



# Valley Riders

## January 2016



Volume 3

Number 1



## What's Happening



**Christmas Party at Cosmos:** Our Annual Christmas Party was an overwhelming success. We had such a good time. Our dinner began with a big plate of huge prawns. Some of us enjoyed a few drinks from the bar while other took their places at the table. Food was plentiful as usual and most everyone took home leftovers. If you want to call leftovers, tri-tip, salmon and chicken marsala, just as good the next day. The steal-a-gift is so much fun, unless you're the one losing your present. If nothing else we had lots of good laughs. The night ended with Jim bring the group together by asking questions of the group members, what plans they may have, anything special this past year to share and this was a meaningful time of sharing. Thank you Jim and Caren for your continued vision and love for the group.







**Candy Cane Lane in Clovis:** There were about 15 of us that enjoyed the evening. We wish many more of you could have made it to Jerry's for some food and then to see Christmas lights. Thanks to Glen for the trailer and to Curtis for decorating and driving it. Kelly and I walked with Emily and then listened to everyone tell us how much fun they had riding through the neighborhood in the trailer. Many were surprised when Glen belted out the "goat" song (you just had to be there)! Of course when Kelly and I got back in the trailer they just had to sing the song again (again...you had to be there!). We may adopt it as our theme song! Apparently during the trip Jon and Jerry began to plan for next year. There was talk of a sound system with Christmas music, a fire pit, and many more lights. There is also talk of a Valley Rider's Christmas card. Stay tuned for that one! We continued the night at Jerry's telling stories, eating sweets, and just having a great time. Many thanks to Jerry for opening his house to everyone and to all those who were able to make it.



**Monthly Meeting at Yosemite Falls:** Many thanks to those who braved the rain Saturday, December 19 to attend our monthly meeting. We had about 15 members attend this morning. We celebrated birthdays and anniversaries. Jerry led a discussion concerning safety and

riding/driving in the fog. We set a ride meeting date for Sunday, Jan. 3rd at 12:00 pm at our house. Anyone who would like to come and help us set up a ride calendar for 2016 is welcome. We will have lunch here as we work. More details later. We also got some good suggestions for some socials for this coming year. If you ever have a suggestion for a restaurant for our monthly socials, please let us know. During the open forum we discovered Glen hit the most unlucky rabbit in the world on hwy 50 and Johnie has hit 2 deer and went on an almost 10,000 mile trip with his daughter. We also found out Dale was there during the mudslides in Tehachapi not too long ago. He said it was a pretty scary ride on his bike but got through. Lots of experience and great stories in this group. Have a great week and stay warm and dry! Don't forget the Frozen Bun Run on either Jan. 1st or 2nd (depending on the weather).



I would like to wish all Valley Rider members a Happy New Year!  
(Wendy Patrick, Bulletin Editor)



## Celebrations

**Birthdays:** Jan 26: **John Cunningham**; Jan 27: **Glen Gee**; Jan 31: **Dan Becker**

**Anniversary:** Jan 26: **Butch and Mary Erlewine**



MOTORCYCLE SAFETY

# Safety



MOTORCYCLE SAFETY

## Tips to Riding a Motorcycle in the Fog



Fog is one of the most difficult situations a rider can encounter. Coupled with rain and darkness, fog takes on a highly lethal combination. Ideally, riding in fog should be avoided completely. Ideally, that is! In real-world circumstances, you may run into a fog midway into your journey and without prior warning. Here are a few tips to help you ride through fog safely.

**Avoid:** If you are planning a ride to the hills or know beforehand that you are going to face foggy conditions, simply resist the thought of riding.

**Speed:** If you've already begun your journey and ridden into foggy conditions, slow down to the minimum speed for better control during sudden braking. Also, avoid abrupt inputs to the brake or steering and use engine braking as much as you can.

**Distance:** Maintain adequate distance between you and the motorist in front to prevent collisions caused by abrupt braking by the driver ahead.

**Make yourself visible:** Wear riding jackets with reflective materials or bright coloured jackets to help other motorists spot you.

**Guide line:** Use the white line on the left hand side of the road as your reference and maintain a certain distance from it so if someone tries to overtake you from behind you have sufficient space for yourself.

**Headlights:** Always ride in fog with low beam. Many riders commit the mistake of using high-beam, because it causes flaring off of the water molecules and further reduces visibility. Before starting the ride, wipe the headlights using a cloth so the beam spread is long and clear.

**Visor:** Always clean your visor before you begin riding in fog. Also spray a defogging agent (sold online) on the visor so that accumulation of moisture doesn't hinder your vision.

**Tank-up:** Check whether you have adequate fuel for the journey. You may miss a fuel-pump due to the limited visibility and being stranded on the road can be unpleasant, especially if it's foggy.



**Be alert:** Check your mirrors periodically for fast approaching vehicles from behind and be ready to take evasive action if required.

**Brake-lights:** Gently tap your brake lights in frequent intervals so the motorist behind are alerted of your presence.

**Emergency Stop:** If forced to stop due to reduced visibility or a mechanical problem park your bike as far as you can from the road.



## Rides



**Friday or Saturday, January 1 or 2: Annual Frozen Bun Memorial Run** Leaving Brooks Ranch  
9 am (Weather permitting check upcoming e-mail)



## Next Get Together



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

**Monthly Dinner Social: Thursday, January 14:** **Pad Thai** 198 Shaw Ave Clovis (Cross street Minnewawa) 6:30 pm

**Monthly Meeting: Saturday, January 16:** **Yosemite Falls Cafe** 4278 W Ashlan Ave Fresno (Ashlan Ave/Hwy 99) 8:30 am



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[www.thevalleyriders.com](http://www.thevalleyriders.com)

