

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

Ladie's of Harley Officer: Karen Ryan

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: TBD

Newsletter Editor: Debbie Vennekotter

Webmaster: Sherry Davis

Sponsoring Dealership

RENEGADE HARLEY-DAVIDSON

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Springfield, MO 65807

www.renegade-hd.com

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February 2024



Director's Corner- Michael

Happy February to all! We are officially half-way through winter, and Spring will be just around the corner. We had a tremendous turnout for the January Social Gathering! That just proves that regardless of the weather, HOG members still enjoy socializing (and eating) together in fellowship and camaraderie. If we can't ride our motorcycles, at least we can talk about our motorcycles!

I have noticed that there is a tremendous amount of energy and excitement within the chapter. All the new officers are brainstorming new ideas and possibilities. We are adding new activities, rides, events, and promotions to our schedule. But please don't feel overwhelmed! As our chapter grows, so will our schedule of events. Remember that there are no minimum participation requirements to be a member! You can pick and choose the events you want to participate in. This is not a competition to see who can attract the most riders or members. Our corporate goal as leaders in our HOG group is to provide options for our members. Remember that each of you are paying \$20 per year (\$1.66/month) in dues – we want to make sure that you get your money's worth! If there are 2 rides scheduled on the same day, pick the one that fits your schedule. Think of it as eating dinner at a buffet...you probably won't be able to sample every food item on the line, but you will fill up on your favorite food. The last thing that any officer wants to hear from a HOG member is, "I'm bored." Or worse yet, "It's not worth \$1.66/mo to belong to this chapter."

If you have ideas for activities, rides, events, etc. please reach out to the respective officer. We want to hear from you! Help us to add value to your chapter. The founding goals of HOG way back in 1983 were simple: to RIDE and HAVE FUN. Hold our officer's feet to the fire – make sure we provide opportunities to ride and have fun!

"Membership has its privileges, but participation has its rewards!"

Hope to see you at breakfast on Feb 17th!

Mike



Assistant Director's Corner- Matt

Hello, Hope everyone had a Good January. We have had 4 rides so far this year with 3,080 Chapter miles ridden so far. Mother HOG is lacking on total miles as Members need to have mileage read at Renegade. So far we are 13th in the nation for miles to date.

Our Chapter goal is 1 million miles. In 2023, we had just under 800,000 miles ridden. So this is an achievable goal. Many rides and events are offered so please pick some and remember we are here to:

1. Have Fun
2. Ride Safely!!!

And maybe like Harley Bikes!



Secretary's Notebook- Valerie

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 the 4th Tuesday of every month. It is open to anyone 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

Welcome to February!

We have started the year off with a lot of exciting changes and \$3,947.34 in the account at the end of 2023. Our 2024 annual budget was approved at the January Business meeting.

After expenses of \$1,534.73 and deposits of \$1,612.00, we end January with \$4,024.61.

Please reach out to me if you ever have any questions.

Ride often and ride safe!



Safety Corner- Dwain

Greetings to all my brothers and sisters. Well, it looks and feels as though winter is finally here. Damn the bad luck!!! But as Mother Nature has laid a white blanket upon us, soon Father Time will be bringing back the golden days upon which we ride. So, let's keep in mind that when the snow and ice start disappearing be very mindful of ALL wet patches on the roads. For some may just be wet and some could very possibly be black ice, even in the middle of the brightest day. We still must take into factor the temps and wind chills. Also, be mindful of gravel, salt, sand, and any other coatings that could be covering the roads. When riding back roads during the melting process be very cautious to wet areas that are shaded by the territory. These areas are very high risk for black ice. And let's not forget about layering ourselves up. During extreme conditions, frostbite can occur in just a matter of minutes if any skin is not protected. Remember that when you ride, you're riding at an average of 20 degrees below the actual temperature without calculating in the wind chill. Brrrrrr. Finally, don't forget about the critters. They're still out there roaming about. Let us all practice something year-round that is not very common and that uses some common sense. Till next month, everyone stay safe and warm and don't forget to trust the rubber.

If you would like a safety topic posted just email me at dwainwilcox@icloud.com or text me at 417-622-2228



Road Captain's Seat- Brent

Attention all riders!

As we celebrate the successful launch of our riding season, we're actively seeking passionate individuals to step up as Ride Leaders for our Renegade Saturday Scoots and Friday Fun Runs. Remember, our seasoned Road Captains and Ride Leaders are poised to assist you in crafting unforgettable motorcycle journeys. Together, let's turn every ride into an adventure to cherish!

As we journey ahead, here are some crucial pointers to keep in mind: Trikes have the flexibility to position themselves within the formation. When following a trike, maintain a greater distance for enhanced visibility of road hazards. Additionally, be mindful that trikes have a shorter stopping distance compared to two-wheeled motorcycles. Let's ride safely and make every moment count on the open road!

Tap Rack

Live to Ride, Ride to Live!



Activities Playground- Brian and Kathy Hartley

The 2024 Rider Challenge books are available! Thanks, Kasandra, for putting this together. Books are \$1.00 and are available at the membership table and our Chapter Social Gatherings. Start earning your points for mileage check-ins, chapter rides, chapter events, and more.

January 2, - February 29th | Frosty Knuckles

We have had some cold days to start the challenge. How can you get frost on your knuckles if it isn't a little cold though. February 29th you can text a photo of your ending odometer reading to Brian Hartley 314-814-4481. The trophies have been received and will be awarded at the March Chapter Social.

February 3, 2024 | Saturday Scoot Meet @ 9:00 am, KSU @ 9:30 am

Renegade will have a Saturday Scoot 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. Gregg Randall will lead the ride.

February 3 - February 24, 2024 | Membership Table 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Every Saturday in February we will have a Membership Table set up at Renegade from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm sign up to work the table and get points in your challenge book.

February 8, 2024 | Chapter Social Gathering @ 6:00 pm, Fun Begins @ 6:30pm

The theme is spaghetti & meatballs. Bring your favorite sauce and/or cheeses and/or salads and/or breads and/or desserts to share with others. 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 a jar of spaghetti sauce and get an extra blue ticket and 20 points in the challenge book for our HOGS for Kids Baskets. Also we will be taking the Chapter photo so put on your happy faces.

February 10, 2024 | Valentine Event @ 11:00 am - 2:00 pm

Bring your Valentine or favorite person to this fun event. Starting @ 9:00 am the ladies will get chocolate roses, while supplies last (unless you are allergic to chocolate). The photo booth, Isaac Kenneth music and sweets will be from 11:00 am - 2:00 pm. Thank you to those that signed up to help with this event.

February 10, 2024 | World's Largest Fork & Lunch ride @ 12:00 pm KSU @ 12:30 pm

DATE CHANGE due to weather. Meet Saturday at Renegade @ 12:00 pm KSU @ 12:30. Ride to the World's Largest Fork then lunch at City Butcher. Both of these are in our 2024 Rider Challenge Books. Kasandra will be leading the ride.

February 15, 2024 | Service Clinic 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Service Clinic will be at Renegade from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm. Stop in, get a snack and hear about the new 2024 models. Be ready for the next ride challenge for March/April.

February 17, 2024 | Breakfast with the Officers @ 8:00 am

Come join your Chapter Officers for a very informal meet-and-eat every third Saturday of every month – rain or shine! We will be meeting at 8:00am at Billy Gail's Restaurant, 1882 W. James River Road, Ozark, MO 65721. Mike V. and Matt C. will be attending. Come join us for breakfast and/or coffee. Chat, share ideas, fellowship, or bring concerns/compliments about our HOG chapter. Of course, breakfast and/or coffee are on your own – current officer salaries just don't support treating everyone.

February 17, 2024 | LOH Mardi Gras Ride and Lunch Event | Ride starts @ 11:30 am KSU @ 12:00 am Lunch @ 1:30 pm

NOTE DATE & TIME CHANGE. Meet at Renegade @ 11:30 am KSU @ 12:00 pm. If you are unable to do the ride and want to meet for lunch, the

lunch will be @1:30 pm at Krackin' Cajun Seafood House 3644 S. Campbell, Springfield, MO. Please sign up for this event so we can let the fine folk at Krackin' Cajun know approximately how many to expect.

February 17, 2024 | Renegade Blood Drive

Renegade is hosting a Blood Drive on February 17th from 9:00am-3:00pm. If you have blood, this event is for you. Stop by the dealership and give the gift of life. You can get a free t-shirt or sweatshirt and a \$10 gift card. Then you can hang out with our super cool friends at the dealership.

February 24, 2024 | National Pancake Day @ 9:00 am - 11:00 am

National Pancake Day is February 24th and Renegade is celebrating with a pancake breakfast from 9:00 am - 11:00 am. I (Brian) have signed up to help, you too can sign up to help me help Renegade.

February 25, 2024 | New Member Orientation @ 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 @ 2:45 KSU @ 3:00.

February 27, 2024 | Business Meeting 6:30 pm

The Chapter Business Meeting will begin 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.

A LOOK AHEAD...Snapshot of March

Coming next month:

March 2 - Saturday Scoot

March 2 - Chili Cook Off - 4 of 8 spots remain for HOG Chapter members, 4 spots for Dealership staff.

March 9 - Daytona Bike Week.

March 14 - Chapter Social Gathering.

March 16 - St. Patrick's Day Event - We will need volunteers.

March 16 - Breakfast with the Officers.

March 22-23 - Renegade's Spring Season Opener.

March 24 - New Member Orientation & Safety Ride.

March 26 - Business Meeting.

March 28 - Service Clinic - 6:00 - 7:00 "Women's Garage Night."

March 30 - Easter Egg Hunt - We will need SEVERAL volunteers.

A Wider View...

Be Thinking how you can participate...

HOGS for Kids - 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. Stay tuned for more exciting news and events to help with fund raising and food collection.



Ladies of Harley LOH Corner- Karen

Hope everyone got through January unscathed. As I write this article, it is 8 degrees outside with about an inch of snow on the ground. Brrrr. February should give us a glimpse of milder weather and Spring. Yes, Spring will eventually be back, yes, hopes for brighter and warmer days are ahead!

LOH will be hosting the following events this month:

February 12 BRUNCH BUNCH This month, I will meet new participants at Renegade's store at 11:00am then head out for lunch. (Regular participants get a text from me where we will be meeting that month) Bikes or cages are encouraged. History: I have been doing the Brunch Bunch for several months before asked to be a member of the Chapter Board. We have done such things as luncheons, movies, game days, and picnics. I originally started the Brunch Bunch for the wives of weekdays riders that did not ride with their husbands. Everyone is invited. Everyone seems to enjoy this monthly gathering. Our next Brunch Bunch will be held on March 11.

Future Events

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|----------|--------------------|
| March 10 | Bowling and dinner |
| March 11 | Brunch Bunch |
| April 13 | Potluck Bonfire |

I would like to form a committee of member volunteers to help with LOH activities. LOH helps the dealership with volunteers for their bigger events i.e. Valentines, Easter. If you are interested or have any suggestions for activities, please don't hesitate to contact me at 414-339-6010 or karilyn99@gmail.com



Membership Corner- Cory and Nancy

It's still time to **RENEW!** Make sure you renew your chapter membership. You can turn it in at any of the chapter meetings and gatherings, or any time we have a membership table set up at Renegade H-D. Remember spouses not owning their own bike must also be a National 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 and membership tables, 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. Ozark Mountain HOG Chapter now has 188 active members. 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 February: Kevin Cervellere (24 years), John LuCerne (4 years), Wil Wheelock (3 years), Leslie Jo Howdeshell (3 years), Tyler Harris (3 years), Cindy Williams (1 year), Ellen Wiertzema (1 year), Jason Wiertzema (1 year), Dana Weidler (1 year), Mark Owens (1 year), Samuel "Ross" Olson (1 year), Mike Nichols (1 year), Erick Luper (1 year), Kathy Hartley (1 year), Brian Hartley (1 year)



Fundraising Coin Purse- Scott and Kim

We have started our food drive, which will be all year long. **During every HOG social meeting, if you bring non-perishable items, you will receive an extra blue ticket for the gift give-away.**

If anyone has any ideas or business contacts for donation purposes, please let us know. Our contact information is kkrepps23@gmail.com (Kim) or slk57jcvk@gmail.com (Scott). Giddy up in '24.....



Chaplain's Meditations - Gregg and Jeanne

Four-Dimensional Love

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails. 1 Corinthians 13:4-8

A four-year-old was asked the question: "What does love mean?" The answer was both amusing and profound; "Love is when your puppy licks your face, even after you left him alone all day." There is a tendency to measure love by the outward response received. The word "love" has lost much of its power to convey something special. Consider these statements: "I love you. I love my dog. I love to eat. I love my Harley. I love to ride. Let's make love. I love God." We use the same word to describe how we feel about each of those statements. Our meaning in each case is quite different.

The Apostle Paul prayed that his readers would "grasp how wide and long and high and deep is Christ's love" (Ephesians 3:18). The word "grasp" literally means to experience love, not just have a mental concept of love. Paul described four dimensions of God's love that he wanted people to experience.

Consider the width of God's love. The width of God's love is the most obvious thing that distinguishes His love from human love. We love certain people but not others. We love certain types of people, but not others. The Bible teaches that there are no sub-standard people, nations, or tribes. "For God so loves the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16). God loves everybody! Think about the person you most dislike. Now think about this: God loves that person. God's love is all inclusive.

Consider the length of God's love. The most likely meaning is a reference to time. God's love is from everlasting to everlasting. It isn't just available on Sundays. His love is not inconvenienced or bothered by disruptions. God's love is available all the time.

Consider the height of God's love. Height refers to measurement. It also refers to "a high standard" or "quality." The quality of God's love surpasses anything we have ever known or experienced. Quality is determined by comparison. Which is a better bike? Harley or Honda? Your decision is determined by quality and preference. God's love is of such quality that it will never measure you by comparison to someone else.

Consider the depth of God's love. This love describes the depths of the sea, or the depths of a miry pit. It is also used in the parable of the seed. The seed that lands on rocky soil and springs up quickly dies, because there is no depth to the soil. It looks good, but there's nothing to it. God's love is real. Depth not only refers to the fact that it's authentic, but that God's love reaches into the depth of our deepest needs.

Width, length, height, and depth describes a box. How big is your box of God's love? We limit God's love by the size of our box. God's love cannot be contained by your thought and understanding of Him. He is much bigger than that. God loves you!

Prayer

Father God, thank you that your love is unconditional, immeasurable and eternal. That it never runs out nor can it be any greater than it is for me right now. Holy Spirit, help me to share the love that has been so freely given to me with others who surround my life. I ask this in the name of Jesus; the One who embodies perfect love. Amen.



Food Team Serving Platter- Antoinette

Hey everyone. Don't forget our next social meeting is Thursday, February 8 from 6-8pm. And Love is in the air! Lady and the Tramp style of spaghetti and meatballs. I'm trying something new so that we can have enough food for all and options. Attached is the link to let me know what you're bringing. This way we have a good balance of mains, sides, and desserts. Look forward to seeing everyone.

<https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/20F0C48AFAB2CA3F94-47436286-february/21534714>

My email is <mailto:antoinettebevington@hotmail.com>

For Your Reading Pleasure – Brian Hartley

Part 2 - H.O.G. Ozark Mountain Chapter

Wes (my brother) calls me and throws out the idea of going to see the Cardinals play at Spring Training in Jupiter, Florida. Good thing I had my glove on. (See what I did there with that baseball pun?) I begin looking at possible games in March and April. Unfortunately, our schedules wouldn't work with the preseason schedule.

Kathy and I were at Renegade one Saturday. Mike Vennekotter was at a table like a barker-man at the circus trying to get people to join "the gang." We were interested but learned that we needed to have a National H.O.G. membership before we could join. So, we went home and took step one. The next week we went back and joined the Ozark Mountain Chapter.

I started off by turning in the reading on my odometer. I had no idea why, but I did it anyway. Next I downloaded the HD App and joined the March challenge. March 30th I planned a ride that would get me the miles and the dealership check-ins needed to get the digital badge.

I start my ride by going to Monett to get a picture at the Freedom Silo for the 10 for '23. Then I rode to Eureka Springs Harley Davidson, and took the necessary photo. Next stop was Pigs Trail Harley Davidson in Rogers, Arkansas. I finished the ride with a stop at Hideout Harley Davidson in Joplin, Missouri. Having all the necessary photos and a smile on my face I head home. This rookie had a hard lesson to learn though. I get home to upload my photos. I open the app and realize that the mileage had to be "recorded" in the HD app. It wasn't a picture of my starting odometer reading and a picture ending odometer reading. I found myself saying something I had heard my dad say most of my life. "Well, Sad Bear!" none of the ride counted and I didn't get the badge.

I was determined to get credit for the April challenge. I planned a ride up to the St Louis area. This ride got colder and colder the longer I rode. I will say the ride home goes down as the second dumbest, no third dumbest ride I have ever done. I made stops at Lake Ozarks HD, Doc's HD, Ted's Motorcycle World, and St. Charles HD. Success! I completed the challenge.

When we went to the new member orientation, it was a lot to take in and we were a bit overwhelmed at first. We began by coming to the monthly social and started to meet some of "the gang" as my mom refers to the Ozark Mountain Chapter. I went on my first chapter ride in May. We went to the Ozarks Rides Rally at Lake Ozarks HD. The not-at-all introverted Brent Emerson was on the ride and he asked if I had the 50 Rides One Nation for Missouri. I didn't know what he was talking about, so I said no. He said let's go get it. We went to Bagnell Dam and got the picture. We went to lunch and those next two hours was the best thing that could have happened to me.

Brent walked me through the HOG Members 50 rides, 10 for '23, dealership challenge and how to submit your photos. Hallelujah! My March ride wasn't a total waste. Sure I didn't get the digital coin, but I had

nine dealerships between both March and April's rides. Brent taught me how he organizes his photos, how he tries to maximize his rides, and so much more.

To summarize, I went from a heart attack, to a desire to ride more (I Want To Ride More). I learned the importance of the new member orientation, and group riding. I have improved my riding skills and gleaned knowledge from the members on the rides. Rides to baseball games, solo rides and group rides have taught me so much more. It sparked a fire in me to ride even more.

Next month my journey continues to crescendo.

Please email Debbie at Debvenne@yahoo.com if you would like to submit anything for the newsletter!!!