

# Desert Wind



**MORE THAN 900,000 REASONS ▶**

Love to ride? We know how you feel. Join H.O.G. and become part of hundreds of thousands of others who feel the same way.

Dec/2006-Jan/2007  
Vol 12 Issue 6

## *In Memory of Fallen Friends*



*Richard  
"Rich"  
Newton  
1940-2006*



*Lionel  
"Crash"  
Begin  
1935-2006*

R.I.P.

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

**Sponsor:  
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Lancaster, California 93536  
(661) 948-5959**

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<u>Road Capt. Coord.</u>	Rex Walraven	(760) 384-8537
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**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  
*Stan Austin*

The year 2006 is ending! Now is the time to look back on all we have done this past year and to plan out our New Year ahead. My wife and I made many trips this past year, (Laughlin, Las Vegas, Billings, Sturgis) and visited many places, Yellow Stone Park, The Beartooth Pass, The Little Bighorn, the Sturgis area and all of the sights there. We put twenty thousand miles on our bike, riding to many places in eight western states. We had to be towed once and due to the remote area of Nevada we were at, we had to have a truck and trailer come and get us. What a time we had. We traveled with friends and sometimes traveled alone. The main thing is that we rode our Harley. I hope all of you can get out for rides this coming year.

It has been a sad year with the loss of two members and the illness of several others. Sad times must come and go both in the group and in our personal lives. But we most often remember the good times. To those in the group who are still having medical issues we wish you a heart felt, "Get Well Soon!"

All of the December things are going strong, the Toys for Tots, last meeting of the year, Christmas Parade, our Christmas party and don't forget all of the other Christmas things like work and family too. We did a fine job of raising money for charity this year and took food baskets to our families in Trona. The group has grown to around eighty-eight. I think we will grow more and do more in the coming year. We are already planning rides and things for next year. If anyone wants to be a part of the board please let me know, we will take all the help we can get. I hope to see you all soon at meetings and/or rides. Merry Christmas and I hope you have a Happy, Healthy, and Prosperous New Year.



Asst. Director  
*Dave Hunter*

Well winter finally seems to be here. Remember to plan your rides and be prepared for the weather to change. Do you have adequate cold weather gear and is it still in good shape? Also watch out for Ice on the roadways. Bridges will freeze sooner than the rest of the road and several of the gutters in Ridgecrest have water in them year round that will freeze. Also be on the lookout for leaves and other debris.

The Toys for Tots car and motorcycle show was a great success. Thanks to all that helped by soliciting raffle prizes, working at the show, or by bringing their bikes down for all to see. A special thanks goes out to those in the club that donated prizes for the raffle. Also remember to thank the local businesses that donated merchandise for the raffle, for without their support the show would not be possible.

We are a non-political group but I highly encourage each and every one of you to join a Motorcycle Rights Organization (MRO). There are a lot of changes coming in the very near future that will affect each and every one of us that ride. In addition to excessively loud pipes having a negative impact on motorcyclists in general, the California Air Resources Board is drafting plans to begin requiring annual equipment inspections and smog checks of motorcycles. They will be inspecting bikes for non-compliant exhaust systems, aftermarket carburetors, and missing or inoperative emissions equipment as well as the basic smog check. Now is the time to protect our right to ride for if we fail to act them we are doomed to ever more restrictive legislation until the motorcycle will cease to exist.

Enough about that. Soon it will be time to ride to begin riding to Death Valley for breakfast. February and the Cabin Fever run are right around the corner as well. After the first of the year we will hold our ride planning meeting. If you have a destination in mind suggest it. If you need help with the planning just ask. Several of us are more that willing to help plan a ride anywhere anyone wants to go. If you are planning a trip longer than the weekend and want company or if you want to go it alone but are not sure what to expect, just ask. Several members have taken multi-day trips and are willing to share their lessons learned.

Club membership is currently in the mid to high 80s. This would not be possible if it was not for the fact that R.A.G. H.O.G is a fun group to be a part of. And this is because every member sets out to do one thing on every ride, Have fun. Having fun is what we do and you are responsible for that fun. Thank you all for making R.A.G H.O.G the best organization I have ever had the privilege of belonging to.

See you all next year.

Dave Hunter



Ladies of Harley  
*Chris Hunter*

Thanks to all that have helped support our Holiday Food Basket Program. This year we have two families in Trona. The first family is a recently widowed mother of two, a 12 Year old girl and a 10 year old boy. The second Family has four children, three boys 15, 14, and 11, and one girl 11.

On the 18th I followed eight bikes to Trona for the delivery the Thanksgiving baskets. We were warmly welcomed by both families and had a great trip. Afterwards several of us stopped by the Trails Drive-In for lunch.

The Christmas baskets will be delivered on Saturday the 23rd of December. Meet at the Eastridge 76 (Formerly the Eastridge Chevron) on East Ridgecrest Blvd at 1000 for the pre-ride brief. We will depart for Trona NLT 1030.

This has been a great year and I want to thank everyone that has helped me with all of the year's activities. I wish that I could act continue to lead the Ladies of Harley next year but due to problems with my back (Sciatic Nerve) I have decided to step down. If you would like to fill the position please let Stan Austin or myself know. Again thank you for a great year.

Chris



Secretary/  
Treasurer  
*Paul Liesman*

**Ridgecrest Activity Group  
Antelope Valley Chapter Meeting Minutes  
14 October 2006**

The meeting was called to order at 0810 hours by Director Stan Austin at Charlie's (Carriage Inn) in Ridgecrest.

**Director** Stan Austin - Parade is today, booths for Toy's for Tots will be 1st come 1st serve, next cruise night has been moved to Cold Stone Creamery, then to Casa Java, club picnic is Nov. 4 at Lake Diaz, Nov. meeting will start at 9 am, sign up sheet for patches for Crash & Rich

**Secretary/Treasurer** Paul Liesman – Account balance is over \$3164.69. Membership is 84.

**Asst. Director** Dave Hunter – Memorial ride for Rich will be in Nov., poker run on picnic day, can get Patriot Guard for Crash

**Activities Officer** George Fields – Morro Bay ride, Beatty Days, picnic, AV going to Reagan Library

**Editor** Tracy Ackeret – Newsletter on table, needs more input from members

**Safety Officer** Tony Jaime- Absent.

**Road Captain** Rex Walraven – He needs to coordinate road captains for rides

**LOH** Chris Hunter – Absent

**Photographer** Judy McCauley – Smile for the camera

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Continued from page 6

**Historian** Ann Haber – Photo book being passed around

**Webmaster** Don McCauley - nothing new

**PAO** Wade Tallman - motioned to keep Crash & Rich on membership for all time (passed), need to push membership flyers

**New Business:** None

**Member/Guest Comments:**

Mike Moore: leave for Morrow Bay next Friday at 0700.

**Old Business:** Reminder – Next board meeting is Fri. 10 Nov. at TBD. Next general meeting will be on Sat. 11 Nov. at 0900 hours at Charlie's in the Carriage Inn.

Meeting was adjourned at 0900 hours.

**Ridgecrest Activity Group**  
**Antelope Valley Chapter Meeting Minutes**  
**11 Nov 2006**

The meeting was called to order at 0920 hours by Director Stan Austin at Charlie's (Carriage Inn) in Ridgecrest.

**Director** Stan Austin – memorial patches for Crash & Rich have been ordered and are \$4 each.  
7" bulldog stuffed animals are \$12 each  
Tomorrow is Rich Newton's Celebration of Life poker run and golf tournament  
Next month's meeting will begin at 0800 because of the Christmas parade

**Secretary/Treasurer** Paul Liesman – Current balance is \$923.75, current membership is 88

**Asst. Director** Dave Hunter – Will be a parking lot poker run for Rich because of insurance reasons  
Brought in Toys for Tots flags, decals, cups

**Activities Officer** George Fields - tomorrow's poker hand will be \$20

**Editor** Tracy Ackeret – need newsletter inputs, will email deadline

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Webmaster  
**Don McCauley**



And His Lovely  
Co-Star

Photographer  
**Judy McCauley**

*Hello!*

*Added to the website this month has been "Crash's ride". Extra pictures thanks to Robert!*

*Morro Bay...thanks to Josh Wilkerson, Sandra Moore and Susan Brandt!*

*The picnic is now up with added pictures from Mike & Sandra, and John & Susan.*

*Stan has given us pictures for the "Thanksgiving Basket".*

*We also have a few pictures to put up for the 2 charities this year... "Make a Wish" and "High Desert Cares".*

*Looking forward to "Toys for Tots", the parade and our Christmas Party!!!!*



Editor

*Tracy Ackeret*

Greetings,

When I was first setting down to write this month's newsletter my first attempt at this was not that good. I was tending to rant a bit about some things that have been going on with the RAG. In all the writing I have done over the years I have found that if I set down and start ranting the best thing for me is to just let it flow and write what my thoughts are. Then I take a break from the writing and do something else. In this case, it was put the rest of the newsletter together. Then after I have let the words sink in a bit I go back and rewrite it again.

That way I can at least get what is bugging me off my chest. I have found that it has kept me from putting my foot in my mouth many times. I will not go into what the first attempt at this was about, that is unimportant. I will try to find a solution to what is bugging me though. I think that if you let things fester they will only get worse.

It looks like old man winter has finally found his way onto our doorstep. I for one would rather he did not, however I know that it's good for us to have a bit of bad weather. It makes us appreciate the nice riding weather we have most of the year that much more, so I guess I can put up with a bit of cold weather. Just not to much.

The RAG lost a couple of its members this past year. That always hits home when someone close to you passes away. I have noticed that the older I get the more I have to deal with this. I guess it is a part of getting older. I might not like it but it is something we all have to come to grips with. I think when this happens it makes one stop and think about how their own life is going and what would happen if this was the last day on this green earth. A while ago, I found the following and have tried to live my life this way. I feel that Crash and Rich could both have said this at the pearly gates.

*Life is not a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in a well preserved body.*

*Rather, to skid in broadside, thoroughly used up, totally worn out and loudly proclaiming:*

***Man! What a ride!***

**God speed Rich and Crash!!!**

Tracy (Silk)

# Crashes Goodbye



# RAQ HOG PICNIC



# Monro Bay 06



# Harley T-Shirt Backs (and maybe even a front or two)





Safety Officer  
*Tony Jamie*



Road Capt. Coord.  
*Rex Walraven*



Historian  
*Anne Haber*



Membership/PAO  
*Wade Tallman*



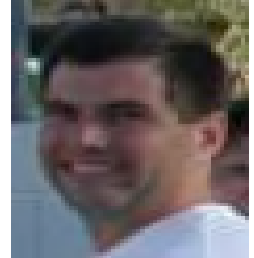
## *December Birthdays*



Stan Austin



Judy Gerard



Bob Haber



Karl Howard



Chris Hunter



Robert Linderman



Mike Moore

## *January Birthdays*



George Fields



Dwight Furnish



Kathleen Hartzell



Tom Lara



Scooter Prosneski

Continued from page 7

**Safety Officer** Tony Jaime - polled who has had CPR training  
Talked about signs of a heart attack, EPA and loud pipes

**Road Captain** Rex Walraven – Talked about HOG requirements for being a road captain

**LOH** Chris Hunter – Handed checks to **IWV Cares** and **Make A Wish Foundation**

**Photographer** Judy McCauley – Has her new camera today

**Historian** Ann Haber – Needs photos for album

**Webmaster** Don McCauley - picnic photos not on website yet  
Mentioned Joe Law is doing well

**PAO** Wade Tallman - Toy's for Tots is Dec 2 in K-Mart parking lot, vendors are allowed  
Sent 150 letters to local business's informing them we would be coming around  
Need volunteer's to solicit the business's

**New Business:** Rollin is home and leaving for Chicago next Friday  
**Visitors:** Sandy (from Palm Springs), Erik Duncan, Dan Clark

**Member/Guest Comments:**

Debby Linck talked about the Dec 9 Xmas party, 6pm cocktails, 7pm dinner, deadline for signing up is Dec 3

Cheryl Polley talked her dad and his heart attack, encouraged everyone to get a check up  
Sonja Shaw talked about her biker bears

**Old Business:** Reminder – Next board meeting is Fri. 08 Dec at location TBD. Next general meeting will be on Sat. 09 Dec at 0800 hours at Charlie's in the Carriage Inn.  
Meeting was adjourned at 1020 hours (10:20 am).

We had a light turnout for the Thanksgiving food baskets to our sponsored families in Trona. 10 bikes made the trip on a beautiful day for a ride. Both of the families were very thankful for our efforts. Some of the kids had their pictures taken on a couple of the bikes. All in all, it was a great day for helping someone in need. Hopefully, we'll have a larger group for the delivery of the Christmas baskets and gifts.


Paul



Activities  
**George Fields**

December 2006

*Monthly Planner*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
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# UNIVERSAL MOTORCYCLE HAND SIGNALS



**Start your engines**



**Stop**



**Go ahead and pass me**



**Bikers ready**



**Hazards on the road**



**Don't pass me**



**Stop your engines**



**Turn off your turn signals**



**Single riding**



**Left turn**



**Slow down**



**Staggered riding**



**Right turn**



**Speed up**



**Time for a pit stop**

# Motorcycle 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.isp](http://www.harley-davidson.com/hd_main/hd_home.isp)

## Motorcyclists Rights

<http://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/>

## Harley Owners Group

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

## California DOT-Road & Highway Info

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

## 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

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