

Ozark Mountain Chapter 5574 - Harley Owners Group

August 2025

GET OUT AND RIDE!



Greetings H.O.G. Family,

As a brief introduction, my wife Kasandra and I moved from California to Missouri in early 2019. Not long after settling in the Ozarks, we found the Ozark Mountain H.O.G. Chapter—and with it, a family of passionate riders and lifelong friends. Since that time, we've shared thousands of scenic miles and countless memories with our fellow chapter members.

I'm honored to serve as your new Chapter Director and lead our group into an exciting new era—one grounded in camaraderie, shared adventure, and continued support for our amazing partners at Renegade Harley-Davidson. Together, I believe we can build a legacy of meaningful experiences that we'll cherish for years to come.

We currently have several open champion roles for members who feel called to help shape our future. If you have a particular interest or skill you'd like to contribute, I warmly encourage you to reach out. Every helping hand adds value to what we do.

I also want to express my sincere thanks to those who have offered support during this transition, to our new leadership team for their dedication, and to Mike Vennekotter for carrying the Director's torch with heart and integrity. His contributions have left a lasting imprint on our chapter.

As we move forward, I want to share the six core values I live and lead by: **Honesty, Passion, Teamwork, Excellence, Accountability, and Fun.** These values will shape my leadership and our shared journey.

Feedback—both positive and constructive—is always welcome. Together, let's live up to our mission to **Ride and Have Fun!**

Ride safe and see you on the road,

Wayne Lovett
Director

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The LOH event for August will be a RIDE instead of a craft. Plan to meet at Renegade at 1pm with KSU 1:30pm for about a 2 hour ride. No lunch on this ride, but there may be a sweet treat stop.

Family

A group of people connected by blood, marriage, or adoption, typically living together and providing support and a sense of belonging. Families can take on various forms such as nuclear, single parent, extended and blended. I would like to touch on another kind of family. A family of people that make their way into your life through a group. In a short amount of time, I have had the pleasure to meet so many new folks through Harley. In that time a whole new family has come to light. Our HOG chapter is another form of family. We ride local rides together, take extended rides together, bond at socials or Renegade events. Some even hangout outside of Harley.

After spending 16 days traveling through 15 states at almost 5000 miles, there is plenty of time to think on your bike. Family came to mind a lot. Our chapter has some pretty awesome people in it. Some I would consider family. Without these people my Harley experience would have been different. I am thankful to those that have opened my eyes to the Harley adventure. Let's keep the spirit of family flowing through our chapter.

"Any day is a great day to ride!"
Unless your bike is in the shop and they are 2 weeks out. Then daydream of riding.

Johnna Forbes

Secretary

LOH Champion







Dunk Tank Fundraiser

\$1.00 for 3 throws at 25ft \$5.00 for 3 throws at 15ft \$10.00 for 3 throws at 10ft \$40 to PUSH the dunk button

Proceeds go directly
to the Chapter.
Renegade has
offered to donate
50% of what we
raise to a charity of
Jerry's choice. Jerry
chose C.A.R.E.
Animal Rescue





















There have been several motorcycle related deaths in the area lately. How many of you practice emergency maneuvers? Emergency braking, swerving? These are life saving skills on a motorcycle and skills that are perishable. Most bikes are now equipped with ABS. Have you ever engaged your brakes hard enough to activate it so you know how it responds? ABS helps a lot in emergency braking, however, there are other aspects of this skill that ABS does not help. Target fixation, in that situation are you going to target fixate and not look in your mirrors to see if traffic behind you is stopping? If you are and traffic is not stopping, are you downshifting to get into an appropriate gear during the braking should you need to take off again to perform a swerve? If you target fixate, chances are, you will also not have a planned escape path at this point. This is why, even with ABS, you need to practice and develop this skill. If your bike does not have ABS, have you developed the necessary skills and muscle memory to achieve maximum braking pressure without locking up the front or rear?

Swerving also needs to be practiced as well. During a swerve you shouldn't be doing emergency braking at the same time. Our tires have a limited amount of traction, during the swerve some of that available traction is committed to the swerve and we have less available traction for braking. Doing both can potentially exceed the available traction causing a loss of control, skid, or crash. Swerving and braking actions need to be separate. Practice both of these skills. Stop by an empty parking lot every so often on your way home from a ride and practice these skills to develop them. Hopefully, you never need them, but if you do, your loved ones will be glad you practiced these.

Mike Folkert
Safety Champion

A new member had a good question about clothing. We do not have a policy on what you can or can't wear while attending activities or riding with our group. We do, however, suggest not to wear offensive items, but otherwise you can choose to wear Harley-Davidson branded items or not. Usually, people find what works for them and use it. What I might wear for a vest might not be the style of the next person and that's okay. We don't require people to wear anything showing they are HOG chapter members since we are not a motorcycle club. We are a riding club, which means we love to get out and ride. H.O.G.'s most important rule: Keep it simple and keep it fun! Riding time is the best time you can spend with members.

Talking about rides, ride leaders consider the fuel capacity and mileage range of a wide variety of motorcycles that are likely to participate when planning fuel stops for longer Chapter rides. Fuel capacity of Harley-Davidson motorcycle models ranges from as little as 2.2 gallons for some Sportster models up to 6 gallons for the newest Touring models, with fuel mileage ranging from under 100 miles to as much as 250 miles or more. Plan for shorter intervals between fuel stops on group rides to avoid rider range anxiety. We have had new members join with different fuel requirements and this is important to remember when planning a ride.

While the Christmas Party may seem a long time away, we will begin selling tickets soon to be able to get an idea of how many people will be attending. You won't want to miss it. Food, Fun and the Dirty Santa game are on the agenda. Be sure to save the date, December 6th, and come to the party.

We are making good strides in turning in mileage for the Ride 365 Challenge. Right now we are 4th in our region with 360.219 miles. Keep turning in

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Riders Cha	allenge Book.						
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Till next m	onth your As	sistant Director	,				

Shaun			
Shaun Davis			
Assistant Director	•		

Don't reroute what God has already mapped out. Surrender your control to the sovereignty God!

"Accept the way God does things, for who can straighten what he has made crooked?" (Ecclesiastes 7:13 NLT)

Some things are beyond our grasp to understand and that's okay. When life doesn't go as planned, be it a career setback, a health issue, or a broken relationship then try trusting that God's plan is still unfolding before you, even if it looks "crooked" from your perspective. In a world that is obsessed with answers and instant solutions, Solomon's words invite us to embrace the mystery of God's ways. Not everything will make sense all the time. In fact, oftentimes, God's word is contrary to our way of thinking.

"My thoughts are nothing like your thoughts, says the Lord. And my ways are far beyond anything you could imagine. For just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so my ways are higher than your ways and my thoughts higher than your thoughts." (Isaiah 55:8–9).

Accepting what we cannot change doesn't mean giving up, it means trusting in God's better plan. It's all part of a growing faith in our spiritual journey. A. W. Tozer said, "God is looking for those whom He can do the impossible – what a pity that we plan only the things that we can do ourselves." Live an accelerated life in Jesus Christ! Live wisely! Live opportunistically! Live with a sense of urgency! (Eph. 5:15-17)

Prayer

Heavenly Father, help me to trust in the twists and turns that You have already planned for my journey, even when they feel uncomfortable or appear unfamiliar. Dear Jesus, give me the grace to surrender control, knowing that Your ways are higher, wiser, and always good. Holy Spirit, teach me to live with holy urgency and unwavering faith, resting in the map You have drawn for my life. Amen.

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