

Daily Planet

March, 2004

Vol. 29, Number 3

Official Newsletter of the San Francisco Northstars Motorcycle Club

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

April 27 Meeting

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

APR 24-25 Stonyford Dirt/Street Ride
dirt/street —*Catfish, 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)

MAY 4 Ride planning meeting

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

MAY 23 Awhanee Brunch—*Lisa*

MAY 28- Craig's California Hot Springs Tour
JUN 1 3-day route available

June 29 Meeting

JUN 19-20 Loyalton—*Pat L.*

July 27 Northstars Meeting

JULY 3-5/6 Lassen Park/Shasta Ride (Kari)

JULY 9-11 World Superbike at Laguna Seca

August 31 Northstars Meeting

AUG 14-15 Old Highway 40 Motorcycle Days
(to be confirmed)

AUG 21-22 NS Picnic: Brett & Barbara M's
house in Santa Cruz

September 28 Northstars Meeting

SEP 6 Poker Run—Mark B, Pat, Wendy

SEP 25-26 Six Pass Dardanelle's Ride
TENTATIVE —*Gretchen and Earl*

MEETING MINUTES: TUESDAY 3.30_____

Gretchen called together a small group of insurgents to have a pre-meeting meeting to discuss club recruitment and new activities. We proposed these ideas at the 7:30 meeting. ☆ Attendees: **Madame President, Lisa B., Craig, Catfish, Mister Minkler, Allan, Wendy, Pat L.**, and we even had the privilege of sharing the evening with **Joanne**. Guests included **Chris Bishop** who was nominated in as a member. **Tommy Hung**, who has attended three meetings and two rides. **Glen** also joined us again this month. ☆ OLD BUSINESS: Thank you **Lisa** for the design you presented for our new business cards. We tossed around comments on the design of the card. Basically it is a one-sided card with a couple of photos (showing dirt and street riders), a catchy phrase and a URL to the public website. After much wrangling the matter was put to vote and passed with flying colors. ☆ Also at the previous meeting we had discussed approaching **Brian Halton** to see if he would place an ad for the club in **Citybike** in exchange for a comp membership. Apparently he has accepted and we hope to get an ad based on the new business card put in place by the next issue. ☆ Dues: **Don't forget to pay up!** Also, we are going to put together a contact list of past members for us to call and sweet talk into coming to meetings and joining up again. ☆ Treasury Report: \$1042 in the kitty. ☆ We have confirmed the picnic date and place. Saturday August 21st at **Brett and Barbara's** in Santa Cruz. This will be an overnight affair for those who party too much or simply choose to crash for the night. Again the matter was put to vote and passed! ☆ **Earl** mentioned that the **Dardanelle** ride is going to happen. Details to be announced. NEW BUSINESS: Critical information and votes will be boxed and highlighted in the newsletters from here on out. ☆ The first order of business was to vote in a new member. Again after much discussion and brouhaha we voted in **Chris Bishop**. Him, Him, Fuck Him! ☆ Congrats **Chris!** Pay up!! ☆ **Craig** brought up the starting time of the meeting. He asked if we could maybe start things off a little earlier than 7:30. There was discussion about how far folks have to come after work and all. Rather than change the starting time the group decided that we would attempt to streamline proceedings and finish up earlier. ☆ We had a toast to **Pat Munroe!** ☆ **Lisa** was paid in full for order-

minutes continued

ing and sending the flowers out. Thanks Lisa! ☆ It was noted that the letter from Pat's daughter has been posted on the website. It's a very nice write-up with a great picture of she and Pat. ☆ An idea was pitched for hosting the first annual SF Northstars Poker run. The idea is to host an event that will attract potential new members and get the name of the club out there for people to see. Other ideas were put forth like having it as a scavenger hunt or maybe an enduro. The initial date for this event is Labor Day. Think about it and then come to the next meeting so we can further make plans! Mark Boyd, Pat Lydon, and Wendy have agreed to be the event leaders. ☆ Wendy announced the 100th anniversary of the SFMC. They are hosting an old style street fair on Fathers Day this year. There will be all sorts of booths and such. Wendy was offered a spot for a booth but had to decline. There is a thought that the club may want to host a booth again to bring awareness to our existence. We might be able to talk Alan Paul into doing a beer booth. More to come. ☆ Wendy also announced a screamin' deal on tickets to the AMA races at Sears Point, \$20 off the weekend ticket price if you buy the tix through Mission. Thanks to Kawasaki for the hot deal. A reminder about the short track races at the Cow Palace that weekend as well. ☆ Note from Craig: Due to a conflict with attending the AMA races at Sears he will not be hosting a tailgate party at the short track event. Sorry! ☆ Wendy will also be selling tickets for the World Superbike Races at Laguna this year. ☆ NEW BIKES: Craig has a new old XR200R! It will make it's first Northstar appearance at the Fouts Springs campout! Watch out! ☆ Glen just picked up a new KMX650 ☆ Earl just picked up his new R1. He's still working on equipping it to be the Earl mobile we all know him for. ☆ Mark has not one but two new bikes. A KTM Adventurer and a 525. Got them just before the baby arrives! ☆ RIDE REPORTS: Kari's leap day ride was a hoot! A dozen folks met up at the Lucas Valley and 101 junction prior to the

start. Among the cast of characters were Kari, Jim, Craig, Gretchen, Glen and a host of guests. The route took us out through Marin via Lucas Valley, Nicasio, the Cheese Factory, Chileno and then into Tomales. The baked goods were excellent as always. From there we shot out Middle Road to Valley Ford and then up the Bohemian Highway to Occidental. It was no accident we landed there since the next stop was the ever fun Coleman Valley Road. We finally shot back down 1 to Bay Hill Road and then on down to Tony's for lunch. ☆ Alas Tony's was full of car aficionados so we decided to raid Point Reyes Station instead. The food was good as was the company. Afterwards we raced back up to Tomales on 1 and then turned around and did it again back to Pt. Reyes and beyond. The evening found the remnants of the group sipping cool drinks at the Pelican Inn. All in all a great time! ☆ Craig's Scoot and Shoot Ride was also a success! Soon to be Northstar Chris Bishop as well as another Chris from the Montgomery Street boys met up at the starting point. We had a fun romp through the East Bay hills before wandering over the Benicia Bridge into Benicia. There we picked up Greg Leopold and his Buell. We motored on up the frontage road and then hit Wooden Valley and then 121 to the corners. Lot's of bikes out and very little traffic. Not long after we were joined by Big Red and her new fiance on their BMW's. We now had a quorum and could proceed post haste to the shooting gallery. ☆ Nine of the twelve stream crossings had water. No one crashed, everyone splashed and we made it to Knoxville with grins on faces and guns in cases. Chris brought nearly a thousand rounds of 9mm. Craig whipped out the .22, the 9mm and the .45. It was great fun blasting all the crazy stuff left out in the shooting area. An hour later we had worked up a great hunger so we set off for Middletown. There we chowed down at the Brewery before splitting up to go our separate ways. Craig ended up soaking at Harbin for a couple of hours before

✓ VOTE RESULTS—March

Critical information and votes will now be highlighted in the newsletter each month.

The following was voted on:

- ✓ Order of business and proceedings will go as follows: Old business, Guests, New business, Upcoming rides, New Bikes, Ride reports
- ✓ Business cards will be printed up and passed around to publicize the club. A one-sided card design was presented and approved. The card is being printed.
- ✓ The Club picnic will be held at Brett & Barbara Morshead's house in Santa Cruz on August 21-22.
- ✓ Chris Bishop was voted in as a new member!

Tuesday May 4

Save the date for the meeting to finish this year's ride calendar. More details to come.

*ride
details*

ride

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minutes continued

wandering back home. Again and excellent ride. ☆ Gretchen got a ticket! Oh no! She recently partook in a ride down to Hunter Liggett. Somewhere along the way Mr. Chips stopped her for a chat and signature. Something about speeding and lanesplitting. Still, she had a blast riding down 1 and then taking Nacimiento/Ferguson up and over the hill to Paso. ☆ The night was spent near a Mission that was originally built by the Hearst family. Apparently the cost was reasonable and the digs were cool! A possibility for a future Northstar ride! ☆ Wendy announced the purchase of a CBR929 by the shop. She then stole the bike to use it for a track day but ended up on a street ride instead. She got to play sheep dog to a herd of bikes including an R1, FZ1, and ZX-12. They rode down to Hollister to eat and then chose to ride down 25. Or at least some did, most turned tail to go home. While playing on 25 they managed to spook a CHP but didn't get stopped. Later the ZX decides to pass and lead the group. Somehow he got them heading in the wrong direction and took them toward Coalinga rather than King City. In the end they found their way back to 101 and pointed fairings North for the 90 mph plus jet back to civilization. Wendy managed to put 375 miles on the bike that day. ☆ One more tidbit from Wendy, she went to a track day yesterday. The 2004 R1s are ungodly fast! Unfortunately she passed up the chance to ride one. Could this have been Earl's new toy? ☆ Glen did a ride up to Angels Camp over the previous weekend. Said the roads were clear and clean up to 6000 feet. Had a great ride and even went as far as Dodge Ridge. ☆ Earl spoke about the recent birthday in the desert bash. Fifteen people showed up for dirty fun. The most amazing part was a young man with only one arm who rode with them. Apparently they did one day that included a 110 mile loop. This guy not only rode it but raved about it when they were done. Earl said the whoops were pretty gnarly and most of the group was pretty whipped. Damn! ☆ Hans showed up with kids in tow. The highlight of the weekend was watching the kids shoot the Uzi. There were lots of folks there, three birthday cakes, no rain and yet another warming stop at the saloon in Randsburg. ☆ Catfish chimed in with a story about his first day out on the trail. Apparently as he was riding along he heard a "tink". Thirty feet later he got tossed to the ground as a result of a flat front tire. Ouch! He managed to ride thirty miles back to camp on the flat. Said the rest of the weekend he kept checking the tire every time he heard a "tink". Guess you could say he was as nervous as a long-tailed catfish in a room full of rocking chairs! ☆ As the evening wore down so did your humble Word Steward. I recall Earl talking about putting 310 miles on the new R1 but at the expense of sore wrists and back. He plans to spend some serious time installing new bars and goodies to make it more Earl-worthy. ☆ Reminder! Pay your dues!!!

Fout Springs It Will Be!

April 23-25 Stonyford dirt and street ride
Catfish will be there Friday, and place a
Northstars sign at the intersection of these two
paved roads that says where we're camped.

**Saturday night we'll enjoy a potluck dinner
including tri-tip.** Check out the following map:
[http://www.micapeak.com/sfnorthstars/images/
fout-springs-area.gif](http://www.micapeak.com/sfnorthstars/images/fout-springs-area.gif)

DIRECTIONS: Go to Stonyford and then go
west on Fout Springs (M10) Rd. ~ 8 miles.

Once you get around the mountain & see the
camping areas along the creek, staging/camp-
ing areas are on both sides of THIS road and
a paved road turns right here to continue
around to the other campgrounds by the creek
and the LARGE Davis Flats camping/staging
area. ☆ Kari will lead a street ride up to the
dirt playground. Dirt details: We will meet at
the Valley Cafe at Suisun Valley Road in
Rockville to ride up Wooden Valley Road and
a slew of other good things to Stonyford,
where we will mooch off of the dirt-folks who
have chucked everything up there for rides on
their eq...!! (or try)... Meet for breakfast at
8:30, leave at 9:30 after a rider's meeting on
SAT a.m. (Kari will be coming back Sun after-
noon). Please RSVP to Kari VIA the list or give
her a call at 510.847.2942.

THE LEGEND OF PAT MUNROE

News spread quickly in the motorcycle community that Pat Munroe had passed away, finally losing his battle to the big C.

Pat would have been 76 years old on March 29, so he passed away at the age of 75, and in very little pain as told to me by both his daughter, Janie, and brother, Jim.

I spoke with Janie, who said that she was with Pat when he passed away. She told me, "I said to my dad, "Dad, you need to go. You have some things to do, and they're not here." He nodded in agreement, and passed away shortly after.

At one point Pat had told Janie, "Find the cheapest coffin you can, and don't spend a lot of money burying me!" The service was a small one held in Castlerock, Colorado.

Both Janie and Jim remarked that Pat was not in any pain. Even the doctors were amazed at that. Apparently Pat would send a Christmas card each year to his doctors in San Francisco, writing, "I'm still here!"

"Find the cheapest coffin you can, and don't spend a lot of money burying me."

—Pat Munroe

I also spoke with Jim Munroe, who is saddened by the loss of his brother. Jim also lost his wife to cancer a year and a half ago. He said there is a terrible hole that is left having the two people who meant the most to him gone from his life. The good news is that he spent some time with Pat a few weeks before he passed away, and was able to say his goodbyes.

Jim also mentioned that Pat's doctors couldn't seem to get his digestive tract operating, "and that's what probably got him."

We talked about old times, and I asked him if he was still riding. He said he owns two vintage Triumphs; a '60 and a '73 Trail 500. He said he thinks

he may just need to get those bikes sparked up again.

I invited Jim to a meeting, and he said he'll be returning from a trip to Costa Rica at the end of March, but that he may be able to join us. I will call him the Monday before the meeting and try and get him out for a beer, and to share some good memories and stories about Pat.

"Why don't you grow up?!"

—Mrs. Munroe

"I'd rather wear out than rust out!"—Pat

An orchid plant was sent to the Munroe family. The card read:

Our condolences to the Munroe family.

Pat has passed on to smoother yet twistier roads in the sky. We will all miss him greatly, but he will forever remain a Northstar.

Sincerely,

The San Francisco Northstars Motorcycle Club

Northstars are welcome to send cards, letters, or call his daughter Janie. She would love to hear from you.—*Lisa B.*

Janie Pitney
5518 E. Burlington Drive
Castlerock, CO 80104
303.688.4516

Last fall, when Pat heard my dad was terminally ill, he gave me a call to offer a few words of support and comfort—a call all the more meaningful since he and my father were both fighting for their lives at the time. He was upbeat and enjoying every day. We reminisced about the old Northstar meetings and a particularly memorable bachelor party and a vision of Pat's participation which none of us who attended will ever get out of their heads!!—Matt

Lisa, Sad especially because he was practically my neighbor and I never made it over to see him. I traded some emails with him over the last few months, but never quite made it.

A sad coincidence, my mother passed away on March 1st. I drive to Southern California tomorrow for her memorial service on the 11th, the same day as Pat's. I'll be thinking of all my friends, both here and gone, while there.

Please forward my regrets to The Northstars and beyond. Be well.—Ken

Pat wrote the following letter to Pat Lydon, during Kellie's difficult time battling cancer:

Dear Pat, I didn't get the details on your bride but I gather she is ill. I'm very sorry for both of you.

I can certainly have empathy for you. I am on chemo therapy right now.

MY doctor here tells me she can't cure my cancer but can prolong the inevitable. If that is another ten years or more, I'll be happy.

I'll certainly have you in my prayers.

Always your friend and fellow Northstar, Pat Munroe



BERRYESSA & BEYOND

It was a clear and beautiful day, perfect for motorcycling. But there were only three bikes in the lot! Where had all the others gone? No matter, the trio of Chris, Chris and Craig set off for a quick romp through the East Bay hills and then up the Highway toward Sonoma County. The Tiger was a bit wobbly in the corners thanks to the .22, 9mm and .45 loaded in the topcase along with 800 rounds of ammo.

After a brief stop at the overlook by the mothball fleet we set off again this time with a new addition, Greg and his FZ1. Wooden Valley and Highway 121 were loads of fun even though we encountered the occasional SUV and boat combo. We made quick work of them as we sliced our way up to the Corners at 121 and 128.

There we encountered hordes of the Harley-Borg collective dressed in their individualistic black leather chaps and leathers. Soon we tired of their company and set off toward the lake.

No sooner than we rounded the next corner than we were passed by a raging pair of Beemers. It was Big Red and her fiance racing over from Santa Rosa to join us. We had a blast racing up Berryessa-Knoxville. We lost Greg at Pope Crossing due to a prior commitment. No matter, we were still five bikes strong and had plenty of fun in store. Nine of the twelve creek crossings had water and it was great fun to watch the crowd splash through at breakneck speed.

At Knoxville OHV park we peeled off the pavement and wound our way up the dirt road to a designated shooting area. Once there the guns and ammo came out.

Chris was loaded...literally, with nearly 1000 rounds of ammo and two 9mms. Chris 2 had none while Big Red and almost hubby shared mine. We took turns wasting bottles, cans, pylons, old washer tubs, tires and just about anything else in sight. It was great fun!



Hey Clem, I think we done killed that can!

After building up a great hunger we set off down the road to play some more. The road out to Lower Lake was a hoot. Wide open sweepers with no traffic nor LEOs in sight. At 29 we turned south to head to the Brewery in Middletown for sustenance and relaxation. Chris continued on down the road as the rest of us ate. Afterwards the gang set off in different directions leaving me there alone. No matter, I had more fun in mind.

About 4 miles up the hill and out of town lay Harbin Hot Springs. I renewed my yearly membership and rode in. Within minutes I was running around bare-assed with the rest of the aging hippys enjoying the hot water and pleasant scenery.

I gotta say it's really nice to soak your bones in hot water after a busy morning of riding.

Around 4:30 I packed up and hit the road. Buzzing along Butt's Canyon it was pleasantly warm and relatively empty of traffic. Even the roads around Berryessa were empty but for a boat or two. I finally rolled up the driveway around 6:30pm completely satiated and ready for a cool beer to finish my day.

Thanks for all who joined me!—*Craig*

UP AND COMING...

ATTENTION FRIENDS:

Mission Motorcycles has the **Superbike** tickets for the **April 30-May 2** at an unbelievable discount. Regular \$65 for the weekend tix are now only \$40.

This is a **KAWASAKI DEALER ONLY PROMO.**

If you are planning on buying a Kawasaki soon this might be the right time. We are giving away 2 tickets including Kawasaki hospitality

passes with the purchase of any new Kawasaki motorcycle or ATV (from Mission Motorcycles) during the month of April.

Don't forget the **indoor short track** at the Cow Palace on Saturday night **May 1**. We don't have tickets to sell but we are one of the sponsors.

S. F. NORTHSTARS



In memory of

Pat Munroe

1928—2004

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