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Redwood Empire Chapter HOG #3494



Directors Report

Happy Holidays everyone,

Last month was Thanksgiving, a time to be thankful for what we have, the things we get to do and the people who are in our lives. I believe that being thankful is the key to my personal happiness. I am thankful for all the rides I was

able to attend this year, some day rides others overnights. I appreciate all the people who attended those rides, it was fun to connect and catch up, to swap a few stories and of course show off any improvements to our bikes. We are a riding club but one cannot overlook the true social aspect of riding. Riding fosters a comradery with like-minded people and friendships that may last a lifetime. The memories of some of the awesome rides we have done give me an instant boost when I am feeling not so thankful.

Now with Christmas upon us there are a few ways to give.

- Sonoma County Harley-Davidson has a toy collection barrel at the dealership for the Red and White toy ride on December 6th. They will collect toys through December 5th. If you are not attending that ride then perhaps a donation of unwrapped toys can help the cause.
- We as a chapter will be riding to the Cloverdale Toy Run which is not a run this year but a drive through to drop off unwrapped toys. We meet at the Johnny's Java at 11:00 and depart at 11:30. After we drop off the toys we will head to Hamburger Ranch for lunch. There will be a few special giveaways so you don't want to miss this ride.
- The American Legion Riders will be taking unwrapped toys to the Valley of the Moon Children's Center. I hope to see many of you there to give to the children and support our comrades of the ALR.

I would like to say thank you to the officers of our chapter. They have all been a

pleasure to work with over these last years. I believe we have accomplished what we set out to do. We are a riding club first and foremost. Our rides were fun. We have given back to our members on each and every ride. Our finances are balanced with reserves to start the New Year. Our corporate non-profit status has been maintained and our taxes are up to date. Great job everyone and thank you.

2021 Officers:

Randy Mack- Director director@rechog.org

Steve Pehargou- Assistant Director assistantdirector@rechog.org

Heidi Faulkner- Secretary secretary@rechog.org

Robert Gilford - Treasurer treasurer@rechog.org

Lorraine Stimple- Newsletter newslettereditor@rechog.org

Glen Childers- Head Road Captain roadcaptain@rechog.org

There will be the 2021 ride planning meeting on Sunday December 13th. We encourage all to submit ideas for rides and for those who wish to lead rides to attend. Please submit all ideas or destinations to me director@rechog.org or (707) 696-6272 and I will submit your ideas. If you wish to attend the meeting we will be held at an office in Sebastopol, 6984 McKinley St. at 10:00. We have to limit the attendees to 10 so please let me know if you are attending. Thank you.

Randy Mack

Director



Assistant Directors Report

Brrrrrrr!!! HOG Nation!

Well, it's that time of the year to bundle up. Since this is the last news letter of this year, I will keep it short and sweet.

Although this year has been rather odd, we still managed to put on some great rides and some awesome over nighters. With all the protocols in place, we have remained safe. That is to say, we have not heard of a HOG member getting sick. Well done!!

Toy runs are coming, We will be participating in the Cloverdale Toy Run which will be held on Sunday, December 6th. We will meet at Johnny's Java Hut at 11am and leave at 11:30. Masks are required and social distancing mandates still apply. We will proceed to Cloverdale for a "toy drop" and then on to some BBQ and Hamburger Ranch. Please bring an unwrapped toy and support the kiddies. There is also a toy bin at the dealership for the HA toy run. Feel free to drop some toys off there as well, the more the merrier. We are also waiting to hear from our friends at American Legion Riders for their Valley of the Moon Children's Run. Keep an eye out for that!!

For all those interested, we are having our Ride Planning meeting here shortly. We are looking at Sunday, December 13th. If you are interested in leading or just have an idea, let me know. Email me and I will keep you in the loop.

Finally, I would like to thank each member for sticking with us throughout this whole messed up year. With some good medical news on the horizon, our hope is that this too shall pass. I would also like to thank the Board and Mike Rooney for their work in holding things together. Randy Mack deserves special thanks. It's not easy being President!! He has been a good friend and a good leader throughout the year.

Everyone have a safe and happy holiday season. See ya' all out there!!

Steve
AD
PhD-Tunnel Acoustic Therapy

Ride Photo's Remembering 2020





A Message from your Regional Manager

It sure is hard to imagine we are in the last two months of the year. What a roller coaster this has been. Hope you all and your chapters are doing well.

It is that time of year when many chapters will be selecting new officers. As a leader, remember to transition your responsibilities well. For example, think back to what might have helped you start off on the right foot, where to find things in the Handbook, Charter, etc., and support and encourage others as they take on new assignments. Give thanks not only transitioning officers but to your members and dealer for their support. This is also a great time to speak with your dealer about what goals they or you have for next year for the chapter. Some good topics would be ways to grow the chapter's size and participation, how to offer new types of rides, events and rewards, and improving outreach to new owners, for example. Also consider how you will measure these things to show your hard work is paying off. I look forward to hearing how the planning sessions go as well as the new ideas you all come up with to run your chapters even better than before.

When you get this Thanksgiving will be upon us and I want you to know that I am personally thankful for all of you, as is everyone at Harley-Davidson and the rest of the H.O.G. team. You all teach me things every day and your efforts do not go unnoticed. Being an officer in a H.O.G. chapter is hard work, but it can be very rewarding and satisfying as you serve your fellow riders, so thank you. Looking forward to seeing you on the road in 2021 and putting some miles on with you!

PETE SCHWAB

H.O.G. Regional Manager - Southeast/West
414-406-9601 (cell) | [Email](#)

Upcoming Events and Rides

December Events

**Dec. 3rd General Meeting is
CANCELLED.**

**Dec. 6th Cloverdale Toy Run.
Meet at Johnny's Java 11am and
depart at 11:30am. Steve is ride
lead.**

**Dec. 16th Board Meeting by
conference call.**

January Events

**Jan. 7th General Meeting is
CANCELLED.**

**Jan. 20th Board Meeting by
conference call.**

**For full details go to the
RECHOG web site calendar**





Dealer Update

ROLLIN' A Fatty!

IN THIS WEEK'S QUICK SPIN, WE SAY HELLO TO AN OLD FRIEND WHO'S AS PHAT AS EVER.

STORY AND PHOTOS BY RENNIE SCAYSBROOK

It's good when you meet an old mate and realize that, although time may have passed since your last encounter, you're still as tight as ever.

For me, that warm, fuzzy feeling came after a two-week sojourn with my favorite of all Harley-Davidsons, the Fat Bob 114, a big, chunky bruiser of a bike that I loudly proclaimed was the best Harley ever made when I last tested it in 2017.

That may have been a tad overenthusiastic, but I couldn't help it. I'd finally found an H-D I loved. One I could actually imagine permanently in my garage one day. I gave it back to Harley's press manager a sad man, until I got another quick fling with ol' Bob a couple of weeks ago.

So many times, I've ridden bikes in the past, loved them, and got another go on them later only to find, well, maybe it wasn't quite "love" after all. Not so with the Fat Bob. I love it just as much now as I did then.

The combination of that 114 cubic inch (1868cc) motor, the long, low wheelbase of 63.6 inches, and the hefty load of 676 pounds is one of pure American badassery. The Fat Bob isn't a one-trick pony, either. It handles corners better than a machine of its size has any right to, the brakes offer good bite and feel, and the seat is supremely comfortable. Jeez, even typing that feels strange given that this is a cruiser and I hate most cruiser seats.

It's also nice that there are no engine modes to screw with, no ABS to have to turn on or off (it's always on), and unless they're really, really keen for a ride, no passengers to carry.

The Fat Bob is utterly painful on pot-holed freeways. The low ride position that has your butt close to the rear wheel means every bump from the road goes through the tire into the shock and then straight up your spine. The Bob isn't really happy here, best to take it down a quiet mountain road or a cruise to the beach to show off its 'roided up looks.

Another factor that limits highway comfort is the footpegs. They are not fit to be on this bike, being too small and with rubber inserts that mean even the slightest bit of precipitation will have your feet sliding off too quickly

I said back in 2017 that pegs two inches back and a seat two inches higher would make an almost perfect ride position, and I stand by that quote. Although I still love the stance from that massive black handlebar, even if the speedo is mounted on top of the tank and is damn near impossible to read at speed.

The Fat Bob 114 is the kind of motorcycle no one really needs, but it doesn't stop you from wanting it. This is especially so given the fact that for me, it seems like the last bike I'd ever want in my garage. That is until you ride it, and the don't-judge-a-book-by-its-cover adage comes ringing in your ears. This is an incredibly fun, surprising machine, and in reality, a bit of a softie—like a retired heavyweight boxer.

I loved ol' Bob back in 2017 and I love him now. Some things never change.

WELCOME to the Chapter New Members for November

No New Members.

Membership **Board Meeting** Topics

- 2021 Membership was discussed. Robert will take on the responsibility for contacting National Hog to make sure we are following their guidelines on our membership renewal and release of liability forms.
- Board welcomed Glen Childers as our new Head Road Captain
- Ride Planning meeting will be held mid-December. Road Captains will discuss ever changing COVID restrictions and plan the rides accordingly.
- Dealership had a great demo ride weekend with over 160 rides and many of them on the electric bikes.
- Dealership will be collecting unwrapped gifts at the dealership for those that are not able to go on the toy runs due to weather, etc.

Membership **General Meeting** Topics

- no general meeting

For full details go to the RECHOG web site

2020 Officer contact list

Director: Randy Mack

director@rechog.org

Asst Director: Steve Pehargou

assistantdirector@rechog.org

Secretary: Heidi Faulkner

secretary@rechog.org

Treasurer: Robert Gilford

treasurer@rechog.org

Head Road Captain: Glen Childers

roadcaptain@rechog.org

Newsletter Editor: Lorraine Stimple

lorraines@sonomacountyhd.com

Dealer Liaison: Phil Eiselin lacustomc@aol.com

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