

STAR TOURING CHAPTER 212
CHAPTER MEETING @ Smokie's
Hilmar, January 13, 2007

We had a great turnout for a winter meeting with temps in the mid 20's. Kudo's, & "are you nuts?" to those who rode. There were 28 in attendance, including 3 star kids and two guests. The 50/50 raffle sold \$102. Mark & I won. Doug won the breakfast draw, and donated it back. We now have \$840.20.

Old Biz

Our New Years Day Polar Bear run was well attended. We want to thank Janice, Billy and Gina for their wonderful breakfast and hospitality before we took off. It was a great start to the ride.

New 212 Events & Business

Jack works for *Merced Irrigation District* who learned of our community service efforts. Because of this, they have decided to create an annual award to acknowledge their employees efforts in this area. Jack was presented with the very first one, and they have named it the STAR award.

We are working on the banner again. Hopefully, with a slight modification to the last design, we can get approval. We need to get this done. Maybe we can even get some of our sponsors to help us get it done. We will be offering sponsors a space on the banner.

At our last recruitment day we met a lovely lady, Nicola, who was just getting comfortable with her new 650. Unfortunately, she now needs to sell her bike due to health reasons. Contact information and details should be posted soon. Doug will get it to me once he gets it from Nicola.

Safety

We discussed riding and safety issues:

Get in the habit of copying hand signals of forward riders if you can do so safely, especially in larger groups. This insures those in the back know what is coming up. Additionally, keep an eye on your mirrors for riders behind you indicating trouble. Pass any signals forward by flashing lights, rapping the pipes, waving, etc. Once the lead has the message they will look for a safe place to pull the group off. The bike with the problem will drop out, assisted by only a Tailgunner. Accidents (knock on wood) shall be attended by Tailgunner(s) and first responders, as needed. Everyone else is to continue on to a safe exit, led by the Road Captain. We don't need people pulling off in unsafe areas and becoming another accident. Tailgunners are to carry 1st Aid kits (which should include updated emergency info cards) and use CB equipment provided by the chapter. We voted to purchase another unit so both Captains and both Tailgunners can be properly equipped.

We will hold pre-ride meetings in order to better inform all drivers what to expect.

Respect other riders' space. New riders (licenses verified) ride up front, between Road Captains or as indicated by Road Captain, and should not be displaced by more experienced riders. All riders should stay in formation once on the road: no jumping around as this can be awkward for other riders.

All riders need to have their licenses (not permits) as most of our rides end late and/or involve the freeway.

Laminated pre-trip inspection cards were handed out. Please use them and, as always, point out anything unusual on other member bikes as well. Help keep other riders safely riding.

Upcoming Rides and Events:

- January 27 Maintenance Day, 10AM at Jacquie's
- February 10 Chapter meeting at Smokie's, 9AM, to be followed by a ride to Merced for pictures.
- February 24 Recruitment Day, 10 AM at Merced Powersports. Bring pictures to the meeting on the 10th to show people what we are about.
- March 24 Ride for troop support, Merced Powersports. 9:30AM pre-ride meeting, leave at 10.
- April 26-29 Time for another Laughlin Run and Jim is planning on going again. Contact him if interested. Bookings need to happen soon.
- June 8 & 9 Star B Q 2007 is set at the Nugget. Chapter 212 is again in charge of coordinating security. Planning meeting held in Vacaville on the 14th. Jack & Jim attended.
- Sep. 1-3? Grand Canyon? Can it be done in three days? To be researched.
- Other ride or event ideas are welcome. Please let an officer know what you have in mind.

[Remember: Meeting, February 10th, Smokie's in Hilmar. M&M at 8:30, ride to Smokie's.](#)