



VOL 106

# CHAPTER NEWS



## June 2023



### To Do or Not To Do

- Sean "Ole' Ticker" Branham - Director

[director@pigtrailhog.com](mailto:director@pigtrailhog.com)

Pig Trail HOG Chapter. I believe this is one of the elite HOG chapters in the country, and continues to get better with time. Over the years we have tried new events, new rides, new meeting formats, new areas of focus, etc... We learn what works and what does not work, then we adjust. We take the success of previous events, rides, and even leadership to continue building upon.

This type of focus leads to a full list of activities, rides, gatherings, and events. Then you are faced with the reality that you may not be able to participate in them all. Whether it is due to time, location, commitments, money, or desire that leads to your decision. To do or not to do, is the question we all face.

If you look at my personal calendar there are not many open days throughout the year, especially the weekends. It is filled with birthdays, vacations, anniversary, football games, basketball games (yes, we follow the HOGS), family gatherings, HOG rides, HOG meetings, HOG events, etc... It goes on and on!

I know many of you face the same thing. It is called "Doing Life" and it takes a lot of time. I suggest you plan out your life so you can prioritize what is important, what you really want to do, and what you can live without. None of us can do everything we want to do, but if we can do the things most important, we will enjoy it all and not worry about the smaller ones we missed out on.

Although we may not be able to do it all, I look forward to the ones where our paths cross and we are able to do life together. Thank you for being a part of this great chapter!



### Time for Milwaukee

- Sheila "Casper" Branham - Secretary

[secretary@pigtrailhog.com](mailto:secretary@pigtrailhog.com)

It's finally time for our HD 120th Anniversary trip to Milwaukee. I've never been to Milwaukee or Wisconsin even. I'm really looking forward to touring the museum and visiting all the dealerships in Harley's "home town". It's been nearly a year since we reserved our hotel room. Once the dates were released, I started planning. Our first Branham Bikers motorcycle trip was planned in the spring of 2018, the first Spring Sean and I had our bike. Every year, a family trip is planned. We've done Rt 66 from Joplin to OKC, then from Joplin to St Louis. We've made a big circle through Kansas and ended in KC, and went to Nashville too. No question that our 2023 trip should be to Milwaukee. Our route will take us to Hermann, MO for a couple of nights, and then we'll take Rt 66 from St Louis to Chicago stopping at all the attractions along the way. Of course our route has the dealerships as planned stops. We have to collect our poker chips and t-shirts. We have a shadow box that we drop our chips into that we've collected. Only chips of dealerships we've physically gone into get put in that box. Then, there are the t-shirts. We know we don't need any more, but there's something awesome about an excellently designed t-shirt that fits the dealership name or its surrounding history and landscape. I will say that we have enough t-shirts that our kids and grands will have some amazing quilts with our bike adventures to remember us by...someday. What do you collect on your travels?



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# Ride Your Way to Health

- Jeffrey "Sleepy" Bushey - Assistant Director  
asstdirector@pigtrailhog.com

Motorcycle riding has long been associated with freedom, adventure, and a sense of exhilaration. However, it is not just the adrenaline rush that makes this activity appealing; motorcycle riding also offers numerous positive effects on our health. From improved mental well-being to increased physical fitness, hitting the road on two and three wheels can be a thrilling route to wellness.

Riding a motorcycle requires physical engagement, from maintaining balance and stability to controlling the machine's movements. This dynamic activity engages various muscle groups, including the core, legs, and arms, leading to increased strength, flexibility, and coordination. Regular motorcycle riding can contribute to weight loss, improved cardiovascular health, and enhanced overall fitness levels.

The mental demands of riding a motorcycle can have positive effects on cognitive function. Constantly monitoring the road, anticipating potential hazards, and making split-second decisions sharpen your focus, attention, and reflexes. This mental stimulation can help improve concentration, increase mental agility, and boost overall cognitive performance.

Riding a motorcycle offers a unique sense of freedom and escape from the stresses of daily life. The wind in your face and the open road can provide a much-needed break from the demands of work or personal responsibilities. The thrill and excitement of motorcycle riding also releases endorphins, the body's natural "feel-good" chemicals, promoting relaxation, reducing stress, and improving overall mental wellbeing.

Beyond its reputation as a thrilling recreational activity, motorcycle riding offers a multitude of positive effects on health. From physical fitness and mental stimulation to stress relief and improved mood, this exhilarating pastime can contribute to overall well-being. However, it is crucial to prioritize safety by wearing appropriate protective gear, adhering to traffic rules, and constantly honing your riding skills. So, gear up, hit the road, and embark on a journey towards a healthier and more fulfilling life.



## Harley-Davidson New Membership Program

- Michael "Grim" Douglas - Webmaster  
webmaster@pigtrailhog.com

Harley Davidson has recently updated their membership program and H-D App. There are four new membership tiers: Harley-Davidson Membership (free), Access Pass (\$29), Rider Pass (\$49), and Harley Owner Group HOG for (\$59).

See to the right, the benefits at each tier level. Visit the web site for more [www.harley-davidson.com](http://www.harley-davidson.com)

To maintain membership in our chapter, when it comes time to renew your national, you will need to maintain the Harley Owners Group member tier, which is now a price \$59 per year.



### ACCESS PASS

- Authentic H-D T-Shirt (\$30 value)
- Unlimited free H-D Museum visits
- Free expedited shipping
- Earn 5 points per dollar
- Early lifestyle product access for members
- Exclusive lifestyle events access
- Invite a +1 with you to events
- Influence on product development
- Exclusive H-D content
- Riding Academy discount
- National partner discounts



### RIDER PASS

- Roadside Assistance (up to \$100 value)
- Free expedited shipping
- 34 Point Service Inspection (coming 2024)
- Early riding gear access
- Early parts and accessories access
- EagleRider 10% rental discount
- Earn 4 points per dollar
- Exclusive riding communities & events
- Exclusive riding content
- National partner discounts



### HARLEY OWNERS GROUP

- Unlimited Roadside Assistance for two H-D VINs (\$100+ value)
- 34 Point Service Inspection (coming 2024)
- Exclusive H.O.G. T-Shirt
- Unlimited free H-D Museum visits
- Printed Harley Owners Group Magazine (coming 2024)
- Free expedited shipping
- Exclusive events, challenges and rewards for H.O.G. members
- Earn 4 points per dollar
- EagleRider rentals and tours discount
- Access to all national partners



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# Have You Met Karen?

- Toni DeAnda - Membership  
membership@pigtrailhog.com

Our member spotlight for July is Karen Turner! Karen is an active chapter member who has served as the HOG Secretary and is now enjoying attending activities, rides, and supporting the chapter. She has been riding as a passenger since 2005, then got her endorsement with a Honda Magna 750 (with trike kit), and recently graduated from the Riders Academy at PTHD. You may find her on the back of her Razorback Red Tri-Glide with her husband of 50+ years, Dave.

Karen has lived in many countries and enjoys long distance rides across the United States. Her favorite ride was to Laconia, New Hampshire in 2014. In the picture below she took a trip to California in 2020 with her husband Dave, and HOG members Ron Lemke and Phillip Daily. Since then, Karen and Dave have enjoyed rides from covered bridges to the beaches of Florida and the shores of the Great Lakes.



One of my favorite things about being friends with Karen is that she takes great photos! Along with that, she is a generous person who is opening up her home for a Ladies of Harley (LOH) event at the end of July. If you didn't know Karen already, you have now been introduced.

I would also like to welcome our new member, John Pokorski. Welcome to the family!



## LOH

- Casey "Charmer" Conway - Ladies of Harley  
loh@pigtrailhog.com

Who is a part of L.O.H.? All lady Harley members are a part of LOH. Whether you ride your own ride or ride two-up, you are part of the Ladies of Harley.

We do something different each month, so there's something for everyone. The rides are open to all members. Follow us on our chapter Facebook page or on the website for what's happening each month. I'm always available for questions, concerns or ideas.

Are you not attending LOH events because you do not know anyone or many people? DO NOT worry. We'll make you feel welcome. I was that new person a few years ago, I understand. I would love to see more of our ladies join us for some fun. If you haven't been to an event, you're missing out.

Join us this month at the Turner's for Salad and Spa Sunday. Head count sign-up sheet will be at the July Chapter Meeting. Hope to see you ladies soon!!



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# Oh What Fun Was Had

- Becky & Scott Fite - Activities

activities@pigtrailhog.com



We can add another successful trip in the books! The Illinois River Float Trip was really fun! One thing was not taken into consideration though, was the current of the river. Instead of floating for, we thought, about 4 to 5 hours, it only took us an hour and a half. The current was traveling about 30 miles per hour! We were at our "docking" area before we knew it. The problem was, we were on the other side of the river. So here we are paddling as fast and as hard as we can to get to the other side against the current! I don't know if any of you have ever used oars to get to your destination in a raft, but it's not easy! However, we made it with a little help from the "much younger gentlemen" from the resort. A BIG thank you goes out to them! We filled in the rest of the day with a tour of the Cherokee National History Museum and a ride to the state park on Lake Tenkiller. Awesome weekend with good friends!

Our year is half over! Our next trip will be the Fall Foliage in Broken Bow, Oklahoma, October 26-29.

## Hotel information:

Beavers Bend Lodge  
Hwy 259A N. Steven's Gap Road  
Broken Bow, OK

## Office Address:

4350 S. Highway 259A  
Broken Bow, OK

## Details:

Group ID: 1213  
Phone: Email: lview@travelok.com  
Room Rates: King balcony w/sleeper sofa \$147.00  
2 Queen beds balcony \$142.00  
Accommodations will be available until August 20, 2023  
Reservations are under Pig Trail Hog Chapter

## Upcoming events (stay tuned for more details):

Friendsgiving: November 16th  
Christmas Party: December 16th

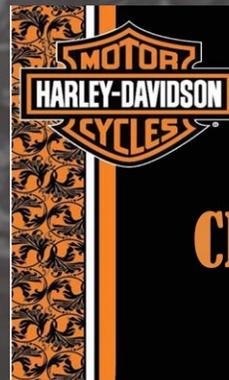


## Account Update

- Sarah "Flip-Flop" Jackson - Treasurer  
treasurer@pigtrailhog.com

Pig Trail H.O.G. Chapter #2075  
Account Balance as of  
June 15, 2023

**\$1783.86**



**10 AM** **SECOND SATURDAY**  
EACH MONTH

**CHAPTER MEETING**  
UPSTAIRS AT PTHD



Visit our website  
pigtrailhog.com



Follow CDC Guidelines  
for COVID-19 Concerns



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## Volunteers Note Headline

- Polly & Bruce Ingerson - Volunteer Coordinators

volunteers@pigtrailhog.com

Now that riding season is upon us, there are going to be many opportunities for members to volunteer to help your chapter as well as PTHD.

In June, we had the Ozark Mountain Rumble Rally and the HOG Rolling Rally. Both of these were essentially being supportive of PTHD. We want to thank everyone who helped with these two Rallies.

We would have had more volunteer hours recognized for the OMRR but it was complicated by a couple factors: rain and lack of volunteers. The chapter cancelled water sales and the dealership cancelled the guided rides and some of the outside activities.

We can't do anything about the weather, but we CAN do something about what we volunteer for. As I said at the June meeting "I ain't too proud to beg". This is true, but should we have to resort to this form of obtaining volunteers? I think not. Essentially, requests are made for members to volunteer for activities that either help our chapter or help PTHD.

Usually needs are in 2-3 hour time slots. Leading a ride or acting as a sweep occasionally requires a longer time commitment.

I think we all care about our chapter, and our chapter wouldn't even exist if it weren't for PTHD. These are not large commitments of time, considering how much they do for us. We have found that we meet and get to know more members by serving with them. So next time you hear about a volunteer opportunity, step up and think of it as an OPPORTUNITY to help your chapter, to help your dealership, to expand your circle of friends by spending time with other members. You'll be happy you did.



## Safety Tips

- Mike Phillips - Riding Academy Instructor

Riding motorcycles can be dangerous and sometimes bad things happen that we cannot control. Riders accept this, but we must do all we can to lessen the danger. On 06-03-23, 11:20 A.M. a horrific motorcycle crash occurred on Mo. Rte. 39 near Aurora, Mo. The crash report said a Toyota car traveling south crossed the center line and hit five north bound motorcycles head on. Four motorcyclists were pronounced dead at the scene. Six others were seriously injured. The driver of the car was also injured. This was a terrible crash, but we can learn things from this that may keep us safer.

The preliminary crash report did not list the speed of any of the vehicles or the distance between the motorcycles. Time and space are a critical element to rider safety. On group rides, we have been taught to ride in a staggered formation. Bike one in the inside part of the lane with bike two in the outside part and so on through the formation, with a following distance of one to two seconds. At 60 mph a two second gap is 180 feet. At 60 mph a biker cannot observe, react and stop in two seconds at that distance. We need to look at how far apart we ride. On many rides bikes are less than two seconds apart. I suggest larger gaps of up to four seconds or more between the bikes. The extra time and space may be the difference of a safe ride. On smaller, curvy roads we should increase that gap even more. Speed is also important. Slowing down a little will increase the time and distance riders have to avoid trouble. Riders need to search as far ahead of the group as they can. Many times, riders in the back of the group only watch the bikes close to them. This can cause delays in evasive action in case of a problem.

Every year we hear of a multi-bike crash caused by a car running into a group of bikes. As riders, we need to talk with each other about how to make group rides as safe as possible. Sometimes things happen that we cannot control, but we should make group rides fun and safe as possible for all riders.



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# MOMENTS THAT MATTER



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