

# H.O.G. #4982

Ozark Mountain  
Chapter

www.ozarkmtnhog.com

## 2024 Officers

H.O.G. Manager: Nic Lowther

Director: Mike Vennekotter

Assistant Director: Matt Conde

Secretary: Valerie Goodnight

Treasurer: Ramona Conde

Safety Officer: Dwain Wilcox

Head Road Captain: Brent Emerson

Sargeant-At-Arms: Warren McDonald

Activities Officers: Brian & Kathy Hartley

LOH Activities Officer: Karen Ryan

LOH Ride Officer: Michael Wilcox

Membership Officers: Corey & Nancy  
Elder

Merchandise Officer: Jeanne Randall

Chaplains: Gregg & Jeanne Randall

Historian: Jon Goodnight

Fundraising Officers: Scott & Kim Krepps

Food Team Officer: Antoinette Heitz

Photographer: Brian Hartley/Sherry Davis

Newsletter Editor: Debbie Vennekotter

Webmaster: Sherry Davis

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3980 W. Sunshine St.

Springfield, MO 65807

www.renegade-hd.com

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# April 2024



## Director's Corner- Michael V.

Greetings fellow riders! Wow...what a great start to a great riding year. There is so much going on in our chapter, it's hard to keep track of everything! The latest BIG news is the fact that we will be hosting the 2025 Mid-America HOG rally next summer. A special heart-felt thanks to all those who have stepped up to take leadership roles in the rally committee. We will be sending out lots of communication in the coming months with vital information. We are depending on our chapter members to come forward and make this event a rally that other HOG chapters will model future rallies after.

I would like to extend a round of applause to all the chapter riders who are racking up miles! We are off to a great start on our goal to break the 1,000,000-mile challenge. Remember to turn in your miles every month. Matt C. is doing a great job of tracking our miles and be sure to check out our million mile progress banner hanging in the HOG room.

Please take the time to read the entire newsletter this month (I know it is lengthy), but it is packed with useful information that all our members need to know. And please reach out to any HOG officer if you have any questions, comments, or concerns. We want to hear from you!

Mike



## Assistant Director's Corner- Matt C.

HAPPY SPRING!

As of March 25, we have ridden 64,428 miles as a Chapter which ranks us as 10<sup>th</sup> in the nation and number 2 in our market region. We need to keep this up as we ride to reach our Million Mile Challenge this year. We are off to a great start!

We are looking forward to hosting the 2025 Mid-America Rally here in Springfield; Archie Buckner has volunteered to be the Rally Coordinator and we will need all hands-on deck to make this happen successfully.

Please remember to send me ([mjconde@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mjconde@sbcglobal.net)) or Ramona ([rjconde@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rjconde@sbcglobal.net)) any ride pictures that you would like added to the banner.

Keep logging your miles with the dealership, hitting the monthly check ins.

The weather has been great, so continue to ride safe and have fun!



### **Secretary's Notebook- Valerie G.**

Hello everyone, I am happy to be serving the chapter as your secretary. Just a quick note for the chapter. The business meeting is held on the 4th Tuesday of every month. It is open to any who wishes to attend, although voting is restricted to officers only. You are encouraged to attend if you would like to have a better understanding of the operations of the chapter. If you are unable to attend but have any topics that you would like to address to the officers, please send them to me no later than the Tuesday BEFORE the meeting and I will add them to the agenda for discussion. Meeting minutes will be posted to the Chapter website the month following the meeting after they have been approved (i.e., January minutes will be posted in February). Scroll down to Newsletter and Minutes and you will find the last two months of minutes and newsletters. A quick reminder that ride sheets and waivers will be stored by the secretary after they have been reviewed and recorded by the assistant director.



### **Treasurer's Purse- Ramona C.**

Welcome to April!

Spring has sprung and we have been busy riding and enjoying this on again, off again beautiful weather! We ended February with an official balance of \$3961.37 after all expenses and deposits we cleared.

March expenses of \$1361.76 (corned beef & cabbage, fencing for Easter egg hunt, and other miscellaneous items) and deposits of \$1168.00 (raffle ticket sales, chili cook off and corned beef & cabbage), we should end March with \$3727.61.

A special thank you to Theo V for donating the gun back for a second round of raffle – coming soon! Theo also donated the \$100 prize for selling his own raffle ticket back to the Chapter – what a guy!

Please reach out to me if you ever have any questions, [riconde@sbcglobal.net](mailto:riconde@sbcglobal.net).

Ride often, ride safe and have fun!



## **Safety Corner- Dwain W.**

Greetings brother and sisters. Hope everyone is enjoying the warmer weather. We have a lot of great rides ahead of us as we enter mid spring. Always be on the alert for bad weather and the road conditions. Be patient with new riders, as they are still in the learning stage and gaining experience. Be a mentor by suggesting ride experiences on how to better handle a bike in the many maneuvers that come with riding experience. The technique covers a lot of areas when riding. But technique is also what keeps us in the upright position when riding. Technique can be something very minor or something very major. So, with that in mind, let's all practice good techniques. A very common technique that we as a chapter do is we ride staggard or we ride in single file. Remember to never compromise good riding technique for anything less. Also, good riding technique is better achieved with a well-maintained bike or trike. So don't forget about all the maintenance that goes along with achieving good riding technique.

The Springfield Police Department is once again offering their FREE "Share The Road" motorcycle training course. Several HOG members have attended this program in previous years, and all speak very highly of the training. To get more information and to sign up, visit:

[Share The Road Motorcycle Course | Springfield, MO - Official Website \(springfieldmo.gov\)](http://springfieldmo.gov)

Till next month, I hope to see everyone on the roads of this great country and as always trust the rubber.

Dwain W. 417-622-2228  
dwainwilcox@icloud.com



## **Road Captain's Seat- Brent E.**

As March winds down and April approaches, it's time to get serious about hitting the road for some unforgettable rides! But before you throttle up, make sure your motorcycle is not only in top-notch condition but also legally roadworthy. With the increasing number of rides available through our chapter, there are ample opportunities for both new Ride Leaders and members to embark on adventures, create lasting memories, and rack up the miles!

Let's take the lead in logging miles and contribute towards our collective goal of reaching 1 million miles. Keep those odometers turning and continue to tackle the destination challenges with gusto!

TapRack  
Live to Ride, Ride to Live!



### **Activities Playground- Brian and Kathy H.**

Here we are in April and I'm not foolin'. I trust you all had a great Easter weekend. To everyone that helped with the Easter Egg Hunt. There is no way we can do events of this magnitude without the help of all of you. THANK YOU SO MUCH!

### **Frosty Knuckles**

If you missed the March Social - the winners of the first Frosty Knuckles Challenge are:

Brandon Flack 1st Place, Brent Emerson 2nd Place, and Theo Voss 3rd Place. Thank you everyone for participating.

### **March 1 - April 30, 2024 | Spring Fever Riding Challenge**

**REGISTRATION is Closed**

All registered participants be sure to get a picture of cities that spell SPRING FEVER. Part 2 of the challenge is most mileage. There will be 1st, 2nd, & 3rd place trophies for the men and 1st, 2nd, & 3rd place trophies for the Ladies. The challenge ends April 30th. Send a text to Brian (314-814-4481) or Kathy (314-814-4511). Include your first and last name, picture of your odometer and which bike (if you registered more than one). Also include photos of the cities.

### **April 6, 2024 | Saturday Scoot Meet @ 9:00 am, KSU @ 9:30 am**

Scoot number 4 of Renegade's 12 Saturday Scoots. Remember and mark your calendars on the first Saturday each month in 2024. Meet @ 9:00 am at Renegade's Lower Lot KSU @ 9:30 am. Donuts and coffee will be provided.

### **April 8, 2024 | Eclipse Ride | Meet at Renegade @ 7:45 am KSU @ 8:00 am**

Total Eclipse Ride to Poplar Bluff, MO. This is a one-day ride, 186 mile there 372 miles total. Eclipse Starts at 12:39 pm Totality 1:58 pm Ends 3:15 pm. We will view from any roadside location available. Bring your own eye protective eclipse glasses. Back to Springfield by 6:00 pm.

**April 11, 2024 | Chapter Social Gathering @ 6:00 pm, Fun Begins @ 6:30pm**

Meal starts @ 6:00 pm and Fun begins @ 6:30 pm. Join in the fun, win some prizes, get to know your fellow chapter members, and learn about upcoming Chapter Events.

Bring 3 cans of green beans and get an extra blue ticket and 20 points in the challenge book. This is for our HOGS for Kids Thanksgiving Baskets.

**April 13, 2024 | Coffee with the Chaplain | Architect Coffee | @ 8:15 am**

Come have coffee with Greg & Jeanne our Chapter Chaplains. We didn't want to hinder you from riding, so please note the time changed to 8:15 am. This is an ongoing event @ 8:15 am on the second Saturday of every month – rain or shine! Ride or drive your cage to Architect's Coffee 1604 E Republic Rd, Springfield, MO 65804.

**April 13, 2024 | National Grilled Cheese Day Even | Renegade from 11:00 am - 2:00 pm**

Come out to Renegade H-D and get your Grilled Cheese prepared by Nic Lowther and Dominick Cricchio. See you there.

**April 17, 2024 | Bike Night @ American Legion | Renegade @ 6:00 pm KSU 6:30 pm**

Join some of our Renegade family for a Bike Night to the American Legion. Meet at Renegade at 6:00 pm ride to the American Legion on Scenic Avenue. Bike Night goes until 10:00 pm but stay as long as you want.

**April 20, 2024 | Breakfast with the Officers | Billy Gail's in Ozark | @ 8:00 am**

Come join your Chapter Officers for a very informal meet-and-eat the third Saturday of every month – rain or shine! Ride or drive your cage to Billy Gail's, 1882 W. James River Road, Ozark, MO 65721. Come join us for breakfast and/or coffee. Chat, share ideas, fellowship, or bring concerns/compliments about our HOG chapter. Breakfast and/or coffee are on your own.

**April 20, 2024 | Mike's Mystery Ride | Renegade @ 11:00 am KSU @ 11:30 am**

How much of a mystery is this ride? I'm so glad you asked. Nobody knows anything about this, not even Mike. We will leave at a time! Eat at a place! Be home before the clock strikes midnight and your carriage turns back into pumpkin. Oh, the mystery and intrigue.

**April 23, 2024 | Business Meeting 6:30 pm**

The Chapter Business Meeting will be at 6:30 pm in the H.O.G. Room. All are welcome to attend. Come for officer updates and information about upcoming events. If you would like to add an item to the agenda, email [Ozarkmtnhog2606@gmail.com](mailto:Ozarkmtnhog2606@gmail.com).

**April 26-27, 2024 | H-D Demo Truck 10:00am- 4:00pm**

We have enough ride leaders and sweeps for demo truck weekend. Come try out a new ride!

**April 27, 2024 | Biscuits and Gravy Breakfast | @ 9:00 am - 11:00 am**

We will be serving biscuits and gravy to kick off Demo Truck Saturday. We will need food service volunteers, so be sure to sign up at the sign-up table when you are at the Social Gathering.

**April 28, 2024 | New Member Orientation & Safety Ride @ 1:00 pm**

New Member Orientation in the H.O.G. Room @ 1:00 pm. Come with your "brown bag" lunch and get to know our new members. The New Member ride will follow. Ride brief during the orientation KSU between 2:30 & 2:45.

**A LOOK AHEAD...Snapshot of May**

Coming next month:

May 1 - Bike Night

May 2 - 5 - Stockton Lake Camp Out

May 4 - Saturday Scoot

May 5 - Cinco de Mayo Ride & Dinner

May 9 - Chapter Social Gathering

May 10 - Renegade Friday Night Fun Run

May 10 - 19 - Long Ride - Meet Me at Myrtle Beach Ride Rally

May 11 - Coffee with the Chaplains

May 11 - Lake Ozark's Spring Rally

May 11 - Convoy of Hope Benefit Ride

May 15 - Bike Night

May 17 - Renegade Evening Stunt Show

May 18 - Breakfast with the Officers

May 18 - Renegade Hog Roast Party/Stunt Show

May 19 - Ride Like a Pro Class

May 25 - June 2 - Long Ride - AZ, CO, UT Coin Stop Ride

May 26 - New Member Orientation

May 28 - Business Meeting

May 29 - Bike Night

## A Wider View...

Be Thinking how you can participate...

HOGS for Kids - Continue to check your challenge books to see what to bring each month to the Chapter Social Gathering. We are planning to assemble 40 to 50 baskets this year. Continue to bring non-perishable food items to each Chapter Social and get additional blue tickets. (Be sure the "use by" date is after November 30, 2024) Stay tuned for more exciting news and events to help with fund raising and food collection.

There are several long rides planned this summer. Begin planning now to join one or more of these incredible rides.



## LOH Activities Corner- Karen R.

Well, the weather is starting to cooperate with our enjoyment of wind therapy, the smells of freshly cut grass and burning shrubs, and the flowers and nature's color coming alive. This is my favorite time of year, the earth is renewed, with our need for outdoors, our motorcycle and road trips. Unfortunately, I am not riding anymore but still enjoy a relaxing, stress-free road trip. We'll be seeing you on the roads.

### **LOH Activities Offered:**

April 13 1pm-3pm HOG Room. **Bling your Thing.** Bring your projects and let's sparkle! Thank you, Valerie, for showing us how it is done, you are a fine example of sparkle. Because of its popularity, this event will be held several times this year. If you have any questions, please contact Valerie G. at 417-861-1114.

April 13 5pm-? **Potluck/Bonfire at the Ryan's house.** Bring your favorite side dish or snack for around the fire, along with a camp chair and favorite libations. Sign up at the Chapter Socials, or email Karen for address at [karilyn99@gmail.com](mailto:karilyn99@gmail.com) or call/text her at 414-339-6010.

April 18 6:30-8:30pm **Sip and Paint.** Cost \$40. Bring your favorite beverage as we'll be painting a wooden doorknocker with a 3D motorcycle and welcome sign. Debbie Hightower with Paint Junkies will be instructing us on technique and paint choice as we enjoy the evening together. You can choose any color to paint with and any design can be painted on the background.

Present – April 13 **Collecting your favorite recipes** to assemble into a book. Let's get your special comfort foods in print to be memorized and passed down to further generations. If you think it doesn't happen, I have a cookbook from my brother's ski team from 30 years ago with some of my mom's recipes. My favorite cookbook, use it lots. Please email me your recipes at [karilyn99@gmail.com](mailto:karilyn99@gmail.com).

### **Coming up in May and beyond:**

May 4: LOH International Ladies Ride with Valerie

May 5: Cinco De Mayo

May 21: Archery with Shelia



## LOH Ride Corner– Michael W.

Hey Ladies

I am Michael Wilcox; I am your new LOH Ride Officer. I have only been riding for 5 years and I am loving every bit of it. Whether it's a short ride or a long ride. Now down to the nitty gritty!! We need to get us some LOH rides on the books. I need your help! So, I need all of your help. Any of you ladies can come up with a ride idea. Even if you double up with your spouse. You can even lead them even if he drives. Either way I need ideas. If you want to give ideas and don't want to lead that is fine, I can find another lady to lead and sweep it. Just plan the route and I can do the rest. So please reach out to me. We need the rides for the ladies.

[Michaelwilcox@icloud.com](mailto:Michaelwilcox@icloud.com)

417-622-9017



## Membership Corner- Cory and Nancy E.

Thank you to those who have already renewed their membership for 2024. Don't worry, you can still turn in your renewals at any of the chapter meetings and social gatherings. Remember spouses not owning their own bike must also be a National H.O.G. Member to be a Chapter member. If you know of anyone who may be interested in joining us, and they are a National HOG member, they may join our local chapter for an annual fee of \$20 per member. As always, we encourage and welcome everyone to our chapter social gatherings, where they can inquire further about membership.

Please join me in welcoming our new members and in celebrating the National HOG membership anniversaries of our friends. Let's continue to grow, so that others may enjoy the benefits of being part of the Ozark Mountain HOG Chapter.

National HOG Membership Anniversaries for April: BESEMER RAY (3 years), Bowser Rick (33 years), Cervellere Lora (24 years), FLACK BRANDON (2 years), Heitz Antoinette (2 years), Herndon Bonnie (1 year), Jensen Mark (23 years), Kelley Dave (19 years), Kelley Chad (19 years), Kullman Lucinda (15 years), LILLY ARLEIGH (1 year), Linder Brent (20 years), Marquette Diane (1 year), Ryan Karen (13 years), Sanders Brad (2 years), Tomlinson John (1 year).

Please join me in welcoming our new members. Remember the more we grow the more fun we will have.





## Fundraising Coin Purse- Scott and Kim K.

Happy Spring. Fundraising is in full swing. Our gun raffle was a huge success. Congratulations to Theo Voss for holding the winning ticket. Theo graciously donated back his \$100.00 winnings and the gun for a re-affle. The Glock G26, Gen 5, 9 mm semi-automatic, will once again be up for raffle for \$20.00 a ticket, this also comes with one conceal and carry class provided by Brent Emerson. Tickets will be available on Saturdays at Renegade, the social gathering, or feel free to hunt down Mike, Debbie, Scott or Kim and we will be happy to sell you the winning ticket.

Looking ahead, we will be doing a Harley Davidson blanket raffle. Several people have already donated t-shirts, however, we could use a few more. For everyone that donates shirts, you will receive one free ticket for the blanket raffle.

Please continue to bring in those non-perishable items to the Social Gatherings. If you are not sure what to bring, check your Challenge Book, or bring something that you think would go in a Thanksgiving basket. We have high hopes for Hogs 4 Kids this year to keep these kids fed over the week they are out of school. Our goal this years is 40-50 baskets.

Our next "feed" at Renegade will be on April 27, 2024 with Biscuits and Gravy. Please bring your donation and fill your belly, while also helping fill the belly of some kids in need.

As always, thank you to all our Chapter members willing to step up and help with these efforts. Peace out, until next time.

## Merchandising- Jeanne R.

Due to price increases, the Large Chapter tricolor or silver patches and rockers are available for \$21.00 each or \$40.00 for a set. Small tricolor or silver patches and are \$11.00 each or \$20.00 for a set. [You can also purchase Chapter patches in the Renegade store.](#)

All short sleeve T-shirts are \$20.00 each. The long sleeve T-shirts are \$24.00 each. You can pay by cash, or a check made out to Renegade Ozark Mtn Chapter HOG.

Jeanne Randall, Merchandise



## Chaplain's Meditations - Gregg and Jeanne R.

### Diamonds In the Rough - The Miracle of a Natural Diamond

*"We all, with unveiled faces are looking as in a mirror at the glory of the Lord and are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory; this is from the Lord who is the Spirit."*

2 Corinthians 3:18

A diamond is an amazing miracle of nature made up of billions of carbon atoms. Diamonds have a unique cubic crystal lattice structure. Each carbon atom in a diamond is strongly bonded to four others, making them the hardest known natural substance. Diamonds also exhibit high thermal conductivity, are resistant to chemicals and have an exceptionally high transparency.

A diamond is formed under great pressure and heat. When it is first discovered, it is covered with a film of dirt. It is found in the ground with various types of dirt and elements. Naturally, a diamond is rough, not shiny. After being found, diamonds must be cleaned and polished. The color of a diamond depends upon which elements are present when the diamond was formed. They can be white, yellow, brown/chocolate, and sometimes have black spots. Regardless of the coloring and the diamond's history, a diamond has the potential to shine brilliantly! The diamond's sparkle is a result of its cut. The cut isn't just the shape of the diamond, such as marquis, round, and princess. The jeweler cuts multiple facets into a diamond to make it reflect light better. When cut or shaped well, a diamond shines bright in the presence of light.

We are diamonds in the hand of God. He sees each of us as precious and beautiful. Just like a diamond, we may go through times of pressure and heat. When God finds us, we are often covered with the elements of this world. But He doesn't toss us aside, as a miner would toss a worthless rock. God sees our value and the potential for us to shine and bring Him glory. God notices a diamond in the rough. Just like a diamond, we must be cleaned and polished. When we come into relationship with God, we must repent of our sin, and allow God to clean us. *"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness"* (1 John 1:9).

We all have elements from our past that have colored our hearts. The black spots are the deep wounds in us. Some wounds are caused by our past sin, and other scars linger from times when we were the victim of another person's sin. They are both part of our development under pressure, and part of our history as we become new creations in Christ (2 Cor. 5:17). God cuts back things, in our lives, that hinder us from reflecting Him. Just as a jeweler shapes the diamond to reflect the light, even with its flaws, God shapes us to best reflect His glory. Remember, *"in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose"* (Romans 8:28). From glory to glory God is changing you!

#### Prayer

*Father God, thank you that because of your love You see our potential to be as beautiful diamonds. Help me to allow the Holy Spirit to clean and polish me so that I reflect You in my life. And may I also see others as diamonds being shaped in Your hands. In Jesus' Name. Amen.*



### **Food Team Serving Platter- Antoinette H.**

Hello everyone. Don't forget about our social on Thursday, April 11 @ 6pm. We will be doing a potato bar. Bring all the fixin's that would go with the potatoes....and don't forget the desserts. You can sign up to bring something at [signupgenius.com](http://signupgenius.com). Go under search and put in my email, [antoinettebevington@hotmail.com](mailto:antoinettebevington@hotmail.com) There you will see the April sign up. Looking forward to seeing everyone!!



### **Mid- America Rally News- Archie Buckner- Rally Coordinator**

I am so excited about the Midwest America 2025! I fully believe getting to host a regional HOG rally will prove to be one of the wildest rides we get to go on as a group. We know our destination: a successful regional rally in 2025 that our HOG brothers and sisters enjoy. As with any other large group ride, this rally will only be successful with the help from the whole chapter.

We've already put "kickstands up" on the rally by setting up our Rally Committee. This committee will serve as the "Road Captain" for this ride. We get to study the options, look at all the routes and choices laid out in front of us, choose where we go, what we get to see, what we experience, and the safe route that gets us to our destination.

Obviously with an event as large as a regional rally, the committee has many seats to fill and work together. I'm grateful to be able to say that we have most of the committee filled. Debbie Vennekotter and Kim are helping us by being co-coordinators with Kim also taking on the events. They have the lucky job of keeping me on task as well as remembering the things I don't. Kim will also have the extra responsibility of setting up our evening entertainment and the other special events at the rally. Kevin Cervellere and John Luce are stepping up as Site Coordinator and Assistant Site Coordinator. They will be focused on seeing to it that we have what we need where we need it throughout the rally. Things such as registration tables, staging, electrical power, as well as coordinating things with the hotel so that we have as few surprises as possible. Sherry Davis has been gracious enough to step up as Digital Marketing coordinator. She will be seeing to our online presence leading up to the rally as well as throughout the event. Updating Facebook pages, looking through postings on websites, covering any other social media needs will fall to her. Brent Emerson has taken on the responsibility of being the Ride Coordinator for the rally. He will be seeing to it that we have a plethora of riding options throughout the rally. Kathy Hartley is going to serve as Registration Coordinator with Nancy Elder helping as Assistant Registration Coordinator. Among other things, they will oversee our online registration process as well as the registration area during the rally. Romona Conde has been nice enough to take on the duties of Rally Treasurer.

If you haven't picked up on it yet, we have three very important positions to seat before we can really get going. Those positions are Sponsor Coordinator, Marketing Coordinator, and Volunteer Coordinator. Take a minute and look at these positions. Do you have the skills and experience to fill one of these spots?

**Sponsor Coordinator** - Reaching out to businesses and organizations throughout our region to procure their support in sponsoring our rally. Utilizing phone calls, letters, as well as available face-to-face connections to secure financial and tangible support for our various needs to host a successful rally. Marketing, displays, events, and other obligations will require a supporting budget to be effective.

**Marketing Coordinator** - Advertising, media relations, as well as tangible objects will be overseen by this person. Putting together a rally book to inform our attendees, banners and signage for the rally location, swag bags for those who register, as well as coordinating any needed media coverage will be managed by the Marketing Coordinator.

**Volunteer Coordinator** - Recruiting HOG members to staff the many positions during the rally will be the focus of the Volunteer Coordinator. From our chapter, other chapters in our region, and those registering for the rally, he/she will help us to staff so that everyone can enjoy their time at our rally. Recruiting, placing, and then training these individuals the Volunteer Coordinator will be reaching throughout our region with our brothers and sister in HOG.

I encourage everyone to take a look and then a second look at these positions. All three positions are necessary to host a successful rally. The whole committee, along with the rest of the chapter, will work together and support each other to get the job done. We'll brainstorm together, we will all have ideas for each other, we'll have regular meetings so that we can each be involved as well as get support. If you would like to step into one of these roles, let us know. You can contact Archie, Debbie, or Kim to sign up.

Archie Buckner - Rally Coordinator  
archie.buckner@gmail.com

## For Your Reading Pleasure – Jerry Pedigo and Brian Hartley

### Jerry Pedigo

I saw this on Facebook and wanted to share, very good advice with some humor as well!!!

Here's a few things I've learned over the years riding a motorcycle.

- Always wear a bandana around your neck. It can be used for many purposes. Use your imagination here.
- If you think you want the black bike buy the black bike.
- Never let your friend ride your motorcycle unless you've actually seen him ride a motorcycle. Recently.
- The police have helicopters now.
- Not all motorcycle clubs are gangs.
- Get on the bike, get it off the stand, start it up then let the passenger get on.
- Rainex your glasses. If you can't see, what's the point?
- Your hands are waterproof. Your gloves aren't. You'll need dry gloves later when it gets dark and cold.
- If the mosquitoes are bad at the event you're leaving, the deer will be on the road on the ride home. They don't like mosquitoes either.
- If someone else wants to lead the way let them.
- Check your tire pressure daily.
- Check your oil daily.
- Check your belt or chain. Daily.
- Buy a full-face helmet.
- Costco stretchy jeans shred like Kleenex in a crash.
- If you have room bring an extra jacket.
- Carry your phone in your jacket pocket. If you crash on a deserted road and can't make it back to the bike where your phone is, how are you gonna call for help?
- When your tire is almost ready for replacement do a few drift maneuvers and peel out here and there. Good defensive driving practice.

- Never touch your front brake in a parking lot. Ever.
- Pump your own gas.
- Keep your license and registration in a separate wallet in your jacket or vest pocket.
- Stay on your bike, turn off your bike and keep your hands on the grips when you get pulled over.
- (This has worked) Ask the police for help when they pull you over. They are too busy to help you find your missing buddy. Also mention that the earth is flat. They will let you go because cops don't like dealing with nuts.
- Turn down your music at lights and in parking lots. Not everyone likes Carly Rae Jepsen.
- Loud pipes may not save lives. But they also never killed anyone.
- Don't try and miss a deer. Aim right at the rib cage. Those suckers are fast.
- If there's dew on your seat, there's dew on the street.
- Upgrade your headlights.
- Add fog lights.
- Don't follow your buddy on that trike too closely.
- Leave your saddlebags open in the garage.
- Always back into a parking spot.
- Don't wave at scooter riders. They aren't used to it and usually nearly crash trying to wave back.
- If someone says your bike is nice say merci in your best French accent. Then they probably won't tell you all about their uncle who had a motorcycle but is dead now.
- If you can take off your shoes or boots without untying them at least one will fall off when you crash. (sorry Mike V....LOL)
- Avoid the Toyota Prius.
- Never sell a minibike.

## Part 4 Motorcycle Story- Brian Hartley

August 2023,

June was coming to an end and I thought it just might be possible to get my 10,000 mile rocker. If I planned my rides right I could hit the 10,000 mile mark by the end of October. Will my planned rides be enough for me reach my goal? I hope so!

Now, if you have been following my story, you know that August 5th will mark one year since my heart attack. I planned to celebrate being alive by taking a day ride to Metropolis, Illinois to get a picture with Superman and complete my sixth 50 rides in just over three months.

I told Brent about my plan in late June or early July. Periodically he would ask when I was going to Superman and each time I told him August 5th. Finally, I asked if he wanted to go on the ride with me. I think he was a little surprised that I would suggest a one day ride this long. So, Brent and I went to Metropolis on the anniversary of my heart attack. One day, 636 miles, another dealership challenge and my sixth 50 Rides state.

Hogwapalooza ride was on August 18th and I joined them for the ride. If you didn't get to ride that day. Turn your furnace up to 85 and dress in your full leathers. Are you sweating just thinking about it? Well, not to over exaggerate but it was hotter than that. The temperature on the Cruise Inn was fluctuating between 105 and 106 degrees. I am sure we rode into the armpit of hell that day.

August 23rd begins my first trip with my brother, which we had planned in February. My brother does not ride so I had to leave my motorcycle in his garage. We flew from Bentonville, Arkansas to New York City. While in NYC we got to see Hamilton on Broadway. We did a lot of walking, had some great food, China Town, Little Italy. One of my favorites was the World Trade Center Memorial to spend some time remembering what happened on 9/11/01.

After a couple of days and miles of walking we rode the Amtrak to Philadelphia. While in Philly my brother learned a couple of ways I shop for food. When we arrived at the hotel, we were tired from all of the walking in NYC so we ordered Chinese food. When shop food online I always look and the way they present their food in pictures. It was delicious and Wes was impressed. The reason we were in Philly was to see the St. Louis Cardinals play the Philadelphia Phillies. When we arrived at the ballpark, I let Wes know I was going to walk around the concourse to find food. I get to my seat with food in hand. Wes asked why I chose the food. I told him I shop with my nose and the one that smelled the best is the one that won. Speaking of winning, the Cardinals did not win. We watched the Cardinals get hammered by the Phillies. Much to my surprise the Phillies fans were nice. We had been told how hostile Philly fans are. It was not true, maybe because the Phillies were absolutely killing the Cardinals.

It feels like August wasn't much. But the two big rides with some smaller rides got me the mileage I needed to complete the challenge. I enjoyed both rides, and the time with my brother was priceless.

After the August social Kathy asked why I wasn't going on the Carhenge ride with the gang. We looked at it and I realized if I made some changes to my time off requests at work I could do it. So I booked the hotels and made plans to ride with the gang. By the end of August, it seemed realistic for me to hit the 10,000 mile mark by the first week of October.

Coming up next month...A September to Remember.

**Please email Debbie at [Debvenne@yahoo.com](mailto:Debvenne@yahoo.com) if you would like to submit anything for the newsletter!!!**



