

H.O.G. SNOUT BIG SKY CHAPTER 2641

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H.O.G. Slop:

Elizabeth Moore, Editor:

The annual holiday party is coming up quickly. **If you have any photos that I can add to the slideshow, please drop me an email.** Ticket availability will be communicated as soon as they are available. We have Steve Keller for the music this year, and we have a really fun party planned. Don't miss it!



Once again, I'm asking for your help on the newsletter distribution. Our hard-copy request number is up again. It costs us quite a bit to have the newsletter printed, folded, taped, and mailed. If you're getting this via the Post Office and you have an email address, please consider switching to the electronic format. The more money we save on the newsletter, the more we have for fun events and charitable contributions.

The highway clean-up will continue, due to an overwhelming vote from our members. If you voted "yes", please keep an eye on the announcements next summer and come help us with the clean-up. It really is a fun time – you never know what you're going to find out there, and you can feel proud knowing that you're part of keeping our area beautiful and clean.

Director's Notes:

Jim Olson

What an exciting time we are entering. Some of our experienced officers are stepping aside and making way for new officers, and with new officers come new and fresh ideas. I for one cannot wait to get rolling into 2010. But, first things first!

On Sunday afternoon, 11 Oct 2009, the temperatures in Great Falls fell to new record lows. At 2 in the afternoon, the outside temp was hovering around 22 degrees, and the temp at the airport was a chilly 18 degrees. Despite the cold, around 17 die-hard HOG club members rode from the Holman Aviation Hanger at the Great Falls International Airport to the main gates at Malmstrom to escort and welcome home our friends, neighbors, and fellow HOG Members from Red Horse.

The procession was an impressive display of cold breath, flags, horns and flashing lights as we rode down 10th Ave South to lead our Red Horse Squadron home. After more than ten months, our military family members were home to be with their loved ones in time for the holidays and it was our honor and privilege to escort them home. Welcome back, folks, and thank you for your service.

We are currently in the early stages of planning the 2009 Big Brothers and Big Sisters Toy Run. The event this year will be held on the 12th of December, immediately following the chapter meeting. We have already been in contact with the Big Brothers and Big Sisters Organization and should have a list of children available by the second week of November. This year's list will include a child's first name, that child's age and clothing sizes. To participate in the program, all you need to do is review the list that will be available at the parts counter, select a name of a child from that list, purchase a gift appropriate for the child you selected, wrap it and bring it to the dealership on the 12th with that child's name in plain, bold letters so Santa can hand them out. If you have never attended this event before, you are in for a special holiday treat. This event, for some of the children attending, is the only Christmas they will have this year. We go all out make it special.

We will decorate the evening before, set up tables, the tree, the decorations and whatever else we can think of. Karen Hoffmann is our chairperson this year and is coordinating all the food donations and contributions. Please stay tuned for more details.

If you have changed or upgraded your email account, please be sure to drop us a line so we can update our newsletter accounts and mass email listings. Our editor, Elizabeth Moore, keeps a close eye on the status of returned email address and will update the listing as new accounts are received, so please help us to keep you informed.

Winter storage specials are being offered at the dealership. Warm storage, battery chargers, and inside protection are available for a modest cost of \$450.00 for the winter. However, if you spend \$450.00 between the time you drop your bike off, and the time you pick it up, then the storage is free. The best part is, you do not have to be without your bike all winter. If the weather turns nice, and you want to go for a ride, just call ahead and they will get your bike started.

Here are a few "tech tips" to help you better store your Harley:

Make sure the gas tank is full. Condensation can form and cause water to accumulate in the fuel lines

Cover your bike with an approved motorcycle cover to keep dirt and debris from getting into the air cleaner.

Use a battery charger on trickle charge to keep the charging system "alive". Once a battery goes dead, it should always be replaced with a new battery.

Wash your bike and give it a good wax and cleaning before storage. Bugs and road tar tend to build up in places we overlook all year and cause some hard-to-get-rid-of marks over the winter if not removed.

Even though winter set in a little early this year, there will be other opportunities to get out there "one more time". Please be careful. The weather may lure you out, but the dangers of riding this time of year are breathing new life and just waiting to claim another victim. Be smart, be careful and ride smart.

See you all around the dealership. If you would like to help plan any of the events we have upcoming, please drop me a line at olsonjt@earthlink.net. I would love to hear from you and get some fresh ideas for the toy run, and Christmas party.

Ride, Safe, Ride often, but JUSTRD
Jim

Assistant Director's Notes: **Darrell Chambers**

Is it October already? This year has gone by so fast; it seems like just a few months ago we were planning the Membership Drive, and now we are planning the Big Brother, Big Sister Toy Run party. With that said, LOH will meet at the dealership at 6:00 pm on the 11th of December to decorate. If anyone else would like to assist LOH, that would be great. It was a lot of fun to spend time with fellow HOG members and shoot the breeze when we decorated last year.

I would like to say thanks to Sam for all the hard work he did for Hogfest - the food was the best!!!



As of right now, there is not much riding going on with the recent snow and ice. I want to thank Ray and Jeff for buying new bikes and bringing this weather in!!! So if you ride, watch out for slick spots and gravel. This is also the time for the deer to start moving away from hunters, so be careful there also.

If you would to be an officer this coming year, please talk with Brian Moen or Jim Olsen. Jim is the best - he leads this chapter with so much passion and pride. Just listen to him talk about this chapter and you can feel his pride in having the best chapter in the state hands down. So, please get involved and keep us number 1 in the state.

When you get a chance, say thank you to Brian for all he does for us. Without his support, it would be hard for this chapter to be so great. Thanks Brian!!!

See you on the Road,
Darrell



Membership Director's Notes:

Sam Steffan

To start off, for your info the old Godfather turned 70 last month. I would like to take the time and opportunity to thank all my special friends who took it upon themselves to have a semi-surprise birthday party for me. My Special Thank You to you all. As the old saying goes, "You can't pick your Relatives, but you can pick your friends", I consider every Chapter member a friend and you are the best and I love you all. Again all I can say is THANKS.

Setting the weather aside, I hope you all enjoyed the Hogtoberfest, even though we had to suffice with having the chapter photo taken inside this year.

New members since the meeting are: Kenneth Cracraft, Ron Dempsey, Cindy Floyd, Bernice Hickman, Joseph Keller, Rusty Kojetin, Brian Lee, Kelly Nathe and Matthew Nelson. A Big Sky Welcome to you all and enjoy the chapter and its friendship. That's all for this month - see you all down the road. Keep the shiny side up and the rubber side down.
THE GODFATHER

Webmaster's Notes:

Nan Chambers

I hope people are finding the website to be beneficial!!! The website will keep you up-to-date on the events for our chapter. We try to include 1½ month's worth of activities on the main page.

We also have links to the Chapter Newsletters for each month, pictures from our rides, the LOH page, the "Let's Ride Contact List", the "HOG Blog", and the officers' page. Please use this link - <http://psndealer.com/dealersite/images/bigskyharley/hog.html> to access our chapter website.

We would like to make our site special for members who want to share in other people's rides. Please send pictures from your rides to share with other chapter members, or provide us with pictures and a write up of your ride for the HOG Blog page. Please email to snowskiernan@hughes.net or bring a CD with pictures to the next HOG meeting.

I will be stepping down as webmaster at the end of the year. I would like to encourage anyone who has experience with, or is interested in working on our HOG website to let Jim Olson or Brian know that you would like to be webmaster next year.

Thanks, Nan

Historic Notes:

Mary Jo Vickoren, Historian

Big Sky Harley Owner Group scrap books will be on display at the monthly meetings, please take time to look at them. Also, if you have any pictures and/or stories you would be willing to contribute please contact me at maryjo@montana.com or 406-761-3256.

AND THE WINNERS ARE . . .

HOG Number: Not present - \$140 next month!

50/50 Winner: Rick Morin

Door Prize Winner: Mary Jo Vickoren

Need a patch sewn on that leather vest or jacket? Linda Heggem – 452-2425- will sew patches for a donation to MDA. Sherry Lehmkuhl – 590-7721 – will also sew patches for a donation to Eagle Mount.

Newsletter Comments or Questions?

If you have any questions, comments concerning the Big Sky H.O.G. Newsletter, please contact Elizabeth at 781-5143, or by e-mail at eemoore@3riversdbs.net.



PHOTOS! – WE NEED YOUR PHOTOS!

It's time to start compiling the pictures for the holiday party slideshow. Please contact Elizabeth Moore at eemoore@3riversdbs.net for instructions on how to submit yours!

The contents of this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of Big Sky Harley-Davidson & Buell or those of the Harley-Davidson Corporation. This newsletter is intended for the entertainment of the Big Sky Harley Owners' Group.

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