

BREAKFAST RIDERS

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

Newsletter (free)

Sept 10, 2010

Occidental It was a great day, with early morning coastal fog and temps expected to be in the mid 80's to low 90's. We had 7 bikes show up with Kory Rivera, Greg Leopold, Frank White, George Schjelderup, Mark McCoy, Gary & Beth Helm, and myself. We started out with Mark as tail gunner -- thank you. The ride out to Gordon Vly Rd was mellow. Once we got on Wooden Vly Rd, I tried to be mellow, but I would look down and see 65. Dang! We got to Monticello and headed for the corners. Again, I tried to be mellow, but try as I may, I could not keep from riding sparky. Even so, each time I

looked in my mirrors, the group was there. Bunch of yahoos, all of us. We had one big truck, out of control, cross the line into our lane, forcing a lot of us to use just the right side of our lane. All got through safely. We took a break at the corners. Heading out on 128, I was able to keep my speeds mellow. The quick run on Silverado Trail led us to Pope St and the slow crawl through St Helena. I pulled the group over on Spring Mtn Rd and talked with each rider to make sure they understood the very technical 12 miles ahead. I let riders go ahead, and Greg, a first timer for this road, availed himself. He put his new KTM through it's paces. I really reminded Mark to take it real easy with his Rune, our lowest, heaviest sled of the day. I took off third or fourth and behaved myself -- somewhat. The road is a major joy with constant turns, left and right, up and down, in shaded tree corridors, out in the open sun, rock cliffs to the side, trees to the other, narrow, tight...just fun. Once everyone was rested and calm, we headed out. We rode into and through Santa Rosa at the speed limit. We made our first gas stop and took a good break. We hit our first bit of slow traffic on Fulton Rd and the top run of



was friendly and the food was good. This is one of those places that does not allow individual checks. So we had to do 'major financing' to figure everything out. We headed up Coleman Rd and the road really got narrow. Greg and Gary and Beth split from the group at Joy Rd and aimed for the coast. We five hit the rough surfaces of Joy Rd. It smoothed out in places, but we had to keep speeds down due to slimy looking moisture on the road in places. We got onto Bodega Hwy and here is where I had to concentrate to hit each turn. I designed this portion of the route to avoid the major traffic coming into Petaluma. It does do that and also provides plenty of gentle, pastoral sights. But, the turns are not obvious. As we got into town, Frank diverted us -- or I messed up and he re-aimed us. I let him lead. But, he made it through a light that trapped the rest of us. I honked, but he must not have heard. He rode away and out of sight. We got onto D St and from there I knew our way out. We four stopped one more time at Lakeville and 101 for gas and snacks. When we were ready to go, George had already left. So the three of us headed out. With the exception of Stage Gulch Rd, we encountered traffic all the way

home.

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



Remaining calendar for 2010

Sun, Sep 19 |*| Middletown (135 mi/3.4 hr)

Sep 23-26 |x| Reno St Vibes, Fall (Road-Shows.com)

Sun, Oct 03 |\$| Ride 4 Kids Fairfield (Ride4Kids.org)

Sun, Oct 10 |*| Napa (110 mi/3.3 hr)

???, Nov ?? |\$| RKA/Infineon Food Drive (rka-luggage.com)

Nov 19-21 |x| Intrntnl Motorccl Show
(MotorCycleShows.com)

Sun, Nov 28 |\$| Sac Marines Toy Run (mma-ca.org)

Sat, Dec 04 |\$| Ronald McDonald House Toy Run
(rmhnc.org)

Sat, Dec 04 |\$| ABATE 17 Toy Run

???, Dec ?? |\$| Other toy runs -- galore

* 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, whatever is freeway legal), young through old, male and female. We are looking for riders, friends, and family who enjoy riding. Breakfast Rider runs meet at Texas Road House parking lot, 3333 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!



For more photos and full stories go to
--> <http://www.breakfastriders.org> <--

Markleeville We had a total of 4 bikes at the parking lot in the morning with Bruce Campbell, Frank White, Ed Buckner, and myself. We were expecting to pick up a couple of riders enroute: Sachim Brahma and Rodney Rounds (his first time with the group). It was a slightly overcast morning with expected highs in the 90s. Frank and Bruce were expected to leave us in Jackson as they had other plans. The ride up Hwy 80 to 50 was mild and boring. We got off the freeway and onto the 2-lane Hwy 16. We soon spotted Sachim and we pulled over long enough for him to get on his bike and rolling. We made the first stop at Rancho Murieta, where we found Rodney waiting. After a nice butt break, we continued on into Jackson. The road started gently adding twists in the small rolling hills. At Jackson, Frank kept rolling, while we stopped for gas. I got a few photos before we took off. Bruce headed off his way. I hope both Bruce and Frank had a nice ride home. Now the real fun started as we got onto Hwy 88 heading uphill. Traffic was mostly going at speed or moved over at convenient spots, so we were able to enjoy the road's twisties. We took a couple of stops to enjoy the great scenery. While there was snow still visible on the peaks of some of the mountains, none was near the road. The grasses had mostly turned brown. Spring was long gone. As expected the altitude robbed our bikes of power as we climbed. But unexpectedly, Sachim's 250 Ninja kept up with me just fine -- unless I powered out of a turn. After 70 miles of gentle fun, we rolled into Markleeville and got gas at the single, expensive pump. We then rolled one short block to the Wolf Creek Restaurant. The service was a bit slow and the waitress got Ed's order wrong -- and didn't correct it! Otherwise, the food was good and the ambience was mellow. I think next time, we will use the diner in Kirkwood instead, like on the dry run. We suited up after eating and photos, and we aimed

for the real good stuff -- the top of Hwy 4! The road got tighter and narrower and even higher. The road surface is mostly smooth. You had to behave -- well sort of -- as there was debris in some turns and oncom-



ing traffic. As much as I tried to behave, I did touch my boots on both sides. We took a stop at a wide spot and rested and took more photos. At the top of Ebbetts Pass, I stopped the group to get photos at 8730 feet. At .4 atmospheres, there is not much air up there. On the way down, we stopped at Alpine Lake and enjoyed the pleasant views and soft breezes. Alas, as we started downhill, we ran into traffic that had no idea what common courtesy of the road is all about. We got into Angels Camp and got gas, drinks, and snacks. The ride up Hwy 49 was mellow and mostly free of traffic. We even got to run the downhill esses coming out of Mokelumne Hill and into Jackson at speed. Oh, can you say whee?! Of course you can. I spent a long time leaned over and dragging my boot heels and peg feelers. We rolled through Jackson and I took the correct route into Ione -- yeah! After resting at the usual gas station, we took off down Hwy 104. Sachim and Rodney took Irish Hill Rd towards Sac, while Ed and I kept our bikes aiming for Walnut Grove. The run down Hwy 160 was pleasant. We took one more stop at Rio Vista before facing the dreaded, messed up Hwy 12. Made it home near 7:30 -- just a short ten and a half hour day.

Mt. Hamilton We had a total of 7 bikes with regulars Frank White, Skip Moffatt, Larry Jackson, Mark McCoy, James Mitterer, Byron Hom, and myself. New to the group was Bruce Dowell. We left with Mark as tail gunner (thank you). The ride down Hwy 80 and 680 would have been boring if it wasn't for the wind. Finally we got off the freeway in Danville. We started having some mild twisties as we got onto El Cerro. The road turns rural for a few miles before again becoming city near the Blackhawk Auto Museum. We took our first stop, where Bruce and Byron joined us. Once out of the city confines, we were given some gentle mountains and fields to watch as we rolled toward Hwy 580. The signal lights on the transition roads in Pleasanton caused us to get separated a couple of times, but nothing bad. The road finally got us near to Hwy 680, where I was waiting for the far right lane exit. It came sooner than I anticipated, so I was not able to use my usual hand signals to warn the group. Thankfully we all did fine. Then we were on Calaveras Rd. This is a fun, tight, narrow road, mostly smooth and clean. We took a short butt break here before turning on Fetter Rd and heading down into San Jose for gas and lunch. We ate at KFC. The food was better than some of the dives we hit, but yes greasy. The service was faster than most, if not all, the places we stop at. Then we headed into Alum

Rock at the base of the mountain, where again we got separated by the dang signal lights. But soon enough we were headed up the mountain. Here was tight, narrow, twistied road -- a motorcyclist's delight. Well, that is if you don't have low floor boards dragging in every turn. The switch backs, pot holes, road wrinkles, and debris made for heads up riding, while the views demanded your eyes. Here we ran into slow traffic, but they mostly moved over without too much ado. We took a nice long stop at the observatory and took in the 'tour'. It is a walk down the long hall from the gift shop to the refractive telescope room and then we listen to a gal talk. Leaving the mountain top, we rolled down the hill to some more narrow, twistied road and great views. After a stop at the Junction, we headed up Mines Rd. I held myself to a max of 45 mph to keep the group tighter. We dodged a lot of squirrels, birds of various sizes, and road debris. One 6-8" sized stone came crashing down right along side me, but did not roll out onto the road. I even saw a squirrel duck into a hole in the road. Alas, the good road comes to an end and we roll into Livermore for gas, snacks, and rest. Some riders followed Frank to Brentwood and home. Bruce took 580 to home. Skip and Byron followed me out to Morgan Territory Rd. Morgan Territory Rd has three distinct sections. All are narrow and one part is real rough. The recent fires were not evident. Then we

got onto Marsh Creek Rd and into Walnut Creek for out last rest stop. Byron left for 680 south and Skip and me headed for 680 north. It was a nice day with a nice group. I got an email from Frank saying the route into Brentwood was straight through and nice except for the odd turnabout to get



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.

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