

# Daily Planet

January, 2004

Vol. 29, Number 1

Official Newsletter of the San Francisco Northstars Motorcycle Club

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### February 24 Meeting

FEB 20-23 Mohave Dirt Ride/Joel's B-day  
dirt 4-Day Dirt Ride—*Earl*

FEB 29 Leap Ride to Tony's  
Oysters in Marin—*Kari*

### March 30 Meeting

MAR 7 Scoot and Shoot at  
Lake Berryessa—*Craig*

MAR 20-23 Hans' Dirt Ride Weekend  
dirt

### April 27 Meeting

APR 10-11 Annual Songdog Ride  
—*Dave or Kari, Mike*

APR 24-25 Stonyford Dirt/Street Ride  
dirt/street —*Dave, Dirt; Kari-Street*

APR 30-MAY 2 AMA Sear's Point

### May 25 Meeting

MAY 1 Flat Track Nationals Cow Palace  
(Indoor, AMA eve. event)—*Craig*

MAY 15 Dave's Dirt Day  
dirt Hollister? Carnegie?

MAY 23 Awhanee Brunch—*Lisa*

MAY 29- Craig's California Hot Springs Tour  
JUN 5 3-day route available

### June 29 Meeting

MAY 29- Craig's California Hot Springs Tour  
JUN 5

JUN 19-20 Loyalton—*Pat L.*

*Mark your calendars... Ride meeting  
for 2nd half of 2004 coming in June*

## MEETING MINUTES: TUESDAY 1.27.....

It's that time of year again; the beginning of a new Northstar regime. Here I sit typing, wondering, "How the hell did I get myself roped into doing the newsletters again?" At least I'm not the one who has to take the minutes and miss all the fun goin' on around me. The club needs a laptop for minute taking purposes. Way too much shit happens at these meetings, and fast!; too fast to keep up using a mere writing instrument. ☆ Present and accounted for on this *last Tuesday of the month* (that's right... meetings are on *Tuesdays* now, kids, thanks to our new President. Gretchen gets right in there and makes changes from the get-go. Tough, thorough leader, she is.) Attendees: Madame President, Lisa B., Dave, Gary, Kari, Allan, Wendy, Jim, Pat L., and Earl sauntered in at some point. Guests of Lisa B.'s included Rene Aguirre and Krysten "Tenny Red" Laine, owner of a new company called *MotoMaps*. Alan Paul also invited SF Brewing Company-regular, Glen. ☆ MINUTES: The January holiday party was a hit. Thanks to Gretchen, Wendy, Lisa B., Craig, pre-dessert Julio, and Alan. The gag gifts were great—especially the "I survived Catfish's Rogue River ride" T-shirt that Erik illustrated for Mike.... Hans just loved his Beaver and is sure to invite us when he opens his Beaver Sanctuary in the Desert.... A copy of Craig's yearly vacation calendar proved even more astonishing to see how much time he spends playing vs. working. And of course, Lisa B. passed along the infamous pink member (dildo), congratulating Gretchen on her Presidency. Gretchen and Alan proposed we not subsidize the holiday party so much next year. This was voted on and agreed to. We will review more carefully cost and club subsidy for next year's party since we plan to have a few more activities we may want to subsidize in 2004 (picnic, party, SongDog) and other needs. ☆ LIST PROTOCOL: We discussed the use of the Northstar alias and voted to investigate if we can have the default for "Reply" be set for just the person who sent the email vs. the alias. Of course, people who do want to converse with the entire club can still re-enter in the Northstar alias, but this should reduce the number of emails that may not be pertinent to all. Gretchen is talking about options with Catfish on this. ☆ Alan Paul collected dues from several members, including Lisa B. and Gary. ☆ The 2004 ride

meeting minutes continued...

calendar was reviewed. Rides are on the calendar thru August. Sep.-Dec. rides will be finalized in May/June. Calendar was agreed to after much discussion and pauses as we waited for Dave to doublecheck his PalmPilot to be sure that he was free for each ride he read aloud. Finally Kari took over and finished reading, or we would have still been sitting at Alan's on Sunday—the day of the first ride of the year. ☆ At the next meeting, Gretchen will also discuss club membership recruitment and the idea of inviting prospective members on more rides, as well as to this year's picnic. ☆ Wendy brought up the cost of the club's checking account fees. She and Alan will discuss and let us know what they think in terms of whether it's worth putting the Northstars account on one of their business accounts (Mission Motorcycles or SF Brew Co). ☆ CLUB PICNIC: Gretchen (Da Prezette) asked for ideas for the August 22 picnic. She said parameters should be a short riding distance, but a fun ride AND a good place should families want to join. Suggestions included: Wendy's land, San Andreas, Steep Ravine, Bolinas Beach, Alan's Brew Pub. Bring your ideas to the next meeting and we will vote on it. Also, if you can help organize the picnic, let Gretchen know. ☆ RIDE REPORTS: There was definitely some riding going on, but Patrick didn't write any of the reports down, and I can't remember who rode what to where and why. But who needs a reason to ride? ☆ Lisa B. brought up the \$25 Micapeak donation, which the club voted on in November. Alan sent a check. ☆ Krysten, Lisa's guest, is one of the head organizers of the Donner Old Highway Motorcycle Days, scheduled in August. She mentioned that the event may or may not happen, but that she will keep us posted. ☆ No NEW BIKES. ☆ Krysten Laine presented her work on typographic maps, including a new dirt map of Stonyford. Her company, *MotoMaps*' mission is to create awesome displays of off road trails for everyone to enjoy. She's been working on a survey containing questions about trail detail and has been posting these questions on various motorcycle lists,

including the Northstars. One sample question: "What are the 5 most important things on a trail map? Results: *Area accommodations, Trail content and accuracy, Legal trails, Illegal trails, and GPS Coordinates*. Krysten is a cartographer by trade. ☆ Special thanks to Gretchen for contributing meeting notes. Pat Lydon took the notes, but drank so much that we all filled in what we think it said where he spilled his beer. ;-) So if we missed any key points of the meeting, let us know; we'll add next time.—LB

#### INTERESTING INFO IN VEHICLE CODE BOOK...

Recently Chris Bishop was popped by SFPD for not making a complete stop. He stopped all forward movement, but did not put his foot down. Members on the List engaged in the following conversation, regarding the ticket legality:

Mark W. wondered what section of the Vehicle Code he was cited under (it was 22450a: Failure to stop at a stop sign). He was fairly sure there's no requirement to put your foot down, and wrote, "However, many non-motorcyclists do not realize you can stop a bike and balance it. Hence, I've heard this is not an uncommon (but probably improper) method of evaluating if one is stopped or not. For this very reason I almost always put my foot down—especially if I am NOT coming to a complete stop!"

Angela Barks-Draz likes rummaging through the codes. She found a few interesting things: Re: Chris' question: it does not state anywhere in the vehicle code about HOW to stop. It just states you must come to a complete stop. 22450. (a) The driver of any vehicle approaching a stop sign at the entrance to, or within, an intersection, or railroad grade crossing shall stop at a limit line, if marked, otherwise before entering the crosswalk on the near side of the intersection. If there is no limit line or crosswalk, the driver shall stop at the entrance to the intersecting roadway or railroad grade crossing.

In regards to when, where, how to make U turns and signals: 22113. This chapter does not prevent local authorities, by ordinance, from prohibiting the making of any turning movement by any vehicle at any intersection or between any designated intersections. 22502. (a) Except as otherwise provided in this chapter every vehicle stopped or parked upon a roadway where there are adjacent curbs shall be stopped or parked with the right-hand wheels of such vehicle parallel with and within 18 inches of the right-hand curb, except that motorcycles shall be parked with at least one wheel or fender touching the right-hand curb. Where no curbs or barriers bound any two-way roadway, right-hand parallel parking is required unless otherwise indicated.

#### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS (CONT.)

<b>July 27</b>	<b>Northstars Meeting</b>
<b>JULY 3-5/6</b>	<b>Lassen Park/Shasta Ride (Kari)</b>
<b>JULY 9-11</b>	<b>World Superbike at Laguna Seca</b>
<b>August 31</b>	<b>Northstars Meeting</b>
<b>AUG 14-15</b>	<b>Old Highway 40 Motorcycle Days (to be confirmed)</b>
<b>AUG 22</b>	<b>Northstars Picnic: location to be determined—Gretchen</b>
<b>SEP ??</b>	<b>Six Pass Dardanelle's Ride —Gretchen and Earl</b>
<b>To be scheduled: Blue Ribbon Coalition speaker at a future Northstar meeting.—Lisa B.</b>	



**TWO MOUNTAIN RIDE**—  
It never ceases to amaze me what great turnout Mike gets, year after year for this ride. The nastier the weather the better, it appears, as the crowd seems to grow each year.

Boy did I almost crawl back into bed after my alarm sounded loudly at “too early-hundred” in the morning. Still, I left behind two kitties and one warm boyfriend snoozing soundly as I climbed on the GB, cranked the *lllll*ectric vest and made my way to Hubcaps. My intention, to be honest here, was to show up for breakie only, then ride home, jump back in bed, and... well, I’ll just leave it at that. However, I got roped into ridin’ to the top of Diablo, which of course I’m glad for. I can’t do the two mountain ride without doing at least ONE mountain...

So off we went, Mike proudly leading a pack of riders MINUS 1, who showed up to breakfast and promptly rode off on his

own, afterward. *Joe mumbled something about having to see a girl about a dog.*

Being the lemming that I am, I followed the gang to the top of Diablo. I saw no coyotes chewin’ on cows this year. Nor did we even see a ranger at the entrance gate. Halfway up, a few of us stopped to pay our park entrance fee by placing cash in an envelope and sliding it through the ranger’s door. Foggy and lightly rainy at the top of the mountain, we huddled

around and snapped the usual group shot. Then, down the mountain we headed, regrouping at the bottom. I said my good-byes, as a warm bed was still calling me. And as Matt sped away, he ever so politely roosted me as they all headed out, honking and waving. I do want to thank Matt for encouraging me to at least finish a *one* mountain ride. Oh, and also for the roost. I just love ridin’ with these guys!

—Lisa B.

**“From what I understand he was going to meet a girl.**



***I’ve actually been to the point where getting laid was more important than a ride; rain or no rain. I was trying to spare him. However, you really should***

***bust him for it.”—Steve Martinez***



Photos by Steve Martinez



**2004 Officer Election Results: And the Winner is...  
God DAMN if we didn't elect yet another woman President!**

<b>President</b>	<b>Gretchen Hoffman</b>	<b>Web Slut/Word Steward</b>	<b>Craig Hightower</b>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Wendy Epstein</b>	<b>Assistant Word Slut</b>	<b>Lisa Brazieal</b>
<b>Ride Steward</b>	<b>Kari Holmgren</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Allan Paul</b>
	<b>David Rivers</b>	<b>Sargent at Arms</b>	<b>Mike Chaplin</b>
<b>Dirt(y) Steward</b>	<b>Mike Chaplin</b>	<b>Web Archiver</b>	<b>Mike Chaplin</b>
<b>Club Historian</b>	<b>Pete Silva</b>	<b>Trailer/RV Liason</b>	<b>Earl Minkler</b>



***“I think if I have two more shots of  
tequila, three glasses of wine, and  
two more beers I'll be ready to  
throw up.”—Gretchen***

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED