

From the Directors Desk

April 2025

Life moves pretty fast, unless you're a biker and its winter. Then it moves along at a snail's pace. The good news is Spring is here. The weather is getting better each week, and I'm seeing a lot of bikes out.

We stayed busy this winter with the Polar Roller, Chili Cook-Off, and Pancake Breakfast. Each event went well, Thank You to those who helped out. Raising money for the 620 Foundation is always a pleasure. We had the ROC Training in Feb.; this is always an informative event. Its good to hear from other Chapters about what works and what doesn't.

We have had quite a few new members sign up recently. Welcome: Derek, Chris, Chad, Sam, and Craig. Glad to have you with us. The Metro Chapter currently has 68 members, which includes 2 Charter Members: Maureen Clark and Larry Lorenz.

The first Metro Bike Night is just a couple of weeks away. YAY!!! Remember the new time is 5:30 to 8:30pm.

There are a bunch of rides and rallies coming up. The Mid-American HOG Rally in Springfield, MO. is June 5^{th} - 7^{th} . Harley Davidson Homecoming in Milwaukee is July $10^{th}-13^{th}$. Sturgis is Aug. $1^{st}-8^{th}$. And, The Lake of the Ozarks Bikefest is Sept. $10^{th}-14$ in Osage Beach, MO. Check the website for more info on these events, as well as, members who are going. We have 2 riding challenges this year. Most miles logged on Ride 365, and Freedom Rocks Challenge. Details for both will be on the website soon. If you Still haven't signed up for Ride 365 and had Darcy log your miles, GET ON IT!!!

And now for something new. I thought it would be fun to let you know about my family history with Harley Davidson. With each "Letter from the Director" I'll add a new piece of the story.

Part #1 Grandpa Jap

My Grandfather "Jasper" was a mechanic, and a motorcycle enthusiast. He owned MANY bikes. The earliest one I'm aware of was a 1941 Indian. Sometime after that he switched to Harley Davidson. He owned a few Harleys over the years. I can remember the stories of him going to Milwaukee to purchase one in February and riding it straight to Florida. Starting off all bundled up in winter gear, and peeling off layers the further south he rode. But the best story I ever heard was from my grandmother. She told me that he had a Harley that he was always upgrading with new chrome parts. With each addition he would have her come out and try to point out which part was new. On one of these explorations, she looked the whole bike over, examining every detail carefully. Finally, she gave in and said "I just don't see it". My Grandfather's response was Legendary.......

IT'S A WHOLE NEW BIKE!!







1953 FLE 74" Pan Head

Ride Safe, Log Miles & Memories

Roger Graham 2025 Director Metro Chapter HOG 1362