



April 2022 Newsletter

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HOG Members found the EASTER BUNNY!!!

Thank you to the Carrollton Fire Dept. For hosting the Chapters Safety Training .



From the Director



As we complete the first quarter of the year, I find myself reflecting on the proceeding months of the Chapter's activities, while looking ahead as always...

The year began with our share of weather challenges forcing more cancellations than we'd prefer – we'd prefer none, but I suppose some are inevitable. But even so, our mileage count to date is very respectable and we've had great turnouts for the standing Sunday Funday rides. The weather seems to be settling down and we're now out the road consistently every Sunday. Some of our most popular events have been the LOH-sponsored rides which we began this year. Perhaps it's the appeal of a Saturday ride, a better fit for everyone's schedule, or just something different, but the turnout for these rides have been great and really enhance our miles, as well.

I like that the LOH rides are drawing on other Chapter members to plan and lead rides. That can certainly be one of the most challenging, but rewarding parts of the Chapter experience. Leading a ride well is an accomplishment. The time and effort are often underappreciated by others, but I believe the "reward" is found in the enjoyment of others that can participate. For me personally it's leading an opportunity to reconnect with our friends and make some new ones, to break away from the weight of the previous week for a while, and come to the next week re-charged a bit.

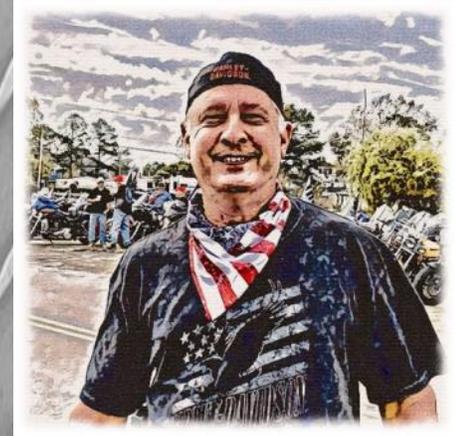
Let me say this again, because it really can be said enough, any Chapter member is eligible to lead a ride! Of course, our Road Captains lead most of them but we welcome anyone to step forward and lead a ride to their favorite destination! We'll help as needed and do everything we can to make the experience and enjoyable and stress-free as we can. You might find you like it enough to become a Road Captain!

Back to reflections on the year so far. A small group of us completed a great course on Accident Scene Management. We pride our selves on our commitment to safety and I think it's one of the greatest attributes. The group was comprised of many of the members that ride most regularly with us and who would likely be on hand when need may arise – *and we hope it never does!* The class was presented by Road Guardians (roadguardians.org) and there is a lot of valuable information on their website. The class was funded by the Dealership, and we appreciate the support of Ed Burbach for his commitment to the safety of our rides!

We've completed two fundraising events so far. We were a little disappointed in the turnout for our annual St. Paddy's Day Poker Run. Unfortunately, that event had to be postponed due to weather which didn't help at all. Although our rain date was more aligned with the Dealership's own Irish-themed event, traffic was very low and we saw little spontaneous interest. Financially, I believe we broke even. We also had the LOH-sponsored poker run last weekend and I want to congratulate the ladies for all their hard work, planning, and execution. The promotion was strong, and the format had an interesting Easter-theme a little different than the standard 5-card stud. Remember, this event required the LOH to rethink the event to work around unexpected conflicts with Bike Week. It was a success with good turnout (20+ bikes) and the Chapter cleared over \$250 after expenses.

So, enough looking back... Bike Week is upon us, and the season is in full swing. To kick everything off we have Demo Days this weekend (April 16-17) and it's "all hands on deck"! Fortunately, we've been planning for this and I'm confident we have the support necessary to support the event at Bayside as we have before. It no small feat – we handle registration, lead the rides, and manage safety orientations. We help unload and load the truck, as well as keeping the bikes fueled. We've had a lot of positive comments from the drivers that are responsible for the event, and we take great pride in our professionalism when it comes to the Demo Days event. It's a positive reflection on the Dealership that sponsors us and there are few better opportunities to help others get familiar and excited about the Harley Davidson brand.

We're setting dates for upcoming rides and additional charity fundraisers. Response to our call for volunteers was strong and we'll be calling on folks for help soon. We anticipate a couple of more poker runs and will likely host a corn-hole tournament that has been successful in the past. If you're willing to help us in these important activities, please let me or another Board member know. If you have a creative idea for a fundraiser, we welcome your suggestions.



The Chesapeake Freedom & Spirit H.O.G. Rally is at Solomons Island, MD on June 22 – 26. We have rooms reserved for those that would like to make that trip. The northern Chesapeake Bay is a beautiful area with lot's of great ride opportunities, and we hope you'll join us. Please see Chris Shay, Activities Director, for lodging and other details. The Great Smoky Mountain H.O.G Rally is scheduled for September 28 – October 2 in Maryville, TN. This is an especially good location for mountain rides, and we expect to have more details on that soon. We're continuing to schedule events for the remainder of the year, included some overnight ride opportunities.

Finally, I never want to miss an opportunity to remind everyone that our calendar on the website (baysidehog.com) is the most reliable and convenient way to access information on our upcoming events. We keep that current and any changes in our events are reflected there immediately. We received a lot of positive feedback about that, and it seems to be working well to keep the Membership informed and updated. In fact, a copy of the calendar is in this and every newsletter.

Jim



Ladies of Harley



Are you excited about all this nice riding weather we are going to have for the next few months? I know LOH is and we are looking forward to all the fun things we will get to do with the Chapter this summer. Our next LOH Sponsored Ride is on April 23rd and we would love for all Chapter members to join us as we head to Farmville. Also we would love all of the Chapter members to come out and support LOH for the annual HER Shelter Poker Run on May 14th. The first vehicle out is at 9:15 and last at 9:45. We will have baskets and homemade Quilts up on the silent auction and a 50/50 drawing. All proceeds will go to the HER Shelter.

April has a bunch of National Holidays but there are 2 I would like to touch on.

April is Testicular Cancer Awareness Month. With a majority of our group being men, it is time for me to tell you it is your turn to grope the balls! Yes, that means you need to check for any abnormal growths or pains to protect yourself from late findings. Roughly 9,470 men in the US are diagnosed with Testicular Cancer in a year. That means about 1 in 250 will find out they have this dreadful disease. This is one of the deadliest men's cancers so please remember to do weekly checks and if you feel anything unusual call your doctor.

April is also Volunteer Recognition Month! With the HOG Chapter being a Volunteer based group I want to thank all of the HOG members in which we have some amazing Volunteers. A lot of the men have stepped up to help the LOH Ladies to achieve their goals for this year; so we would like to recognize a few of the men that have gone out of their way to help.

We would like to thank our Director, Jim Henderson for taking the time quarterly to come listen to all the ladies and discussing concerns with them. He has also made it a point to try and be at both LOH sponsored rides that we have had so far and even led the first one to Deadwood. We thank you for being a listening ear and helping us achieve our goals.

We would like to thank the Assistant Director Brett Mathias for also taking the time quarterly to come listen to the ladies and discussing concerns with them. He has also made it a point to be at all LOH Sponsored rides. We thank you and appreciate what you do to support LOH.

We would like to thank Vince Howerton for working with the ladies to plan their LOH Sponsored rides, the poker runs and head up the two up training that we asked for. He has made it a point to help the ladies with all their route planning and safety while making it to all LOH events. We thank you so much for your help and support. We truly appreciate all that you do to help us.

We would like to thank Jeff Williamson for making sure that the ladies events for this year made it onto the TAMA calendar. Without marketing our events would not have had the great events that we have been able to have. We appreciate that you take the time to let others know about our events and getting the word out. We look forward to joining us back on the road and we are grateful for all that you do.

Lastly, we would like to thank all of the men that have come out to support LOH as they try and make this a memorable year. We couldn't do half of what we do without your support.

By: Heather Mathais, L.O.H. Officer



April 2022

L.O.H. Ladies of the Month

With April being National Volunteer Month I would like to recognize an amazing group of ladies! That's right I want to give a shout out to all of the ladies that have made this group a family. I have 11 ladies that always go above and beyond for LOH. These ladies work 24/7 behind the scenes and in the front line to make sure that all LOH events go off without a hitch; so with that being said please show these ladies love this month as they are working hard to create a fun riding season.

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Thank you

- Marie Swink*
- Sarah King Wiggins*
- Terri King*
- Wanda Neff*
- Marilyn Peacock*
- Karen Kumnick,*
- Deborah Edwards*
- Linda Myers*
- Paula Howerton*
- Theresa Petronicz*
- Carin Crandall Henderson*

Without y'all LOH would not be what it is today. Every last one of you are such a blessing and I am truly blessed to have all of you in LOH. Please know that all of you are appreciated and loved deeply!

Editors Note: Don't forget our fearless leader

Heather Mathias

LOH would not be possible without Heather's endless love and dedication to our cause. We all love you and appreciate you more than words can say. Thank YOU for all that you do to make what we do so much easier.



Why would anyone want to be a Road Captain?



By: Vince Howerton, Sr. Road Captain

Many of you might know that this is my 3rd year as the Senior or Head Road Captain. What you might not know is what the role or duties that this position entails. Obviously you are still a Road Captain and asked to Lead rides or ride in the other 3 positions to help make our group rides as safe as possible. Safety is the key word! I've been asked numerous times why do we need Road Captains? To be honest we don't, in fact mother HOG doesn't even recognize the position anymore. I'm not 100% sure why this is, I do however have my own opinion. Our Chapter has decided to keep the Road Captain program going as it is the consensus of the Board that Road Captains can and do make our group rides safer. So why do it, why become a Road Captain? I can't speak for everybody but for me it's a way of giving back to our Chapter. I enjoy riding with this group and feel I get more enjoyment then riding alone. I've been riding motorcycles for as long as I can remember and feel qualified to help protect the group or Chapter. I'll admit that I've learned more about riding than I expected! Being a Road Captain has without a doubt made me a better rider. So becoming a Road Captain should ultimately be a commitment to becoming a safer rider and willing to learn and help others become safer riders. The demand on you, responsibilities and extra time expected of you will be far greater than any rewards you might expect! Again, for me, it's the feeling of knowing I'm helping make our Chapter a little safer than without me! So as the Head Road Captain what is expected of me? The easy answer is planning some of the rides and make sure our regular rides our covered. What's not expected of this position is the training and selection of new Road Captains! The first thing I want to say is not everyone is cut out to be a Road Captain! Plus not everyone wants to be a Road Captain! My wish is everyone in our Chapter becomes a Road Captain! Imagine how much safer our Chapter would be with every rider making that kind of commitment? So what is my role in this? It's really pretty simple, I simply make sure the qualifications set forth by the Chapters Board are adhered to. We have some simple pre-qualifications like time in Chapter and training in different positions we request all Road Captain candidates follow. Once these qualifications are met I and the Director discuss the candidates strengths and weaknesses before patching the member. All of this is simply designed to ensure the candidate is aware and has a chance to learn some new riding skills. We, the Chapter, hopes this gives us a good Road Captain ready to start help lead our group rides. Please be assured that me personally would help anyone that asks for help! I've asked all my Road Captains to mentor other Chapter members so don't be afraid to ask any of my Road Captains as well for help. The bottom line is this, Road Captains make our group rides safer! Their our guidelines we follow to make sure we don't set up the member for failure. If you have any questions about becoming a Road Captain please feel free to ask me. Once again, it is truly my desire that everyone that wants to be a Road Captain gets the chance to become one!





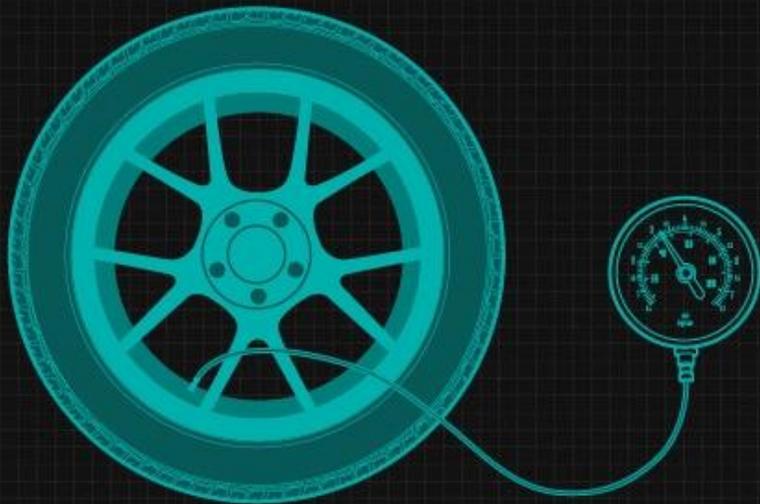
Safety First

By: Paul Boland, Safety Officer

With the temperatures still fluctuating where it's in the 80's at the beginning of the week it could drop down in the 20's by the end of the week, I want to reiterate the importance of checking your tire pressure frequently. Time and temperature can both have an effect on tire pressure with temperature being the most sensitive. It is normal for a tire to lose 1 p.s.i. a month and change 1 p.s.i. for every 10 degrees of temperature change. So, for example in September on an 80 degree day you inflate your front tire to 36 p.s.i. as required by the owners' manual then you don't check your tire pressure again until March on a 20 degree day, your tire pressure will be around 24 p.s.i.. That equates to 6 psi loss for 6 months at 1 p.s.i. a month and another 6 p.s.i. for the 60 degree temperature swing. Now hopefully you do not wait 6 months to check your tire pressure, but even the 6 p.s.i. loss from the temperature change is enough to have an adverse effect on your tire most notably fuel mileage and tire wear. So, remember to check your tire pressures frequently.

HOW TO CHECK TIRE PRESSURE

1. Start with cold tires
2. Check the manufacturer's recommended PSI
3. Write down each tire's PSI
4. Check tire pressure with your gauge
5. Fill to recommended PSI
6. Repeat every month





REPORT

Membership Corner

Current Active Members

74

27,114

Total Chapter Miles



Director, Jim Henderson
Assistant Director, Brett Mathais
Secretary, Paula Howerton
Treasure, Marilyn Peacock
Activities Officer, Chris Shay
Membership Officer, Rick Swink
Ladies of Harley Officer, Heather Mathais
TAMA Representative, Jeff Williamson
Sr. Road Captain, Vincent Howerton
Safety Officer, Paul Boland

Editor, Theresa Petrowicz
Webmaster, Ken Reynard
Social Media, Ethan Henderson
Photographer, Bill Neff
Member at Large, John Tignor
Member at Large, James Petrowicz





2nd Annual HER Shelter

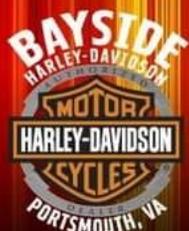
POKER = RUN =

**SATURDAY
MAY 14, 2022**

Registration: 9am - 1st vehicle out: 9:45am - Last vehicle out : 10:15am

50/50 raffle * Silent Auction * Live Music * Food Trucks *
Best Hand/Worst Hand * Fundraiser for HER Shelter

2211 FREDERICK BLVD. PORTSMOUTH, VA



April 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 HOG Board Meeting 6:30pm	2 ASM Training
3 Sunday Funday Ride 9:30am	4	5	6	7	8	9 LOH Easter Poker Run 9:30am
10 Sunday Funday Ride 9:30am	11	12	13	14	15 HOG Chapter Meeting 6:30pm	16 DEMO DAYS
17 DEMO DAYS	18	19	20	21	22	23 LOH Ride to Farmville 9:30 am
OBX BIKE WEEK						
24 Sunday Funday Ride 9:30am	25	26	27	28	29	30

May 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:30 am Sunday Funday Ride	2	3	4	5	6 6:30 PM HOE Board Meeting	7 7:30 am LOH Ladies Day Out *LOH Members Only*
8 9:30 am Sunday Funday Ride	9	10	11	12	13	14 9:30 am LOH HER Shelter Poker Run 9:00 am 6th Annual Gold Star Mothers Poker Run
15 9:30 am Sunday Funday Ride	16	17	18 Myrtle Beach Bike Week		20 6:30pm HOE Chapter Meeting	21
22 9:30 am Sunday Funday Ride	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 9:30 am Sunday Funday Ride Rolling to Remember - Washington D.C.	30	31				



Thank you Cynthia and Maurice Slaughter for hosting our HOG Chapter at Bayside!

