

# BREAKFAST RIDERS

C.C.B.W.: Grumpa Les Kurtz

Newsletter (free)

Oct 25, 2008

**La Honda:** Sad news: Richard 'Dick' Johnson died (heart attack) in the hills south of La Honda. That said, I will relate the ride as it happened. We had 9 bikes show up. New to the group were Steve Dodini, Charles Moffatt, and Dick & Sue Johnson. The regulars were Ed Buckner, Gary & Beth Helm, Stan & Ann Hitchcock, Frank White, Steve Wright, and myself. Steve W took the #2 place with Stan as tail-gunner, as they had FRS radios. The stretch on 80 and 880 was -- freeways. We got off in Hayward for gas and bridge tolls. We left and got onto 92. Once through San Mateo, we got off freeways and into hills. After making the left onto 35, I pulled the group over and reminded them to be careful. We took off and very soon ran into a mini-van. I passed it and expected some of the others to do so also -- or the van to move over. Didn't happen. We ate at Alice's. The food was ok, service fine. After lunch, we gathered for photos. Leaving, I led the group onto 35 south when I should have taken 84 west. Steve noted it and waved at me to pull over. We consulted maps, confirming I goofed. Someone noticed on the maps a road that would take us to the coast. Sounded great to all. So after more photos, we took off and made the turn onto Alpine Rd.



The narrow pavement looked glorious with plenty of twisties and great views. Not too far along, Steve waved me over...there was a crash. A few transmissions later and we heard "he is hurt bad". I flew back to the scene. Dick had crashed, and gone about 80 feet down a very steep hill. His wife, Sue, and Stan were down with him. Someone confirmed 911 had been contacted. We were only at the scene a minute when we heard "he is not breathing". I took off over the edge where Stan and I started CPR. In what seemed like a very short time, the emergency workers arrived. They could not revive Dick and then focused on Sue. She had a very nasty bruise on her lower back -- later confirmed as a broken rib. They strapped her to a backboard, then into a stokes, hauled her up, and into a helicopter. Then they hauled Stan, me, and two of the rescue workers up. Once up on the road again, Stan and I answered questions, and drank fluids. We organized a plan to get back to Alice's, get more fluids, then go home the way we came. Ann was shaken and did not feel like riding all the way home on the bike. Steve W called his wife and son and talked them into driving down and giving her a lift home. After a short rest, we headed back home. Thank you all for your efforts. Sue appreciated our group's aid.



All Breakfast Riders rides are open to all riders -- with their head on square. No stunts. Riders are responsible for their own insurance.



Breakfast Riders  
1609 Northwood Dr.  
Fairfield, CA 94534

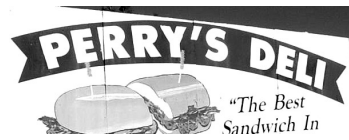


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**Remaining calendar for 2008**  
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Sat Dec 06 |\$| Ronald McDonald House Toy Run  
 Dec 19-21 |x| International Motorcycle Show  
 (MotorCycleShows.com)  
 ???, Dec ?? |\$| Other toy runs -- galore  
 Sun, Jan 18 |\*| Planning session,  
 1609 Northwood Dr, Fairfield  
 Jan 17-18 |X| Easy Riders Bike Show  
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\* Breakfast Riders run, \$ Benefit/cost run,  
 x Non Breakfast Riders event of interest,  
 (???) date not yet determined  
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Breakfast Riders runs are open to everyone - we allow all makes, cruisers, sport bikes, tourers, young through old, male and female. We are looking for riders, friends, and family who enjoy riding. Most Breakfast Rider runs meet at the Shell gas station at 3333 N.Texas, Fairfield and leave by 9:00. Check web page or email GrumpaLes@comcast.net to be sure of details. Each rider is responsible for their own lunch, insurance, and behavior. Times and places to meet for non-Breakfast Riders events ain't determined by us!



**Stewarts Pt Rd (photos by Fenton):** [from bad memory] We had nearly 20 bikes.

The regulars were Steve Dodini, Ken Lewandoski, Charles and Jean McPeek, James

Mickens, Jim Mitterer, Charles Moffatt, George Schjelderup, Frank White, Jaurdan DeJolibois (who headed for home as we started out), and myself. New to the group were Andrew Lee, Mike

Durkton, Fenton Kremer, Byron Hom, and Mark Cotta, also a few who did not sign in. Just as we were starting out, one more bike rolled up and asked if the ride was open to anyone -- yup. We got onto Hwy 80 and there was thick traffic. It was so thick I could only get to 50 mph as I held the group to the right lanes. I took the Hwy 12 exit and then took the left fork onto the Southern Crossing Bridge. At Stanely Ln, I pulled the group over to make sure no one got caught at any lights. We had 4 or 5 missing bikes! We waited for 15 minutes or so, but they never made it. Turns out Jim got more separated than I thought and he missed the turn onto the bridge and took the right fork into Napa instead. With him were Charles and Jean, Mike, the last-minute rider, and 1 or 2 others.

If you changed your address or email, send me the new info. If you do not get my emails, and do have email, send me the info.  
GrumpaLes@comcast.net



Jim said he was going to head for home, Charles and Jean tried to catch up, but when they stopped for a cigarette, the bike would not re-start. Traffic was in the way until we

got to Petaluma. It again got in the way once we were on Hwy 1 (need a bazooka). I almost made a wrong turn at Hwy 16, but recovered in time. We were going to eat at

the deli/general store, but they said they were full as there were around 40-60 bikes swamping the few restaurants. We ate at the small diner nearby. The food was very good. We headed back to Hwy 1 -- and traffic. At Stewarts Pt Rd, I pulled the group over for a break and gave everyone warning about the very narrow and twisted road. I did mention logging trucks to most -- a good thing as one



came from the other way just as we started out. When we got to Healdsburg, a few folks headed home via Hwy 101. The rest of us headed for Hwy 128 and Calistoga. From there we took Silverado Trail to home.

**Middletown:** The sky was clear -- no smoke from the Deer Park fire. We had 18 or so bikes show up. New to the group were Harold Johnsen, Bill Vallandigham, Jason Aglubat, Joesph Aglubat, Rickey Tsang, and Cam-

eron. Regular riders included Ed Buckner, Cat Chandler, Steve Dodini, Jim Harrison, Tony & Monica Lee, Charles & Jean McPeek, Charles Moffatt, Ken Potts, George Schjelderup, Frank White, and myself. The the roads were great...and we had 2 crashes involving 3 bikes. The 1st crash happened on Butts Canyon Rd. Cameron, behind me, hit a rock and started an oscillation. He slowed up and the bike behind him closed quickly and side-swiped into his left side. Only Cameron crashed. He thought he had a broken left leg, but it was just severe deep bruising. He also used his helmet with a shot to the left temple. Love full face helmets. The 2nd bike stayed up, but had damage on the right side pod. I did not see this happen behind me as I was in the groove, ridin'. I noticed them missing about a mile down the road. All told it was about an hour at the side of the



road. Cameron's friends left for the hospital and to get a truck for the bike. The 2nd crash happened to a group of 3 bikes that split for Cache Creek just as we got to Hwy 29 in Middletown. Frank and another rider were

ahead of Steve on Hwy 16 south and made it through a turn, when a car coming the other way strayed into Steve's lane. Steve actually had to veer across the left lane and into the mountain side to avoid the car -- the car was that far into his lane. The car did not stop -- jerk. A subsequent pickup truck stopped and gave assistance -- nice to have great citizens. Steve hurt his leg and back and suffered minor bike damage. But, he was able to ride away due to fast thinking and quick responses!

The rest of us made it to Perry's Deli, right behind a Mazda Miata Club. The 2-person deli smoothly pumped out a lot of tasty food to a lot of people, never losing their cool or breaking a sweat. The ride home was enjoyable and without any more crashes.



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