



# Desert Wind

Chapter  
#166501

**Harley Owners Group**  
**Antelope Valley Ridgecrest Chapter**  
**Ridgecrest, CA**

Mar/Apr  
2013  
Volume 19  
Issue 2

Proudly Sponsored by:

Antelope Valley Harley  
Davidson  
1759 West Ave J12  
Lancaster, California  
(661) 948-5959  
[www.antelopevalleyhd.com](http://www.antelopevalleyhd.com)

March Meeting  
Saturday  
March 9, 2013  
09:00AM

April Meeting  
Saturday  
April 13, 2013  
09:00AM

Meetings Held at  
Charlie's in Ridgecrest

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***ANTELOPE VALLEY RIDGECREST  
CHAPTER OFFICERS.***

Director	Tracy Ackeret
Asst. Director	Mike Moore
Treasurer	Sandra Moore
Secretary/PAO	Debby Linck
Activities	Hal Bennett
Editor	Scott Covert
Ladies of Harley	Stella Raymond
	Kim Geiger
Photographer	Judy McCauley
Photographer	Teri Anderson
Historian	Bill Anderson
Safety Officer	Dwight Furnish
Road Capt. Coord	Randy Geiger
Webmaster	Don McCauley
Membership	Debbie Ackeret



**PLATE ARMOUR**

For when you just cant get enough chrome in your life



## Tracy Ackeret Ramblings from Silk



### Greetings once again,

First off I would like to publicly apologize to Scott, he had to wait for my inputs for this newsletter and I am very sorry to have done that to him. He does such a fantastic job of putting together the newsletter and he shouldn't have to worry about running down inputs for it, especially from your director. Hopefully it won't happen again.

Now onto other things, we have had a couple rides this year already. After February's meeting some people rode down to Domingo's in Boron. Deb and I didn't go but I hear once they got there it was good. The weather hasn't seemed to cooperate with us very much this year, but I am hoping that it gets the bad stuff out of the way early so we have wonderful weather the rest of the year for our rides and other fun stuff. From what I hear the Cabin Fever ride was good and had good weather for the first time in a few years. Although I understand that Bland's bike once again had to return to Ridgecrest not of its own power.

This month a lot more of our rides start happening. We will have our monthly after ride meeting to Furnace Creek out in Death Valley. This is always a wonderful ride this time of the year. I don't think we will have many wild flowers again this year but you never know. There are several places to eat once we get to Furnace Creek so everyone that goes will have to decide which place they want to eat at. The following Friday, which is a flex Friday for those who have it off, we will have the first of what I hope will be many of our flex Friday breakfast rides. We put these rides on the calendar so that if people have plans for the weekend they can still get out and have a nice ride Friday morning before the weekend plans. This way we can still get together and have other things going on during the weekend. In March the ride is to Foxy's in Cal City. Not that far of a ride but still a nice ride and a wonderful place to eat. In April the flex Friday breakfast ride will be going down to Victorville and Emma Jeans. I encourage those who can to join us for breakfast on these rides.

At the end of March Mike and Sandra will be leading a ride to the Reagan Library. From the sounds of it this is going to be a very good ride. Most of the riding will be on back roads with a little bit of freeway riding that unfortunately in this case can't be avoided.

Wade has been busy planning our ride to the Monterey Bay in September. I know it's a ways off but we needed to get hotel reservations in place so we were guaranteed to have rooms when we go up there. For those who haven't been to the Monterey Bay it is a fantastic place to visit with lots of things to do. Deb and I are looking forward to this ride.

I have been planning the ride to Sonora Pass that is happening in June. I will have information out on it very soon for those who want to take this ride. This is another one of those very cool rides that Deb and I have taken quite a few times. There is much to see on this road and to boot the plan is to come back through Yosemite. So not only do you get the Sonora Pass but Tioga as well. This is sure to be a very good ride.

So as you can see we have many things planned for this year so get a copy of the calendar, see what rides you want to take and get out there and ride!!!!



PacificCoastNews.com

### Silk





**Mike Moore**  
*Where's the Meat?*



When I think of the Pacific Northwest I think of rain, great seafood, rain, beautiful scenery and rain. Sounds like a great ride doesn't it? Well the region has been calling to us ever since we flew to Seattle a few years ago for Sandra's birthday and we said we would love to ride up there on our Harley. So we decided it was high time to plan it since it had been about four years since our last road trip, I know that's just ridiculous, four years and no road trip! But life happens so me being the map geek that I am broke out my trusty Atlas and started doing one of my favorite things in the world, planning a Harley road trip for Sandra and myself. After months of thinking about routes and destinations I finally came up with a ride plan that would satisfy us both and allow me to check a few things off my bucket list.

Editor's note:

This article will follow below in two parts. The conclusion will be posted in the May/June newsletter.





**Dwight Furnish**  
**Safety Officer**



## Lane Splitting Guidelines

Lane splitting in a safe and prudent manner is not illegal in the state of California. The term splitting, sometimes known as lane sharing, refers to the process of a motorcyclist riding between lanes of stopped or slower moving traffic or moving between lanes to the front of traffic stopped at a traffic light.

Motorcyclist who are competent enough riders to lane split, should follow these general guideline

- 1) Travel at a speed that is no more than 10 MPH faster than other traffic- danger increases at higher speed.
- 2) It is not advisable to lane split when traffic is at 30 mph or faster-danger increases as overall speed increases.
- 3) Typically, it is more desirable to split between the #1 and #2 lanes than between other lanes.
- 4) Consider the total environment in which you are splitting, including the width of the lanes, size of surrounding vehicles, as well as roadway, weather, and lighting conditions.
- 5) Be alert and anticipate possible movements by other road users.

### The R's or "Be-Attitudes" of lane Splitting

Be Reasonable  
Be Responsible  
Be Respectful  
Be aware of all Roadway and traffic conditions.

Dwight.





**Randy Geiger**  
**Road Captain**  
**Coordinator**

*"Mr. I Got Nothing"*



It's that time again; the 2013 riding season is rolling at us head on! With that in mind your board members have put together an aggressive but eclectic ride calendar that should offer something for everyone.

As with all chapter officers your ride captains are volunteers. As the Road Captain Coordinator I appreciate these individuals willingness to take on the associated responsibilities. Their motivation comes from a genuine interest in making each ride safe and fun for all our members. And, I might add your entire board ;( primary and secondary officers) all possess the same characteristic. I have had the privilege of attending the monthly board meetings for about 3 years now and I can assure you that this board takes the collective interests of our entire membership very seriously and I think that's what makes the group so successful. Simply put, we get it and just want everyone to have fun! So, anyone interested in joining the road captain cadre please don't hesitate to contact me or any primary officer. I know we have real depth in riding experience and skill level within our membership; I encourage you to share those qualities with the group!

Many of you may not realize, (I did not until recently) that there is a distinct difference between a "Ride Captain" and a "Ride Leader." I will list some of those differences. Essentially, it is not necessary for a ride captain to lead a ride. The ride captain can be positioned anywhere in the group, but a road captain must be present for it to be a sanctioned chapter ride. As a general practice our road captains lead the chapter rides. But, I can certainly see where an experienced member rider may lead a ride if she or he has a greater level of familiarity about a particular destination and that knowledge clearly enhances the safety and ride experience of the group.

Let's take a look at the differences and shared responsibilities of both categories.

Ride Captain:

- Assists the sponsoring dealer and chapter director in upholding the "Annual Charter for H.O.G. Chapters"
- Assists in planning routes for chapter rides
- Assists in keeping the chapter informed of all H.O.G. programs
- Educates chapter members about group riding techniques
- Informs chapter members of any hand signals used by the chapter on group rides
- Assists in obtaining signed release forms for chapter rides
- Ensures the injury reports are completed and faxed to Harley-Davidson Insurance when accidents occur
- Acts as a guide for organized chapter rides





**Randy Geiger**  
*Road Captain  
Coordinator*

*"Mr. I Got Nothing"*



Ride Captain/Ride Leader:

Be proactive

- o Mentally prepare yourself to lead the ride and consider as many contingencies as possible

- o Plan the ride

Pre-ride the route when possible

Meet and communicate with the group

- o Pre-ride briefings are essential

Be positive, enthusiastic and helpful to riders

- o Understanding your group dynamics is key

Create a fun and safe environment

Consider rider levels, new and experienced



In the interest of brevity I did not expand on the bullet points. I'll cover these and other related items in future articles. I just wanted to fire an opening shot for the approaching ride season. One additional personal observation: as many of you may have noticed at our monthly meetings, the responsibilities of the road captain, road captain coordinator and safety officer are so closely linked they often overlap. All these positions must be constantly mindful of safety issues and how they relate to each ride. Dwight has done an excellent job reminding us of safety concerns encompassing everything from mechanical safety checks, skill development, riding tactics, to environmental awareness. I will echo Dwight's invitation to watch the Group Riding Instructional Video. I've watched it 3 times and have picked up on something new each time.

In the meantime, I am looking forward to serving as your Road Captain Coordinator for another year and enjoying the company of such a great group. I have no doubt given our calendar of events and the makeup of this group we're in for a lot of fun! I just have to figure out a way of keeping a certain member from tainting my coffee with Tabasco sauce or some other hideous tasting substance. (Guess I should quit sticking my finger in his food!) Let's ride, let's have fun, and let's keep the shiny side up!





**Kim Geiger**  
*Ladies of Harley*



Hi Everyone,  
2013 is here! Ladies of Harley is going to be more fun than ever this year! We are going to get more involved and do more STUFF! But we all have to get involved and come up with fun ideas! At the February meeting we added some LOH events to the Calendar:

A SILENT AUCTION (scheduled for the April meeting so bring something cool for those BIG bids!)

LOH SPONSORED POKER RUN at the picnic in Lone Pine

CRUISE NIGHT ON FLEX THURSDAY starting in May \$ ALL PROCEEDS TO LOH \$

Also at our February meeting LOH put out a survey with some ideas, just to see what members might be interested in. The results: (from the 22 we got back...)

Dance Night 9 YES 8 NO 1 MAYBE ( 1 suggested we make it "Dance Lessons")

Impromptu Picnic 15 YES 0 NO 6 MAYBE

Bowling night 17 YES 0 NO 2 MAYBE

Pizza & Movie 20 YES 0 NO 2 MAYBE

(One person suggested a "TOY AUCTION", where toys are donated then auctioned off. (Different than Toys for Tots...) Proceeds could come back to the group.)

*Thank you to all who participated in our survey and shared your ideas.*

Ladies of Harley (LOH) is a program sponsored by the Harley Owners Group to support women motorcycle enthusiasts (both drivers and passengers).

REMEMBER – you don't have to have your own bike to be a LOH member

LOH is not a separate organization within HOG, but was established to encourage women to become more active in HOG and their local chapters.

How do you become a member of Ladies of Harley?

You must first join the National Harley Owners Group.

**Full Membership** Owners of Harley-Davidson motorcycles only. Just supply your VIN.

or

**Associate Membership** Designed for the passenger or family member of an active full member.

Although LOH is free of charge, this benefit is not automatic. If you would like to join, update your membership profile to include LOH.

Ladies of Harley membership also allows you to participate in all the LOH activities at various HOG rallies and events. There are no additional dues required to be a Ladies of Harley member.

(BONUS: You will receive a Ladies of Harley pin and a patch along with all the Harley Owners Group items. You will be identified as a registered L.O.H. member by having the letters L.O.H. on your H.O.G. card!)

See everyone in March!

Don't forget the Silent Auction, bring something fun or interesting that everyone will want and bid lots of money! ☺

Kim





**Debbie Ackeret**

*Membership  
Coordinator*



**Hi Everyone,**

Please file out your forms and bring to the next meeting..... Note - I will have blank forms at the meetings.....

Membership form ( HOG required form) and Membership profile (extra data information not required by HOG but a nice to have) form

Annual dues are now \$25.00 ..... After the March meeting they will have a \$5.00 late fee

Now that we are Our Own Chapter in order for you to be included in the National Roster at HOG

You have to keep your National HOG current. If it is not current I will not be able to include you on the roster.

Thanks

**Silks Lady**



AV HOG Ridgecrest (formerly RAG HOG)  
General Meeting Minutes

Date: 12 Jan 2013

Meeting Called to Order by: Director Tracy Ackeret at 0905 hours

Director, Tracy Ackeret: Membership renewals are being handled by Debbie A. and Sandra. Chapter dues are \$25 for the year. DVD of last years' activities was supposed to be shown at today's meeting, but a DVD player is not available. Don M. will burn copies of the DVD for anyone who wants a copy. AV Chapter meeting is Sun. 3 Feb. Meet at JIB if you want to ride to the meeting. After meeting ride is to the Rock Inn. Based on the submitted surveys from last year there are more breakfast rides, one flex Friday ride per month, after meeting rides approx. May – Sep. Annual survey form is also used to pick our annual charity. Yard sale will be used in place of car wash to raise money for our charity this year. Bring a toy to each meeting, if you can, to support Toys for Tots – get a free raffle ticket for each donated toy. This year is the 110<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Harley-Davidson and 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of HOG. Celebration in Milwaukee 29-31 August. Cal State HOG Rally is in San Diego from 12-15 Sep. Small "Ridgecrest" patches will be available soon as well as Charter member patches. Makay Cliett is now an official chapter member.

Asst Director, Mike Moore: Reagan Library Ride – buy tickets at the door (\$21 or \$18 if over 62 yrs.). It will be an overnight trip. Hotel is about 5 miles away and approximately \$84 per night. It will take about 3 hours for a complete library tour. Introduced guests; Ron and Gary from the shop.

Treasurer, Sandra Moore: \$1000 balance in the checkbook.

Secretary & PAO, Debby Linck: Happy to be your Secretary for this year.

Activities Director, Hal Bennett: After meeting ride to Crazy Otto's in Rosamond. More overnight rides planned for this year. Look at the calendar and make hotel reservations early. Check the message board for the most up-to-date ride information and other info.

LOH, Kim Geiger & Stella Raymond: LOH will be organizing the 2013 Christmas Party. LOH considering setting up monthly meetings to discuss/organize the party. This year the LOH ride will be to Big Sur instead of Solvang.

Road Captain Coordinator, Randy Geiger: Road captain patches are being made. Reagan Library Trip coming up on 30 March – Mike Moore and Randy are the POCs for the ride.

Newsletter Editor, Scott Covert: Need input for the newsletter from members other than the board. 2013 HD Catalog is available to download .

Safety Officer, Dwight Furnish: Discussed passenger safety. State laws require foot pegs for passengers. Things to consider – maturity, safety briefing, practice riding with passenger (it's different!), personal protective gear, Basic Riders course.

Photographer, Judy McCauley & Teri Anderson: Scrapbook for 2012 is being passed around the room. Please provide pictures taken on rides since the photographers don't make every ride themselves.

Membership, Debbie Ackeret: 133 members to date. 47 renewals so far today. Copies of chapter by-laws are available. Ride Calendar available. Newsletters are available. Patches and coins are also available. Welcomed new members.

Web Master, Don McCauley: There will be changes to the website to meet requirements of National HOG so they will provide a link to our website. Report broken links on the website. Please set the date and time on your camera to correct date – makes sorting and organizing the pictures easier.

Historian: Bill & Teri Anderson: Zion Ride on Memorial Day weekend. Will likely stay 1-2 nights in Hurricane, UT. Return on Sun to avoid some of the holiday traffic.

Member comments:

Bland – Cabin Fever Ride 15-18 Feb (Fri. – Mon.). Stagecoach has rooms for \$20 a night. Check message board for info.

Mike M. – Morro Bay ride will be 26-28 Apr. Plans on riding to Sturgis with Debbie and Bruce – is anyone else interested?

Tracy – Sonora Pass ride in June instead of the more traditional Yosemite ride.

Wade – Ride to Monterey Bay the last weekend in Sep. Will be a Thurs – Sun ride.

Marine Corps Representative – Presented the chapter with a Commanders Recognition award for our 2012 Toys for Tots donation. Over 2,250 area children received a total of more than 6,500 donate toys (from all sources).

Ben – First Aid Kit suggestions. See him for catalog.

Bear – Was present at Toys for Tots distribution in Dec. Our donations really do stay in our community.

Amy C. – Looking forward to another great year!

**Other Comments:**

Ron congratulated the group on becoming our own official chapter. He's currently full time at the shop. Thanks to Tracy for staying on as Director for another year.

Notes: The next RAG general meeting will be 02/09/13 at 0900 in Charlie's at the Carriage Inn.



Date: 09 Feb 2013

Meeting Called to Order by: Director Tracy Ackeret at 0900 hours

Director, Tracy Ackeret: Passing Sympathy card around for former member Joel Monteton whose wife, Kelly, passed away earlier this week in an auto accident. Board approved participation in City of Ridgecrest Motorcycle Awareness event. "JP" John Petrie, AV HOG member, passed away – services scheduled for 16 Feb. 3 Mar- meet at JITB for AV meeting, after meeting ride to Temecula. June ride to Sonora Pass flyer will be out sometime this month. Flex Friday rides will start again next month. Make sure you look at the calendar for upcoming ride information. Annual survey forms are available. Yard Sale to benefit our selected charities – see Teri Anderson to donate items. Chapter patches are available. Toys for Tots- continuing to collect toys at each of our monthly meetings; toys stay in our local area; last years HOG contribution was about 30% of total toys collected in our area. Cal State HOG Rally is in San Diego, 12-15 Sep.

Asst Director, Mike Moore: Motorcycle wall art donated by Barry Hoyer will be raffled at April meeting with proceeds going to the general fund. Tickets are 1/\$5, 3/\$10 or 8/\$20. Introduced guests and new member. Morro Bay ride will be in April. Went on trial ride to Reagan Library last weekend. Will send out flyer on the ride soon. Brochure on the hotel is available.

Treasurer, Sandra Moore: \$2500 balance in the checkbook. Still collecting membership renewals.

Secretary & PAO, Debby Linck: Meeting minutes from Jan were approved by the board and will be published in the next newsletter.

Activities Director, Hal Bennett: After meeting ride today is to Domingo's in Boron. Bland will discuss Cabin Fever Ride for 16-18 Feb. Whiskey Flats Days in Kernville is same weekend as Cabin Fever Ride.

LOH, Kim Geiger & Stella Raymond: LOH activities survey distributed – surveys with gold star win a Valentine's Day themed prize. Silent Auction will be held at April meeting. LOH will sponsor Poker Run in conjunction with Chapter picnic with part of proceeds going to LOH and remainder to Hi/Lo hands. Flex Thurs. cruise nights will be returning to the calendar.

Road Captain Coordinator, Randy Geiger: Nothing to report.

Newsletter Editor, Scott Covert: Submissions for the next newsletter are due 23 Feb. Need someone to volunteer to do a member profile.

Safety Officer, Dwight Furnish: Discussion of CA law and guidelines regarding lane splitting. CA is the only state in which lane splitting is legal. Has copy of Riders Edge video available for checkout.

Photographer, Judy McCauley & Teri Anderson: 2012 Scrapbook being passed around for member viewing. Garage Sale will be on 4 May. Chuck Cordell has offered storage space for donated items for the garage sale. Two donated jackets for sale – make offer.

Membership, Debbie Ackeret: Thunder on the Lot will be held 8-9 June. Newsletters and calendars are available. Accepting membership renewals. Cupcakes handed out to members with February birthdays.

Web Master, Don McCauley: Correcting broken links on the website and working on website changes to bring it into compliance with National HOG requirements.

Historian: Bill & Teri Anderson: Zion Ride on Memorial Day weekend is cancelled. Due to other activities in the area, hotels are just not available. Will look at rescheduling next year, probably on a different date.

Guest Comment:

Mike Kinkennon of Worn and Weathered MC – Asked if HOG is interested in participating in City of Ridgecrest Motorcycle Awareness activities.

Member comments:

Wade – Passed out info on Monterey Ride for Sep to those who had indicated interest.

Also has flyers for Rotary Club scholarship fundraiser dinner on 9 March if anyone is interested in attending.

Ron – Thunder on the Lot will be 8-9 June and Great White will be the headliner. Boys and Girls Club is local recipient of part of the funds raised. Nicki and Kelly from the shop are in attendance today. Bike pickup is available. Date for HOG member event at the shop is TBD. Road Glide in its present form will not be available after this year.

Rex- Comment that lane splitting on car pool lanes is ok – just watch for bumps.

Bland – Cabin Fever Ride: leave JITB at 1000 on Fri 15 Feb. Reminder- Stagecoach has 48 hour cancellation policy.

Mike Cash – 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Run for the Wall – leaving on 15 May from Rancho Cucamonga if anyone is interested in going.

Meeting Adjourned: 0958 hours

Notes: The next RAG general meeting will be 03/09/13 at 0900 in Charlie's at the Carriage Inn.

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### Mark Your Calendars for the All Member Yard Sale

May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2013. This yard sale is in place of our yearly car wash.

This is our charity fund raiser. So give until your houses and garages

Are clean!!! Please deliver your items to my front yard so that I

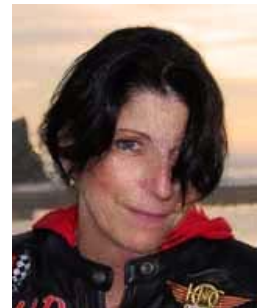
My take them up the holding area (Chuck Cordell's) or if you need a trailer

Call me for a pick/up (**Redacted**). We just don't want a lot for traffic going up to Chucks

House. I will need help with sorting & pricing. But most of all help will be needed the day of sale, May 4<sup>th</sup>.

If you have any question please call me, thanks.

Teri (the squirrel) Anderson



## From Dwight;

12 Things a bike can teach you

1. The only good view of a thunderstorm is in your rear view mirrors.
2. A car moves the body; a motorcycle moves the soul.
3. I'd rather be riding my motorcycle and thinking about God, than sitting in church thinking about my motorcycle.
4. Life may begin at 50, but it doesn't get real interesting until about 85 (mph).
5. Night time bugs taste just as bad as day time bugs.
6. Sometimes it takes 3 or 4 tanks full of gas before I can think straight.
7. A bike on the road is freedom.
8. Young riders pick a destination; older riders pick a direction.
9. When you're riding with a full face helmet, don't spit.
10. Catching a yellow jacket in your shirt will double your vocabulary.
11. If you can't get it going with duct tape, zip ties, or bungee cords it's serious.
12. Only a motorcycle rider knows why a dog sticks his head out of a car window.



Don McCauley's

Son Howard,  
Daughter Heidi,  
And Happy their Dog.

16 September 1978.



Heidi & Howie

16 Sept 78

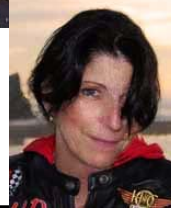


**Bill Anderson**  
*Historian*

**Get those Ride Reports in !!!**



**Judy McCauley**  
*Photographer*  
**Teri Anderson**  
*Photographer*



**Scott Covert**  
*Editor*



**Don McCauley**  
*Web Talker*

**Please visit our website**



**Sandra Moore**  
*“.5”  
Treasurer*

*The treasurer’s report is provided at the monthly Chapter meeting and is available from the Treasurer upon request.*



**Debby Linck**  
*Secretary/PAO*



**Stella Raymond & Kim Geiger**  
*Ladies of Harley*



## *Member story*

Editor's note;

This story is continued from Mike Moore's Assistant Director page above. It is a two part series that will be concluded in the next newsletter.

### Pacific Northwest Tour by Mike Moore

The day comes on August 29, 2012 and the Silver Ghost is locked, cocked, and ready to rock as are we so shortly after I get home from work we're off and running – destination Lee Vining where we'll stop for the night. About forty-five minutes into the trip I notice Sandra pulling at my mesh jacket and then I could hear her cracking up, after she caught her breath she finally let me in on the joke. Apparently in my excitement to get on the road I had put her jacket on! That answered the questions I was asking myself about why my jacket didn't feel right and was tighter than usual.

Riding into Lone Pine I could see the rain coming down and thought "that didn't take long" when it hit me, I forgot my rain gear, on a ride to the Pacific Northwest no less, BRILLIANT! I thought this could end up bad for me and I would have to buy some along the route at some point. Catching only a few sprinkles in Lone Pine we arrived in Lee Vining just as it was getting dark. After settling into our room at Yosemite Gateway Motel we walked across the street to Bodie Mike's BBQ for burgers and beer then called it a night. Tomorrow the ride really begins.

We rolled out at 0630 on a cool clear morning – destination Klamath Falls OR. After a quick stop in Bridgeport to put some warmer gear on it was on to Carson City NV for gas and breakfast which consisted of homemade trail mix and beef jerky. Getting through Reno on a Thursday morning was a breeze as we continued north on 395 to Susanville, northern CA's answer to Ridgecrest, where we stopped for gas, lunch and to peel off some layers as the temps were up in the 90's. After choking down a barely adequate lunch at Hart's diner we jumped on Hwy 139. Riding this part of CA is a lot like riding in our area of CA, the scenery is pretty much what we can get within fifty miles from home. We stayed on the 139 until we got to a small town called Aiden where we stopped for fuel. After gassing up we struck up a conversation with a UPS driver who told us about a short cut that would save us about twenty-five minutes, we figured he should know what he was talking about so we took his advice. CR91 is a pretty nice road with some long straight stretches lined with tall pine trees giving the illusion that we were riding down a hallway.

It was on this road that we saw the first of many deer on the trip, and unfortunately we also came up on a downed crotch rocket that was literally broken in two and they were loading it's rider into the ambulance. That is never good to see! CR91 dumped us back onto the 139 and we rode it to the OR border where we stopped for a photo op to commemorate our crossing into a state we never rode in.

As the 139 turned into OR 39 it took us through a lot of farmland and road construction into Klamath Falls OR. It had been a long day, 400 plus miles in mostly 90-degree temps and we were tired, so after checking into our room at the Best Western Olympic Inn, a very nice hotel, we stayed in for the hotel's free soup and salad dinner and called it an early night.

Day three of our trip was an exciting one because it was the day I was going to get to check off something I've had on my bucket list for a long time – Crater Lake. Leaving Klamath Falls we headed north on OR 97 along the shores of Upper Klamath Lake. While riding next to the lake we started noticing what looked like several black columns of smoke rising up from both sides of the road. We soon found out that it was not smoke at all but bugs! Millions of little black bugs called "midges". I remembered reading about them in the local newspaper the night before; apparently it's an annual occurrence. Within seconds our windscreen was covered and I had to ride with my hand over my mouth, needless to say we were glad to get past that lake! Up the road we turned onto OR 68 and headed towards Crater Lake, surprisingly there was no traffic even though it was Labor Day weekend. After we paid our five bucks to get into the park we twisted our way up the mountain on Rim Drive, then there it was right in front of us. It was a beautiful day but unfortunately there was a lot of smoke in the air that obscured the view of the lake some but it was still a beautiful site!

We stayed at the lake for about an hour taking pictures and just enjoying the beauty of this place but we had to ride – we needed to make it to The Dalles in OR. Bucket list – Crater Lake – check! We continued on Rim Drive until we hit OR 138 and rode it back to the 97 and continued north. The scenery in this part of OR is nice but it didn't have the wow factor that we were expecting and it was really warm with temps in the 90's again. After dealing with the traffic in Bend we got into some wide open spaces, the landscape turned to high desert and plains that reminded us of South Dakota. We rolled into The Dalles about 1600 and checked into The Dalles Inn, a very friendly family-owned motel. The steak dinner at Baldwin's Saloon wasn't bad either. Tomorrow's a big day, the main attraction that this whole trip was planned around, the Columbia River Gorge!

## *Member story*

After a light breakfast at the motel we hit the road at 0800 and what a road it was! Riding on the OR side of the river on the Historic Columbia Gorge Highway aka OR 30 was everything we had hoped for. We rode some twisties and sweepers as we climbed in elevation up to the rim of the gorge. This stretch of road gave me my first experience with deer crossing the road in front of me but being on high deer alert since northern CA I was ready for it and navigated the situation without a problem.

As we climbed to the rim the road narrowed and wrapped around a point that made the road literally hang over the side of the gorge! It did have some really cool guardrails made of stone, which were nice to look at but did little to lessen the pucker factor! Once we made it to the top we stopped for a break and photo op. Continuing on the road brought us down closer to the river and the scenery got even better. It wasn't long before we got our first view of snow-covered Mount Hood on our left and it stayed there for quite some time. In the town of Hood River we decided it was time to ride some of the gorge on the WA side so we crossed over the river on the Hood River Bridge.

I'm a big fan of bridges but this was my first steel bridge and I have to say not so much a fan of the steel. It made it feel like we were riding on flat tires! Back on good old' asphalt on WA 14 the road changed from twisties to big sweepers and stretches where we could pick up some speed. It was a blast riding the 14 through the small towns as the tunnels cut through the mountains.

It also had a very busy train track running along side of it; which was really cool riding that close to oncoming trains, it just screamed America! We stayed in WA until we came to the town of Cascade Locks where we crossed the Bridge of the Gods, another steel one, back into OR. This is where OR turned into what we had expected, the forest became so dense that it blocked out the sun and every inch of ground was covered with foliage. We were in waterfall country so of course we had to stop and take some pictures.

After enjoying the beauty of the falls we continued on towards Portland back on the OR 30. The gorge ends at the town of Troutdale and the road turns into freeway but lucky for us the traffic was very light. The weather was fantastic and would continue to be for the rest of the day as we merged onto I-205 and crossed the river one more time into Vancouver WA. Bucket list – Columbia River Gorge – check!

The 205 is just like any other super slab but the traffic remained light even as we jumped onto I-5 north to Olympia where we hit the 101 north. Riding along the Hood Canal the 101 is just a two-lane road with traffic a little heavier and a lot slower but beautiful with several small towns and beaches, it is obviously a popular vacation area. At the top of the Olympic Peninsula the 101 turns left towards the coast and runs along side of the Strait of Juan De Fuca. The traffic had opened up again and we were making time but needed a break. We spotted a roadside garden shop and pulled over, it claimed to be the Lavender Capital of the World and lavender is one of Sandra's favorite plants so we had to get a picture.

After our break we continued on to Port Angeles WA, which was our stop for the night and the next day. We checked into the Olympic Lodge then on the recommendation of the girl at the front desk went to grab something to eat at the Next Door gastro pub. It was a really cool pub with some great seafood appetizers, especially the fish tacos and the crab cakes with tomato chutney! The next day, Sunday was a planned rest day in Port Angeles, which gave us a chance to get some laundry done and see what the town had to offer which I have to admit wasn't much but we did go back to the pub for some good burgers.

All rested up on Monday morning we were ready to hit the road again and it was a cool clear day as we headed west on the 101 skirting the Olympic National Park. Not long after leaving the city limits the landscape started getting more lush and the forest had become so thick in areas that it literally blocked out the sun giving the ride a somewhat eerie feeling, it was so dense that it looked like if you wandered off the road for fifty yards you might not ever be seen again. Fifteen or twenty miles out of Port Angeles we came upon Lake Crescent, possibly the most beautiful lake I've ever seen, even riding by we could see the water change from crystal clear to turquoise to dark royal blue as it got deeper. I don't think I've ever seen cleaner more clear water in all my life. As we got closer to the coast it started to get foggy and a little cooler as the 101 turned south. We stopped in the town of Fork for a hearty breakfast and coffee and hot chocolate for Sandra. After filling the bellies and warming up we were off again. We had decided the night before that we wanted to see the HOH Rainforest in Olympic National Park. It's an amazing eighteen-mile ride off the 101 into the HOH and I remember thinking that this is truly God's country. When we reached the visitors center we took the three quarter mile loop trail through the forest, which was like walking through a scene of Land of the Lost.

## A WORD FROM OUR SPONSER!!

SINCE  
1903



GENUINE  
MOTOR  
PARTS

Woody, T.C and Mike would like you to come check out some new products that Harley-Davidson has introduced.



SCREAMIN' EAGLE. STREET  
CANNON PERFORMANCE SLIP-  
ONS

THEY TUNED THESE TO PROVIDE AN EXHAUST NOTE WITH SOME EXTRA DEEP BASS!

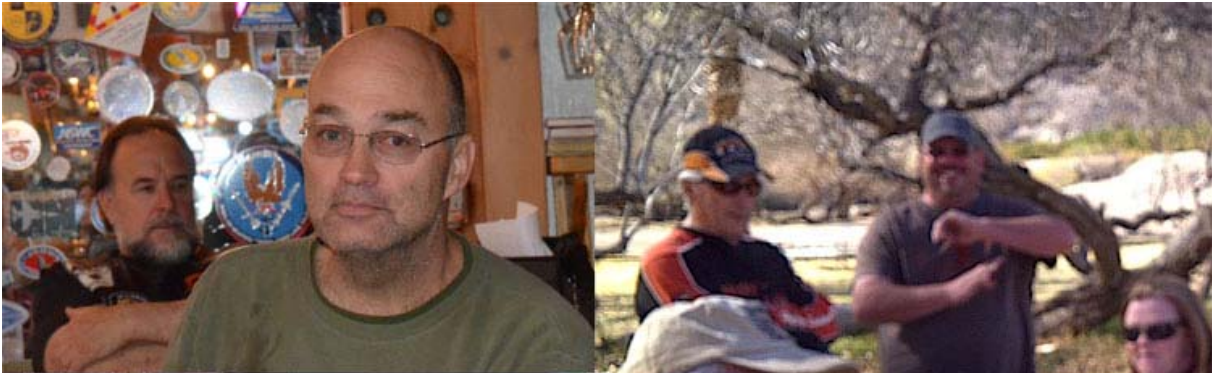
(Jet Black, 09-later Touring and Trike models, except 10 FLHX and FLTRX EQUIPPED with 110 CI engines)



THIS 5 amp WEATHER-RESISTANT BATTERY CHARGER. WILL CHARGE YOUR BIKE IN 1-2 hours. EVERYONE SHOULD. HAVE ONE OF THESE IN THERE GARAGE.

THESE ARE ONLY A FEW OF THE NEW ITEMS,SO PLEASE STOP BY AND ASK TO SEE THE NEW AIR WING SISSY BAR, ADJUSTABLE TWO UP LUGGAGE RACK AND MORE.

# Pictures





# March Birthdays



Char Bartels



Doug Gerard



Judy McCauley



Nicole Turbide



Doug Smith



Bear



Robert Strong

# April Birthdays



Mel Berry



Bland Burchett



Dino Ghilardi



Scott Foisy



Teri Anderson



Geneva Thayer



2013

- **Ridgecrest Events in Green**
- **Lancaster Events in Red**
- **NAWS Flex Days in Purple**
- **Federal Holidays in Blue**
- **Other Events in Dark Red**

**MARCH**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Wade Tallman 404 Shamrock Ave Ridgecrest, CA</li> <li>➤ Furnace Creek Inn Hwy 190 Death Valley CA</li> <li>➤ Foxy's Landing 22636 Airport Way # 10 California City CA</li> <li>➤ Reagan Library Run to Simi Valley CA Mar 30-31 Contact Mike Moore at <a href="mailto:moorems@verizon.net">moorems@verizon.net</a></li> </ul>					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Lancaster Meeting					Ridgecrest Board Meeting @ Wade's	Ridgecrest Meeting
After meeting ride to Temecula					Flex Day NAWS	After meeting ride to Furnace Creek
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Daylight Savings time starts 2 am					Breakfast Ride to Foxy's Cal City Airport	
					Flex Day NAWS	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
St Patrick's Day						
24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30
Reagan Library Run/31st Easter Sunday/31st					Flex Day NAWS	Reagan Library Run



2013

- **Ridgecrest Events in Green**
- **Lancaster Events in Red**
- **NAWS Flex Days in Purple**
- **Federal Holidays in Blue**
- **Other Events in Dark Red**

**APRIL**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Lancaster Meeting					Ridgecrest Board Meeting @ Hal & Yvette's	Ridgecrest Meeting
After meeting ride to Santa Anita Racetrack					Flex Day NAWS	After meeting ride to Kernville Brewery
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
						Dinner Ride to Idle Spurs
						Lancaster ride to Calico Ghost Town
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
			Laughlin River Run		Morro Bay Run	Morro Bay Run
					Breakfast Ride to Emma Jeans	Lancaster Lunch Ride to Ojai
					Flex Day NAWS	
28	29	30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Hal &amp; Yvette Bennett 501 W Bataan Ridgecrest, CA</li> <li>➤ Kernville Brewery 13415 Sierra Way Kernville, CA</li> <li>➤ Idle Spurs Steak House 690 Old Highway 58, Barstow, CA</li> <li>➤ Morro Bay Run to Morro Bay, CA Apr 26-28 Contact Mike Moore at <a href="mailto:moorems@verizon.net">moorems@verizon.net</a></li> <li>➤ Emma Jean's Holland Burger Café 17143 North D Street Victorville, CA</li> </ul>			
Morro Bay Run						



**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**



***LOOK AHEAD:***  
**Motorcycle Web Links**

**Antelope Valley HD**  
<http://www.antelopevalleyhd.com/>

**AV Hog Website**  
<http://www.avhog.org>

**HD Home Page**  
[http://www.harley-davidson.com/hd\\_main/hd\\_home.isp](http://www.harley-davidson.com/hd_main/hd_home.isp)

**Motorcycle Safety Foundation**  
<http://www.msf-usa.org/>

**Ridgecrest Chapter**  
<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/>

Desert Wind News  
1361 N Indian Wells  
Ridgecrest, CA 93555

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