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

VOLUME 33, ISSUE 3

MARCH 2020



Chapter Director—Joel DeLary

Hello fellow H.O.G. members;

First and foremost, I certainly hope that this newsletter finds you all in good health! As we all work through this current health crisis it's important to remember not only your family but your friends and neigh-

bors as well: everyone is just a phone call away and even a few minutes on the phone might help make the day go a little better for some I'm sure. Social Distancing is the norm these days, well what better way to practice that then on your bike because Spring seems to be here. I am sure most of you are aware that April's social has been cancelled and for the next few months after that will be based month to month and should another meeting be cancelled everyone will be informed through email as well as on our Facebook page as the each meeting date draws near. Our first planned Chapter ride is scheduled for the weekend of May 16/17, any change in the schedule will be posted on Facebook as well as email with a BIG thank you to Linda and Brion! Our two recipients for the Riding Academy certificates are Clay and Elizabeth. Clay was given his dad's old bike when his dad bought a new one and he wanted to be able to ride along side his dad. Elizabeth is a school teacher who's husband is the Head Road Captain in the Champlain Valley H.O.G. Chapter. We are looking forward to seeing both of them on the road soon. The Experienced Riders Course or ERC is scheduled for May 17th in Colchester at the Ethan Allen DMV site starting at 8:00 and the cost is \$80 per person. Anyone interested in this course needs to contact Dave Mickey at dmickey@gmail.com ASAP, he can provide you with the link to download the registration form as well as his address to send your payment to, or contact me and I can provide you that information as well. I have purchased 16 small Central Vermont Chapter rockers, I now have 12 left if anyone is interested. The cost is \$9 each, I was going to bring them to the meetings but if anyone would like one sooner please contact me and I can always mail them out. In closing I want to wish each and everyone you and your families the very best of health, and hope

all of you will find some normalcy in your lives as we all move forward through this unprecedented time. Joel





On the Horizon

Wilkins Harley Davidson: Family-Owned and Operated Since 1947



Upcoming Wilkins Events



Co-Head Road Captains—Brion Muzzy and Ben Drury



I debated for a while what to write during these troubling and trying times of COVID-19; should I be serious, should I be funny, a little of both, Maybe just a Heartfelt Thanks to all the Essential Personal on the front lines of this keeping us safe and keeping America moving !!! Although we have put the socials on hold for now we are still planning to do some riding. We have **NOT** cancelled any of the rides at this time. Some rides may vary a bit to



conform to the current state of affairs **But We Are Going To Ride!!!!** The CVHOG #5218 answer

to Social Distancing !!! So please check our facebook page and shared calendar with Wilkins Harley Davidson often for updates and additions to this years events and rides. Speaking of riding I spoke with my good friend Hazel Izzo the other day and she told me she had been talking with Myron, she told me he was in good spirits and doing well and really looking forward to getting his trike out !!! I can only hope I am doing that well at 96!! If anyone has questions or suggestions on upcoming event you can send questions to me at officers@centralvermonthog.com

Till we can Ride again, PLEASE keep yourself Safe, Keep your Families safe and just like last year's riding season this too will soon be in the rearview mirror,



struck.

Historian— Tim Schroeder

Well.....I got to thinkin about the horse I ride along with the thousands of others who ride Softails. We can all thank a guy by the name of Bill Davis for this unique frame design that gives the Softail that classic Harley look and a ride without taking your spine out. Here's some interesting history about that.....

Bill Davis was a mechanical engineer and had a company called RoadWorx in Missouri, and he was an avid Harley Rider. Bill loved the looks of the hardtail ridged but hated the pounding on his body. It was then when he started experimenting with hidden rear shocks on a big twin frame. Davis came up with the triangular swing arm-pivot arrangement that marks all Harley Softails from that time to the present. This was back in 1972. Davis had the smarts to get a Patent on his design in March of 1976. It was sometime along in 1976 when Willie G saw one of these bikes that Davis had built. That image stayed with Willie right from the start. Willie G and Louie Netz contacted Davis and negotiat-

ed with him to get this frame design, however no deal was



Davis went on to build and sell more of these frames and after six months Willie G contacted Bill again to re-open talks. Again their offer did not impress Davis and he walked for the second time.

Davis continued to fine tune his product and sales were not bad but the money was not coming in fast enough and these frames were very labor intensive to produce. Unable to find a way to ramp up production, Bill's company RoadWorx came to a halt and he closed up production.

Davis contacted Willie G and Harley - Davidson one more time and the rest is history, HD made Davis a good offer and he worked with Harley's engineers to produce one of the most iconic motorcycles in there line up....and in 1984 the term Softail was coined and the FXST was born. A few years later HD brought back the springer fork and the Springer Softail hit the streets. The Fat Boy is one of the most popular Softail ever made. There you go. I myself, love how the Heritage Classic handles and rides. I have over 48,000 miles and counting on my Softail.

The story here is fascinating, and Harley - Davidson keeps growing their brand to satisfy the riders out there who are looking for that special bike that suits them well. I for one cannot wait to road test the Live Wire.......

Remember Your History Before You Become History...

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Chapter Meetings: Second Tuesday of Each Month (except December)

Usually at Wilkins Harley Davidson, Inc.

Beginning at 6:30 p.m.

March Social Minutes

We gathered on March 10th at Wilkins for our monthly social. Director Joel DeLary called the meeting to order at 6:30 a.m. We pledged allegiance to the flag. Thanks were expressed for all veterans and emergency service members.

Joel mentioned that anyone planning a ride for the upcoming riding season should get their ride details to Brion for inclusion in the 'work-in-progress' events calendar.



Iron Adventure Rally update: The event will be held July 30-Aug.1. There are a few rooms available at the host hotel, the Hartford Marriott in Farmington, CT. Bruce Klinger, an event coordinator, told us that volunteers are still needed. Follow the plans for the event at: https://www.facebook.com/theironadventurerun/

Plans are in the works for a co-chapter event at Bentley's Saloon, September 11-13. There are hotel rooms and campers to rent at Bentley's. Reservations cannot be made until April 1st. For people who stay somewhere other than at Bentley's, there is a shuttle bus available.

Justen Elliott's ride during Memorial Day weekend is still pending, as far as we know at this point. Hopefully the 'Alan Wilkins' Ride' to Old Orchard Beach on May 30th. Groups will be leaving from both Wilkins locations.

Wilkins Update from Sales Manager, John Sargent: It is time to sign up for the Riding Academy—the first class is planned for late April. Opportunities for taking demo bikes for a ride are hopefully coming soon. He reported that two March events were planned: Free inspection day if you ride in on March 14th; and Screw Winter Party on the 28th. He recommended strongly that people check the tire pressure/oil and fuel condition/battery of their motorcycle to prepare for riding season. Harley-Davidson has new color combinations in limited numbers.

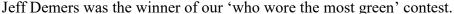
Joel gave an update on the Riding Academy certificates that he and Trina won—they have now given them to two aspiring riders through each of Wilkins' locations.



Our Activities Director, Marie Boutin, was unable to attend the social (sugaring season!) but she provided us with an 'Ice Breaker Game' to give us an opportunity to get to know each other. Each attendee was given a list of descriptions— everyone was to find a different person to fit each description and get their signature next to the one that applies to them. We had to use some 'tie-breaker' questions to determine the winner.



The theme of the social was 'St. Patrick's Day.'











Calendar of Events for 2020

Chapter ride schedule (In red), Central Vermont HOG Chapter Socials (In blue) Wilkins Harley-Davidson – Events (In black) Charity or HOG events (In brown)

APRIL

Tuesday, April 14: April Social at Wilkins—cancelled.

MAY (all are tentative –pending the COVID-19 condition at the time)

Saturday, May 2: WHD, Cinco de Mayo tacos, 11 am

Saturday, May 9: WHD, Mother's Day Free Gift w/ Purchase

Tuesday, May 12: May Social at Wilkins, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Come for a cookout followed by a ride to get Creemees

Saturday, May 16: Ben Drury, Road Capt., TBD

Saturday, May 16 or Sunday, May 17 (one day or the other – TBD): Experienced Rider Course, Colchester, open to Central VT HOG and Champlain Valley HOG members only; more details to follow

Saturday, May 23: Mark Fournier, Road Capt., National Guard Charitable Foundation Fundraising Ride, departs WHD at 7 am to ride to Essex where the charity ride officially begins and ends with a BBQ.

Saturday, May 23 to Monday, May 25: Justen Elliott, Road Capt., **Overnight ride** to Rockport, Maine and Acadia National Park. Meet @ 9 am at Cumberland Farms, Woodsville, NH. Reserve motel well in advance at Ledges by the Bay, 207-594-8944 and tell them you're with Central Vermont HOG. Book 2-nights, Saturday & Sunday night, ride returns on Monday, May 25.

Sunday, May 24 7:45 a.m. to 9:15 a.m. Follow Dennis Aja Down to the Vietnam Memorial for the Ceremony and the beginning of the Vermont Thunder Ride to Enosburg Falls

Saturday & Sunday, May 30 & 31: WHD, Alan Wilkins Memorial Ride to Maine

JUNE

Saturday, June 6: WHD, Motorclothes Semi-Annual Side Walk Sale

Saturday, June 6: Jeff Demers, Road Capt., destination is the President Calvin Coolidge Historic Site in Plymouth Notch. (Free State Park Entrance Day) Meet at Wilkins. Kickstands up at 9:15 a.m. Rte. 14 to Williamstown, Rte 64W to Rte 12 S to Woodstock, Rte 4W to Rte 100A S to Plymouth Notch, Stop at President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site. Tour of store/summer White House, Calvin Coolidge birthplace and childhood home. Lunch at Wilder House Restaurant (or brown bag). Re-start ride: continue on Rte 100A S to Rte 100 S. At the South end of Echo lake, turn left onto Kingdom RD towards Felchville. Kingdom Rd becomes Tyson Rd. Continue on Tyson Rd into Felchville. Turn left onto Rte 106N. Turn right onto 44E. In Brownsville, turn left onto Brownsville-Hartland Rd to Harland 4 Corners. Turn left onto Rte 12N to Rte 4. Turn right onto 4E. At intersection of Rte 4 and Quechee-Hartland Rd, (fuel) stop a Jiffy Mart. Cross RT 4 onto Waterman Hill RD, turn left after covered bridge onto Quechee Main ST. Veer right onto Quechee-West Hartford RD to RT 14. Turn left onto RT 14 to Williamstown. Ride ends at Pump and Pantry.

COST: President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site (Free hopefully - \$10/person max.), Gas, Lunch

EST. LENGTH OF RIDE: 3.5 – 4 hours of riding, plus historic site visit TIME RIDE ENDS: Approx. 4 PM APPROX.

MILES OF RIDE: 150 miles, lots of twisties WHERE RIDE ENDS: Pump and Pantry, Williamstown

Sunday, June 7: Brion Muzzy, Road Capt., TBD Saturday, June 15: WHD, Father's Day Ride

Tuesday, June 9: June Social - dinner/meeting at a restaurant (TBD)

Sunday, June 13: Trina DeLary, Road Capt., White Cottage lunch ride, Woodstock

Saturday, June 20: WHD, Customer Appreciation Day (Dirty Looks Band/Beer Tent/BBQ)

Saturday, June 20: Central VT HOG (need Road Captain) – Camp Takumta Ride

Sunday, June 21: Ben Drury, Road Capt., ride to Laconia (last day of Bike Week) – Father's Day

Saturday, June 27: Justen Elliott, Road Capt., The Beach Plum, N. Hampton Beach, lunch ride. Depart Cumberland

Farms, Woodsville, NH at 9 am. After lunch, build your own sundaes in Laconia at "Kellerhaus"

...continued—Calendar of Events for 2020

JULY

Saturday, July 4: WHD, July 4th Ride

Saturday, July 4 OR Sunday, July 5: Rick Boutin, Road Capt., TBD and will ride on best weather day this weekend

Saturday, July 11: WHD, Free Ice Cream Day

Saturday, July 11 OR Sunday, July 12: Rick Boutin, Road Capt., TBD and will ride on best weather day this weekend

Tuesday, July 14: July Social at Wilkins, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Biker games and cookout

Saturday, July 18 or Saturday, July 25: Joe Lonardo, Road Capt., Co-Chapter BBQ ride, followed by twisties & ice cream

Sunday, July 19: Mark Fournier. Road Capt., 242 Texas BBQ ride in Montgomery; departs WHD at 10 am

Thursday, July 30-Saturday, August 1: Iron Adventure Run, Farmington, CT

Friday, July 31 to Sunday, August 2: WHD, The Annual Wilkins HD Motorcycle Skills Training & Challenge

AUGUST

Saturday, August 8: Toy Run and Toy Run After Party @ WHD, Central VT HOG will be doing the BBQ

Sunday, August 9: Justen Elliott, Road Capt., Mystery Ride (Pack a Lunch), departs WHD at 10 am, 125 miles and ends at a mystery location within 30 miles of Barre, VT

Tuesday, August 11: August Social at Wilkins, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Make your own ice cream sundae

Saturday, August 15: Jeff Demers, Road Capt., Frazers' Place, Windsor, VT lunch ride

Sunday, August 16: Mark Fournier, Road Capt., TBD

Saturday, August 22: WHD, Ride to Worthy Burger Too, Waitsfield

Saturday, August 22: Tim Schroeder, Road Capt., TBD

Sunday, August 23: Ben Drury, Road Capt., Myron's Ride in NY

Saturday, August 29: Brion Muzzy, Road Capt., TBD

SEPTEMBER

Friday, September 4: ** NOTE: changed day ** September Social at Wilkins, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Potluck & cornboil, campfire, outdoor movie, camping out

Saturday, September 5: WHD, Bike Show

Friday, September 11-Sunday, September 13: Bentley's Saloon, Arundel, Maine (2-nights) with Champlain Valley Vermont Chapter, TBD

Saturday, September 19: Jeff Demers, Road Capt., TBD

Friday, September 25 & Saturday, September 26: WHD, Biketemberfest Open House

Saturday, September 26: Ben Drury, Justen Elliott, Brion Muzzy and Jeff Demers Road Captains, POKER RUN

OCTOBER

Saturday, October 3: Brion Muzzy, Road Capt., Train Ride, TBD

Saturday, October 10: WHD, Free Fall Pies

Saturday, October 10: Ben Drury, Road Capt., Foliage Ride, TBD

Sunday, October 11: Justen Elliott, Road Capt., Dummerston Apple Pie Festival ride (maybe & TBD)

Tuesday, October 13: October Social at Wilkins, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Apple dessert bake-off.

Saturday, October 17: WHD, Wake the Dead Ride

NOVEMBER

Tuesday, November 10: November Social at Wilkins, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Baked goods auction.

DECEMBER

Tuesday, December: December Holiday HOP (date, time, and place TBD)

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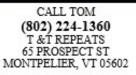


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