



Since 2014

Valley Riders December 2016



Volume 3

Number 12



What's Happening



Ride to Dunlap: There were 5 bikes on the ride to Dunlap for lunch at Twin Valley Bar and Grill.



Monthly Meeting: We had a great meeting with 27 present. We would like to welcome Doug & Coral, Gustavo & Ellen, and Mark & Leann to the group. Thank you so much for joining us. We started the meeting by acknowledging November birthdays and anniversaries. Sindi let members know about the website. Jim went through the activities scheduled for December and John talked about checking tire pressure. He also reminded us about watching for the steel plates during highway construction and painted surfaces. If you would like input on the rides for next year, we will have a ride meeting (for those who would like to stay) after our regular December 17th meeting. Our 50/50 giveaway sent Mary and Mark home with \$80 each. Congrats to them both.

Valley Riders Christmas Party: Dec. 10th at the Cosmopolitan (625 O Street). Cost is \$30 per person (includes tax and tip). You will have a choice of salmon, chicken marsala, and tri tip. This also comes with a salad, vegetable and mashed potatoes. There will also be a large bowl of shrimp with cocktail sauce for an appetizer. We will begin arriving at 5:30 with dinner served about 6:15. We had 23 members raise their hands to attend from the meeting. You will pay that night. If you plan to attend it is very important that you let us know so they can prepare enough food for everyone.

Jim also showed everyone a new logo that Johnie Johnson shared with us. He asks that if you are in favor of the new logo and would like to see us get shirts, etc... please contact him via cell phone or send us an email so we can get a consensus.

In conclusion, we would like to wish everyone a fabulous Thanksgiving. We hope you are surrounded by love, laughter, family, and friends.



Merry Christmas



Celebrations

Birthdays: Dec 4: **Jerry Gragg**; Dec 5: **Leland Donaldson**; Dec 9: **Dale Wallace**; Dec 19: **Bill Dimmer, Jim Moody**; Dec 22: **Gary Williams**; Dec 23: **Jamie Slater, Wendy Patrick**; Dec 27: **Mary Richardson**; Dec 28: **Mary Erlewine**

Anniversary: Dec 30: **Jim & Caren Moody**



MOTORCYCLE SAFETY



MOTORCYCLE SAFETY

Safety

15 Tips for Riding a Motorcycle in the Rain

There are a lot of things to take into account when riding a motorcycle in the rain, but one of the most important ones is that you have to dress appropriately. Having your normal jacket and trousers might not be enough. If there's a light drizzle, it probably will not be a problem, but when there's consistent rain, water (usually cold) will seep through your clothes onto your body, and that is not fun! Getting wet, or at least humid, when riding is distracting and very uncomfortable. It's also when you will get a cold, or worse. So whatever you do, make sure the clothing (jacket, trousers and boot covers) you use during a rain ride is rain proof.

This is the most important tip for riding in the rain; all other tips are more or less common sense. The clothing doesn't need to be a diver's suit you use for deep sea diving, but it needs to keep the water away.

1. Wear proper rain gear, preferably Gore-Tex or equivalent. It needs to be able to breathe but still not allow water to creep in. Make sure your helmet covers your face, since rain above 30 mph is going to hurt you.
2. Make sure your tires are correct for riding in the rain; in other words, do not go out riding in the rain with slick tires.

3. Watch the road. What used to be kind-of slippery is now very slippery. White lines on the roads will have become ice rinks, metal plates/manholes are super dangerous, avoid them like the plague.
4. Watch out for puddles. Yes, it can be fun riding through one, but since the water hides the surface you just don't know what you are riding into. Can the puddle in fact be a 3 feet deep hole? Do you want to find out the hard way?
5. When riding and you see a colored rainbow on the ground, watch it. Chances are its oil.
6. When rain first starts after many days of dry weather, it's when it's the most dangerous since there's a lot of oil and dirt on the road. Wait an hour or two for the rain to wash away the oil/dirt before riding since the road surfaces are at their slipperiest. If it's just drizzle, then the road will remain slippery.
7. Railway crossing are to be taken as straight as possible. Remember the railway tracks are metal, and wet metal is slippery. Straighten your bike.
8. When you need to brake, apply more rear brake than normal. If your front wheel starts sliding you're done for, if your rear wheel slides you can easily correct.
9. Do not brake strongly if possible. Brake gently. If you need to urgently apply your brakes, pump them so that you do not start aquaplaning.
10. Give yourself more space between you and the vehicle in front of you. Braking distances are much longer in the rain.
11. Relax when riding. Getting all cramped and bunched up is not good. First of all you will get tired real quickly and it is dangerous. Relaxed riding is much better.
12. Be visible. Rain makes it difficult for cars to see you. If you have high visibility clothing, now it is the time to put them on.
13. An obvious advice, but here it is anyway: reduce your speed! In many countries legally you need to reduce speed by some 10-20% when it rains, and there are good reasons for it.
14. Since we don't have wipers on our helmets (well, maybe some do) you can easily spray something like Rain-X on the visor to help you with your visibility. Rain-X keeps the rain from the visor.
15. When lightning starts up, stop riding. Head for cover (don't stop below a tree).

Riding in the rain will at times be necessary, and you should not stop riding just because it is raining. Relax and enjoy the ride. You are after all riding a motorcycle and that is fun. ENJOY IT.



Rides /Activities



Fri Dec 2: **Candy Cane Lane** at Jerry Gregg's home 1011 N Homsy Ave Clovis 4:30 pm

Sat Dec 10: Christmas Dinner at **New Cosmopolitan** 625 O St Fresno 5:30pm



Facebook Page



Member's Posts



Post: Welcome all our new members to our group! John Cunningham Nov 19, 2016

Like: Sindi McGuire, Jerry Gregg, Alan Larson



Post: Looking forward to the Christmas dinner on Dec. 10 at the New Cosmopolitan. Let Caren know if you are going by Dec 1 for the reservations. We already have nearly 25 going. Sindi McGuire Nov 19, 2016

Like: Jerry Gregg



Next Get Together



Friday Night Coffee and Conversation: **Starbuck's in Riverpark** (near the circle) 7:00 pm

Monthly Meeting: Sat Dec 17: Yosemite Falls Cafe 4278 W Ashlan Ave Fresno (Ashlan/Hwy 99)
8:30 am



Valley Riders

www.thevalleyriders.com

