



# Tri-County Travelers Monthly Tribune

VOLUME XXX1, ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 2018

## CD Notes by Skip Trautman, CD **HAPPY NEW YEAR 2018 !!!!**



### Coming Events

#### February 2018

- 03 State Staff Meeting  
10 am., Moose Lodge,  
Yuba City
- 14 Valentine's Day  
Don't forget your sweetie!
- 17 T Dinner Ride

#### March 2018

- 03 T Breakfast Meeting
- 11 Daylight Savings
- 24 Midwinter Gathering

Hi All, hope this finds you in good health.

Congratulations to Chapter T Family of the Year Andy and Jenny Genesoto. WE APPRECIATE YOU!!!!!!!

Well, time flies. Here it is February already. There will be **NO** Chapter T breakfast meeting on February 3.

We had a good dinner at Sizzler. Thanks to all who came. I was only off by 8 folks this time. I will do better next month when we meet at Cool Hand Luke's on the 17th at 5 PM. I am calling you out: We need 15 to attend!!! Hope for good weather and we can go for a ride first. Make sure your wheels are full, oiled and ready to go.

Hope Sue is feeling better by now. I guess we will find out if she is at the STATE STAFF meeting on Feb 3. State Staff begins at 10 am at the Moose Lodge in Yuba City. Everyone should attend this important meeting! Our future depends on it.

March 24: Midwinter Gathering in Elverta: Pot luck dinner, games, and loads of fun. See Norcal website for details. **MUST BE PRESENT TO PARTICIPATE!!!!!!**

Friendship Campout May 4-7. No excuses for missing this one - it is right in our back yard. Please register early so we can make sure we get enough ribs and such.

Gold Rush and Lake Tahoe are both in July this year. Check NorCal Website for details and forms.

That is enough for now. Hope to see you somewhere.



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## Skip & Teri Trautman

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**GWTA Tri-County Travelers**  
**Chapter T**  
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Ride Safe...

**Never Overload Your Ride**

## Chapter T Officers and Staff

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PR/Special Events Coordinator	Lonna Appelhof	530-673-4538
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Rider Education/Safety Director	Skip Paquette	530-742-8743
Tour Director		
Road Captain		
Historian	Adrien Genesoto	530-674-9155
Sunshine Coordinator		
Phone Tree	Sue Paquette	530-749-8743
Newsletter Editor	Jenny Genesoto	530-674-9155
Webmaster	Skip Trautman	530-870-2357
Special Events/Equipment Manager	Bill Worth	530-755-3240

## Celebrate!

### February Birthdays

06 Clara Drummond  
10 Connie Ditmars

### February Anniversaries



### March Birthdays

07 Skip Paquette

### March Anniversaries

16 Carl & Connie Ditmars  
17 Ed & Clara Drummond

**We have new members who aren't on our Chapter T Celebration list.  
Please share so we can help you celebrate.  
All we need is month and day, unless you're over 90.**



## News from State Director

Good afternoon everyone.

The holidays are over and hopefully everyone had a great time with family and friends. I want to give everyone some important information and dates.

First and foremost - longtime California residents and lifetime GWTA members have moved to Oregon. John and Charmayne Hunrath have relocated to Grants Pass. I would say we will miss them but luckily we won't. They plan to "commute" for many of the events of GWTA in Northern California. They don't plan to attend the meeting in Feb because they will still be settling into their new home. At this time, John and Char will continue as my Assistant State Directors until further notice. Chapter V will also continue and I will have more information at the state staff meeting.

Coming up on Feb 3 is our only State Staff (Northern California Business) Meeting for the spring. The meeting will be held at the Moose Lodge, 205 S Walton Ave. Yuba City. At this meeting, we will:

1. Go over the monthly reports.
2. Discuss Regional and National News.
3. Finalize the calendar for 2018.
4. Select the 2018 Northern California Family of the Year. Each chapter should recognize and nominate one family for this honor.
5. Discuss, plan and complete a schedule for this year's Spring Fling. I need lots of volunteers.
6. Talk about the future of GWTA in Northern California.

Donuts and coffee will be available at 9:30. The meeting starts at 10:00 am. Lunch will be provided by the Moose Lodge for a cost of \$12 per person. I need suggestions for a lunch menu by this Thursday, Jan 25.

**SAVE THE DATE - MAY 11 - SACRAMENTO.** More information available at State Staff Meeting.

That is all for now. I hope to see everyone at the meeting. If you plan to attend, please contact your chapter director or myself (email or text) by this Friday. Chapter directors - please email or text me a list of attendees by this Friday. We need a head count for the Moose Lodge.

Thank you all.

Dave & Shelly Caudle  
Gold Wing Touring Association  
Northern California State  
Directors (916)715-2590  
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# 10 Motorcycle safety tips for new riders

## Expert advice for first-time and returning riders

Consumer Reports, Published: April 2013

Motorcycles are fun and fuel efficient. That's not news to anyone who's ridden one. But neither is the fact that they're also way more dangerous than a car. The cold reality is that motorcyclists are 30 times more likely to die in a crash than people in a car, according to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS). And nearly half of all motorcycle deaths are the result of single-vehicle crashes.

The numbers are even scarier for older riders, who are increasingly taking up or returning to motorcycling after many years. Because of slower reflexes, weaker eyesight, more brittle bones, and other disadvantages, riders over 60 years old are three times more likely to be hospitalized after a crash than younger ones.

Still, many enthusiasts enjoy a lifetime of riding without injury. The key to optimizing your odds is to be prepared and avoid risks. Keep in mind that 48 percent of fatalities in 2010 involved speeding, according to the IIHS, and alcohol was a factor in 42 percent. Eliminate those factors and you've dramatically reduced your risk.

Below are some more tips to help you stay safe on two wheels. Learn more in our [motorcycle hub](#), [buying guide](#), and in our [reliability and owner satisfaction report](#).

**Don't buy more bike than you can handle.** If you've been off of motorcycles for awhile, you may be surprised by the performance of today's bikes. Even models with small-displacement engines are notably faster and more powerful than they were 10 or 20 years ago.

When shopping for a bike, start with one that fits you. When seated, you should easily be able to rest both feet flat on the ground without having to be on tiptoes. Handlebars and controls should be within easy reach. Choose a model that's easy for you to get on and off the center stand; if it feels too heavy, it probably is. A smaller model with a 250- to 300-cc engine can make a great starter or commuter bike. If you plan on doing a lot of highway riding, you might want one with an engine in the 500- to 750-cc range so you can easily keep up with traffic.

**Invest in antilock brakes.** Now available on a wide array of models, antilock brakes are a proven lifesaver. IIHS data shows that motorcycles equipped with ABS brakes were 37 percent less likely to be involved in a fatal crash than bikes without it. "No matter what kind of rider you are, ABS can brake better than you," says Bruce Biondo of the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles Motorcycle Safety Program.

The reason is simple: Locking up the brakes in a panic stop robs the rider of any steering control. That can easily lead to a skid and crash, which can result in serious injury. ABS helps you retain steering control during an emergency stop, and it can be especially valuable in slippery conditions.

This critical feature is now standard on many high-end models and adds only a few hundred dollars to the price of more basic bikes. You may be able to offset some of the cost with an insurance discount. Either way, we think it's a worthwhile investment in your safety.

**Hone your skills.** As Honda's Jon Seidel puts it, "There is nothing we could say or advise more than to go find a Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) riding course in your area. That's critical, absolutely critical." An MSF course or similar class can teach you the basics, as well as advanced techniques, such as how to perform evasive emergency maneuvers. The cost ranges from free to about \$350. An approved safety course may make you eligible for an insurance discount and, in some states, to skip the road-test and/or the written test part of the licensing process. Some motorcycle manufacturers offer a credit toward the cost of a new motorcycle or training if a rider signs up for an MSF course. The [MSF website](#) lists about 2,700 locations for such courses around the United States.

**Use your head.** Yes, helmets are an emotional topic for some riders. But the facts show the risk. Riders without a helmet are 40 percent more likely to suffer a fatal head injury in a crash and are three times more likely to suffer brain injuries, than those with helmets, according to government studies.

When Texas and Arkansas repealed their helmet laws, they saw a 31- and 21-percent increase in motorcycle fatalities, respectively. “It is absolute insanity to repeal helmet laws,” says Orly Avitzur, M.D., a neurologist and a Consumer Reports medical adviser. “Because helmets do save lives, it is insanity to expose the skull and the brain to potential trauma that could be prevented or at least mitigated.”

A full-face helmet that’s approved by the Department of Transportation is the best choice. (Look for a DOT certification sticker on the helmet.) Modern helmets are strong, light weight, and comfortable, and they cut down on wind noise and fatigue. Keep in mind that helmets deteriorate over time, and may not be safe even if they look fine. The Snell Memorial Foundation, an independent helmet testing and standards-setting organization, recommends replacing a helmet every five years, or sooner if it’s been damaged or has been in a crash. Beyond potential deterioration due to aging and exposure to hair oils and chemicals, Snell points out that there is often a notable improvement over that time in helmet design and materials.

**Wear the right gear.** Jeans, a T-shirt, and sandals are recipes for a painful disaster on a bike. Instead, you want gear that will protect you from wind chill, flying bugs and debris, and, yes, lots of road rash if you should slide out. For maximum protection, go for a leather or other reinforced jacket, gloves, full pants, and over-the-ankle footwear, even in summer. Specially designed jackets with rugged padding and breathable mesh material provide protection as well as ventilation for riding in warm weather. You’ll also want effective eye protection; don’t rely on eyeglasses or a bike’s windscreen. Use a helmet visor or goggles. And keep in mind that car drivers who have hit a motorcycle rider often say they just didn’t see them, so choose gear in bright colors. **Be defensive.** A recent study by the University of South Florida’s Center for Urban Transportation Research found that in collisions involving a motorcycle and a car, car drivers were at fault 60 percent of the time. So, you need to be extra alert, especially in this age of epidemic phone use and texting behind the wheel. Keep an eye out for cars suddenly changing lanes or pulling out

from side streets. And don’t tailgate; keeping a safe following distance is critical, both to ensure you have enough stopping distance and so you have time to react to obstacles in the road. An object that a car might easily straddle could be a serious hazard when on a bike.

**Avoid bad weather.** Slippery conditions reduce your margin for error. Rain not only cuts your visibility but reduces your tires’ grip on the road, which can make cornering tricky. If you need to ride in the rain, remember that the most dangerous time is right after precipitation begins, as the water can cause oil residue to rise to the top. And avoid making sudden maneuvers. Be especially gentle with the brakes, throttle, and steering to avoid sliding. When riding in strong side winds, be proactive in anticipating the potential push from the side by moving to the side of the lane the wind is coming from. This will give you some leeway in the lane, should a gust nudge you.

**Watch for road hazards.** A motorcycle has less contact with the pavement than a car. Sand, wet leaves, or pebbles can cause a bike to slide unexpectedly, easily resulting in a spill. Bumps and potholes that you might barely notice in a car can pose serious danger when on a bike. If you can’t avoid them, slow down as much as possible before encountering them, with minimal steering input. Railroad tracks and other hazards should be approached as close to a right angle as possible, to reduce the chances of a skid.

**Be ready to roll.** Before each ride, do a quick walk-around to make sure your lights, horn, and directional signals are working properly. Check the chain, belt, or shaft and the brakes. And inspect the tires for wear and make sure they’re set at the proper pressure. Motorcycle mechanics we’ve spoken with say they routinely see worn-out brakes and improperly inflated tires that greatly increase safety risks. When tires are under-inflated, “handling gets really hard, steering gets hard, and the bike doesn’t want to lean,” says Mike Franklin, owner of Mike’s Garage in Los Angeles.

# 2018 Events Schedule, Chapter T & State

Events may be added or deleted as changes may occur.

## Coming Events

### February 2018

- 03State Staff Meeting
- 17T Dinner Ride

### March 2018

- 03T Breakfast Meeting
- 17T Dinner Ride
- 24MidWinter Gathering

### April 2018

- 07T Breakfast Meeting
- 21T Dinner Ride

### May 2018

- 3-6 Friendship Campout,  
Sycamore Ranch
- 11Save the date (State)
- 19T Dinner Ride
- 19Ronnie Lee King Memorial  
Ride: Red Bluff
- 24-28 Spring Fling Plymouth, CA

### June 2018

- 02T Breakfast Meeting
- 16Set up Fireworks Stand
- 16T Dinner Ride

## Coming Events

### July 2018

- 1 - 4 Fireworks Sale
- 07T Breakfast Meeting
- 07Tear Down Stand
- 09-12 Gold Rush, Bowling Green KY
- 21T Dinner Ride
- 26-30 Tahoe Campout

### August 2018

- 04T Breakfast Meeting
- 18T Dinner Ride

### September 2018

- 01T Breakfast Meeting
- 7-9 Chapter Appreciation Camp  
Sycamore Ranch
- 20-23 Oregon State Rally
- 28 - 30 Fall Fiesta, Sycamore Ranch  
State Staff

### October 2018

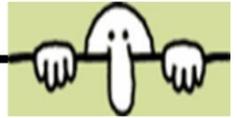
- 06T Breakfast Meeting
- 20Sock Hop

### November 2018

- 03T Breakfast Meeting
- 11Veterans Parade
- 17T Dinner Ride

### December 2018

- 02T Breakfast Meeting
- 15T Christmas Dinner Party



Talking Dog

A guy is driving around the back woods of Vermont and sees a sign in front of a broken down shanty-style house: 'Talking Dog For Sale '. He rings the bell and the owner appears and tells him the dog is in the backyard.

The guy goes into the backyard and sees a nice looking yellow lab sitting there. 'You talk?' he asks.

'Yep' the Lab replies.

After the guy recovers from the shock of hearing a dog talk, he says 'So, what's your story?'

The Lab looks up and says, 'Well, I discovered that I could talk when I was pretty young. I wanted to help the government, so I told the CIA. In no time at all they had me jetting from country to country, sitting in rooms with spies and world leaders, because no one figured a dog would be eavesdropping.

'I was one of their most valuable spies for eight years running. But jetting around really tired me out, and I knew I wasn't getting any younger so I decided to settle down. I signed up for a job at the airport to do some undercover security, wandering near suspicious characters and listening in. I uncovered some incredible dealings and was awarded a batch of medals. Then I got married, had a mess of puppies, and now I'm just retired.'

The guy is amazed. He goes back in and asks the owner what he wants for the dog. 'Ten dollars,' the guy says.

'Ten dollars? This dog is amazing! Why on earth are you selling him so cheap?'

'Because he's a liar – He's never been out of the yard!'



Tired Old Dog

An old, tired-looking dog wandered into the yard. I could tell from his collar and well-fed belly that he had a home. He followed me into the house, down the hall, and fell asleep in a corner.

An hour later, he went to the door, and I let him out. The next day he was back, resumed his position in the hall, and slept for an hour. This continued for several weeks.

Curious, I pinned a note to his collar: "Every afternoon your dog comes to my house for a nap.'

The next day he arrived with a different note pinned to his collar: "He lives in a home with ten children - he's trying to catch up on his sleep. Can I come with him tomorrow?"

From the Internet

Cell Phone

After a very busy day, a commuter settled down in her seat and closed her eyes as the train departed Montreal for Hudson.

As the train rolled out of the station, the guy sitting next to her pulled out his cell phone and started talking in a loud voice:

"Hi sweetheart, it's Eric, I'm on the train. Yes, I know it's the Six thirty and not the Four thirty, but I had a long meeting - No, honey, not with that floozie from the accounts office. With the Boss. No, dear, you're the only one in my life - Yes, I'm sure, cross my heart" etc., etc.

Fifteen minutes later, he was still talking loudly, when the young woman sitting next to him, who was obviously upset & angered by his continuous diatribe, yelled at the top of her voice: "**Hey, Eric, turn that stupid phone off and come back to bed!**"

*Eric no longer uses his cell phone in public.*

The Rope

There were 11 people hanging onto a rope that came down from a rescue helicopter - ten men and one woman. The rope was starting to fray, so they all agreed that one person should let go because if they didn't, the rope would break and everyone would die.

They couldn't decide who should let go, so finally the woman gave a really touching speech, saying how she would give up her life to save theirs, because women were accustomed to giving up things for their husbands and children and giving in to men, and that after all, men were the superior sex and must be saved.

When she finished speaking, all the men clapped. And the moral of this story is:

**Never underestimate the power of a woman,**



February 2018



*Rio Oso, CA 95674  
3679 Bear River Drive  
Skip & Teri Trautman*

## Tri County Travelers



Next Meeting

State Staff Meeting  
Coffee & Donuts  
Meeting

February 3, 2018, 2018  
9:30 a.m.  
10:00 a.m.

Next Dinner Ride

February 17, 2018

All meetings at: Peach Tree Restaurant  
1080 No. Beale Road  
Marysville, CA 95901