

Desert Wind

**NO MATTER
WHERE YOU WANDER,
YOU'RE HOME.**



Join H.O.G. and join an international family of enthusiasts who share a common passion to ride.



Feb/Mar/2005
Vol 11 Issue 1

Delivery of Christmas food Basket in Trona



HARLEY OWNERS GROUP #1665 ANTELOPE VALLEY CA CHAPTER, RIDGECREST ACTIVITY GROUP

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Safety Officer	David Hunter	(760) 375-3402
Webmaster	Don McCauley	(760) 446-5310

ARTICLE XIV-DISCLAIMER

While the local chapter may be affiliated with H.O.G., it remains a separate, independent entity responsible for its actions. All Harley Owners Group members and their guest(s) participate voluntarily and at their own risk in H.O.G. and H.O.G. chapter activities. The sponsoring dealer, H.O.G. and Harley-Davidson Motor Company and its subsidiaries and local chapter officers are and shall be released and held harmless by the member/guest for any injury or loss to the member/guest, or to his or her property which may result from participation in H.O.G. and H.O.G. chapter activities. This means that each and every member of the local chapter and their guest(s) have no ground for legal action against the sponsoring dealer, H.O.G., Harley-Davidson Motor Company, its subsidiaries and their employees for any injury resulting to them or their property.



Director
Dennis Linck

Happy 2005 to All,

I want to welcome back all of the “old” members and welcome our new members. Please remember this is a great group because everyone participates and makes it **FUN**.

Can you believe it is not only a new year but that one month of that new year has already passed! Hope 2005 has been good to all of you so far and that we as a club can continue to have fun and enjoy riding the highway and byways of our beautiful county.

We have a lot of things that need to be taken care of in the early days and weeks of this new year. We are currently working on the activities plans for this year and are looking for inputs from all of you on what kinds of rides you want to participate in this year and some ideas of great places to ride to and visit. The first unofficial group ride of the year went on last week with the annual Cabin Fever run to Beatty. Debby and I didn't get a chance to join in on the ride but I am sure fun was had by all. I hope some of the folks who made the trip were able to bring home some of the casino's money, I know I left a little over there on my last trip. We would like to get together after the February meeting and discuss events for the remainder of the calendar year. We would like to include new and additional restaurants for breakfast and dinner rides, possibly a trip to the coast this summer, and ?? If you have any ideas please give George Fields a call or an email (375-6934 gfields@ridgenet.net) and we will get them on the calendar.

Since we are entering a new year we need to vote for the two charities that we are going to support this year. Last year, actually the last two years, we have supported the local Toys For Tots program and the Woman's Shelter – High Desert. You all have the opportunity to nominate a charity for the ballot to support your nominee in the voting that will be carried out at the February and March meetings. After the March meeting we will count up the ballots and announce the two lucky charities we will be supporting in 2005.

Last but not least, it is that time of year to renew your memberships. We need to have all of you who wish to renew fill out new applications, present your national HOG card and pay your dues prior to the first of March. If you don't renew by 1 March, Debby will have to drop your name from the roster and from the newsletter

mailing list. The dues are again 20.00 for the year.

Hope to see all of you on the road and remember to never ride faster than your Guardian Angel can fly

Dennis

Editors Note: I was informed at last Sunday's AV HOG meeting that we would be getting only 15 or so hard copies of the AV Newsletter each month. Their newsletter is available at the members only website. All AV hard copies will be available at our monthly meeting on a first come first serve basis. They will no longer be mailed out to each of you that have access to the internet as we will not have enough to send to everyone. I will mail one to those without internet access based on the roster, provided I have enough.



Asst. Director
Stan Austin

A big Hello to all! It is hard to believe we are already into February 2005. I hope the New Year is shaping up good for all of you and things are looking bright. As most of you know this years "Cabin Fever Run" is over, (Feb. 5). At the time I wrote this we had not left yet but I know we did have fun, as we always do. It has come to mean that winter in the desert is fading and it is time to get your bike into shape for another year. In January three of us rode to the Lancaster Harley shop and got some new tires for our bikes, they were on sale. We were treated very well, the shop crew got the work done fast, and they washed our bikes. What a deal! While waiting we walked to a nearby restaurant and had lunch. We shopped around the HD goodies and Ron came out to greet us. It was a good ride and a good day. (Ron cleans up nice when he puts on the suit.) I am looking forward to a great year and I hope all of you pitch in and have some fun too. The only thing holding you back is you. Sometimes I get a call to go for a ride and my first impulse is to say no, but when I push the no aside and go I come home glad I went. Don't let, "not today" stop you from going on that ride. Well, I will say good-by for now and will see you all at meetings and rides this year. ***Stanley M. Austin***



Activities Officer *George Fields*

I never know how to start, so I'll just get right to it. For February the AV after meeting ride is to Randsburg, I'm sure they will be checking to see if they still have more dollars than we do on the ceiling at the Silver Dollar. Whiskey Flats will be happening the 18-20 weekend, which coincides nicely with the ABATE L58's meeting at the Lode in Wofford Heights on Sunday. And don't forget Valentines Day cause baby always needs more chrome.

Now then March things start to pick up a bit. Daytona Bike Week is the 4-13th and Biketober West is 16-20th. AV after meeting ride goes to Calico. I haven't heard a date yet but the Trona Spring Fling usually happens about the third week of this month. And our annual St. Pats overnighter to Beatty will the 18-19th. Anybody have an ideal about a Saturday ride in the area? We've been to Scotty's Castle, Goldpoint, the rabbit place, Goldfield and Panamint Springs.

When April gets here it's so nice outside that the fair weather bikers start coming out. And here's what we have to chose from; Arizona Bike Week in Scottsdale 1-10th, AHDRA in Phoenix 2-3rd, AV HOG ride to Chino Air Museum, Ride For the Heart CA/AZ 7-10th, Yuma Prison Run 15-17th, Freedom Rally in Sacramento 16-18th and Laughlin River Run 20-24th.

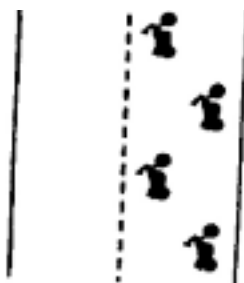
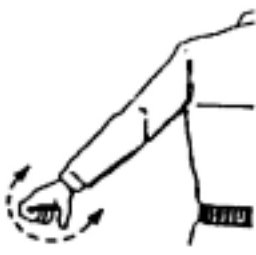
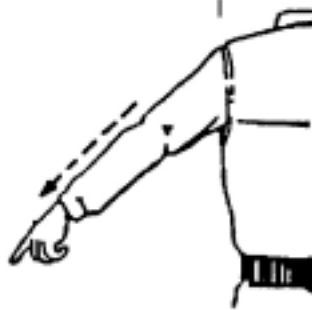
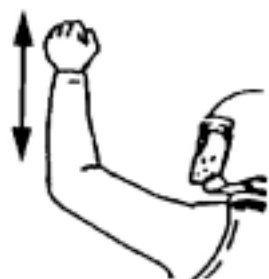
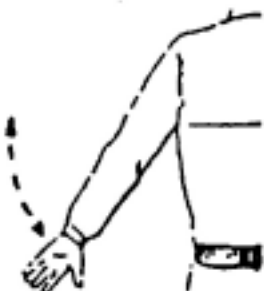
Farther down the year we have a few people talking of making the Sturgis run again and I already have reservations for Myrtle Beach Bike Week for May 15 to 22nd. I'm still looking for some for some hardy souls who can handle 2 weeks of beer, beaches, the dragons tail and about 5000 miles of rain and sunburn.

Lastly. After the February meeting I plan to have an activities planning session. This is to put your what, when and where on the calendar. We will be having the breakfast and dinner rides again, so think of some places to ride and eat.

Young riders pick a destination and go... Old riders pick a direction and go

Anyone interested in riding over to the AV California Poppy Reserve should visit their website listed below. The poppies will be blooming SOON!

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=22046





Road Captain Coordinator

Some people were asking what it takes to be a Road Captain and what the responsibilities are so I thought I would touch on that here. To be a road captain it only takes one requirement from the HOG National organization and that is to take the Experienced Rider Course. After that it only takes a willingness to participate in setting up and helping the group safely complete a ride. Our charter calls for a Road Captain to lead all of our RAG sanctioned rides, but in essence, you don't even have to be the first bike to lead the ride, but you need to set up the ground rules and ensure whoever you have in front knows those rules. Some rules could be that the group will follow the speed limit or five under due to a less experienced rider in the group, or if you have all experienced riders and fairly known traveled road(s) you may set it where the group agrees to. The lead bike and the road captain should know the roads and stops that are to be made. I assume that the lead bike, if not a road captain, will have traveled the route recently on a pre-ride and will know the roads fairly well. The road captain is responsible for making sure that the group arrives safely, or if a break down or mishap occurs they are there to assist in any way they can.

If you are interested in taking the challenge, see me after the meeting or contact me and let's get you started.

I'd also like to offer a warm welcome to Doug and Judy Gerard to the group. On a nice weekend day in January, a few of us went down to Ventura H-D and helped Doug start the break-in of his new Road King Classic on the ride home. A beautiful day for a ride! I was sorry for Judy as she had to drive the car and wasn't able to ride on her Night Train.

For those of you who didn't make the trip to Lake Diaz for our tenth year anniversary picnic, you missed a great time. At least I hope all that went up had a good time and a good ride. We even had one of those 'group ride' events getting started that the riders in our group should all be on the lookout for – if someone starts to have problems, everyone needs to be patient and make sure that all members are taken care of and able to complete the ride and make it back home, or at least make it to where they have help available.

I went down to the A/V HOG Chapter meeting in November and I was getting the feeling that they have been having some difficulties on some of their group rides. I think they had some new riders that didn't quite follow some safety rules that were laid out. In our group rides, we don't have near the size of their groups, but we still need to keep in mind the safety of the whole group. As road captains, we are taking responsibility for getting the group safely to a destination. I

want everyone to have fun, and as long as all the riders feel comfortable with the way the group handles themselves, there shouldn't be any problems.

I was watching a TV show where some of the crotch rocket riders are making videos of themselves doing stunts (hand stands, wheelies, and what not) on the public streets and freeways and scaring the car drivers, and one guys attitude was, "we aren't scared so why should they be." I didn't care for the attitude the guy showed to other people sharing the road; I felt that if he wants to go out and endanger himself and his friends, do it on a non-public road. Of course that's what makes it "fun" for the guys doing the stunts and making the videos.

After being asked last meeting about the responsibilities of being a road captain, I looked around on the web and asked some people what they have their road captains doing and here are the results: The A/V Chapter has completed a hand book for road captains and I will get some copies to distribute to our members. The first priority is safety of the group. They may be asked to go out and pre-ride events, plan the stops and then lead or ride sweep on the rides. They don't have to pre-ride all the rides, but they could research on maps where the stops would be and plan it that way.

As a group ride leader they are responsible for setting the speed to the capability of the least experienced rider, scanning and warning others of any potential hazard and maintaining group safety and integrity.

As a sweep rider, they are responsible for ensuring all riders keep up and communicate in a predetermined way to the lead rider when there is a problem. Again, group integrity. They also try to keep on eye on things that may drop off bikes and that sort of incident too.

Sorry I missed the group ride to Trona with the Thanksgiving basket, but I sure look forward to going over for the Christmas basket.

I want to take this time to thank all the members that pitched in and helped out with our Toys for Tots charity Car and Motorcycle Show on the 4th. We went out and while having a good time with the Car Club raised enough to help the Marines support about 1000 families (last years number and we are hoping to be above that this year). Ride Safe, Rex





Please convey to all how much I appreciate their attendance at my retirement party. We had a great time and lots of good food. You are all super friends whom I will always be proud to know and ride with.

Dave Campbell





Safety Officer
Dave Hunter



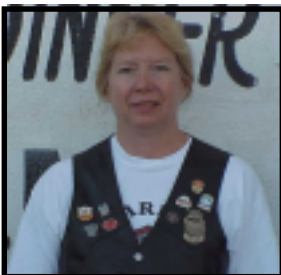
Ladies of Harley
Billee Burchett

Hi all.

Each year the RAG votes on two charities we wish to support that year. The voting will occur at the February meeting AND the March meeting (but you can only vote once). The list includes an “Other” space, so if your chosen charity is not listed, please feel free to add it.

In addition to attending the Activities Planning Meeting that George has set up after the February RAG meeting, please feel free to see me or e-mail any LOH ideas you have. One activity we could help more with is with the Christmas party. I bet Deb would truly appreciate that! I’m sure there are lots of other ways we can help out with the RAG events and also come up with some new fun “traditions.”

Thanks, Billee.



Historian
Deb Milam



Secretary/Treasurer
Debby Linck

Ridgecrest Activity Group
Antelope Valley Chapter Meeting Minutes
11 Dec 2004

The meeting was called to order at 0809 hours by Director Dennis Linck at Charlie's (Carriage Inn) in Ridgecrest.

Director Dennis Linck –

1. Elk's Xmas Parade takes place after the meeting. Meet behind Home Depot at 0930 hours.
2. Xmas Party is tonight at 1800 hours at the VFW Hall.
3. Thanks to those who helped deliver the Thanksgiving Food Basket. We had 22 bikes participate.

Secretary Debby Linck –

1. New rosters after membership renewals completed.

Asst. Director Stan Austin–

1. AV newsletter available.
2. Toy Run in Cal City today.

Activities Officer George Fields –

1. An activities meeting will be held after the holidays. Date, time and location TBD.
2. 8 Jan 2005 Dave Campbell's retirement party at the VFW Hall at 1600 hours.

Editor Paul Liesman –

1. RAG newsletter available today.

Safety Officer Dave Hunter -

1. Be aware of frost and ice on the roads.
2. Local issue: Paintball guns have been fired at motorcycles and cars in town. Be aware.

Road Captain Rex Walraven –

1. Road Captain Requirement – Need the Experienced Riders course.

See Rex if interested in becoming a Road Captain.

LOH Billee Burchett –

1. We will be passing the hat today for the family we've adopted for Xmas.
 - a. Preference, by show of hands, was Xmas food basket delivery on Sun. 19 Dec.
2. Would like to have a LOH planning meeting in Jan.

Photographer Dwight Furnish – Nothing to report.

Historian Deb Milam – Not present.

Webmaster Don McCauley -

1. Explained where officer info is at on the website.

New Business:

1. None.

Member/Guest Comments:

1. Tom Lara – RAG member, Tony Jaime, to be representative on the State ABATE Board

Old Business:

Reminder – Next board meeting is Fri. 7 Jan. at location TBD. Next general meeting will be on Sat. 8 Jan. at 0900 hours at Charlie's in the Carriage Inn.

Meeting was adjourned at 0845 hours.

Ridgecrest Activity Group

Antelope Valley Chapter Meeting Minutes

8 Jan 2005

The meeting was called to order at 0911 hours by Director Dennis Linck at Charlie's (Carriage Inn) in Ridgecrest.

Director Dennis Linck –

4. Happy New Year to all members.
5. Activities Meeting , date TBD, Chris and Dave Hunter's house.
6. Reminder: Dave Campbell's retirement party tonight at the VFW Hall at 1600 hours.
7. Voting for this year's charities will be at the Feb. and Mar. meetings.

8. Do we want to continue to meet at Charlie's? By show of hands, decision is yes.
9. All are welcome at board meetings.
10. Website Policy:
 - a. We'll post open events.
 - b. We will NOT post other club's meetings or events on our site
11. Thanks to all who helped with the Toys for Tots Car and Motorcycle Show in Dec.
12. Meeting Time Change – change to 0800 with warmer weather or stay at 0900 all year? Show hands indicated we will stay with 0900 meeting time all year.

Secretary Debby Linck –

2. Membership renewal forms are available. Renewals due by 1 March.
3. Please make sure you have signed in on the sign-in sheet.

Asst. Director Stan Austin –

3. Happy New Year to all.
4. Would like to get ideas from members for a Poker ride this year.

Activities Officer George Fields – Not present.

Editor Paul Liesman –

2. AV newsletter is available on the table up front.
3. Deadline for next RAG newsletter is 5 Feb.

Safety Officer Dave Hunter-

3. There will be an Experienced Riders Course this spring in Bakersfield. Cost will be \$75. Date is TBD.
4. Lancaster Shop currently has a special on tires.

Road Captain Rex Walraven –

1. Need volunteers to be Road Captains. Need to have the Experienced Riders Course.
2. Need to remind folks that non-members joining us on rides need to fill out a Release of Liability Form.

LOH Billee Burchett –

3. Thanks to Deb Milam for shopping for the Thanksgiving & Christmas Food Baskets
4. Reviewed list of charities from last year
5. Vote on this year's charities in Feb and Mar. 1 Vote per member.
6. LOH activities meeting will be held in conjunction with chapter activities meeting.
7. Women joining National HOG do not get automatic membership in LOH, must remember to check the LOH box when joining or renewing.

8. This coming Thurs Night – High Desert Cares, tickets at Lou’s Hallmark 1900 hours at the Elk’s Lodge to benefit Tsunami victims
9. Discussed idea of swapping H-D shirts that we get that aren’t always the correct size (such as those won at various events).

Photographer Dwight Furnish – Not present.

Historian Deb Milam –

1. Would like to get copies of any newspaper articles that talk about our events
2. Please give her any pictures you have of recent activities

Webmaster Don McCauley -

1. Pictures from the Xmas Parade, Toys for Tots and Xmas Party on now on the website

New Business:

1. Presented Lancaster HD former owner, Bill Buchanan, with RAG Group Photo in appreciation of the time and support he gave to RAG.

Member/Guest Comments:

2. Dave Hunter – ABCs of Touring begins again with the new year. Easy Rider Bike Show this weekend.
3. Ron-
 - a. Land plan for R/C satellite shop is done. Hope for approval in approx. 2 weeks.
 - b. Thanks to all who helped with the MDA/Victory Ride.
 - c. Next year Victory Ride will be wrapped into Thunder on the Lot. No separate ride. It will be 2 day event with local bands.
 - d. Non HD bikes have become an issue at AV HOG closed rides.
 - e. Lancaster shop will start bike rental program around the end of Jan 05.
4. Bland- Would like to put together a non-sanction “Cabin Fever” ride at the end of Jan or beginning of Feb. Contact Bland if you’re interested.

Old Business:

Reminder – Next board meeting is Fri. 11 Dec. at location TBD. Next general meeting will be on Sat. 12 Feb. at 0900 hours at Charlie’s in the Carriage Inn.

Meeting was adjourned at 1000 hours.

In response to concerns relating to the increased operation of mini-motorcycles (pocket bikes) on California's streets and highways, the California Highway Patrol (CHP) provides the following guidelines with the intent to enhance public safety on all roadways and to obtain compliance with the California Vehicle Code (VC) (www.leginfo.ca.gov/calaw.html).

These mini-motorcycles or "pocket bikes" are not manufactured with a conforming 17-digit vehicle identification number (VIN), indicating the manufacturers intended they be operated on private property (with owner's permission) and not for use on a highway.

Since they are not manufactured with a 17-digit VIN, they cannot get registered as a legal motor vehicle or as an off-highway vehicle, which makes them **illegal for use on the highways or as an off-highway vehicle**.

Definition of Highway

- "Highway" as defined in Section 360 VC "is a way or place of whatever nature, publicly maintained and open to the use of the public for purposes of vehicular travel. Highway includes street."

Gasoline-Powered Mini-Motorcycles

A gasoline-powered mini-motorcycle is a "motor-driven cycle" pursuant to Section 405 VC. As such, it is subject to all vehicle equipment, registration, driver license (M1 endorsement), and helmet requirements stated in the VC.

Electric-Powered Mini-Motorcycles

An electric-powered mini-motorcycle is a "motorized bicycle" pursuant to Section 406(a) VC. As such, it is subject to all vehicle equipment, driver license (M2 endorsement), and helmet requirements stated in the VC.

Frequently Asked Questions

What if my pocket bike's engine is less than 50cc? I've heard that they are not required to be registered and are street legal.

This is incorrect information. There is nothing in the vehicle code that allows a motor-driven cycle to be operated on the highway that is less than 50cc's. Any motor-driven cycle less than 150cc's is required to be registered, meet the equipment standards of a motorcycle, and the operator must have an M1 driver license.

What will happen if I'm stopped by the CHP while riding my pocket bike on the streets?

If a person is stopped by a CHP officer while operating a mini-motorcycle (pocket bike) on a highway, that person may be cited for no driver's license or lack of proper motorcycle endorsement, unsafe vehicle, or helmet use, and the bike may be impounded which would require tow and storage fees be paid by the violator.

My pocket bike was advertised as a toy, so wouldn't that make them legal to ride?

No. These vehicles can travel at high speeds (20 to 50 mph) and **ARE NOT TOYS**. They are motor-driven cycles.

I thought my pocket bike was a motorized scooter.

No. Pocket bikes meet the definition of motor-driven cycles and within the definition of “motorized scooter”, Section 407.5 VC, it states that “. . . for the purposes of this section, . . . a motor-driven cycle, as defined in Section 405 VC, . . . is not a motorized scooter.”

Where can I legally ride my pocket bike?

The pocket bikes were manufactured for paved closed circuit racing courses. They may only be operated on private property with the owner’s permission.

Can my 10-year old child ride a motorized scooter?

The operator of a motorized scooter must be at least 16 years of age even if the motorized scooter is powered by electric energy.



Photographer
Dwight Furnish

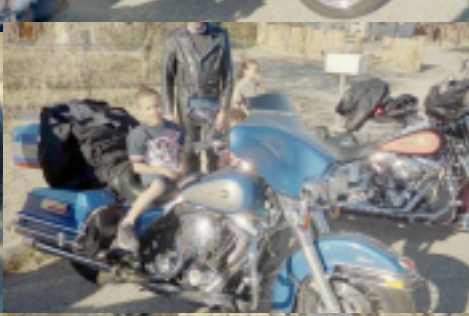


Web Master
Don McCauley



Editor
Paul Liesman

Christmas Basket Delivery to Trona Family



Happy Birthday!!

February

No Photo Available

Gerry Austin

No Photo Available

Mary Austin



Isaac Bridgeman

No Photo Available

Frank Huereque

No Photo Available

K. C. Slone



Mike Stanwood

No Photo Available

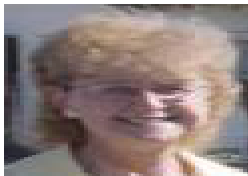
March

Wade Tallman

Char Enger



John Gamel



Judy McCauley

No Photo Available

Doug Smith

Motorcyle Web Links

HD of Lancaster

<http://www.hdoflanaster.com/lancasterhome.html>

AV Hog Public Site

<http://www.avhog.com>

AV Hog Members Site

<http://www.avhog.us>

HD Home Page

http://www.harley-davidson.com/hd_main/hd_home.jsp

Motorcyclists Rights

<http://www.abate.org/>

Motorcycle Safety Foundation

<http://www.msf-usa.org/>

Ridgecrest Activity Group

<http://www.ridgecresthog.com/>

HOG Chapters

<http://hogchapters.net>

Maps

<http://www.mapquest.com/>

California Department of Transportation – Road and Highway Info

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/>

Harley Owners Group

<http://www.hog.com>

Lancaster HD Store Hours

Monday	8:00AM - 8:00PM
Tuesday	8:00AM - 8:00PM
Wednesday	8:00AM - 8:00PM
Thursday	8:00AM - 8:00PM
Friday	8:00AM - 8:00PM
Saturday	8:00AM - 7:00PM
Sunday	10:00AM - 5:00PM



320 Dawn Ct.
Ridgecrest, CA 93555