
PS HOG NEWS

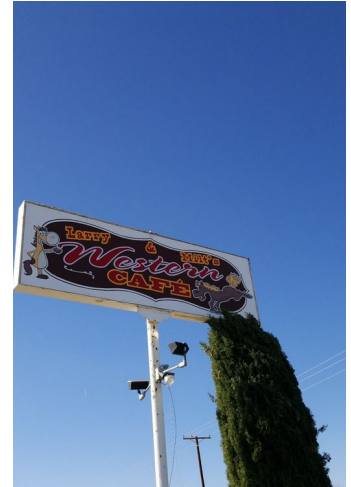
Chapter Ride to Death Valley



Hello fellow Palm Spring Hog members, This last weekend, March 9th through the 10th was our chapter ride to Death Valley. Originally, Secretary Long planned the ride to be an over night camping trip. After the road captains conducted a pre-ride on February 15th, the ride was change to an over night stay in Beatty Nevada with a Motel 6 next to Stagecoach Casino.

On Saturday morning the group consisting of eight riders on five bikes met at Palm Springs Harley at 7am, with kick stands up at 7:15am. Their first leg was to take Hwy 62 to Yucca Valley for breakfast.

The group stopped at Larry’s & Milt Western Cafe (<https://www.yelp.com/biz/larrys-and-milt-western-cafe-yucca-valley>). As usual breakfast was excellent and the service was great.



After breakfast the group loaded up for the next stop, Amboy on Route 66. The group rode eastbound Hwy 62, northbound Godwin Road, eastbound Amboy Road, eastbound Route 66. After about an hour the group arrived in the town of Amboy. They took a short break to stretch their legs.



Amboy is an **unincorporated community** in **San Bernardino County**, in **California's Mojave Desert**, west of **Needles** and east of **Ludlow** on historic **Route 66**. It is roughly 60 miles northeast of **Twentynine Palms**. Prior to 2015, the town's business district contained a post office, a historic restaurant-motel, and a Route 66 tourist shop. (For further information click link https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amboy,_California).

The groups next stop was approximately 40 miles to the Kelso Depot Visitor Center (90942 Kelso Cima Rd, Kelso, CA.) The group rode eastbound Route 66, northbound Kelbaker Road to the visitor center.



The Kelso Depot, Restaurant and Employees Hotel or Kelso Depot, now also the Mojave National Preserve Visitors Center, is located in the **Mojave Desert** within the **National Park Service Mojave National Preserve**, on Kelso Cima Road at the junction of **Kelbaker Road** in



Kelso, California, between **Baker** and **Interstate 15** to the north and **Interstate 40** to the south. It was placed on the **National Register of Historic Places**, and along with the adjacent **ghost town of Kelso**, was declared a **United States Historic District** in 2000. The district was increased by a boundary increase approved by the National Park Service in 2019, with reference number 100003401. (For further information click on link https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kelso_Depot). After the group checked out the Kelso Depot, they loaded up for the next part of the journey.

The group then traveled northbound Kelbaker Road to Baker, Ca. The ride took them approximately 40 miles through the Mojave National Preserve. The desert scenery was amazing from all the recent rains it had received. As the group was approaching Baker, the Federal Police had to recognize the group with a little red and blue lights. Amazingly they knew the group supports the Thin Blue Line.



After a quick stop for fuel and restroom breaks, the group headed north to Death Valley. They rode northbound Hwy 127 to Shoshone, Ca. Side note, the Crowbar Cafe is good stop for food when traveling through the town. The road Captains had made a stop there when they conducted their pre-ride. (<https://www.yelp.com/biz/crowbar-cafe-shoshone?osq=Crowbar+Cafe>)



Approximately a mile north of Shoshone is Hwy 127, Jubilee Pass Rd. The group turned left and headed northbound and into Death Valley's south entrance. The groups next stop was set for Badwater approximately 55 mile from Hwy 127/Hwy 373.

Jubilee Pass is a mountain pass at an elevation of 1,322ft above the sea level, located in Inyo County, California, in USA. The road to the summit is called Jubilee Pass Road. It's very scenic and smooth, but pretty steep (grinding up the 6- 7% grade). (for further information click link <https://www.dangerousroads.org/north-america/usa/8454-jubilee-pass.html>)

After clearing the pass and sandy obstacles, the group made it to the valley floor and continued northbound on Badwater Road.

The Group's first stop in Death Valley was Badwater.

Badwater Basin is an **endorheic basin** in **Death Valley National Park, Death Valley, Inyo County, California**, noted as the lowest point in **North America**, with a **depth** of 282 ft below **sea level**. **Mount Whitney**, the highest point in the **contiguous 48 United States**, is only 84.6 miles to the northwest. (For further information click link https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Badwater_Basin).



The group stopped to take a picture with help of others tourist.

With the day quickly passing, the group loaded up for the next stop, Artist’s Palette.

Secretary Long was really looking forward to showing the group the Artist’s Palette a series of hills in pastel hues, colored by oxidation and weathering, along a 9 mile Artist’s Drive loop. (for further information click link https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Places_of_interest_in_the_Death_Valley_area#Artist's_Drive_and_Palette) But due to all the rain the Valley had received lately the road was closed to vehicle traffic.

Due to this inconvenience, the group traveled on to Furnace Creek. The group made a stop at the local gas station. One of the riders in the group needed fuel to make it to the last stop in Beatty. Beatty, Nevada is approximately 30 miles north of Furnace Creek.



Furnace Creek is a **census-designated place** (CDP) in **Inyo County, California**. The population was 24 at the 2010 census, down from 31 at the **2000 census**. The elevation of the village is 190 feet below sea level. Furnace Creek holds the record for the highest reliably recorded air temperature on Earth at 134 °F on July 10, 1913, as well as the highest recorded natural ground surface temperature on Earth at 201 °F on July 15,

1972. (For further information click on link https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Furnace_Creek,_California)

Due to the time of day and with the help of the large mountain ranges, the sun was setting quickly on the group. The group headed northbound Hwy 190 to the Beatty Junction. They then headed northbound Beatty Road through some twisty turns. The valleys were looking amazing with the sunsetting on the horizon. The group then turned eastbound Hwy 374, Daylight Pass Road, and started to climb out of the valley floor.

Daylight Pass is a high mountain pass at an elevation of 4,317ft above the sea level located within the Death Valley National Park, in California, USA.



The road to the summit is called Daylight Pass Road. It’s asphalted but pretty narrow. Slow down through curves. Take care in the summer when the average temperatures range from 101-116 between May and September. The most stunning area to drive through. Literally every road turn has different views. Amazing flowers along the way.

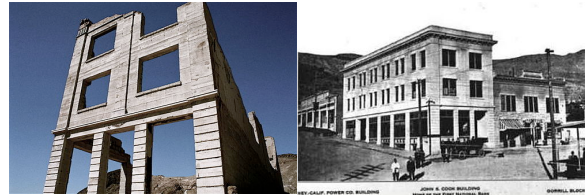


Plenty of stop off points so that you can take photos. (For further information click link <https://www.dangerousroads.org/north-america/usa/6544-daylight-pass.html>)

After reaching the summit they quickly headed toward the town of Beatty. Along the route they passed a sign stating to watch for burrows crossing the highway. Only one burrow was seen standing approximately 500 feet off the roadway. The group missed seeing the

burrow due it was dark brown and the sun was almost down. (Oh, look. I made a rime) The group also passed the town of Rhyolite.

Rhyolite is a ghost town in Nye County, in the U.S. state of Nevada. It is in the Bullfrog Hills, about 120 miles northwest of Las Vegas, near the eastern edge of Death Valley. The town began in early 1905 as one of several mining camps that sprang up after a prospecting discovery in the surrounding hills. (for further information click on link https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rhyolite,_Nevada)



The group arrived at Motel 6 in Beatty at approximately 6pm. After getting settled in their room, the group met at the only place for dinner. They all headed to the Denny's located in the Stagecoach Casino (<http://stagecoach-hotel-casino-beatty.hotel-ds.com/en/>)

Director Kenton attempted to get the group seated. Who would of thunked Denny's would of been hit by a bus. But they did. Apparently a tour bus broke down and second bus was called in from Las Vegas to continue the tour. Well as the story goes, the second bus operator didn't want to make the trip back to Los Angeles. So the operator stopped in Beatty and kicked the passengers off the bus and said another bus was on the way. I know what you are thinking, but wait aren't you at the Stagecoach. Well you are right. But there are no Stagecoaches in Beatty, let alone places to eat.



The nice manager told them it would be 10 minutes before she could seat them and then another 40 minutes for their food after they ordered it. Have you ever felt hopeless for some food. Some of them felt a little delirious. One individual felt so delirious they ordered Crazy Spicy Sizzlin Skillet, against the wife's request. When the waitress came to take his order she asked him if he wanted flour tortillas. He turned to the wife and she said get toast.

So his response to the waitress was, “I’ll have an english muffin.” Now may I ask, Who orders a Mexican style food with an english muffin. Aren’t you suppose to have a tortilla with Mexican food. Not only did he want his butt to burn, but he wanted it raw too. I guess someone is going to pay for it on the way home.

Well 40 minutes later, the group received its food. I heard for a Denny’s it was ok. They did learn one fact while they were there. Never ask for blackened Salmon. Apparently the Manager had to google how to blackened salmon. Oh, did I tell you the Salmon was already cooked when she blackened it. Apparently it was a little salty.

After dinner they all headed over to the bar. When looking for a place to stay the night. The Stagecoach Casino website said they have a live band every Friday and Saturday. Not so true. The live band was actually Karaoke night for the elderly. They only people in the bar area were folks in there 70+ years. They must of been the locals. The bartender knew all of them by name. If the local dogs could of heard them singing, they would of been howling in laughter.

Shoot, Director Kenton and Jill made their way to the dance floor. When they started to dance, one lady was so overwhelmed by Kenton’s dancing skills. The lady was floored and knocked over the video screen. The video screen came crashing down on the dance floor. It was amazing to hear all the elderly start screaming. Kenton and Jill quickly exited the floor in order to stop the riot from starting. Well after that debacle, the group headed back to their rooms for some due sleep.

On Sunday morning they all met at Eddie’s World, in between Motel 6 and Stagecoach Casino, for a little breakfast.

After breakfast, they left at 10am and headed home. Oh, wait. Someone had to ride in the back of the pack. Just before boarding their bikes, someone heard “Sorry Hun, I have gas.” Someone was going to have a warm ride home.



The route for the day was, Hwy 95 south, Hwy 373 South, Hwy 127 South. Along the way the group passed another casino. The Longstreet Inn Casino & RV Resort. I’m told it looked like a nice place to stop at on the next Death Valley trip. I’m told it has not one restaurant, but two. That’s one more than Stagecoach Casino. What a deal. (<https://www.longstreetcasino.com>)

After approximately 80 miles, the group made it to Shoshone for a quick bathroom break and to stretch their legs. They mounted up and off they went to Baker for the next fuel stop. After fueling in Baker the group entered the I-15 southbound with the next stop being

Peggy Sues for lunch (<http://www.peggysuesdiner.com/index.html>) If you are ever traveling the I-15 out of Barstow, I suggest you stop in and have some good dinner food. They make really good pies too.

The day was getting long and everyone knows. When it's time to go home Kenton goes home. The group entered the I-15 southbound and put the metal down homeward.



Along the way home they lost Chapter members as they broke off towards their homes. Each time they gave them well wishes of safe travels without the group. As the last few passed by Palm Springs Harley, the group had racked up 670 miles for the weekend. They had only one mishap. Remember folks to check your bike for potential problems before long trips. One Chapter member's license plate mount cracked and broke off and fell on the rear tire. Thank god another member was paying attention, and stopped the group.

Palm Springs Harleys Owners Groups would like to thank all the members that participated in the Death Valley Trip. Maybe next time you too can make the trip.