

# **GOLD COUNTRY RIDERS**

## **March 17, 2015 Meeting Notes**

Notes compiled by Molly and edited/added to by Cindy G.

Attending: 12 members (The rest out drinking green beer ??)

**Question to discuss-** What is your music genre?

Some of our answers were: 60s, 70s, and 80s, Eagles, Rocker, Country Western, Classic Rock, Motown, Anya, Heavy Metal and Blues

**March Ride** - Beautiful ride. Jennifer used Vicki's planned route and exercised some proposed new guidelines\*, 'to keep 2 riders in your rear view mirror'; she suggests you pull over and signal a person riding 'too close for your comfort', to go around you; And she pauses when changing to a new road, so that all will see the turn. This kept everybody together.

There were 10 bikes, 1 Cam Spider, 1-2 up; Vicki joined them on Hwy 20, and at the same time one had to leave early - so, the 'one group' size kept manageable, with the less challenging route and precautions.

\* Dee Dee has selected a few members to help her and will be considering our safety, these/your suggestions and will be proposing an update to our Ride Guidelines this year. (See Feb. minutes).

**Feb Minutes** - Any questions? No questions.

**May ride** - Jill, whose's planning the May ride, with no objections, changed this month's ride to Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>. As it works better for her, and will also be International Female Ride Day. Take lots of pictures to submit to WOW.

**GCR Meeting Suggestions** - Cindy G asked for fun ideas/topics to discuss at the meetings via an email to the club in February. Some responses were:

- Tech Day for members and support members (member garage or a local business)
- Track days. Tammy mentioned one was coming up.
- Self defense demo and/or a few hour class (several members have instructor resources)
- Super bike coaching. Jill has connections to get a group together.
- Skill improvements (such as Amy V. did in the past - she found a parking lot and set up challenges and/or designed a route that would exercise various skills)
- Iron Butt and such things as that.
- Amanda again has offered her house for the equipment swap and summer gathering.
- Movie day or night and/or a Theater outing (proven fun events from past experiences)
- Encourage a WOW's ride-in to the West coast - Tammy said we just need to fill out the WOW paperwork, for WOW to consider having a future 'Ride-in' on the West Coast.

And the one that seemed to get a little interest at the January meeting and after Cindy's email was:

- Fran's idea to coordinate a Western US WOW/GCR event in 2016.

So, a little time was given at the meeting for more detail and to determine the interest level. Then Fran asked those who wanted to discuss/brainstorm it further, to stay after the meeting (3 did & 2 expressed they wanted to stay, but couldn't). **Some consideration mentioned ...**

Fran is seeing who would be our market target and she will put some more information together concerning the idea, to narrow down the possibilities, for further discussion.

Know that when something like this is coordinated, the coordinators/volunteers may miss out on much of the fun, because they are running things. And if not careful in the planning, it can be personally costly.

Prior to the meeting, Cindy contacted those who'd be most impacted by this activity, to see if it would be supported and/or feasible (next Director, State Ambassador, WOW Director liaison). It seems as long as we follow WOW values and that many of our members are actively involved, the idea is feasible.

The 2016 WOW ride-in will be in Gettysburg, so again it's far away for our coast.

**Spring Fling** - Jeannie - Asilomar in Pacific Grove May 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>

3-4 routes with directions will be provided; the team will prepare a game to play along the way; everyone will form their own groups, to travel down together (which the team will help coordinate). Watch emails and attend the monthly GCR meetings, as more info will be coming. (Those attending liked this plan, as Jeannie was also asking for feedback on their ideas)

**The April ride** - Fran needs leaders and sweeps. The directions have been sent out. Email her if you can help lead or sweep.

**A&S** - David , They are busy. Watch emails for some type of exciting news or big sale on May 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Safety Presentation** - Dee Dee shared some observations she has concerning mistakes people often make and gave some suggestions...

The Wrong Bike and/or Wrong Gear Choice-

Don't listen to spouses and friends who make suggestions on your type of bike. Ask an experienced rider or dealer for advice, who can consider your physic and riding desires  
Your Gear should cover your head, shoulder and all body parts. With a proper fit.

Not Practicing - always practice in parking lots and get in all the training as possible. No matter how good you think you are.

Not knowing or understanding your limits - For some people this comes natural, but for others they need to learn what they can do.

Don't give in to peer pressure. Group riding can have pressures. This is not the time to ride over your limits. Practice on other days, not during a group ride. (This one got a lot of discussion)

All gear all the time - We have changing weather either in the Sierras or at the coast with fog. So have it with you just in case.

Maps, maps and more maps are better. Maps helps to give you general feel or region and side roads. This will help when you have no satellite reception and when/if you GPS fails.

Read the owner's manual annually to keep updated and reminded of your bike's features.

Keep Your Passport up to date. Verify expiration dates. Many countries won't accept it if it will expire within 6 months of your trip. (And on you? As you never know when one of our GCR leaders may make a wrong turn or decide on a longer ride)

Carry a spare credit card and money somewhere else and not on your person.

When you buy something, try it out before your trip. Gear, straps, tools and special tools, cables.

Clean your hydration system. Replace often. Clean well.

Restock your toiletries and the items you carry on the bike occasionally. Check expiration dates.

Spare bulbs. Learn to change at home and not on road.

Train for long trips and while on them, exercise on the bike. Stretch. Stand up when possible. Keep alert, as cognitive deterioration is just like driving drunk.

If you have the AMA magazine see 18-20 March 2015 p. 18-20 : 15 tips to improve your ride this season (I went to the website, and you can't get a free view of this, the best I can determine).

Dee Dee read Sandy Borden travel blog. Dance of a Big Bike Girl. She just posted about her year long ride with her son and husband. See [www.adventuretrio.com](http://www.adventuretrio.com) (looks like a lot of good long travel insight/tips)

### **General Information...**

GCR Meeting Agenda Items - send to Cindy G. at [cmthewiz@yahoo.com](mailto:cmthewiz@yahoo.com) no later than a week before the next meeting.

Points - Ride leaders, sweeps and GCR Secretary will let Vicki know when they are earned by attendees.

Safety/Motorcycle Meeting Topics - Contact Jill D.

GCR Ride Coordinator - Contact Fran K. for any group ride related questions

GCR "Intro business cards" - contact Maggy; \$1.50 per sheet.

Website Support, event photos - send to Camille R

Member Directory - send updates or corrections to Linda S.

***Next Meeting: April 21, 5:30 social, 6:30 meeting Black Bear Diner, 2700 El Centro Rd, Sacramento.***

THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO ATTENDED THIS MEETING

Thank you to those who presented information and to Molly for taking notes.

And a special thanks to Dee Dee for all those great tips and reminders on riding safely.