

BREAKFAST RIDERS

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

Newsletter (free)

Nov 17, 2009

Goat Rock: The day had a small chance of rain. There were four of us at the gas station to start the day. We had Steve Dodini, Skip

we started having a bit of fun. A brief slow down in Occidental and then we again were able to open up and have a bit of mild sparky



fun. We got onto Hwy 116 and had slow traffic and increasing fog until Duncans Mills. The deli has just closed, but the gift shop had snack, sodas, etc. As we rested, a very light mist started. With caution, we headed towards the coast. Now we were not having any traction problems, but the road was

starting to show some shine from the combination of fog and mist. We made the turn onto Meyers Grade Rd with hope for some respite from the mist. Nope! It was now getting very hard to see the road. I stopped the group to let them know I planned to change the route, but James was not in sight. We headed back, fearing the worst, but we soon saw him. We passed on the narrow road and James was up and out of sight before we came to a stop. Greg did an about-face to gather James. Eventually we had everyone pointed at Hwy 1. The mist and fog made a thick gray veil. This was some very intense riding at slow speeds. We struggled to even see the yellow reflectors on the road. I pulled the group over to allow some RVs and other vehicles to pass as we very cautiously made our way back to Hwy

Moffatt, George Schjelderup, and myself. We left and took 80 to 12. Just as we got on the Southern Crossing bridge, a bike passed us and we waved. When we came to the stop light, the biker proved to be Greg Leopold, who joined us. James Mickens met us at Big Bend making us 6 bikes. The traffic up until Arnold Dr was moderate and moving along nicely. We made our way to Glen Ellen and onto Warm Springs Rd and the traffic disappeared! We were able to run at a nice sparky pace over the rough road almost to the end of Bennett Vly. We stopped for gas on Farmers Ln. The clouds were getting darker. We got onto to Hwy 12 and as planned Steve left us. We made it through Sebastopol and onto to Bodega Ave. Traffic lightened up, but we didn't get to the speed limit. Making the turn onto Bohemian Hwy,

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

our way back to Hwy **Cont.**

X



Breakfast Riders
1609 Northwood Dr.
Fairfield, CA 94534



Remaining calendar for 2009 and prelim for 2010

| | | |
|-------------|----|---|
| Nov 20-22 | x | Intrntnl Motorccl Show (MotorCycleShows.com) |
| Sun, Nov 29 | \$ | Sac Marines Toys for Tots |
| Sat. Dec 05 | \$ | Ronald McDonld House Toy Run |
| Sun. Dec 06 | \$ | ABATE 17 Toy Run |
| ???, Dec ?? | \$ | Other toy runs -- galore |
| Jan 15-17 | x | Easy Riders Show in Sac |
| Sun, Jan 24 | * | B.R. Planning Session, 1:00 1609 Northwood Dr, Fairfield |
| Sat, Mar 06 | \$ | ABATE Freeze Your Ass Off |
| Sat, Apr 17 | x | STAR 445 Birthday Bash |
| Apr 21-25 | x | Laughlin River Run (LaughlinRiverRun.com) |
| May 14-16 | x | Super Bikes at Infineon |
| Jun 04-06 | x | Sparks Street Vibes, Spring (Road-Shows.com) |
| Jun 18-20 | x | NASCAR at Infineon |
| Mon, Jun 21 | x | Ride To Work Day |
| Jul 23-25 | x | Moto GP at Laguna Seca |
| Jul 23-25 | x | NHRA at Infineon |
| Aug 20-22 | x | Indy Cars at Infineon |
| Sep 23-26 | x | Reno Street Vibes, Fall |

* Breakfast Riders run, \$ Benefit/cost run,
x Non Breakfast Riders event of interest,
(???) date not yet determined

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 N.Texas Shell parking lot, 3335 N.Texas, Fairfield and leave by 9:00. Check web page to be sure of details. Each rider is responsible for their own lunch, gas, insurance, and behavior. Times and places to meet for non-Breakfast Riders events ain't determined by us!

Lucerne: Nice weather forced me to call an extra ride for 2009. We had a total of five bikes show up: Greg Leopold, Frank White, George Schjelderup, Gary and Beth Helm (who were my tail gunners for the day -- thank you), and me. We chose Lucerne. Check the web page (Newsletters and Articles) for the full story.



Napa: No rain! Nice. We had fifteen bikes show up with new friends of Gary and Charlotte Alexander, John Maes, and James Sheridan. The regulars included James Mickens, Leo Aquino, Cat Chandler, Steve Dodini, Jim Harrison, Larry Jackson, Mark McCoy, James Mitterer, Skip Moffat, Frank White, Steve Wright, and myself. It was the first time for this shorty run. We took off with James Mitterer as tail gunner (thank you) and headed up the freeway to Cherry Glen. We quickly ran into bicycles and slow traffic on Pleasants Vly Rd. A lot of us passed them when safe and got up to a mild sparky pace. I pulled the group over just before Hwy 128 to re-group. We made the turn onto Hwy 128 and had mostly clear road -- shared with plenty more bicycles. I pulled the group into The Corners for a break of about 15 minutes to get fluids, hit the can, chit-chat, etc. Met some folks riding up to Redding by the back roads...nice day for it. As this was a new route, I was trying my best to follow the planned twists and turns. I made the turn onto Vichy Ave just fine. The turns onto Hagen Rd and 3rd Ave also went fine. But 3rd Ave does a right/left jog that I



only got the first part correct. I saw the left turn as I was passing it. Sigh. I made the left turn onto 2nd Ave and paused when I hit Coombsville Rd, Steve Wright noticed my confusion and offered to lead the way back onto the planned course. The real sad thing is I used to live within 3 to 4 miles of that area -- albeit quite a few years ago. Anyways, the back roads provided a nice alternative that went around most of the housing and businesses. We made it to the Black Bear restaurant and saw the parking lot was very full. I saw the lots were full for Denny's and IHOP so...fudge...what the heck. We just bulled on in and they said it would be an hour to seat us all at one spot. Naw. I told them to seat us where they could. Skip, James Sheridan, and me got seated at the counter, another eight (that I saw) got seated at tables. Jim Mitterer and a few got tired of waiting and opted to hit another joint (my guess was IHOP). The food was good and plenty of it...my poor tummy. The first of us finished and made it out into the parking lot and bided our time to allow everyone to enjoy their food. With the scattered arrangements, I did not get to take a group photo -- dang! A few folks were going to shoot for home, some via the planned route, others by Hwy 29 or Hwy 221. We had about half of the group left to go on the extra twisties I had added.

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

Steve Wright again led the way along Napa's back roads and got us to Dry Creek Rd. The first portion is straight, but soon it became narrow and twisted. Sweet. This road is mostly well paved, but with enough bad sections and various road debris that speeds had to be kept down to somewhat sane. I gathered the group again at the fire station at the top end of Dry Creek before we returned via Mt Vedeer Rd. This is a road that is in dire need of repaving. It is narrower and tighter than Dry Creek and the views are grand, looking across the valley. I gathered the group again where it changes to Redwood Rd. Then we headed back down into civilization -- sigh. I left the group as we got near the freeway and headed for my Father's. A very nice and gentle day of riding.



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Goat Rock Cont. 116. The fog and mist had lightened up before we got to Guerneville and lunch at the Garden Grill. We sat outside, under a canopy, next to a heater. Nice. Good food and service. We left and headed for Hwy 116, straight for home. The mist and fog were quickly falling behind us. So I pulled the group over and asked if they wanted to try the rest of the planned route. James opted to run straight for home along Hwy 116. The rest were foolish enough to follow my lead. Almost as soon as we turned, the mist reappeared. But it was not too bad. We made it through Santa Rosa. As we made the turn onto Calistoga Rd, I felt both tires slip big time on the slimy road surface. A couple of turns up the hill and my back tire lost traction. Oh boy. What have I done to us? We made it to St Helena Rd/Spring Mountain Rd safely and the road was again somewhat dry. We did eventually get some dry road, but by then I was deep into my wet road driving behaviors and had to cover a few miles of dry before getting any modest gains in speed. I pulled the group over for a stop on Silverado Trail. George asked if we were going to take Hwy 128 up to Lake Hennessey, but I declined -- the weather gods were angry. I was not going to tempt them again. We had dry road all the way to Napa and dry twisties on Wooden Vly.

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