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Redwood Empire Chapter HOG #3494



Directors Report

Greetings everyone,

Happy New Year everyone, my hope is that your holidays were pleasant and filled with family, happiness and joy. We have arrived at another new decade, if you are like me we have ushered in 7 new decades and 1 new century.

Kind of scary to think about but I have already spent 5 of those decades riding motorcycles and look forward to going full throttle into this one. January is a time for some of you to start planning your Sturgis trip for this year along with filling our calendars with upcoming rides and weekend getaways. RECHOG ride calendar has all the dates and anticipated times for 2020 please go to www.rechog.org/calendar and take a look. You'll see that our most popular rides are the weekend overnight runs. We have 5 such rides on the books this year and if you have never experienced a two day ride then I encourage you to come along. The rides are unique and the socializing at the end of the day is a lot of fun. We look forward to seeing you out on the rides this year.

At the January general meeting Robert Gilford our treasurer updated the membership with all our income and expenses for the 2019 year, we maintained our prudent reserve and spent the rest of our funds on either chapter related items and events or on the membership in the form of Sonoma County Harley-Davidson gift cards given away at each of the rides. This year will be no different, gift cards will be given away at each ride and at the general meeting for two birthdays each month. There is no additional cost to win and this is for members only. Just show up to the ride and you will receive a raffle ticket; the road captain will draw at least one winner for

each ride. Gift cards are valued at either \$25 or \$50. It is that simple. All members have an equal chance at each ride.

Ride safe and often, always have fun

Randy Mack
Director 2019



Assistant Directors Report

Greeting Redwood Empire HOG members,

Happy New Years RECHOGS! I hope you all enjoyed your holiday with family and friends. We had great time celebrating at Jean Riggs place. Thank you, Jean for providing a great venue. The food was plentiful and delicious. The atmosphere was filled with warmth and the good cheer of being with wonderful friends, old and new. We were touched by Walters wife, Vanessa with providing us great entertainment as we watched her dance so gracefully with swords. Walter looks great and seems to be recovering nicely. We have just entered a New Year and a new decade. I thought it would be a good opportunity to write about goal setting. I know many of us do this religiously every year. Some think about it and some don't bother. Wherever you are at in the spectrum, it's always good to have a refresher. The more active you are in setting and keeping your goals, the higher your chances of success, which means written goals are more powerful than thought-about goals. Writing your goals helps to remind you of what you are trying to achieve. Funny enough we forget so many good ideas without even realizing it, they vanish as soon as they pop in our minds.

Next, our goals need to be S.M.A.R.T

S for Specific. M for Measurable. A for Attainable. R for Relevant and T for Timely. Writing your goals down in this way will help your acquisition of knowledge, and helps to organize your time and resources so that you can make the most of your life.

If you're like me and want to go on as many overnights as you can, here's your opportunity to start. I am leading a ride to Tahoe on May 16-17th. Get it in your calendar.

Gold Dust West, 2171 E. William St, Carson City, NV. Call toll free at (877) 519-5567 or local (775) 885-9000 Press 1 for reservations (2) Ask for the Redwood Empire Harley Owners

Group room block and have your credit card information available to give to the receptionist ROOMS WILL GO FAST— There are 15 rooms blocked until April 2, 2020. Room Rates are \$117.

I am looking forward to a fun year of riding with all of you!

Have fun and ride safe,
Heidi Faulkner, Asst. Director



Ride Photo's November 2019





A WORD FROM THE REGION

EVERY RIDER HAS A STORY H.O.G.® MEMBER STORIES

Read more life-changing stories from members on the open road. Send in your story for a chance to be featured on our page!

Share your pictures and tales of adventure with us – so we can share them with your fellow members. Submit them here and you may find them published in H.O.G.® Magazine, on h-d.com, or other H.O.G.® and H-D communications channels.

See ya on the road,
TODD “THOR” ROBINSON
H.O.G. Regional Manager
414-526-2972 | [Email](#)

Upcoming Events and Rides

For full details go to the

*General Meeting January 2nd**6pm China Village*

Sunday January 12th

Rancho Nicasio ride. Meet at 10am

depart at 10:30am from SCHED.

Heidi and Glen will lead

*Board Meeting January 15th,
6pm @ SCHED*

Friday January 17th

Stinson Beach ride. Meet at 10am

depart at 10:30 from SCHED. Marc

Lampell will lead

Saturday January 25th

Capella ride. Meet at 10am depart

at 10:30am from SCHED. Jose

Villalobos and Lori Boartright will

lead

Sunday Feb 12th

Boonville ride. Meet at SCHED

10am, depart at 10:30am. Sergio

will lead

*General meeting Feb. 6th, 6pm
China Village*

Friday Feb. 14th

Stafford Lake ride. Meet at SCHED

10am and depart at 10:30am. Bill

Faulkner to lead

*Board Meeting Feb 19th 6pm @
SCHED*

Sunday, Feb 23rd

Almond Festival Ride. Meet at

Johnny Java's at 8:30am depart at

9am. Steve Pehargou will be your

leader.



Dealer Update

Best Harley-Davidson Motorcycles To Commute On

Who says going to work can't be fun?

By Tyler Greenblatt December 9, 2019

Navigating your **morning and evening commute** with thousands of other motorists is something that most of us have to deal with on a daily basis. Depending on where you live and where you work, that commute can be an hour-long, hair-pulling, swear-uttering, single-finger-saluting battle to the finish line or a relaxing, coffee-sipping, podcast-listening jaunt. Either way, it would **be better on a motorcycle**.

When discussing commuter bikes, the **Bar & Shield's offerings** aren't always part of the conversation. To be fair, not all of them are cut out for that specific task. Even some of the ones that are up to it could use a little assistance in the P&A department to help get you to work primed and ready for the day, and then back home again. But with around 40 mpg of fuel efficiency, excellent visibility, creature comfort add-ons, and a rock-solid heavy-duty chassis, Harleys have tons of potential as fun and safe commuting bikes.

What are the factors that make a great commuter bike? Engine power—and more specifically, powerband—tall seat height, and ease of maneuverability are all vital when navigating rush-hour traffic, none of which are necessarily Harley's strong suits. Where the MoCo does excel, however, is in motorist awareness thanks to good lighting and the potential to put out a lot of decibels. Those two factors can't be overstated among today's distracted drivers. Harley also excels in creature comforts and modularity. A quality

sound system can easily be added to any model as can a slew of windshields, seating, heated components, and storage options. Rush-hour fender-benders seem to be a daily occurrence, and if it can't be avoided, having a 600-plus pound machine built of heavyweight steel and chrome between your legs could mean the difference between calling a tow truck and calling an ambulance.

At the end of the day, riding what you have is better than not riding at all, but if you're looking to make a change, these H-D models are a great place to start. With a mix of used, new, and yet-to-be-released models, all types of commutes are covered.

2007–2012 Harley-Davidson XR1200

The **XR1200**, and later, the updated XR1200X, was one of the MoCo's biggest steps away from the traditional cruiser that it had ever attempted. To no one's surprise, however, they didn't exactly fly off sales floors when new. But the **XR1200** has all the hallmarks of a great commuting bike. With an updated 1203cc Sportster motor that makes more power thanks to a downdraft throttle body, higher-flowing oil-cooled heads, and backed by a rock-solid transmission with taller gearing, the **XR1200** has available power throughout the rpm range, and in any gear.

A 30.5-inch seat height puts the rider's viewpoint way above most traffic while long-travel suspension eats up deficiencies in the road with ease and allows for quick maneuvering. Dual Brembo brakes up front make for quick stops when the need arises. Even as a sportier model, the XR1200 still has a number of luggage options available in the aftermarket as well as windshields, electronic accessories, and seats. The 3.5-gallon fuel tank is good for around 100 miles in practical use

2020 Harley-Davidson Fat Bob 114

Harley's online tagline for the **Fat Bob 114** is "Outrun the zombie apocalypse," which commuting can often feel like. H-D is not kidding around either; with 118 pound-feet of torque on tap, premium adjustable suspension, and one of the tallest seat heights in the fleet at 27.7 inches, the Fat Bob 114 is a commuter's dream bike.

The Fat Bob's signature fat tires make short work of messy roads and nasty weather while its larger LED headlight improves visibility to other motorists over other Softails. A pair of dual disc brakes with standard ABS provide quick stops when visibility fails. Expect to go about 130 miles before thinking about a fill-up. Get one in a Denim paint color to make for easy cleaning, but if a new one is out of budget, the older Twin Cam Fat Bob has many of the same commuting-friendly attributes.

2020 Harley-Davidson Iron 1200

Adding the torquey 1,200cc motor to make a more powerful Iron made Sportster fans, still mourning the loss of the venerable Nightster, rejoice. When it comes to commuting, having power on tap is a must, and 74 pound-feet of torque in a 550-pound package accomplishes that goal. Unlike the **Forty-Eight**, the **Iron 1200** has the larger 3.3-gallon gas tank which is good for a confident 100 miles between gas station visits, more if grip-twisting is kept to a minimum. Optional ABS adds \$795 to the sticker price, and for questionable parking situations, a security system can be had for \$395.

The Iron 1200's super-narrow build makes lane-splitting easy for our West Coast friends and parking easy for our East Coast friends. The headlight fairing provides a nice dose of wind and bug protection, while the mini-ape

handbars and mid-controls give a nice upright riding position. The 25.7-inch seat height will appeal to vertically challenged riders, however one only needs to look to the Roadster's 29.5-inch seat height to see what taller shocks and a seat can do. For a nice used option, take a look at the aforementioned Nightster, but definitely plan on a shock and seat upgrade there.

2020 Harley-Davidson Road King

It's no accident that the **multifaceted Road King** is the only bagger to make this list. In stop-and-go traffic and city driving, the Road King's lower center of gravity and significantly lighter weight than its faired counterparts makes a world of difference. Hand-adjustable rear shocks and standard ABS, which can be upgraded with the Reflex Defensive Rider Systems (RDRS) for \$995, make it ready for battle on the car-infested roadways. Standard security and cruise control sweeten the tech package.

The biggest motorcycle on this list, the Road King already comes with a full-coverage windshield and one-touch hard, lockable saddlebags. With spotlights flanking the 7-inch LED headlight and a large taillight and turn signals out back, visibility to other motorists is maximized. For additional storage, a sissy bar, rear rack, or full-blown Tour-Pak can be added on. Sound system options are also numerous, and to keep those business slacks safe from the elements, P&A canvas wind guards for the engine guard can be purchased. The 6-gallon fuel tank puts a minimum 200-mile range between gas stops, easily covering a full week of commuting for most Americans.

2020 Harley-Davidson LiveWire

Harley's **all-new 2020 LiveWire** is not only The Motor Company's first electric production bike, but it was literally designed with the commuter in mind. With a **146-mile city range** on a single charge, it only requires being plugged in every so often at night and never needs to stop for gas. It does the 0–60 mph run in three seconds and, with no gears to shift, is one of the most maneuverable bikes on the planet.

With seven selectable ride modes, built-in turn-by-turn navigation, and RDRS standard, it's the motorcycle equivalent of bringing an Apache attack helicopter to the rush-hour knife fight. Not unlike an Apache, LiveWire emits an audible jet like sound for rider feel and motorist awareness, and has LED lighting all around. For commuting purposes, tacking another \$250 on to the price for a hi-vis color might not be a bad idea.

Standard equipment like ABS, security system, stereo, H-D Connect, and cruise control all add to the ease and appeal of daily use.

WELCOME to the Chapter New Members for December

Membership [Board Meeting Topics](#)

- no meeting

Membership [General Meeting Topics](#)

- no meeting

For full details go to the RECHOG web site

2019 Officer contact list

Director: Randy Mack

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