEAMING as I pulled up to Stuarts Point. Duffy had been on Skaggs once, a very long time ago, but Shaun was a Skaggs Springs virgin, and you could tell by the look on this face. What a phenomenal road! And it's easily accessible, practically right in our back yards. We experience a few droplets of rain along the way, but the cloud coverage was nice, and the day provided us with surprisingly warmer weather than we had anticipated.

From Stuarts Point, we headed down 1, keeping our eyes out for Kruse Ranch Road, where we rode approx. four miles of dirt. Yes,

Continued on page 5

NEW OFFICER VOTING: NOW THROUGH DEC 17

VOTING HAS OPENED: Fill in the ballot below and bring to the **Dec. 17 Meeting** or mail to the Word Steward. OR MAIL both this AND your Annual Dinner \$ and Choice(s) to Kari by Dec. 17

Kari Holmgren
2042 Hearst A. Apt. B,
Berkeley, CA 94709

President

Gretchen Hoffman

President of Vice

Wendy Epstein

Treasurer

Allan Paul

Sargent at Arms

Pete Silva

Mike Chaplin

Kari Holmgren

Web Archiver

Mike Chaplin

Ride Steward

Dave Rivers

Kari Holmgren

Dirt(y) Steward

Mike Chaplin

Trailer/RV Liason

Earl Minkler

Web Slut/Word Steward

Craig Hightower

Assistant (Word) Slut

Lisa Brazieal

Club Historian

Pete Silva

ANNUAL NORTHSTAR DINNER

Saturday, January 10

Meet at the bar at 6:00

Dinner served at 7:30

Delancey Street Restaurant
600 Embarcadero @ Brannan
San Francisco
415.512.5179

Dinner Menu

Drinks

soda and wine bar only, so bring your flasks!

Dessert First

Surprise! But get there on time or you may miss out!

Appetizers

corn chips and salsa, onion rings, bruschetta, chicken wings

Soup du Jour

basket of assorted breads

Salad

organic field greens with balsamic vinaigrette

Entrees

Oak Fired Barbequed Chicken and Baby Back Ribs

Rotisserie Beef

*VEGETARIAN Entree

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

Dessert Last

vanilla ice cream with homemade chocolate dipped biscotti; coffee

\$20 per person for club members; \$20 per person for guests. There will be **\$2 valet parking available.** Send and your choice of dinner entree to Allan Paul by **Dec. 31**. Checks go to Allan Paul. There is a **40 person max.** so RSVP soon. First come first serve!

RSVP Allan Paul • 155 Columbus Ave. • San Francisco, CA 94133

Name: _____

Guest: _____

Please choose one entree per person:

Oak Fired Barbequed Chicken and Baby Back Ribs

Rotisserie Beef

*VEGETARIAN Entree

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

FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE:

MAIL both your Dinner \$/Choice AND your Ballot to Kari Holmgren 2042 Hearst Ave. Apt. B, Berkeley, CA 94709 BY DEC 17

(after the 17th, please mail Dinner \$/Choice(s) to Allan Paul: 155 Columbus Ave SF 94133

Minutes continued...

Ride Schedule: The Prez day ride (see newsletter for report) was discussed, as was the International Motorcycle Show and the next dirty rides.

New Business: The annual Northstar dinner was finalized: It will be at Delancey Street once again, and will include the same choices as last year:

Wendy volunteered to work on Awards, so e-mail or contact her with your ideas. Anyone who has contacts in the motoworld and can get raffle prizes, please contact the **Prez**.

Mike C. has moved all of the website stuff to Micaspeak's hosting site. There is no charge for this, but Micaspeak, which hosts a number of motorcycle related sites, does ask for donations once a year. The Club voted to donate at least \$25 the next time Micaspeak does this.

Other Business: Allan Paul mentioned so casually that few caught it: he had been in the hospital for pneumonia AS WELL AS experiencing a heart attack. Wendy spoke with him a bit about it, but I wanted to post this info so that people could contact Alan and Trudi if they felt like passing along some words of support.

Steve Mitoma Memorial Ride

Nov 16

It's hard to believe that 10 years have gone by since Steve Mitoma Completed his last lap on the road of life. I know I still think of him often and miss his sarcastic wit and expertise with bikes. So in honor of Steve once again I will be leading a ride in his honor.

Craig's ride in honor of Steve Mitoma was fun! It was a kick watching the Toyota pickup try to fend off our passes (still not sure exactly why we didn't just pass him and be done with it) and slide his truck a bit in the process! He obviously knew the road. The run along the lake was a hoot. Watching Matt(?) leave the ground right in front of me on his ZRX and recover mid-corner was a bit harrowing, but the grins at the end of that section made it all good! The cat that spent two of its lives threading through our pack of howling bikes without any riders altering their lines was quite a sight. It was a testament to the experience and mental cool of everyone present. I love riding with experienced folks in tight formation like that!

The old SMR stories and discussions at lunch were great! It's good to see some of the faces again that the cops have driven out of West Marin over the years. I wish I was better at remembering names... Mark on the Duc, Mikey on the street fighter CBRF2, Craig on the Tiger, Melinda(?) on the XR, Matt(?) on the ZRX, Richard on the XR and I can't remember any other names. It was a lot of fun! Mark and I ducked out after the second cop... sorry we didn't get a chance to say thanks and goodbye! (Steven Fischer, aka Fish)

Earplug Law Changes

The AMA worked closely with Senator Bowen's office and is pleased to see this common sense change in the law regarding earplug usage.

Nick Haris, Western States Representative
American Motorcyclist Association

Governor Davis Signs Law that Removes "Custom" from Earplug Requirement.

California SB 315 has been signed into law. Included in this bill was a provision to allow for use of "foam" style non-custom earplugs by street motorcycle riders. Thanks are due to <mailto:senator.bowen@sen.ca.gov>State Senator Debra Bowen (Democrat, District 28, Redondo Beach) who worked closely with the American motorcyclist Association (AMA) to make this change in the law. The AMA is asking riders to let Senator Bowen know they appreciate her assistance by sending her an email. The new law takes effect January 1, 2004.

"Requiring motorcyclists who want to drown out road noise by using earplugs to buy custom-made plugs is an outdated law that makes absolutely no sense. The test ought to be whether a rider using ear plugs can still hear a car's horn or a siren from an emergency vehicle. If a set of ear plugs can meet that test, then a rider ought to be able to use them, regardless of who makes them or how they're made. The only people the custom-made requirement helps are, surprise, the people who make custom ear plugs. It doesn't help riders and it doesn't help the police, emergency vehicle operators, or other drivers who count on a motorcyclist to be able to hear their horns or sirens. As long as over-the-counter plugs do the job, there's no reason why ear plugs should have to be custom-made, so junking that requirement is a common sense change that's long overdue."

For Sale:

1991 KDX 250 ...by John Downey.
Make him an offer at: j_downey@mindspring.com

2001 EX500R: 8,000 miles, second owner never been down and I have had all of the regular maintenance done on it. I just put on brand new Metzler tires less than 500 miles ago. The bike is completely stock except steel braided brake lines. Bought it with 2500 miles on it from G&B Motorsports in Petaluma.

Elise Schueller at ejschuller@yahoo.com

30th Years of the Northstars

What a great gathering we had yesterday at the Brew Pub to celebrate many years that the Northstars have been active in the Bay Area. Lots of familiar as well as unfamiliar faces attended, bringing boxes of memorabilia and photos, telling stories of ridin' in the early days with the Northstars. I heard and saw one after another point to each other, blaming him and him for gettin' them into the club. A few even donned their 1974 Golden Gate Enduro T's. What a time!

This plethora of photos is now in the safe hands of the officers, and I hope to get some of these images scanned and up on our web site, so that we can start to build upon the archive of our club's history.

Let me begin by saying that Rene has challenged anyone who wants to run for the office of the President that they must meet the criteria of fitting into my bra. I wish all the candidates the best of luck.

When Erik mentioned that it's a 38D, Pete Silva remarked that most of the members had 38's, but that they were, unfortunately, lacking the "D."

Brian Halton spoke of the days when he was word steward, only to receive copies of his work returned in the mail, edited and marked up, with all the typos highlighted. He got tired of it, said, "Fuck that! I don't need to take this, I'm going to start my own publication!"

And City Bike was born.

It was great to see Mike Green who flew all the way out from New York to hang with clubmembers. During his visit, Mike was riding George Perica's ancient BMW; pulled up to the party on it, in fact. I asked George what he needed to do to get the bike runnin' and he responded, "Just turn the key."

Several members planned their vacations around this party, and chose to leave from one party and head directly to the next. Hans and Earl, with bags packed, ready to ride, headed off for a Southern Utah trip directly from the Brew Pub. Wendy and Bruce were driven to the airport, dropped curbside, where they hopped on a plane heading straight for Australia. "Don't forget to say hello to the guys at Stay-In-tune," George quipped.

Thanks to my administration for all the hard work you all put into gettin' this party started! By the smiles on people's faces I'd say it was a complete success.

Let's do it again, real soon!

Lisa B. President
38D

Riding with the Prez.... continued

the Daytona does dirt again! We enjoyed Seaview to Fort Ross Road, then took Cazadero Highway, down Bohemian Highway to Occidental where we had lunch at none other than Howards. Heading back down Valley Ford Freestone to Bodega Highway, we said our goodbyes to Shaun in Petaluma, and Duffy and I cruised back to Oakland, then me onto Hayward, where Erik was mending a sore shoulder after crashing in Saturday's AMA SuperMoto race. He landed wrong after jumping the double, putting his hand down to stop his fall, popping his shoulder out of its socket. At the emergency room, they were able to quickly get it back into place, so all is well. He's just a bit sore, but it certainly could have been much worse.

Thanks to everyone for joining me on this year's Presidents Ride. Sure was good to get out on a crisp Sunday morning and enjoy one of my all-time favorite roads in Northern California. (Lisa)

Craig and I ended up getting to the winery then riding out to Guerneville, down the Bohemian hwy to Occidental...looked for you at the Union Hotel as we rode past, but didn't see anyone. Took off down to the coast to Dillan and in to Tomales (got the last two treats left there!) and in back via Chilano and Lucas Valley Roads. Not a bad day! We parted in San Rafael, Craig went home, I went down to Sausalito. I looked at the water, and although it was warm, I ended up wimping out on the paddle (more because of the thought of a cold, wet, ride home than the paddle itself) and just did a little tinkering on the boat instead. Then on home to a nice warm bath (ahhhh....) of epon salts and bubble bath. Not a bad Sunday ride at all! (Kari)



Northstar Publications

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED