



A Whole New World

- Sean "Ole' Ticker" Branham - Director
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One of the most enjoyable parts of riding a motorcycle is exploring. We have been on many weeklong trips that took us to places we would normally never visit. Whether it is historical places or old abandoned small towns. It is fun and exciting to see the landscape and the country as it is or once was.

We do a lot of group riding, but I know you all get out on your own at times as well. I encourage you to find unique places and routes to take. It is not always easy to think of, or even know about, places to go on your bike. However, with a little planning and research it is possible. There are a couple of ways to do this.

- Search the internet for small towns, abandoned towns, historical locations, or things of interest.
- Use the Riders Challenge Book to pick out a location listed in there, which are some unique stops. You can also get points doing it this way. This is also a way to plan a route if you are a Ride Lead.
- Think of a phrase to spell out with town names (I miss our Scrabble competition) and plan a route to complete your phrase. This forces you into some unique towns and routes.

You will find by doing these things, it makes your riding so much better. Why take the same routes to the same places when there is a huge world out there? Get out and explore the things you have never seen or don't even know exist. Ride and Have Fun!



Always Play It Safe

- Chris "Bones" Main - Activities
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When we are going through our day-to-day lives or riding it's not a bad idea to play it safe. In that, I am referring to having someone else who at least knows where you are going and what you are doing. We ride for many reasons, such as, to see the views, to feel the wind and bugs in our face, to ease what's on our minds, and to enjoy a bit of freedom when life is getting down.

As several of you know, my dad recently had a bad fall resulting in what could have been a much more serious outcome. But, that accident might have been prevented if he had just said, "Hey, I'm going to..." We should always consider letting someone know when and where we are heading on the bike. Maybe tell them the route or just the destination. If you are like me, and spend about half the time on solo rides, it's a good practice just in case. Even confident and accomplished riders run into trouble now and then. By keeping your spouse, a close friend or whoever in the loop, it helps in those times that we might need a bit of assistance. Summer is rapidly approaching, although, the temperature in Arkansas is the same as riding through the state: high number (speed limits) dropping to super low and right back up, lol. In the end, no matter the reason for the ride, we all want everyone to make it back home safe and sound.





Cruising Into April

- Jeffrey "Sleepy" Bushey - Assistant Director
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Welcome to April, fellow riders! As the riding season unfurls its wings, it's time to embrace the open roads and the camaraderie that comes with it.

Just recently, Nanette and I embarked on a memorable Bahamas cruise. Now, you might wonder what a cruise has to do with our HOG community or motorcycles. Allow me to share. While the cruise was a delightful opportunity for Nanette and me to cherish some quality couple time, it starkly reminded me of the bond we share within the HOG family. There's something special about riding alongside like-minded individuals who share the same passion for two or three wheels and the freedom they provide.

Unlike the cruise, where striking up conversations with strangers proved challenging, our rides with the HOG family offer an environment where connections are effortlessly forged. Here, amidst the rumble of engines and the wind in our faces, we find common ground—be it in discussing paint jobs, swapping accessory tips, sharing tales of our adventures, or simply reveling in the freedom to explore wherever our bikes may take us.

The camaraderie and sense of belonging within our community are unparalleled. It's not just about the destination; it's about the journey and the connections we make along the way. Each ride presents an opportunity to deepen existing friendships and forge new ones, enriching our lives with a tapestry of shared experiences and stories.

So, I urge each and every one of you to seize the moment, hit the road, and embrace the chance to build bonds and create new memories. Let's add chapters to our collective storybook and revel in the joy of riding together. After all, the road awaits, and there's no better time than now to get out there and enjoy the ride.



L'Chaim

- Beverly Rowland - Treasurer
treasurer@pigtrailhog.com

In March, I had the privilege and opportunity to attend the HOG Regional Officers Connection in Oklahoma City. It was a valuable and educational experience, and there are a couple of things I want to pass on to you.

First, Pig Trail Harley Davidson is an awesome dealership! The support our chapter receives from the dealership is not something other chapters have the good fortune to experience. After hearing the challenges of other chapters, I will not take our meeting space and interactions with the dealership for granted.

Second, there were several chapters represented at the connection, and concern for the membership was consistent with every chapter. We may not do every activity requested, and we may not do things perfectly, but everything officers do is done with the members' best interest at heart.

Dealership support is not consistent from one chapter to the next, but the concern chapter officers have for their members most certainly is.

I also want to share something else I learned in March: L'Chaim. This is a Hebrew phrase that translates "to life." It's more than just words; it's a heartfelt toast, fostering camaraderie, a shared commitment to embrace life fully, and a testament to the joy of shared moments. When I heard it, I immediately thought of my HOG family and the joy of riding and shared moments.



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Four years ago...in a galaxy far, far away...

- Sheila "Casper" Branham - Secretary
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Can you believe it's been 4 years since the start of the Covid pandemic? Looking back at the April 2020 chapter newsletter, here's where we were as a chapter: Our officers were: Director, Dave "Judge" Patterson; LOH, Deb Raymond; Webmaster, Sean Branham; Treasurer, Sarah Jackson; Membership, Holly Adams; Secretary, Chuck Yarbrough; Head Road Captain, Jim Moss; Activities, Paul Newell.

Judge had this to say, "Our current events are changing rapidly every day. With this in mind we are cancelling/postponing all activities, rides, and meetings for April." We had no idea what the world was facing. It's hard to believe, knowing what we know now, that we went to such extremes as to cancel rides. Riding a motorcycle with your friends became the best form of social distancing.

In LOH news, we just dropped off luggage at the NWA Children's Shelter (what a coincidence!), the First Responders Cookie Run was postponed to June 13th, and May 17th was the date for a ladies favorite..Mystery Dinner. If I remember correctly, the dinner was pushed back another time or two, but unfortunately, we didn't have a mystery dinner that year.

Chuck reported on our trees and flowers that begin to bloom this time of year in our area, Jim presented an article on the benefits of wind therapy, and Paul sent his "Greetings from the farm!," and that his article is "generally where we would say something witty and advise y'all about all the exciting activities we have upcoming in the near future." It seems that in May, two rides were planned with guidelines: stay 6 feet apart at pre-ride announcements and stops, wear gloves when completing sign-in sheets, verbal greeting (no hugs), bring your own lunch and drinks since restaurants were closed. Asst Director, Garry Raymond also said he heard a rumor that bikers in Missouri were pulled over for violating the "stay at home" regulations.

I know you will all agree with me when I say that I'm so glad that's finally over. Seems like it only took us a month to say, "SCREW IT, LET'S RIDE!"



Account Update

- Beverly Rowland - Treasurer
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Pig Trail H.O.G. Chapter #2075
Account Balance as of
March 15, 2024

\$816.91



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H-D Garage Door Opener with Homelink

- Michael "Grim" Douglas - Webmaster
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Exciting New Releases from Harley-Davidson in 2024

2024 has already seen significant developments for Harley-Davidson, not only with the redesign of the Street, Road Glide, and ST motorcycles, but also with the introduction of innovative new parts. This article focuses on one particularly compelling addition – the Harley-Davidson Garage Door Opener with HomeLink.

Seamless Garage/Gate Access for Riders

Similar to existing HomeLink systems for cars, this ingenious device allows riders to operate their automatic garage door or gate opener directly from the motorcycle, eliminating the need to dismount and search for a remote control. Compatible with most automatic opener brands, the kit empowers riders to activate their door simply by cycling the bike's Flash-To-Pass (FTP) switch.

Key Features and Benefits:

- HomeLink® Technology by Gentex: The module integrates seamlessly with existing HomeLink-equipped garage door openers and gate systems, offering compatibility with leading brands like Chamberlain®, LiftMaster®, and Craftsman®.
- Convenient Control: Operated through the vehicle's readily accessible Flash-To-Pass (FTP) switch on the hand control, the system eliminates the need to leave the motorcycle seat for garage access.
- Clean Aesthetics: The module is discreetly hardwired into the motorcycle, avoiding the need for bulky fobs or auxiliary switches that can detract from the bike's visual appeal.
- Simple Installation: The kit features user-friendly, plug-and-play harnesses that do not require wire splicing or software updates, ensuring a smooth installation process. However, certain models might require the purchase of additional plug-and-play components for complete compatibility.
- Reliable Power: The module is powered directly by the motorcycle, eliminating the need for batteries or inconvenient recharging routines.

Model Compatibility:

The Harley-Davidson Garage Door Opener with HomeLink is currently compatible with a wide range of Harley-Davidson motorcycles, including:

- 2021 and later Pan America models
- 2018 and later Softail models (excluding 2019-2020 FXDRS)
- 2014 and later Trike models
- 2014-2023 Touring models (excluding 2023-later FLHXSE, FLTRXSE, and 2024-later FLHX, FLTRX, and FLTRXSTSE)
- 2024 FLHRXS, FLHTK, and FLTRK

I hope this information provides an overview of the new Harley-Davidson Garage Door Opener with HomeLink.

THE BREAKFAST CLUB
April 21st
8am
visit www.pigtrailhog.com/calendar for details
always on event... (ride or cage)

Visit our website
pigtrailhog.com

No Shop Talk Ride
Date: April 14th
KSU Time: 10:00am

No Shop Talk Ride:
A ride when the dealership is closed to allow employees to ride with the chapter. It is their day off so do not talk about work. If you need help, wait until Monday!

No Shop Talk Ride
Date: April 14th
KSU Time: 10:00am

Visit our website
pigtrailhog.com

adventureRIDE
April | 28 | 2024 | 8:30AM

a ride to explore history, places of interest, or just a unique experience. Come take this adventure with us!

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No April Fools Here

- Toni Douglas - Membership
membership@pigtrailhog.com

Congratulations to the Grayson's on their upcoming 31st wedding anniversary and their son's upcoming wedding in May! That's right Heath and Trisha Grayson have been married for almost 31 years and were high school sweethearts. They are newer members who you may have already met at the meetings, on rides, or at LOH & bowling events. But, did you know that this duo has been riding for about 24 years? Although they have gone through a few (5) bikes, they are currently on a 2016 Road King which has been their favorite. If anything is going to sway them away from their Road King, it's going to be an Ultra Limited to keep them comfy on those longer trips.

Their favorite ride through the scenic parts of North Central Arkansas sounds lovely, especially with destinations like Mammoth Spring, Bull Shoals, and the Ozark Folk Center. The Graysons have been exploring hidden gems and new places thanks to the Pig Trail HOG Chapter Challenge Book, and getting those points adds an extra layer of excitement to their journeys.

And, how adorable is Daisy, their soon-to-be motorcycle riding puppy!

Please welcome our new members:

Gabriel Chariton, Marty Chatham, and Joseph Husske



Short and Sweet

- Polly & Bruce Ingerson - Volunteer Coordinators
volunteers@pigtrailhog.com

The Volunteer Coordinators do not have much to say this month. But, be assured that we will have A LOT to ASK of you during the coming months!

Some of you may be wondering about Spring Fling. The decision was made this year not to sell water at the Eureka Springs HD store during this event. So, all of you get out and ride, instead. If you can, please stop by Eureka Springs PTHD during Spring Fling, and take advantage of some of their deals.

Special thanks to those of you who have signed up to possibly help during events with short notice. We appreciate it!



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Saddle Up Lets Ride

- Preston "Gadget" Mahan - Road Captain
roadcaptain@pigtrailhog.com

April 1st is here already. I can't believe how fast this year is going. We have had some great weather for riding with much more to come. Hopefully, everyone has some great riding trips planned. I know we do: our first big trip will be to Lafayette to the HOG rally.

I had the great opportunity to travel to Oklahoma City on the 15th for ROC training with four other officers from our chapter. I had the pleasure of meeting with other Road Captains from other chapters and hearing some of their ideas and offering some of the things that we do.

Things are moving along well with everything that we have been working on for the future. I hope that we can keep moving forward with everything we have been working on to make sure things go smoothly with our future. I really appreciate all of the help and hard work that everyone has been offering so far this year. At this time, we still have a few rides that we will need ride leads and sweeps for. We will keep moving forward one day at a time.

Something that I brought back from ROC was Dialogue Guidelines:

- Start with the End in Mind - Where do we want to go?
- Pose Questions to All- Inquiry sparks exploration of new paths
- Speak to the Center-The circle has no Sides
- Be Open- Forget titles--we're in this together and each has something to offer
- Abandon Preconceptions- Release limits and build trust
- Listen- Appreciate others and discover common ground
- Avoid Judgment- Criticism inhibits creativity
- Share Inspiration- Nurture enthusiasm
- Be Brief- Encourage everyone to participate
- Focus on the Future- Imagine new possibilities

Have Fun!



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Those Mean Ol Bikers

- Jennifer Williamson - Ladies of Harley

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Preconceived notions. We all have them whether we want to admit it or not. Sometimes it keeps us safe, and sometimes it keeps us ignorant. If you had asked me ten years ago what a biker was like, I would've answered ignorantly—not out of hatred, but I just didn't know. We, as bikers, have the unique opportunity to educate others about our community. This, and bringing more women riders and bike enthusiasts into our chapter, is definitely my objective as both a biker and HOG Officer—and, of course, to have FUN!

Every time our chapter hosts or attends an event, I'm both proud and in awe of how incredibly generous and welcoming we are to our fellow humans. March's Luggage Drive and Ride for the NWA Children's Shelter was no different: we had more luggage than any year yet, and the people at the shelter were very grateful for our generosity. One of the directors said that he, as a former biker, knows how generous bikers are, and was extremely grateful to our chapter for always helping. As we rode to and from the shelter, some of our riders waved at people. You never know who is watching you, and forming that positive opinion about bikers (maybe they'll even be riding beside us some day.) If nothing else, though, they will know who we are by our love—love for others, our biker family, and, of course, BIKES!

Our next LOH event is the famous Cookie Run for our first responders in the area. We'll meet on Saturday, April 27 at 9am at PTHD upstairs to get trays ready before leaving on our bikes and cages to deliver them to each planned station. Yet another opportunity to show others how awesome it is to be a biker in our Pig Trail HD Chapter! I hope that as you make plans to be involved in our chapter you see how we are changing people's minds and educating them about our community. YOU truly are important and special to our chapter, and we are so blessed!



Semis

- Mike Phillips - Riding Academy Instructor

Driving on large highways is not as much fun as driving the back roads. The convenience of gas, food, lodging, assistance, and direct route almost make up for the problem of traffic. The worst traffic problem is large vehicles. I don't like to ride anywhere near semi-trucks, busses, motor homes or any large vehicles.

The main problem is I can't see around them. When I am behind or beside them I can't see road signs, traffic or other road hazards. I stay as far away from them as I can, but that is not always possible. Sometimes you need to pass a big vehicle or they pass you. When this happens stay as far away in your lane as you can. Big rigs produce a lot of air turbulence around and behind them that can be dangerous for bikes. Watch the rear trailer tires for wobbles that may indicate a part of the tread is about to come off. A piece of tread from a trailer tire can weigh 10 to 20 pounds and may come at you at 70 mph.

When passing a big rig, get around them quickly. The longer you are beside them the more dangerous it is. I do not pass one on cruise control--that's too slow. I roll on the throttle and get around them. The driver may not realize you are beside him and enter your lane if he is moving over for an obstruction on the shoulder or merging traffic. Turn your blinker on before you pass then, turn it to the other direction when you are beside the rig so vehicles behind you know you intend to get out of the fast lane as soon as you are clear. Otherwise, they may cut around you on your right side.

Most truck drivers are good safe professional drivers, but not all of them. Give big rigs as much space as you can. Pass if you need to, but be sure it is safe to do so. One last thing, if you are behind a cattle truck on a bright sunny day and you wish you had your rain suit on, remember--it's not rain and you're too close to that truck.



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MOMENTS THAT MATTER



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