

The Bike MS Waves to Wine Ride 2010!

On September 25 & 26, 2010 there were more than 2000 riders that were able to raise \$1,740,680.12 to support the National Multiple Sclerosis's mission to end the devastating effects of MS. The Waves to Wine is a 2-day bike ride from San Francisco to Healdsburg. There were many people that volunteered their time and equipment to make this fund raiser the success that it was.

The pledges that the bike riders get help fund innovative programs, services and ground breaking research for the 20,000 Northern Californians living with MS. We were told we are part of a movement that is creating a world free of MS.

The riders cruised along scenic roads, riding anywhere from 40 to 175 total miles. There were six full meals, generous amenities, stunning landscapes and stocked rest stops every 12 to 15 miles. My favorite was that the Cattleman Restaurant served steaks at dinner time both Saturday and Sunday. On Saturday there were three routes to select from at 40, 75 and 100 miles. On Sunday there were two routes of 50 and 75 miles to choose from.

Tom Taylor led a planned group of 35 Gold Wings but a large number of those that made commitments did not come to the event. The remaining Gold Wing riders had to leap frog the stops to cover because of the shortage of Gold Wing support. The bike riders had nothing but positive things to say about the help that we gave them during their rides. Tom did a great job organizing the Gold Wings to get maximum coverage, he was always smiling and supported all of us.

The weather was perfect along the coast all day but it got a little warm on the interior in the afternoons. The mornings were very nice both days. Those that helped from our group were Mark & Elise Teigen, Robert Taylor, Marilyn and Mel Teigen. We had a fair sized group that camped near each other and we watched movies at night on Robert's portable DVD player.

This was a very enjoyable weekend and even though we worked long hours it was satisfying because we knew our efforts were helpful and appreciated.

