



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

Upcoming Wilkins Events
January Social Photos

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Vee-Twin Rumblings

Newsletter of the Central Vermont H.O.G. Chapter

VOLUME 39, ISSUE 1

JANUARY 2026

Chapter Director's Report —Justen Elliott



"Winter's Grip"

*The chrome is dulled, the paint is a frosted sheen,
Beneath a sky of unrelenting grey, The road's a sheet of ice,
a bitter scene, Where iron horses dream of warmer days. My
V-twin sleeps, a giant in the shed, Tenders humming low, a
winter's drone, But in my heart, the throttle's fire is fed, A
memory of asphalt, freedom known. The wind bites deep, but
leather holds its own. A silent vow to ride when sun returns,
For in this chill, the biker's soul is shown, A burning ember
that forever burns.*

As I'm writing this newsletter article, this poem seemed very appropriate. All the news channels & meteorologist are warning of the severe cold weather, and snow that's on the way for this weekend. For me personally mid-January

through the end of February seem to be the longest and most difficult to bear.

To keep myself from catching severe uncontrollable "LOWT" (lack of wind therapy), I find things bike-related to do. Now is a great time to go over your complete biker gear, check your helmet for age, clean and preserve your leather goods, check that rain suit & boots for holes. If your bike is stored at home, go over it from top to bottom —when that first day of riding arrives, you'll be ready to go. Believe it or not, this is also a great time of year to hone your riding skills. I can hear you now, he's crazy, well let me explain. There are 100's of YouTube videos you can watch for free: cornering, breaking, stopping, acceleration. To prove this again to myself, on YouTube I just typed "Police slow race competition" If you watch this particular video, it will demonstrate how with practice you can make a big bike barely move and not tip over. You can find free videos from Ride like a Pro, motorcycle riding tips with Ken Condon, and many more. There are always ways of honing your skills even during winter. Another perfect example is to attend a couple of Wilkins Harley Davidson upcoming events. January 24th Group riding Seminar & breakfast, I'll be there flipping pancakes; January 31st Increase your cornering confidence with Ken Condon. I want to thank everyone who came out to our first meeting of 2026, we enjoyed pizza and thank you Joe for the presentation of the trip out West.

For our February 10th 2026 meeting it's "chocolate theme" please bring something chocolate to share. We'll go over the plans for 2026 and I'll share some new HOG programs that were announced for 2026 and goals I'd like to see our Chapter achieve. Until then stay safe and warm.

Saddle Up Let's Ride
Justen

PS. We are going to attempt a YARD SALE again this year, so mark your calendar for April 25th with a rain date of May 9th. More details to follow next month.



On the Horizon

Wilkins Harley Davidson:
Family-Owned and Operated Since 1947



WILKINS HARLEY-DAVIDSON
SUPER BOWL PRE-PARTY
SATURDAY, FEB. 7th 11 am-1 pm

Free chicken wings at noon until gone!
Games and Giveaways!

WILKINS DUMPSTER DIVE!
WE'RE DIVING INTO A FREEZING DUMPSTER TO RAISE MONEY FOR CHaD!

CHaD
Children's Hospital at Dartmouth-Hitchcock

Saturday, February 21st

WILKINS HARLEY-DAVIDSON
BEST DAMN CHILI COOK-OFF
Saturday, February 28th
BIG CASH PRIZES!

Celebrity Guest!
JONATHAN GOLDSMITH
The actor who formerly portrayed the Most Interesting Man in the World

Moderated By:
Senator Rocket,
Founder of Eat Vermont

Beer provided by
Good Measure

Judged By:
Tony Campos,
President of New England Cooks
Stefano Coppola,
Owner of Pearl Street Pizza & Morse Block Deli
Justin Dain,
Head Chef & Owner of Oakes & Evelyn

CASH PRIZES!

More...On the Horizon



Patches Currently Available (which will be at the February Social on the 10th)

4 large
Chapter
rockers

\$30 each



1 small
rocker

\$25



1
small
white
letter
eagle

\$7



4 large
HOG
eagle

\$18 each



4 small
gold
letter
eagle
\$10
each



5 large
LOH

\$15 each



1 small
LOH

\$5



8 round
Chapter

\$20 each



Life member: 6 large \$20 each 15 small \$5 each

Acceptance of **Membership Renewal** forms for Central Vermont HOG Chapter #5218 began January 1, 2026, in accordance with National HOG guidelines.

The forms, "Chapter Membership Enrollment Form and Release" and the Chapter Code of Conduct, will be available at our February Social on the 10th. Dues remain at \$20 for the year.

To be a member of the local Chapter, your National HOG Membership must be current.



Ladies of Harley are selling RazBarre Jam again (and blueberry!)

This jam is made from raspberries grown at Lauren's Dad's home in Barre.

It is delicious!!

Get some at the next Chapter social.

This size jar (8 oz.) is \$6.

And a smaller size (4 oz.) is \$4.

Proceeds go to the Chapter.

AGENDA FOR FEBRUARY 10th SOCIAL

Meet at Wilkins Harley-Davidson beginning at 6 p.m.

Call to Order followed by Pledge of Allegiance

Approve the Minutes of the January Meeting

50/50 Raffle ticket sales

Sign the check-in sheet

Officers' Reports

Dealership Update

Share information from the recent Officers' planning meeting

Discuss group/members ideas for 2026

Socializing and sharing chocolate goodies brought by members

Last call for purchasing 50/50 raffle tickets. Drawing for the winner.

Door prizes will be given out

Next Social will be Tuesday, March 10th 6 p.m. location to be announced

It's hard to believe that the 25th anniversary of 9/11 will be happening this year.

Our Chapter has been asked to spread the word about an event planned for August 20-23, 2026 involving the three crash sites of 9/11.

The website for more information and to register for the ride is
<https://americas911ride.org>

There is a college scholarship fund for children of First Responders.

For info, go to
[America's 911 Foundation](https://americas911foundation.org)

Remembering the 25th Anniversary of September, 11 2001
Honoring the Heroes and Victims
On the 26th
America's 9/11 Ride

When: August 20-23 2026
Where: Somerset PA, Pentagon, New York City
Why: Honoring and Remembering All Who Perished

Join the Only Police Escorted Motorcycle Ride to All Three Crash Sites of September 11, 2001
All Proceeds fund the scholarships & first responders in need

"NEVER FORGET!"

Proceeds Benefit the College Scholarship Program for "All" Active First Responders (EMS, FIRE, POLICE)

**** More Info:** <https://americas911ride.org>
Scan to Register ~ Create A Team, Tell Friends, Get Sponsors

   
 

America's 911 Foundation, Inc.
Scholarship Fund

Available To Children Of Active
First Responders(EMS, FIRE, POLICE)

Mission Statement

We Support those who answer the 911 call Everyday - and to
NEVER FORGET SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

Scholarships are for advancing education,
Which include Colleges, Universities and Technical Schools.

How much are the scholarships:

The scholarship fund is a set number of scholarships. Each scholarship is \$2,000.

Who can apply:

High school seniors, college students of active First Responder(s) or First Responders continuing their education. First Responders can be Volunteer or Paid.

How to apply:

Visit www.americas911foundation.org and select the Scholarship Info.

What funds the scholarships:

The America's 9/11 Ride and Donations from Great People like you.

Scan the Code Below
For the Application



Thank You for Answering The Call

www.americas911foundation.org

501(c)(3) Federal Tax ID 42-0533112



MINUTES OF THE JANUARY SOCIAL

Opening:

The regular monthly meeting of the Central Vermont Chapter of the H.O.G. was called to order at 6:00pm on Tuesday, January 13, 2026 at Wilkins Harley Davidson, the sponsoring H.D. dealership.

Officers:

Director:	Justen Elliott
Assistant Director:	Michael Greig
Treasurer:	Don Whiton
Secretary:	Kim Hidenfelter
Membership:	Linda Lamell
Ladies of Harley:	Trina Delary
Head Road Captain:	Jeff Demers
Safety Officer:	Open
Activities Director:	Vicky Lacasse
Historian:	Joel Delary
Photographer:	Jennifer Sumner
HOG Web Master:	Richard Pitonyak
Social Media Specialist:	Brion Muzzy
Group Members	

Absent:

Kim Hidenfelter

Thank You Vicky for taking notes in my absence.

Pledge of Allegiance: Recited by the group. As always, Thank You to our military members.

Happy Birthday: Belated Happy Birthday to people with December and January birthdays.

Director's Update: There will be a \$25 gift card given out every meeting. Be sure to sign the attendance sheet each meeting to be entered to win.

ROC Training: To achieve Chrome Status for the Chapter, primary officers must be in attendance. Justen, Mike and Kim are currently signed up to attend the April 18th meeting in Schenectady, NY.

Dealership Update: On January 24th- Wilkins is hosting the Group Riding Seminar.
On January 31st-Wilkins is hosting the Cornering Workshop.
Thank You Zack for joining us this month.

Membership Update: 2026 membership forms and dues are being collected. Please get with Linda Lamell to make sure you re-new your membership.

Ladies of Harley: RaspBarre Jam and Blueberry Jam is also for sale with all proceeds going into the Chapter bank. \$4 for small jars and \$6 for tall jars. Available at all meetings until supplies run out.

Trip Out West: Joe Benning narrated the presentation with photos of the cross country trip attended by many members of the Chapter. Thank you Joe for sharing the group's adventures.

Here's a bit of trivia. The Central Vermont HOG Chapter was formed in 1988.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 10, 2026.

Adjourned: The meeting adjourned to enjoy pizza and the trip presentation.

Minutes submitted by: Kim Hidenfelter, Secretary / Vicky Lacasse

Photos of the January Social

provided by Chapter Photographer Jennifer sumner





Chapter Charter Member, Joe Benning, shared tips for planning a long-distance trip and presented a slide show of a 29-day trip across the country undertaken by nine Chapter members in late August-September 2025.



December attendance winner, door prize winners and the 50/50 raffle winner!



Please do business with our newsletter advertisers:



708 US Route 302, Berlin-Barre, VT



The Den is a popular restaurant and entertainment venue that offers a wide range of experiences. Customers praise the excellent food, such as the "bear droppings," as well as the lively atmosphere with live music, DJs, line dancing, and pool tables. The spacious setting is suitable for private parties, special events, and community gatherings.

110 Business Center Rd, Williamstown



HouseMade and Catering

(802) 479-5920

*Simply Subs'
Aka Simply HouseMade and Catering
of 70 N. Main St, Barre Vt.*



**Gusto's Bar
28 Prospect St. Barre Vt.
(802) 476-7919**

Central Vermont HOG Chapter Code of Conduct (rev. 3/23/2024)

Central Vermont H.O.G. is a family-oriented, non-political, non-religious, non-racial organization. Riding motorcycles while helping each others enjoy *their* riding passion is at our core. Accordingly, we take a very common-sense approach to our members' expected behavior while at a Central Vermont H.O.G. ride, meeting, or event.

1. Treat all other members with respect through a cordial and friendly attitude.
2. Conduct that creates, promotes, or maintains disharmony in the Chapter will not be tolerated.
3. Foul, demeaning or offensive language or behavior at any Central Vermont H.O.G. rides, events or meetings, including at our sponsoring dealership, will not be tolerated.
4. Any form of discrimination or harassment, including but not limited to sexual, racial, or religious, whether direct or indirect, will not be tolerated.
5. Members shall not make critical or disparaging comments about this Chapter or other Chapters, its officers, another member, Wilkins Harley-Davidson or its employees, or the Harley-Davidson motor company in public or on social media.
6. Aggressive behavior towards others, including verbal and/or physical abuse will not be tolerated.

Breaches of the Code of Conduct

*Personal disputes/disagreements between members, the dealership, or its employees should be resolved respectfully and discretely.

*The Chapter director, other officer, or ride leader can speak with the offenders privately, or act as a mediator with the affected and offending parties.

*Members found to be in violation of any of the above may face potential probation, suspension, or removal from the Chapter.

*The Sponsoring Dealer or H.O.G. Manager may terminate a person's membership in the Chapter if the Sponsoring Dealer, at their sole discretion, determines that a member's conduct is undesirable or contrary to the Sponsoring Dealer's standards or vision.

Central Vermont Harley Owners Group

Sponsoring Dealership: **Wilkins Harley-Davidson, Inc.**

663 South Barre Road

Barre, VT 05641

802-476-6104

<http://www.wilkinsharley.com>

E-mail: Info@wilkinsharley.com

Monthly Socials take place on the Second Tuesday of each month (except December) beginning at 6 p.m. (changed from the old schedule of 6:30 p.m.) If you aren't able to get there at 6, please come anyway!! (Better late than never!) Most, but not all, meetings will take place at Wilkins. Alternate meeting places will be announced well in advance.

Calendar of Events for 2026—all rides & events are subject to change

This is a 'work in progress' - details and new events will be added as they are available

(Note: destination rides indicate the chapter ride ends at the destination.)

*nonmembers will need to complete a release form for rides

Central Vermont HOG Chapter Socials, events, and rides (In blue)

Wilkins Harley-Davidson Events (In red)

Other Events (not Wilkins or Central Vermont Chapter sponsored)

FEBRUARY

Saturday, February 7. Wilkins Superbowl Pre-Party

Tuesday, February 10. Central Vermont HOG Chapter Social at Wilkins beginning at 6 p.m.

Saturday, February 21. Wilkins Dumpster Dive to benefit CHAD

Saturday, February 28. Wilkins Best Damn Chili Cook-Off

MARCH

Tuesday, March 10. Central Vermont HOG Chapter Social beginning at 6 p.m.

Saturday, March 14. Wilkins St. Patrick's Day Party

Saturday, March 28. Wilkins Screw Winter Luau and Pig Roast

APRIL

Saturday, April 4. Wilkins Adult Easter Egg Hunt. Starts at 9 a.m.

Tuesday, April 14. Central Vermont HOG Chapter Social at Wilkins beginning at 6 p.m.

Saturday April 18. Wilkins Gear Up to Ride Event 11 a.m to 1 p.m.

Tuesday, April 25. Central Vermont HOG Chapter Yard Sale (watch for details)

MAY

Saturday, May 2. Wilkins Dos de Mayo Nacho Party

Tuesday, May 12. Central Vermont HOG Chapter Social at Wilkins beginning at 6 p.m.

Saturday, May 16. Wilkins Hot Rods and Cool Bikes

Saturday-Sunday, May 23-24. Central Vermont HOG Chapter Memorial Day weekend Overnight Ride

Saturday May 23, 2026, meet at Cumberland Farms Woodsville, NH at 8:00am KSU 8:30am. We will head to Grampy's Drive-in Pittsburg, NH for lunch.

After lunch we'll cross into Canada at the Pittsburg border. We'll head to Cookshire-Eaton, Canada then on to Karting Orford Sherbrooke, Magog, QC.

We'll also make a stop at Carrier HD in Sherbrooke.

We'll spend the night at Auberge du grand Lac 40 Rue Merry S, Magog, QC aubergedugrandlac@gmail.com 1-800-267-4039 / 819-847-4039 ***ask for Michael*** A block of rooms are being held, mention Justen & Central Vermont HOG for the discount. (it's

best to call and ask for Michael)

Sunday after breakfast we'll visit the 'Abbey of Saint- Benoit-du-luc' then on to the VT border near Jay Peak, Pick up route 100 S. & home from there.

JUNE

Saturday, June 6. Wilkins Dog Pawty

Tuesday, June 9. Central Vermont HOG Chapter Social at Wilkins beginning at 6 p.m.

Friday, June 12. Wilkins Community Appreciation 90s Night beginning at 6 p.m.

Saturday, June 27. Wilkins 2nd Annual Downtown Barre Wing Walk

JULY

Saturday, July 4 Wilkins Dog Pawty

Tuesday, July 14. Central Vermont HOG Chapter Social at Wilkins beginning at 6 p.m.

Thursday-Sunday, July 16-19. Iron Adventure Rally at Okemo

Thursday, July 16. Wilkins Bike Night at Picasso 6-8 p.m.

Saturday, July 18. Wilkins Wild Wild West Party BBQ at noon. Come dressed in your best Western-wear.

Saturday, July 25. Wilkins Annual Bike Show

Thursday, July 30. Wilkins Bike Night at Buster's Sports Bar and Grill

AUGUST

Saturday, August 1 Bikers Against Child Abuse International Ride Starts from Wilkins at 11 a.m. lunch provided after the ride

Thursday, August 6. Wilkins Bike Night at Langdon St. Tavern 6-8 p.m.

Saturday, August 8. United Motorcyclists of Vermont Annual Toy Run to Support Shriner's Hospitals for Children

Tuesday, August 11. Central Vermont HOG Chapter Social at Wilkins beginning at 6 p.m.

SEPTEMBER

Tuesday, September 8. Central Vermont HOG Chapter Social at Wilkins beginning at 6 p.m.

Saturday, September 26. Wilkins Cookie Challenge

OCTOBER

Saturday, October 10. Wilkins Biketoberfest 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Tuesday, October 14. Central Vermont HOG Chapter Social at Wilkins beginning at 6 p.m.

NOVEMBER

Tuesday, November 10. Central Vermont HOG Chapter Social at Wilkins beginning at 6 p.m.

DECEMBER

TBD. Central Vermont HOG Chapter Holiday Party