

# California District Gold



## Golden State Gems February 2008

What a fun meeting we had with the Officer's! We did some planning, learning and some socializing. The feedback has been great and we are looking forward to implementing change in 2008!

### Rider Education:

We are pleased to announce the appointment of John and Joan Garrett as the CA District Educators! John and Joan are members of 1Z where they have been assisting with rider education duties. John and Joan are certified instructors for Rider Ed and they are looking forward to sharing their passion for Rider Education with you. They will be sharing the rider education responsibilities with Assistant District Educators Mike and Elma Maury who will continue with their fantastic work presenting rider ed seminars. If your chapter needs rider ed seminars from a certified instructor (which is the only way they will obtain their co-rider card or group riding acknowledgement, or road captain rocker) then call Mike or Elma directly and they will set you up. Then assisting with field activities we are pleased to welcome back, this time as an Assistant District Educator in charge of field events, Ralph Richardson. Ralph does an incredible job in putting on PLP's and of course the Skills Games. He has graciously agreed to head this area of Rider Education up. We are looking for more volunteers to assist with Rider Education. The more we can share the responsibilities the easier it is for all of us. If you share a passion for Rider Education, email John at [jngarrett@verizon.net](mailto:jngarrett@verizon.net) and let him know of your interest.

With this news, we want to say thank you to Rod and Jane McLaughlin for their service as last years District Educator. We appreciated all that you did and wish you good health and happy rides.

### District Rally:

We asked you last year for suggestions for the location for the District Rally. There were 2 top vote getters and they were very close. We did not have time to put a rally on at your first choice, Lake Tahoe, BUT with a very close second, The Double Tree Hotel in Bakersfield is excited to have us return. Now before you start with "it's too hot in Bakersfield in August", the hotel has created some exciting spots for our vendors, inside the hotel and on their covered patio. AND 2 chapters are working on some fantastic rides that will be lead, or self lead, into our beautiful mountains. Remember the fantastic pool party, just wait for this year, it will be even better! Chapters don't forget to get your banners out (or made) as the hotel invites you to hang them from your balcony railing. The theme is Hollywood and we have some fun activities planned. Each chapter has chosen a movie. They will dress in character during the rally and will put on a

skit “from” their movie at the talent show (this will be a talent show you won’t want to miss!!). At the conclusion of the talent show each chapter will walk the red carpet to the after star party! So look for the flyer coming out soon and get ready for an exciting rally! Got suggestions? Send us an email.

#### District Ride of Fame:

The new District game is about to start (well it probably has by the time you read this). The game will tie into the rally theme of Hollywood. It is a ride of fame instead of a “walk of fame”. It is also calculated by % of chapter attendees so that it doesn’t matter the size of the chapter, we can calculate the % that you came with based on the average from your active membership. Many things are similar to last year’s game except you are collecting stars. The stars will identify the chapter they are from and should be “personalized” by the chapter. So get ready to ride and visit your extended family.

#### Region Rally:

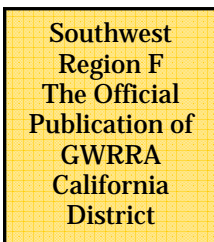
The Region Rally this year will be in Canon City, Colorado and it will be August 14-16. The rally is being held in conjunction with the Colorado District Rally. Our new Region Director is hoping to have it back on Memorial Day weekend in 2009. Watch for early registration and remember if you can’t attend a rally, even one of our local poker runs, send in a registration with a note that you won’t be in attendance (so they can plan their food) and that you wanted to support their chapter event. It’s a nice way to show support and actually cheaper for you since you save on travel, the down side, you miss GWRRA hugs!

So we are off and riding for 2008, first up is the Valentine Ride on the 9<sup>th</sup> so we hope to see many of you there. Check the District website for poker run dates, get your calendars out, plan those great rides and we’ll see you down the road!

All aboard for a star filled 2008!



Anita and JR  
California District Directors



## Random Ramblings John Maguire

It’s been said that truth is stranger than fiction. I recently learned of some very strange and funny stories of life in these United States. I have it on good authority that the following are completely true. I certainly couldn’t make this stuff up. I hope you enjoy them as much as I did.

A 21-year old man was seriously injured by a hit-and-run driver in the early morning hours, in Suffolk County, NY as he was walking away from his disabled SUV. Police said that the victim was probably the same driver who, a few minutes earlier, had himself rear-ended a sedan and driven off without stopping.

A 32-year old man was found dead, stuck in the cat door of his girlfriend's house after she had kicked him out. Said a friend, "His head was caught...like he was trying to reach up and unlock the door."

A 46-year old construction worker fell to his death in South Dakota after co-workers had raised him, in a boom, 30 to 40 feet off the ground so he could try to get cell phone reception, but the boom's truck tipped over backward.

A woman's car burned to the ground after a squirrel, chewing on an overhead electric wire, caught fire and its flaming carcass fell down beside the car and rolled underneath it.

Three men were arrested in Augusta, GA after they tried to return the laser printer the three had allegedly used for counterfeiting. Seems they had accidentally left in the machine not only copies of the counterfeit bills but also the original \$20.00 bill they had used as a model!

A 77-year old man in Jacksonville, FL, intending to help his daughter by riding his bicycle to Long Branch Elementary School to pick up her 4-year old son, (his grandson), arrived back home with a kid on the bike but did not realize that he had picked up the wrong boy. Said the picked-up kid's frantic mother, "The boys don't even look alike!"

And finally...Francis Rocca, 24, was arrested in Pittsfield, Mass., and charged with robbing a gas station after being identified by his victim, who pointed out that Rocca's distinctly pimpled face was easily visible underneath the clear plastic bag he wore as a "disguise."

Green Lights and Open Highways!

John Maguire



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## Lady Riders

by  
Pat Bennett

Lady Riders

Wow!! It's February already! This year is off to a racing start already.

I'm hoping to put a ride together in a few months. Stay tuned for updates. In the meantime, the weather is still cold early in the day, so be sure to dress accordingly. Layering garments works best. Pay particular attention to your hands. Leather gloves offer the most protection, and they can be better lined with real or fake fur. There are also glove liners out there, just don't buy them too small. I have a collection of gloves, and mix/match to suit the weather.

Until next month, keep the rubber side down!

Pat

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## Editor's Comments

by  
Crystal Rush

### Are The Stars Out Tonight?



So are you ready to begin your 2008 riding season? I'm looking forward to watching the chapters visit each other and collect their star from the ride of fame. I'm guessing chapter Z's stars will have stripes (no pun intended), chapter M's stars will most likely develop some type of spotted theme, and hey chapter F will those stars be wearing fox tails? The District Rally this year should be a lot of fun (not that it hasn't been in the past ☺) I'm looking forward to seeing how the chapters run with the skirts from their movies.

As we all get ready to ride I would just like to remind everybody to make sure your bikes are in top condition. When was the last time you checked the amount of tread on your tires, or how much padding is left on your brakes? Have you actually stood in front and back of your bike to make sure all the lights are working properly? I know I am not in the rider ed. Division but I am a Sr. Master rider and as an old friend used to tell me "My safety is YOUR responsibility". I also know our bikes don't have time to collect dust in Southern California but because we do ride so much we need to give our bikes a little more attention than most.

Our first ride will be upon us before we know it – I always enjoy heading up to Chapter I and enjoying their Valentines Day Spirit. Then it's off to Primm for the NV/CA Horizons program. If you haven't attended a Horizons lately or ever we would love to have you come join us. We have a lot of fun, build friendships and actually learn a few things along the way.

See you on the road!

Crystal J. Rush  
Assistant District Director  
Newsletter Editor

*Remember: Life should NOT be a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in an attractive and well preserved body, but rather to skid in sideways, chocolate in one hand, coffee in the other, totally worn out and screaming "**WOO HOO WHAT A RIDE!**"*



# February 2008

Sunday	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9 CA1 - I Valentine's Run
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
					Nevada/California Horizons Program Primm, NV	
17 NV/CA Horizons Program Primm, NV	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	

# March 2008

Sunday	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	Saturday
						1 CA1 A Bake Sale
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 CA1 M Bake Sale	10	11	12	13	14	15 CA1 S Coast Sand & Surf Rally
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					