



## Officers

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## Inside this issue:

Ride Safe!	2
Indian News	3
Poker Run Fun	4
Sonoma Ride	6
Tahoe In A Day	7
Durango Rendezvous	8
Safety Corner	10
Farewell, Joe	11
Upcoming Events	11

July 10, 2019

## President's Message

The summer solstice arrived Friday June 21 and with it came the triple-digit temperatures. With the beginning of a very wet year and reduced ride opportunities, let's hope Mother Nature will allow some pleasant rides over the next several months.

On April 27, your GCIMRG hosted our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Gold Country 49er Poker Run. The weather could not have been any better with blue skies and 80-degree temps. This year we submitted for IMRG National sponsorship for a 2<sup>nd</sup> time in their Regional Ride Program.

Although we were notified only weeks before our event, we were granted sponsorship and were able to add a free bike give-away game of chance, free lunch, and free ride pins to the first 75 registered riders. We won sponsorship from National IMRG in 2017 and again now in 2019.

We had a great turnout with over 100 registered riders taking part in 95 miles of fantastic gold country foothill riding and ending at Western Gateway Park in Penn Valley. We handed out nearly \$1,000 in raffle prizes and poker winnings.

The BBQ was hosted by Thunder Roads Church – thank you Thunder Roads! – and everyone enjoyed the food, drinks and park afterwards.

With such a successful event, we will be able to offer some sizeable donations to our charities this year which will include the Prostate Cancer Foundation – through the Hope Motorcycle Rally and the Gold Country Toy Run. We will be selecting some additional charities to donate to this year as well.

We set aside our July chapter meeting because of the Fourth of July holiday and plan to hold our next meeting on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, with a ride afterward, of course.

On Tuesday, July 16, we are hoping to meet the Auburn, Washington IMRG Chapter # 1953 in Jackson, Calif. They will be on their "Epic Ride" and would like to meet for a ride into Auburn and C&E and then for dinner. Stay tuned for more details.

You can also check our calendar of events because we have rides set for Graeagle on July



13 and 14 and Fort Bragg on August 10 and 11.

Lastly, we are trying to fine tune our ride notification and sign-up process. We are researching various online capabilities, so please be patient.

IMRG National has informed all IMRG chapters and members that we no longer need to complete a ride waiver form for each ride as long as members have their annual membership form completed and on file. Now we can just focus on an easy streamlined sign-up process so we know who will be showing up. – Larry



# Ride Safe! And other considerations

Ride Safe! That's what we tell our fellow motorcyclists. Motorcycling is dangerous, and we live with it every time we get on a bike. For those of us serious about our safety, we practice, we take training classes, and we read books and watch videos about how to become a better and smarter rider.

If you're like me, you read every news article about a motorcycle accident or fatality as a case study. What can I learn from that? What went wrong there? Most of the time, there are lessons to be learned, or obvious mistakes that you know you could have, or would have, avoided if you were in a similar situation.

Sometimes, though, there is no explanation and just the grave reminder that this passion of ours is - no matter how safe you are - dangerous. You can manage the risk, but you cannot eliminate it.

Such is the case with an [awful accident](#) that occurred on a country highway in New Hampshire. It was heartbreaking to read about how a pickup truck with a trailer crossed the center line and ran over a motorcycle group, killing seven of the 10 motorcyclists, many of them veterans who served their country in the Marines.

Riding a motorcycle is an absolute thrill, period. Every time I ride down the road, I have a smile on my face. And like almost everything else in life that is daring, adventurous and fun, it can be perilous, too. If you can't accept that responsibility, then don't ride.

But don't let the fear of living take away the joy of living, is what my old man used to say. Ride hard! Be safe.

-The Editor



# Indian Motorcycle News



## Creative Tanks

One of the most interesting promotions for the FTR 1200 has been a series of creative tank designs commissioned by Indian. To learn more about the FTR 1200 Artist Series, visit the [Indian website](#), where there are wonderful videos on each of the artists participating and how they created their designs.



the best part about the success of the FTR 1200 is that it is the start of a whole new platform for Indian models.

According to press reports, Indian has up to four new models in the works, including an adventure bike and sport bike based on the FTR 1200. The company is also developing a heavy cruiser with a large fairing connected to the bike's frame instead of its steering column – a

The FTR 1200 launch continues to impress. Moto-journalists lucky enough to be invited to Cabo San Lucas (why didn't I choose that profession?!) for a lengthy test ride over sand and curving coastal Mexican highways, raved about the vehicle's performance and uniqueness.

direct competitor to Harley-Davidson's Road Glide – and possibly another version of the Scout. An engine patent application called the cruiser the Raptor.

[Read reviews here: [CycleNews](#), [Road and Track](#), [Popular Mechanics](#), and [Motorcycle.com](#)]

Indian has also trademarked the names "Indian Challenger," "Indian Raven," and "Indian Renegade" for use, presumably, on new models.

And others, including members of our own group who got a taste of it during the recent Indian Demo Days, say it's fast and powerful and lives up to its billing. But perhaps

I can't wait to see what Indian rolls out for its 2020 lineup. There's little doubt that the FTR 1200 has generated great press and meaningful momentum for a company still reintroducing itself to the motorcycling world and working to grow its market share.



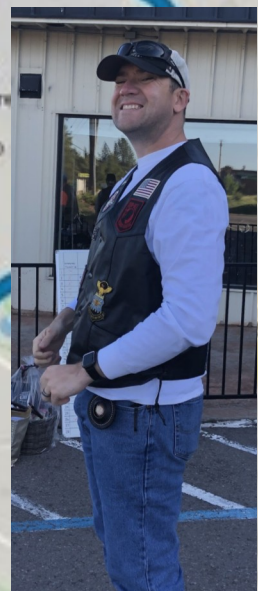
# 3rd Annual Poker Run Proves A Success

Well it all came together for one great event. GCIMRG's 3rd Annual 49er Poker Run on April 27 was a big hit.

The weather couldn't be better, and participation was high – and thank you, National IMRG for your support. No one rolled the magic dice to spell INDIAN and win a motorcycle (boo-hoo), but many walked away with fantastic raffle prizes that included a BBQ grill, generous gift cards and decent motorcycle gear.

Thanks to Larry Ernst for his outstanding effort leading the organizing for the event and the many other GCIMRG members who helped him plan it and worked it.

We've started a great tradition for the region's riding community that is fast becoming a spring staple.



# Poker Run Features Food, Prizes and Fun



# Sonoma Ride Offers Adventurous Route

Someone – I believe that was our esteemed president – had the brilliant idea to hold our May 4 chapter meeting at the B & V Whiskey Bar and Grill in Sonoma. That would entail a lovely ride on a beautiful spring day into, and out of, the Napa Valley.

But on this day, our group took the almost-always-more-rewarding road less traveled. Our route took us from Woodland to Winters and then in-



stead of staying on Hwy 128 – a popular route for motorcyclists that curves past Lake Berryessa and over the hills into the Napa Valley – we headed south toward Vacaville on Pleasants Valley Road.

And what a joy that turned out to be. This narrow, two-lane road rolls through the countryside, past small orchards and farms, through tiny valleys and heavily wooded hillsides before skirting the western side of Vacaville and connecting to I-80.

But we avoided the big bad I-80 and

instead took Lyon Road into Fairfield, crossing the north side of town to Mankas Corner and then through more countryside along Suisun Valley Road to Hwy 121. Sights included wild turkeys and a baby doe, standing on the road and forcing our ride to slow to a crawl.

In Sonoma, the upscale B & V Whiskey Bar and Grill offered up excellent burgers and salads, among other lunch fare, and a unique setting for a chapter meeting. Business was conducted, ice cream was had, and then we were on our way.

We chose an equally adventurous route home, taking Hwy 12 north towards Santa Rosa and then Calistoga Road to St. Helena Road east over the hills into St. Helena, before catching Hwy 128 back to Winters. St. Helena and Spring Mountain Roads proved to be especially challenging.

They are small mountain roads, in poor condition in some parts,

that wind through densely forested areas that provide dark shade, making visibility tough.

We survived, and then enjoyed the route back home on the familiar Hwy 128. Another great ride in the books!



# Tahoe In A Day



And then we continued south on Hwy 28 and 50, enjoying the spectacular views. We didn't stop to take photos - shame on us! - but I can tell you the lake was picture perfect, with rippling deep blue waters and a bright blue sky punctuated by small fluffy clouds that looked like cotton balls.

The lake and its shores were alive with outdoor recreation enthusiasts, from boaters and jet ski riders to bicyclists and swimmers. And surprisingly, traffic wasn't bad, as we rolled along and into South Lake Tahoe.

We caught Pioneer Trail and then hopped on Hwy 89 and 88 for a wonderful ride over the mountains, past Caples and Silver Lakes and down into Jackson, where the Central Valley heat blasted us. Only then did I realize what a great route we had charted for this summer day.

When the summer heat hits, what could be better than a trip to Lake Tahoe? On June 23, when Sacramento Valley highs reached into the mid-90s, we headed east for a gorgeous ride around the east rim of the lake in 70-degree weather.

We started the trip in Auburn, taking Hwy 49 north to Hwy 20 east to I-80 east to Truckee, before dropping down onto the north shore on Hwy 267. A group of six of us on this day, we stopped at Lupita's Mexican Restaurant in Incline Village for delicious homemade salsa and satisfying lunches.



Folks headed home via Hwy 49, 16 and La-trobe Road.

All in all, it was a rewarding day ride that I'm sure we'll want to do again.



# Durango Rendezvous IV



with three of the eight original riders returning and two others. There is just so much fantastic countryside to see on a trip like this.

We took off from Auburn and went through Tonopah, Nevada where we visited some of Area 51. Through Utah and Cedar City where we hit some high country in Duck Creek Village, and stopped in Bryce Canyon for some beautiful photo-ops.

We visited Capitol Reef National Park and rode through some beautiful canyon lands and ended the night in Green River, Utah. In Green River, the River Terrace Inn is highly recommended for accommodations, but not much more to see

**By Larry Ernst**

In June 2018, we organized an IMRG cross country ride to the Durango Rendezvous III in Durango, Colorado. We had eight members sign up and off we went where we had a great time and saw some fantastic country. (Check out the GCIMRG Durango coffee table book in the C&E waiting area the next time you are there.)

You can read more about the Durango Rendezvous at its [website](#). While this event is open to all motorcycles, the majority of bikes present are Indian. This year we realized there were many more rides and areas to visit and several of us decided that we had to do a repeat.

We assembled again – this time to make our journey to Durango Rendezvous IV in June 2019. While this ride was not an official GCIMRG event, we had five riders total,

there for a trip stop.



Our week rally stay and schedule of events put us in Ignacio, Colorado with accommodations at the Sky Ute Casino and Resort. This place is top notch, and the Durango Rendezvous organizers got rally goers some great room rates.

From here, each day revealed a new ride and adventure. This year's rides took us into Telluride, Ouray, and Silverton.

Chama, New Mexico was one of the rides that surprised us. We ended up at a hole-in-the-wall saloon called Foster Hotel, however the best Mexican lunch was had by all with some wonderful sopapillas made from scratch.

*Continued on Page 9*





# Durango Rendezvous IV

*Continued from Page 8*

The bartender pointed to some alternate routes up through some gorgeous mountain scenery through New Mexico and back into Colorado. What an adventure.

Our entire trip was 12 days and I would not have missed it. Telluride was so beautiful that I'm considering it a vacation destination for some rest and relaxation. A 12-day trip is a giant commitment and clearly a challenge to fit into the busy schedules we all have. But I can tell you this was an absolutely incredible trip and one every Indian rider should consider making.



# Safety Corner: Gear Matters!

By Mike Riley, Road & Safety Director

Last month a few of us took a trip to Durango, Colorado for the annual Durango Indian Motorcycle Rendezvous. While we were there they offered several "Ride Like A Pro" motorcycle classes.

Although none of us took the class, I stopped in to watch one of the courses. They were teaching low-speed control and turns. This involves going as slow as possible without putting your feet down.

By using the friction zone with the clutch and throttle and a little back brake, the riders were able to move at a very slow pace while maintaining balance and control. They then practiced turning using the same technique.

[This video](#) is a great tutorial and exactly what was being taught on the course. I urge all riders to watch the video and then to find a parking lot and practice these moves. These are perishable skills and should be practiced several times a year.

After we returned from Durango, we were told about a rider that had crashed on her return home from the Rendezvous. She had hit a deer at a fairly high speed.

Apparently the deer jumped out and she had no time to react. The motorcycle was reportedly totaled, the deer was killed and the rider suffered some injuries.

The worst of those appeared to be abrasions to her legs, especially her knees. She was wearing a helmet, jacket and jeans, but the jeans offered little protection.

Riding gear is important. One of the motorcycle shops in Reno has a pair of jeans that were involved in a motorcycle accident. They are displayed on a mannequin and are mostly shredded.

Yeah, jeans look cool, especially when they are old and faded, but they offer only a little protection. Exhaust pipe burns, road rash and serious knee injuries are a real possibility.

It's possible that with a good pair of riding pants, or at least some knee pads under her jeans, that her injuries and recovery time could have been eliminated or reduced.

I urge you to check out the Kevlar-reinforced riding jeans with hip and knee pads built in, riding pants for summer and winter conditions and, at a minimum, some knee pads from the sporting goods store should be worn.

One of my riding buddies had a fairly minor spill a few years ago. His only injury was caused when his elbow smashed into the asphalt. The "pain to brain" was in full effect after that, as he always rode with elbow pads on.

Don't make the same mistake. Take your gear the same way you take your riding — seriously. Ride Safe.



## The Wanderer



*Hi-Lo Café, Weed, Calif.*



*The Daily Bagel, Klamath Falls, Ore.*



*Pilot Travel Center, Chemult, Ore.*

Have you been wandering? Send photos to [the Editor](#).

## Happy Trails! We'll Miss You, Joe.

Our membership will be losing a great friend and safety representative as Joe Ferreira leaves for a new chapter in his life.

Joe and Ellen are leaving Sun City Roseville and heading for Texas. We met Joe for coffee on May 27<sup>th</sup> to talk about the great rides we have been on and to wish him and Ellen all the best.

Joe served as our safety officer during 2018 and 2019 and sent out some great ride safety videos for us to watch. He got us hooked on the excellent MCrider video series on YouTube and lined up a CHP officer to talk to us about motorcycle safety and take our questions.

His keen awareness pointed out some important ride safety improvements for all of us to follow.

Thank you, Joe. We'll miss you. When you get settled, drop us a line. We look forward to hearing about the wonderful rides you are taking in your new home state, and the best opportunities for us to come visit.



## Upcoming Events

**Tue., July 16** – 10 a.m., ride to Jackson to meet up with IMRG chapter from Auburn, WA and escort them into Auburn, CA with dinner after. More details to come.

**Sat., Aug. 3** – 9:30 a.m., at C&E Auburn Indian, GCIMRG's monthly meeting, followed by a ride.

**Sat., Aug. 10** – 9:30 a.m., KSU from Rocklin for ride to Fort Bragg. We'll stay the night at Best Western and return on Sun., Aug. 11.

**Sat., Aug. 24** – Join us for 1/2 of an Iron Butt ride through three passes and over 550 miles with Hollister IMRG. More details to come.

**Sat., Sept. 7** – 9:30 a.m., at C&E Auburn Indian, GCIMRG's monthly meeting, followed by a ride.

**Fri., Sept. 27 – Sun., Sept., 29** – Join us for the annual ride up to South Lake Tahoe for the Hope Rally.

*For a complete listing of upcoming events, visit the Events Calendar on [GCIMRG's home page](#).*

The new Indian Motorcycle® Riders Group™ (IMRG) was introduced during Daytona Bike Week 2014. IMRG provides Indian Motorcycle owners and their friends with special member benefits and the opportunity to connect with fellow riders. Local IMRG chapters are formed in conjunction with Indian Motorcycle dealerships. Our goal is to get together and enjoy riding so we focus on our motto "Get out and Ride." Our chapter will also help the dealership host open houses, demo events, and charity rides.

Our local dealer is C&E Auburn Indian & V-Twin in Auburn, California. We are Gold Country Indian Motorcycle Riders Group - Chapter #1950. GCIMRG is open to all riders and motorcycle makes. We are riders who get together to share our love of motorcycles. We want to engage Indian Motorcycle owners and other motorcycle enthusiasts in the local area to get out, ride their bikes, and enjoy the heritage that is the Indian Motorcycle.



Carlo & Emma Lujan  
Sponsoring Dealers



### Gold Country IMRG #1950

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## Your GCIMRG Chapter Officers



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