



DAILY PLANET

Official Newsletter of

The San Francisco Northstars Motorcycle Club

Volume 35, Issue 8

August / September 2008

CLUB MEETING MINUTES:

UPCOMING RIDES/EVENTS:

- SEP 6 Craig's Memorial Bakery Ride
(Laurel)
- SEP 13/14 Mendo Moto Camping (Kari)
- SEP 24 CLUB MEETING** – S.F. Brewing Co.
- SEP 27/28 AMA Road Racing at Laguna Seca
(Glen)
- OCT 11/12/13 Yosemite Ride (Laurel)
- OCT 29 CLUB MEETING** – S.F. Brewing Co.
- NOV 16 Prez Ride (Glen)
- NOV 26 CLUB MEETING** – S.F. Brewing Co.
- DEC ?? Vice Prez Rid (Wendy)
- DEC 31 CLUB MEETING** – S.F. Brewing Co.

*Club Meetings are held the last Wednesday of
the month at 7:30 PM @ the San Francisco
Brewing Company – 155 Columbus Avenue
San Francisco California*

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27TH 2008

Meeting Opened: Members in attendance were Wendy, Jim, Laurel, Gino, Catfish, Doug, and Allan. Glen was on hiatus in Moab riding dirt bikes with Jim's buddy so Wendy took charge.

Old Business: Nothing old, but lots new. We told lies, swapped stories, wondered where Dieter and Scott have been, and drank suds. The usual fun and games.

New Business: Not sure how we got on the topic, but Burning Man caused a bit of a stir and discussion. We were a bit incredulous about the price of \$300 for a ticket. It really doesn't include anything either, no food, no water, no shelter....sooo, basically you are paying \$300 for the weekend for a toilet? Yeeeaah, not so much.

More drinking and side-bars commenced and Wendy got us back on track with mention of looking for new membership. That caused even more drinking and side-bars as we all sort of stared at our feet and the person across the table and shrugged our shoulders. Ok, good effort, guys. Moving right along.

Upcoming Rides/Events: Lots of riding coming up for September that should be fun. Next weekend is Craig's Memorial Bakery Ride (Saturday, September 6th). Catfish alerted us that there had been a few threads on the message boards to rides that had already occurred or were going to occur. Great that people are putting things together and remembering in various ways in the form of rides or

other events. For our ride this year, I'd prefer to keep it to the Northstars and invited guests for personal and safety reasons.

Next up is Ben and Kari Fish-Gren's Mendo ride. Funny aside in that they were kicking around ideas for last names – who would take whose last name, hyphenations, abbreviations, concatenation, yada yada. I can't remember who came up with it but we had an abbreviated hyphenation of Fishman and Holmgren that ended up as Fish-Gren. Brilliant, I'll drink to that. Make it so! Anywho, the Fish-Gren's monstrous Mendo mega-party will commence Saturday and Sunday the 13th and 14th. Kari asked if I wouldn't mind leading a ride up, which I happily obliged. They have reserved enough campsites to house about 50-60 guests at Van Damme State Park (http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=433). Ooooh, I just noticed they now have Wi-Fi at the park. Isn't that wonderful. The ride up will be an early one out of the gate with lunch in Hopland. It would be nice to get to Mendo by early afternoon so we can enjoy good friends, spirits, and the wonderful costal area of Mendo.

There is also the AMA races at Laguna Seca the weekend of September 27th and 28th. We had Glen down for leading a ride but of course he is frolicking around in the dirt somewhere right now so stay tuned for more details.

Jim piped in too and is excited about organizing another Dirt Day – I think it would be Dirt Day103.

Another reminder about the Yosemite ride as it has been pushed back a week to October 11/12/13 (Columbus Day Weekend). Evergreen Lodge was booked for a wedding on October 4/5. Get your reservations in soon!

Catfish also mentioned that he and some folks will be doing a Mohave ride around Christmas time and all are welcome to join. More details in the coming months.

New Bikes: Three new bikes to report this month, whoa! Wendy got herself a little 50cc Yamaha 2-stroke scooter....and I'll bet she's still faster than half the jammie boys out on the streets! You know, the ones all decked out in leathers looking fast and walking around like bow-legged ducks. It's a bit banged up, but what good scooter worth its salt

isn't, and she got it on a lien sale...or was that lean sail...whatever.

Jim has got himself a shiny new (well almost new) 07' Suzuki DR-Z400 Super Moto. It's a beauty that only had 100 miles on it. Oooh, dualing Super Moto's, look out Jim, the race is on!

Ok, ok, and sheepishly I say this, I have another bike as well. An 07' Yamaha FZ6 that had only 850 miles on it. It is really just a swap and sell with the 04' FZ6, which will be up for sale shortly. Gotta make it look pretty first.

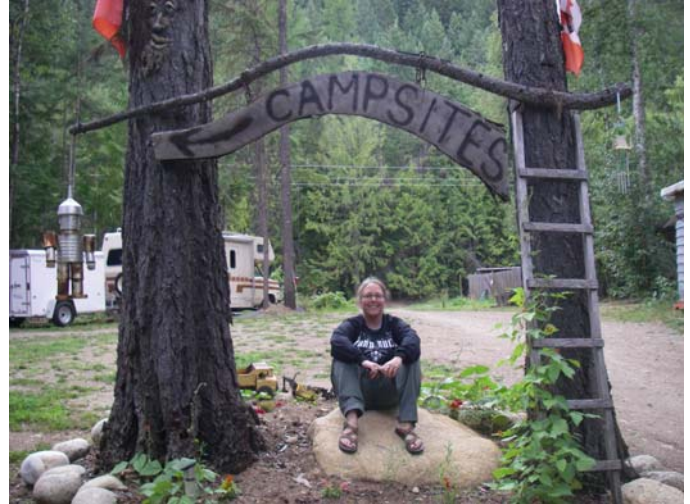
Ride Reports: First up was Catfish's amazing tale of his Wet Leather Gather adventure, complete with maps so we could play along. Sounds like he spent more time on the road than "gathering" anywhere. He hit the trail for a few weeks and covered 4,100+ miles. This had to be my favorite one of his pictures – Maryhill Loop Road in Washington. What a ride, man!



Apparently you can rent this road, yes you read correctly, rent the road. It cost \$20 for 4 hours and the road is closed to traffic. Catfish wasn't satisfied with just one day so he splurged for two. Your own private Idaho out in the middle of Washington, wah-huh. He visited Joel Buck and a number of other friends in Oregon. Headed up to Washington to play on the twisty roads and visit friend, Blackbear. Detoured into Idaho, way to go, had the best Huckleberry pie and ice cream and landed on Julie and Scott's door step for a few days. And, if any of you were in search of the best tater tots in the entire nation, Catfish has found them. Hallelujah! I've been searching for these my whole life. They are in Yellow Pine, Idaho. But you have to work to get to them, they don't just grow in the ground. One has to travel 90 miles down a dirt road and then 60 more miles of dirt the other way to get out of Yellow Pine. Sounded like a great adventure, Catfish! Thanks for sharing.

Lisa and I had a journey as well and it was ironic how much of the roads we traveled intertwined with Catfish's. We hit the road on the afternoon of August 8th – 23rd, destined for the Canadian Rockies. Damn if we couldn't even get out of town without receiving matching parking tickets. Lisa had to run into a camera store in Berkeley to get a battery and apparently we both neglected the meter for only 5 minutes. We came out and the parking police slapped us both with \$30 tickets. Oh well, we were on vacation and there wasn't nothin' that was gonna slow us down! We wandered up to Westfir, Oregon then Leavenworth, WA then into Canada in the north east corner – crossing at Nelway. We mostly traveled on 97 through Oregon and Washington to burn pavement so we could maximize our time in the Rockies. We spent 2 days around Nelson, British Columbia and then traveled north and east to the Icefields Parkway to Jasper. We spent 4 days in Jasper, then came back south to Banff, Lake Louise and Yoho and spent another 4 days there. We came home through western Idaho and then cut west through Hells Canyon into Oregon and down 395 into California. We were very proud of ourselves for camping 13 of the 15 nights. We had a fabulous time, logged 4,220 miles, hit numerous hot springs, and partook in many a shenanigan, big surprise there ☺.

Lisa looking very happy and relaxed at Toad Rock Campground outside of Nelson, BC. Great place that catered to motorcyclists (<http://toadrockcampground.com/>).



Allan has had some fun riding around the HOT Texas plains! We feel your pain, Allan. Well, not really as much as you do. His neighbor just bought a bike and they've been out exploring and tearing up the roads. They have to make sure they are on the road by 6:00 am and back by 10:30 am. Oh my, good if you are a morning person, but otherwise why bother going to sleep.
