

NCHOG 476701 NEWSLETTER

March 2026 |



DIRECTOR'S CORNER

March 2026



Here I sit, broken hearted, came to write my Director Corner but stubbed my toe before I got started. And it smarted. True story man. March, “In like a Lion, out like a Lamb”? Who made that one up anyway? Or, how about “Fog in January means a wet spring”? “If February brings drifts of snow there will be good summer crops to hoe”? “April showers bring May flowers”? Yeah, right. Maybe somewhere else but not here in the Pacific Northwest. You just never know what Old Man Winter has in store. Or Old Lady Summer either for that matter. February has been somewhat kind to us weather wise. Not particularly warm or dry but we have largely avoided snow. There has been a bit of riding tossed in and we were able to have our bikes into Sound for some service. If you are like Doni and I, you are seriously looking to get out on the road for some time in the wind. We are so ready.

Looking ahead to the coming months, NCHOG has quite a calendar set. Lots of rides, activities and of course, the Big One, the 2026 Rockies2Pacific event that will take place July 16 thru the 19th with Sound Harley-Davidson as our host dealership. At the time of this writing we have HOG folks registered from 26 chapters that hail from 14 states and Canada. We have been putting the word in the street for several months now and working hard towards making this event one you will be glad you were part of. The 2025 R2P event that was hosted by the original rally organizers, InterMountain HOG and staged at High Desert HD in Meridian Idaho was one to remember and those folks set the fun and excitement bar high. So, you can be sure that this year will be something you will not want to miss. Go see what it is all about at www.rockies2pacific.com

Things are cooking along at North Cascade Harley Owners Group with membership renewals, new members coming on board, dealership events and of course, all the fun stuff that comes along with chapter membership. Our officer meetings are held the last Tuesday before our first Sunday of the month breakfast meetings. All are welcome to sit in at an officer meeting where the nuts and bolts of NCHOG operations get figured out. Do you have an idea for a ride but aren't comfortable planning or leading it? We would love to hear about it. Come to an officer meeting or reach out to an officer or a Road Captain. It is YOUR chapter. Bring your thoughts and ideas. And bring your willingness to participate! The chapter is only as good as its members make it. Besides our monthly general and officer meetings we have scheduled rides, weather permitting, on the first Sunday (after the meeting) and the third Saturday of each month. There are impromptu rides, annual “big rides,” overnight rides, once a month dinner get-together and so many other things to keep you out of the bars and off the couch!

If you have not renewed yet, please do so as it really helps our officers with planning the year out. In closing, it has been my ongoing pleasure to be your chapter director these last few years. We have come a long way together since surviving the closing of North Cascades HD and the pandemic (Thank you Sound Harley-Davidson). Yes, we have gotten older and our riding styles have changed. For some, riding just is not in the cards any longer. But we remain family. All of us together, part of NCHOG. You get out of your membership equal to what you put into it. Officers do the heavy lifting but they need all members to help keep this chapter strong and viable and something worth being part of. With everyone's help and support, this year will surely turn out to be a banner year for our chapter. I look forward to “riding” through it all with each of you. Have a blessed month.

• Jerry



FIRST MID WEEK RIDE OF 2026



Believe it or not....in February the weather was nearly 60 degrees! We had 7 bikes and 8 people take a beautiful mid week ride! These rides are weather dependent, so keep up to date on our Facebook page to see when they're happening.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/207746715917062>

Rockies2Pacific

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

R2P Volunteer Call — It's Time to Build the Village

In case you haven't heard (and if you haven't, welcome back from whatever rock you were under), North Cascade HOG is hosting the 2nd Annual Rockies2Pacific Rally this July. We've spent months hammering out the nuts, bolts, maps, routes, schedules, and all the behind-the-scenes magic that makes an event like this actually work.

And now... we've reached the stage where we need the most important piece of all: Volunteers.

R2P is a big event for a small chapter, and it truly takes a village to pull it off. We estimate it will take around 50 volunteers to keep this machine running smoothly — and the good news is, that village is already forming. We've had folks from Puget Sound, Eastside, Great Northwest, Seattle, and even Intermountain HOG in Idaho (where R2P was birthed) reach out and offer their hands, their time, and their energy. The entire PNW HOG family is showing up, and it's honestly pretty incredible to see.

Most of you have already raised your hand and said, "Put me in." Now it's time to solidify. Whether you've got an hour, a day, or the whole weekend to give, there's a place for you. If you're loquacious, or more the strong, silent type, there's a place for you. If you've got some physical limitations, there's a place for you. If you're 93 or 23, there's a place for you! R2P is built on heart, humor, and the desire to share this beautiful area we call home — and there is room for everybody in that mix. Mark and Pam have stepped in as our Volunteer Coordinators, and they'll be organizing roles, schedules, and assignments so everyone knows where they're needed and when. They'll be reaching out soon with next steps — but don't wait around like you're expecting a singing telegram! If you're ready to jump in, track them down and let them know! They are your point people, they've got the forms, and they're more than happy to help you find your spot in the lineup.

Let's build something amazing together!

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Want to be a chrome chapter? See the website or ask John G for details!

Mark Reeves

425-259-9236



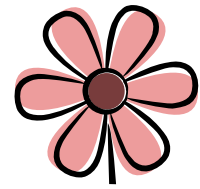
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Assistant Director



March 2026

Welcome Spring!

Here's a bunch of not so random thoughts....

Congratulations to the Seattle Seahawks for winning the Super Bowl. They are now the NFL Champions. Congratulations to all of the 12s for their support over the years. Did you get to attend the victory parade?

Can NCHOG become a Chrome Chapter?

You know we can do it. Get your starting mileage logged at Sound Harley-Davidson or another dealer. It's easy. Find a salesperson and ask them to help you.

Have you looked at our website recently? Doni, our Webmaster is doing a terrific job adding your photos and a calendar of events. Have you heard that we need some volunteers for the Rockies 2 Pacific event? Well, we need your help. Get your contact info to Pam and Mark Reeves along with your availability from July 16 to 19. There are spots where you can sit at a table and spots where you can be more active. Let Pam and Mark know what works for you.

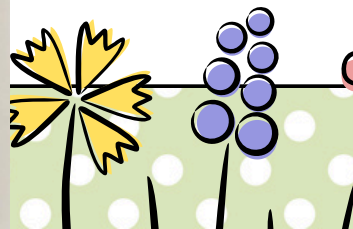
Have you been watching the Winter Olympics? It's so exciting to see our American athletes do so well on the world stage. Just participating at the Olympic level is an amazing accomplishment.

Lately my cell phone is blowing up with phone calls from potential spam numbers. I block each one after declining it, but they continue to call from other numbers. If I call their number, my carrier tells me that my call cannot be completed. If anyone knows the secret to ending my spam calls, please let me know. Contact John G at (360) 739-4386 or johng-nchog@comcast.net

Let's Ride,
John Garrigues
NCHOG Assistant Director



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MARCH 2026

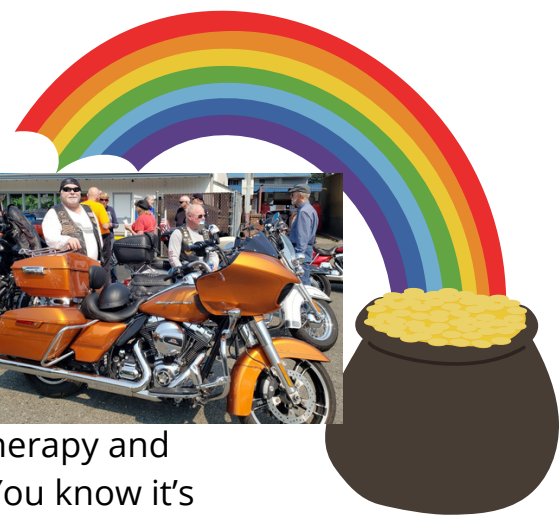
| SUN Mar 1 | MON 2 | TUE 3 | WED 4 | THU 5 | FRI 6 | SAT 7 |
|--------------------------|----------|-----------------------|----------|------------------------------------|----------|-------------------------------------|
| 8:30 AM Breakfast | | | | | | |
| 10 AM Meeting | | | | | | |
| 11 AM After meeting ride | | | | | | |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| Daylight Saving Time | | | | LOH 12:30 Bob's Burger | | |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| | | St. Patrick's Day | | HOG Trough Saal Brewing 5:30 | | 3rd Saturday Ride |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| ABATE Swap Meet | | 5pm Officers Meeti | | | | Pool Shoot Sports Keg 4:30 PM |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | Apr 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 8:30 AM Breakfast | | | | | | EASTER RIDE |
| 10 AM April Meeting | | | | | | R.O.C Trianing |
| 11 AM After meeting ride | | | | | | |

**Please Take Note of Meeting Change!!!
April Meeting will take place on March 29!!**

One week earlier than normal to allow for family gatherings on Easter!

Road Captain

HOG, The World's Greatest Motorcycle Riding Club



Have you been out for a ride in 2026? Wind therapy and vitamin D can improve your health and mind. You know it's true. Get out of your car and into the wind. Join us for a ride after a meeting, on the third Saturday or a Mid-Week Ride. If you can't make one of the group rides, get out by yourself.

Just get out there!

Before you go, check your tire pressure, battery charge and FOB battery. Get some fresh fuel in your tank.

Near Future Rides will depend on the weather.

Sun, Mar 1 - After Meeting Ride

☐ Sat, Mar 21 – Third Saturday Ride

☐ Watch for a Mid-Week Ride announcement when the weather is too good to pass up

Let's Ride,

John Garrigues

NCHOG Head Road Captain

johng-nchog@comcast.net

NCHOG 2026 STATE PARK CHAPTER CHALLENGE.

1/1/2026 through 10/31/2026

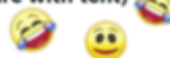
10 Washington State Parks — Visit 8 parks to earn a 2026 challenge patch!

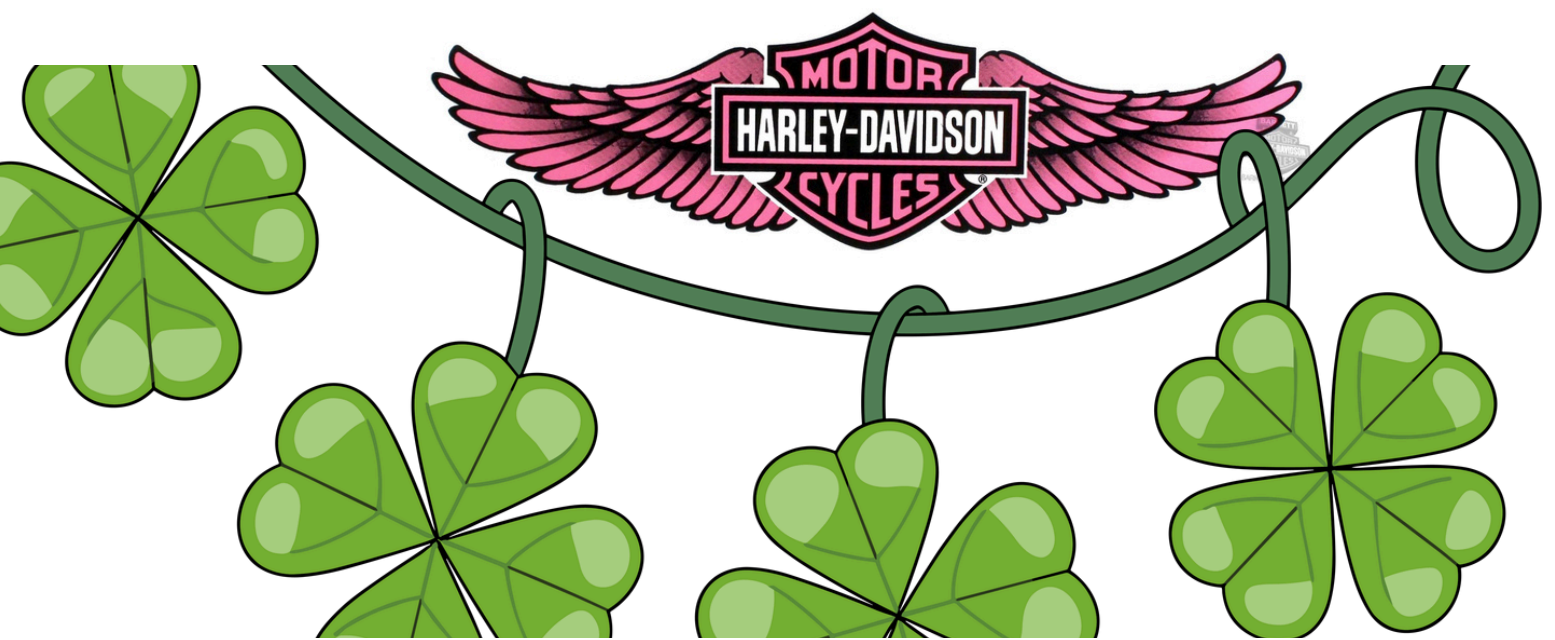
You must take a picture of you and your bike in front of a landmark or signage and submit to Head Road Captain, John G.

1. Moran - Orcas Island, Washington
2. Dosewallips - Brinnon Washington
3. Mount Spokane - Mead, Washington
4. Wanapum - Vantage Washington
5. Beacon Rock - Stevenson Washington
6. Cape Disappointment - Ilwaco Washington
7. Ocean City - Hoquiam Washington
8. Pearygin Lake - Winthrop, Washington
9. Bridgeport - Bridgeport, Washington
10. Lewis and Clark Trail - Toledo Washington



(Extra point for picture with tent)





Ladies of Harley

Thursday March 12, 12:30

Bob's Burger and Brew in Burlington WA

Come join us in their back room.

We will be doing a jewelry exchange!

Bring pieces of jewelry you'd like to exchange for something else, Harley themed or not.

Tuesday May 5, 12:30 Bob's Burger and Brew.

We will be setting the date for the June meeting.

At the June meeting, we will be stuffing bags for R2P in July.

At this time, the June meeting be a BBQ at Connie and Dean's home in Oak Harbor.

Date and time to come.

Welcome our newest Lady, **Ellie Stout!** Hope to see you on the 12th of March!

I think that is all for now. Thanks for your continued support of the LOH. :)

Arlene,
your LOH officer 2026

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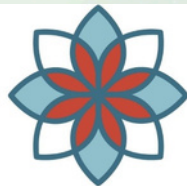
SECRETARY'S CORNER

March 2026

2026 is rolling right along and with the hint of Spring that has been gracing us; thoughts of Summer keep pushing into my days. The calendar squares are filling up and many of them belong to NC HOG. I am so excited for all the plans with our Chapter. We are a unique group coming from so many backgrounds but also have so many things in common. Stormy, our trike, is standing at the ready to go wherever we desire. Now it is up to us to take time out of life and get on her for the best day ever; which is any day riding. I am saying we all need to stop occasionally and just lay down our tools to do something fun. Lists and chores are required in life but so is taking time to just breathe.

Lets breathe together soon!

Connie Piper - Secretary



COMPLETE
• ACUPUNCTURE •

Chris has been keeping me rolling down the road all year!"

~~Doni Keating

Hello riders! Chris here, owner of Complete Acupuncture in Monroe, WA. For those new to Acupuncture, it is the placement of hair-thin needles to activate the body's natural healing. I have been practicing in Monroe since 2021 and have seen my fair share of road warriors in pain! I specialize in the treatment of back/neck/shoulder pain, and anxiety/PTSD. New patients are often surprised at how little it hurts and how good it makes you feel. Come see me and start feeling better today!

Chris Bosworth-Ursino, D.Ac.

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MidWeek Ride in February!!



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Contact Chris at 360-914-1166.



Ladies of Harley

Great Prizes @ the Monthly Meeting



Member Bio

Welcome Back!

Curt Ducken was raised in Oak Harbor. He joined the Army in 1968 and moved to Skagit County in 1971., making it his forever home. He retired from teaching in 2006 and opened “Curt’s Band Instrument Repair” in 2007. He currently owns 2 Harleys: a 1992 Heritage which is Turquoise and White alongside a 1986 Hydra Glide which is red and Cream. His wife, Judy also owns 2 bikes: a 2010 Softail convertible and a 1986 Honda Rebel 450. He has been a HOG member since 1995 and was an NCHOG member from 1995 to 2019. He rejoined our family in 2026. He and Judy have driven to Sturgis 3 times and have traveled over the passes many times.



March Events

- Monthly Meeting - March 1 & After Meeting Ride
- LOH @ Bob's - March 12
- HOG Trough - March 19
- 3rd Saturday Ride - March 21
- ABATE Swap Meet - March 22
- Officer Meeting - March 24
- Pool Shoot - March 28
- April Meeting - March 29

Motorcycle Safety - Jim Self

Motorcycle safety is deeply connected to how you use your eyes. Where you look is often where the bike goes.

Proper vision habits dramatically reduce risk and improve smoothness and control. Here's a focused breakdown:

1. Look Where You Want to Go (Not at the Hazard)

Motorcycles naturally track toward your visual focus.

- Don't stare at potholes, gravel, guardrails, or oncoming headlights.
- Keep your eyes on your intended path of travel.
- In curves, turn your head and look through the turn, not at the pavement in front of you. This prevents "target fixation," which causes many single-vehicle crashes.



2. Keep Your Eyes Up (12–20 Second Rule)

Scan far ahead—about 12 seconds in city riding, 20 seconds on highways. This gives you time to:

- Adjust speed smoothly
- Position for hazards
- Plan escape routes

Looking too close to your front wheel reduces reaction time.



3. Constant Scanning Pattern

Don't stare in one place. Use an active visual sweep:

Far → Near → Left → Right → Mirrors → Gauges → Repeat

This helps you:

- Spot developing hazards early
- See cars preparing to turn
- Notice brake lights or lane changes



4. Read Traffic Body Language

Use your eyes to interpret clues:

- Front wheels of cars (they reveal movement before the vehicle does)
- Driver head movement at intersections
- Gaps closing in traffic
- Road surface changes (shiny = possible ice, dark patches = oil)



Motorcycle Safety, continued - Jim Self

5. Eyes in Curves

When entering a curve:

1. Slow before the turn.
2. Turn your head and eyes toward the exit.
3. Keep your vision level with the horizon.
4. Continue moving your eyes through the curve as you lean. Your bike will follow your eyes



6. Night & Low Visibility Riding

- Increase following distance.
- Shift focus slightly to the right edge line to avoid headlight glare.
- Keep scanning for reflective surfaces (animal eyes, signs).



7. Focus vs. Distraction

Focus is critical on a motorcycle.

- Eliminate mental distractions before riding.
- Stay “mentally present.”
- If your mind drifts, reset with a quick visual scan and posture check.



Riding demands active attention, not passive cruising.

Good riders:

- **Keep their eyes moving**
- **Look through turns**
- **Scan far ahead**
- **Avoid target fixation**
- **Read traffic early**

Motorcycle safety starts with vision discipline.





LOOKING Ahead



Let's Achieve Chrome Status in 2026 Ask How!

So Much Happening in 2026

March 22 - Abate Swap Meet

April 4 - ROC Training & Easter Ride

May 15 & 16 - Fish & Chips Run

June 12- FBR

June 26 - Meet In the Middle

June 27 - Bike Show @ Sound

July 10 - Chaplain's Ride

July 16 - Rockies2Pacific



- Mid Week Rides
- 3rd Saturday Rides
- After Meeting Rides
- BBQ's @ Sound Harley
- Holiday Gatherings
- Chapter Picnic
- Pop Up Rides
- State Park Challenge



So Many Ways to Get Involved,
Get Out on 2 Wheels,
Make New Friends,
Bond with the Old

NCHOG 2026 STATE PARK CHAPTER CHALLENGE.

1/1/2026 through 10/31/2026

10 Washington State Parks — Visit 8 parks to earn a 2026 challenge patch!
You must take a picture of you and your bike in front of a landmark or signage and submit to Head Road Captain, John G.

1. Moran - Orcas Island, Washington
2. Dosewallips - Brinnon Washington
3. Mount Spokane - Mead, Washington
4. Wanapum - Vantage Washington
5. Beacon Rock - Stevenson Washington
6. Cape Disappointment - Ilwaco Washington
7. Ocean City - Hoquiam Washington
8. Pearygin Lake - Winthrop, Washington
9. Bridgeport - Bridgeport, Washington
10. Lewis and Clark Trail - Toledo Washington



(Extra point for picture with tent) 🤪 😊

March 2026



February HOG Trough



There are so many ways to get involved! And so much fun to be had...come join in!



Ladies of Harley serving up BBQ at Sound Harley Davidson Launch Party

March Newsletter



CHAPLAIN

A BIKER'S PRAYER

*May the sun rise in front of me,
The rain fall behind me
And the wind follow me.
May the Angels guard my travels
For they know what is ahead of me.
Keep me safe through
Rolling hills and swirling turns.
Let the eagle guide me to the
Mountain tops. Let the moon's light
Guide me through the night.
Lord, thank you for letting me be a biker.*



Proverbs 3:23, 26

You'll travel safely, you'll neither tire nor trip...Because God will be right there with you; he'll keep you safe and sound.



From Historian Mona Hering Circa 2013

Wise Counsel, pro Bono

by: Howard Bono, Chaplain

Here is a story I just had to share.

Pulling my car into the drive-thru line at Starbucks, I wondered why it was a dozen people deep. It wasn't raining, yet it seemed everyone was driving through today. I was transporting three dogs to the groomer and there was no way I could leave two wild Shih-tzus and one crazy Bichon alone while I went inside for my daily dose.

Millie, the Bichon, sat on my lap licking the window.

As I peeled her away from the glass, I saw the woman.

She sat across the parking lot, leaving just enough room for a thoroughfare, as she too was waiting in the Starbucks line. I smiled, and gestured to her. It went something like this: "Are you next, or am I?" Really, I was fine either way.

She was not.

Thinking I was trying to snag her spot of next-up, she gunned her Suburban, rolled down the window, and let out a string of expletives that made me blush. Millie barked back a retort.

"Go ahead, please," I said. "I wasn't sure who was first." I pulled Millie back onto my lap, so she could see I had been dog-distracted and truly didn't know who was next.

She didn't buy it. She continued with the name calling without taking a breath. I won't write them down here but the main mantra shared initials with the number one social networking site.

Then something really strange happened.

Instead of getting mad or yelling back at her, a sense of empathy invaded me. I looked at her again and this time I saw someone different, someone who wrenched my heart. Her eyes were red and puffy. Her hair was pulled back in a natty ponytail. She held her phone in her palm, glancing down at it every few seconds. And she was driving that big ole' gas hog of a Suburban, my own car of choice when I had three kids at home and a carpool.

Dear God. I was looking at myself ten years ago. Same car, same ponytail. Same frustration.

We've all been there. Dog vomits on the sofa. Both kids have strep throat. The garbage disposal chooses today to break when you are trying to disintegrate moldy fridge leftovers. Husband is mad because you forgot to pick up the dry cleaning and he's going on a business trip. Sound familiar?

And by the way, was that him she had been talking to or texting?

She gunned forward, just to show me that she could. I left her a wide berth, smiled at her splotchy face. She shot me a sideways scowl and mouthed the mantra again.

Pulling up to the loudspeaker behind her, I said "I want to pay for whatever the woman in front of me has ordered. And please tell her I hope she has a better day." I meant every word.

The woman idled in front of me for a good four minutes, talking to the barista who had leaned out the window. She shook her head and handed over a bill. She drove around the side of the building slowly, this time no gunning. Hmmm.

"No takers, huh?" I said to the barista as I pulled forward.

"Nope. She said she couldn't believe you wanted to pay for her drink after all the names she called you. She said she couldn't allow it and said to tell you she was sorry. She felt really bad."

"Did you tell her I hoped she had a better day?"

"Yep. She said thanks...that she already was."

"Good to hear." I smiled and handed her a dollar to put in the tip jar.

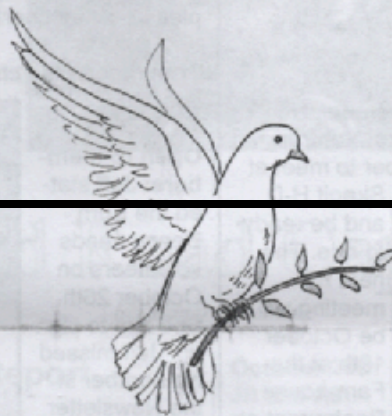
As I drove away, I began to cry. Not because I had been called so many terrible names but because God had answered my very recent prayer—which was that He would allow me to see people as He sees them, not as I see them.

That I might be able to see the hurting inside, instead of just the hurtful outside. And maybe a few tears were of gratitude and amazement that He always shows up with an answer when I sincerely ask.

What are you asking for?

**Ride Safe and
God Bless...**

Howard



NCHOG from yesteryear!

September 2013

You are members of one the longest standing HOG chapters inWA State!
We continue to make history!



HAPPENINGS [AT] SOUND HARLEY-DAVIDSON

Sound Harley-Davidson is our dealer sponsor. They do a lot for us! Let's show our appreciation by attending events, buying gear, parts and new bikes! They have an amazing service department also!

<https://soundharley.com/>

Free Donut Saturdays
Marysville, WA

Free Donut Saturdays
Rise and shine, PNW! Free donuts and hot coffee every Saturday at Sound Harley-Davidson. We can't wait to see you!



2026 Annual Motorcycle Show at Sound Harley-Davidson

Marysville, WA

June 27 2026 11:00am - 4:00PM

Join us at Sound Harley-Davidson in Marysville for the 2026 Annual Motorcycle Show presented by Puget Sound HOG #4767. Enjoy an incredible display of custom bikes, compete for trophies across 10 categories, and support the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society - all while enjoying a BBQ hosted by Puget Sound HOG.

And don't forget the first planned ride of the season!

