

**JANUARY  
2024**



**Next  
Chapter  
Meeting:  
January 12**



**BIGGS  
HARLEY-DAVIDSON**

**1040 Los Vallecitos  
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San Marcos, CA 92069**

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(800) 442-7539  
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**Wed-Friday: 10 am - 6 pm**

**Saturday: 9 am - 6 pm**

**Sunday: 11 am - 4 pm**

**Monday: Closed**

**Tuesday: By Appointment**

# HOG EXPRESS

**BIGGS CHAPTER #0270  
NORTH SAN DIEGO COUNTY H.O.G.**



## COME RIDE WITH US



## Director



### *HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!*



Wow, can you believe it... another trip around the sun. And another opportunity for more Miles with Smiles.

We start off 2024 with great news. Dave H, who you all know and love as our Safety Officer, has graciously stepped up to help me out as the Assistant Director for 2024. Dave approached me and wanted to help out knowing that my new position will have me traveling more often (eighteen days in January, but who's counting). Dave, thank you so much for stepping up and helping where there was a need.

As we look ahead to 2024 there are lots of great things to look forward to. This month kicks off a lot of activities including The Annual New Years Day Rain or Shine Ride to Ritchie's, The Carlsbad Marathon, The Autism Ride, and the Chapter leadership heading to Palm Springs with our Dealer staff for ROC (Regional Officer Connection). Oh, and did I forget to mention that this month is our Chapter's 34th Birthday!!

And what would 2024 be without the thought of some Overnight and Long Distance trips. There are no plans set as of yet, but I know that we will be discussing at this month's Officers Meeting and committees will surely be formed, so stay tuned for next month's newsletter.

I am most thankful in 2024 for you, my HOG family. You are the reason we love to ride and have fun, enjoying the open road and the greasy spoons, creating new memories on the road and, like Willie Nelson sang,...

"I can't wait to get on the road again!"

I wish all of you a Safe and Happy New Year. And I hope that 2024 turns out to be your best year ever.



Gene P "Tiki"

**15th Annual Mt. Soledad Memorial Ride November 26, 2023**





# What's Happening' at Biggs H-D



## BIGGS HARLEY-DAVIDSON JANUARY UPCOMING EVENTS

**JAN 5-6**

Happy New Year  
**FREEDOM TO RIDE**  
GET BETTER FUEL ECONOMY  
USED SALES  
BLOWOUT EVENT  
FRI & SAT JAN. 5-6

TRADE IN YOUR CAR OR TRUCK OR ANYTHING WITH A VIN # AND STOP WASTING MONEY ON GAS!

**Saturday Biker BBQ**  
12- TILL GONE!

Biggs HD 1040 Los Vallecitos San Marcos

**JAN 13**

BIGGS HD  
FAMILY LUNCH

SATURDAY JAN. 13  
SERVED WITH LOVE  
12- TILL GONE!

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**JAN 20**

Let's Ride!  
**BIGGS CREW LUNCH RIDE**

- SATURDAY JAN. 20
- At Biggs Harley 9:45 am
- Depart 10 am cruise back roads to Pechanga Casino
- Free Gelato Ice Cream
- Free Burger lunch w/ all the fixings! and awesome ride with friends!

Biggs Harley Davidson  
1040 Los Vallecitos Blvd.  
San Marcos

**JAN 27**

10th Annual **Autism Poker Ride**  
for Mountain Shadows Autism Center

Saturday January 27

Live Band BBQ Lunch Raffle Prizes  
Poker Winners Vendors Awesome Ride!

\$15 solo rider | \$20 w/ passenger  
9:30 am - 3 pm

Meetup@ Biggs Harley-Davidson 1040 Los Vallecitos Blvd. San Marcos

## Road Captain

*Happy New Year!!!*



As your new Road Captain, I would first like to wish each and every member of our Biggs HOG Family a Very Happy New Year. 2023 saw some great rides and we have even more planned for 2024.

I would now like to take this time to thank Terry W for his dedicated service as our Road Captain over the past few years. He has kept the Road Guard program moving forward through some challenges the past two years when six of our Road Guards moved out of state. Terry has spearheaded the Road Guard in Training (RGiT) Program to help maintain the Road Guard numbers to support our rides. He has been a Great Mentor to me and has ensured I have all the tools I need to take over from him. Thank You Terry!!!



We recently started a new Road Guard in Training (RGiT) Program and have five Chapter Members who have made the commitment to qualify as Road Guards. We have completed the Classroom Training portion and now the RGITs will take to the road, learning what it takes to manage our rides as Leads, Mid-Packs and Sweeps.

You can identify the RGITs by their Green Caps and the Green Ropes they are wearing on their left shoulder. They are learning fast and, by early July, should be newly qualified Road Guards. Please offer your support and thanks to them for volunteering to serve our Chapter as Road Guards.

One change you will see is that I will be sending out the weekly ride files on Sunday night, rather than the Monday mornings that Terry did. I'm not retired yet, so I am at work early on Mondays and cannot perform this task from my office. If you are not currently receiving the ride files and would like to receive them each week, please email me and I will add you to the distribution list. These are available to not only the Road Guards, but all Chapter Members who desire to receive them.

I wish all a Very Happy New Year and look forward to seeing you on rides in 2024.

**David L "TAZ"**

### *Ride to Chicken Charlie's Table December 2, 2023*





## Wreaths Across America December 16, 2023



## Ride to Craftsmanship Museum December 9, 2023





# Safety

## Stretching it Too Far



Thanks to David Y "Yak" for the inspiration for this month's safety article. I'm going to borrow liberally from an article "Yak" wrote in 2015.

Bungying or rubber banding (the accordion-like movement of the bikes while riding in formation) can be frustrating and unsafe - especially if someone overreacts in correcting the extra gap, which actually creates a more dramatic rubber banding effect throughout the group.

There are many factors that can cause rubber banding; a bike in front of you changes speed, you may be sightseeing and roll off the throttle a bit, looking at the GPS, scrolling through your music to find something new to listen to, other vehicles could be impacting your speed or maybe your mind is just somewhere else. Rubber banding is an unavoidable part of group riding, but can be controlled in a safe and less impactful manner by making *smaller and more frequent throttle corrections*.

Here's how: When people notice the two second gap to the bike in front of them increasing, they instinctively add throttle to close the gap quickly. This often causes them to zoom towards the next bike, and then have to come off the gas or even apply the brakes to avoid running up on them. The trick is to add as little throttle as possible. This allows a gradual increase in speed, which allows a smooth and gradual approach towards the bike in front of you. This gradual approach also allows you to make a smaller adjustment in reducing throttle as you reestablish the proper two second group riding interval. In short, the less abrupt your throttle actions, the less rubber banding effect it has on the bikes behind you.

It takes three throttle movements to change your position within the group and correct a gap: One to accelerate, another to slow your approach to the bike in front of you, and a third to match the speed of the group and stay in proper spacing in regards to the bike in front of you. This is a learned group riding skill and it takes practice to make it become a more instinctual habit. You need to make a conscious effort to tell yourself to resist that urge to roll hard on that throttle. Regardless of who caused the gap— you, the bike in front of you, or the bike in front of them... you can help reduce rubber banding and make the ride safer by using proper throttle techniques. By making these adjustments smaller and smoother, rubber banding goes down, safety goes up, and everyone has a more fun, enjoyable ride.

Safety Is No Accident!

Dave H

## A Lazy H Kind of Ride November 25, 2023



## Historian

### 34 Years to “Ride and Have Fun”



Harley's House of Harleys (HHH) opened its doors at 1555 S Coast Highway, Oceanside, CA on October 3, 1988. Fifteen months later, on January 12, 1990, the Oceanside HOG Chapter was launched. The National Harley Owners' Group (HOG) was founded in 1983: the Oceanside Chapter is among the oldest Chapters in existence (hence our comparatively low Chapter # - 0270).

In the beginning, Oceanside HOG, like other Chapters, was a loosely knit group of individuals, holding meetings, enjoying rides, and developing lasting friendships within their HOG family. Through the generosity of the dealership's owner, Harley Hartman, the Chapter membership grew and took on a more expansive role, both as a HOG Chapter and extension of the dealership, and as a force in the community.

Records from the earliest years of Oceanside HOG Chapter 0270 did not survive the sands of time; history of the Chapter goes back only to 1997 and, to my knowledge, there are no current members of our group who joined prior to that. The earliest tale we have from 1997 is the “Feather Pin History”. The Chapter had a dinner ride scheduled, but the weather was bad, it got dark, everyone got lost and decided to go home. In an effort to make it up to the group, the Dealer Liaison (Mac) had 50 pins made. They were round, about the size of a quarter, primarily black with gold stars. The top said, “Mac's Lost Tribe” and the bottom border said, “Where the Heck Are We”. The “Tribe” reference resulted in the “feather pin” concept.

On January 1, 1998, the Chapter held its annual Breakfast Run to Mt. Soledad and the first red feather pins were distributed. On January 4, 1998, the first “official” ride of the year was to Hard Rock Café in La Jolla and “feather pin rides” were born. HHH subsidized the cost of these pins, but by late 1999, over 1000 red pins had been distributed. The current system, where you “trade up” for a different color, was established in 2000, and in 2002, Bill T received the first 100 ride pin.

In the early years, Chapter meetings were not held at the dealership in Oceanside; they were usually held at a restaurant or meeting hall. Occasionally meetings were held in the HHH parking lot. It wasn't until 2001 that meetings were consistently held at the dealership, and those meetings were often accompanied by a buffet dinner! In late 1999, Oceanside HOG was incorporated. Also in 1999, the name of the monthly Chapter rides was changed from “New Member Ride” to “Get Acquainted Ride” (GAR). The year 2000 ushered in the concept of Road Guards as “Lead”, “Mid-Pack” and “Sweep” to help keep riders safe on our rides; the number of riders and the number of rides each month was growing exponentially.

Formation 101 was officially launched in 2001, and it was held roughly quarterly. Monthly Formation 101 classes began in 2004. The “Rider Pin”, given to members who attend the Formation 101 class was introduced in November 2005 (we are a Chapter that loves pins!)

The Road Guard in Training (RGiT) Program started in 2003. On July 31, 2003, HHH moved from South Coast Highway in Oceanside to 717 Center Drive in San Marcos and became known as “Biggs H-D”. The Oceanside store remained open until 2008. The name Biggs came to Richard L (current owner and son-in-law of Harley Hartman, the original owner of HHH) in a dream. Richard said he liked the sound of it and that it was one syllable instead of six. Of course, Oceanside HOG came along and became known as Biggs HOG.

Biggs HOG rides, events, and activities continued to grow and in 2008, the Chapter offered one weekday ride per month, adding to its eight-plus weekend rides each month. In addition, the first “Jason Davis” memorial ride to Mt. Soledad occurred. In November 2023, we held the 17<sup>th</sup> annual Mt. Soledad Memorial Ride to remember Jason.

- - continued on next page - -





## **34 Years to “Ride and Have Fun” (continued)**



In 2009, Biggs HOG accepted its first female Road Guard. Michele D (AKA “Belle”) served as a Road Guard until 2018, when she became the first Road Guard Emeritus. In 2019, she became the first female Director of Biggs HOG. Belle served in many other capacities over the years, including Secretary through 2022. Sadly, we lost her in 2023 after a long illness.

In 2010, Biggs H-D moved to its current location on Los Vallecitos in San Marcos, and Biggs HOG began to enjoy some of its best times. Ladies of Harley (LOH) was in full swing, holding 4 event rides, 6 dinner rides, and 11 Guest speakers every year for most of the decade. In 2012, LOH even published a cookbook! The number of discretionary officers for the Chapter grew to keep up with all the activities our Chapter offered to the membership.

Speaking of membership, that decade saw membership numbers in the 500s, 600s, and 800s, peaking in 2013 at 1130! Part of this growth was due to the Biggs HOG presence on new social media, such as Facebook. Chapter meetings held Saddlebag membership drawings of \$100 (every Chapter member’s name was put in the bag), but the member needed to be present to win. If the member was not present, the drawing would carry over to the next month, increasing by \$100 each month until won. The largest Saddlebag drawing prize was \$600. (We are a Chapter that loves raffles!)

Other Chapter membership incentives over the years included articles submitted by members about anything motorcycle related. The article was printed each month in the HOG Express and at the end of the year, the officers voted on the best article and awarded the author a \$100 gift card. Similarly, photographs taken during rides were submitted and published each month. At the end of the year, the “best photo” as determined by the officers, earned the photographer a \$100 gift card.

Biggs HOG members enjoy their sporting events also. Over the last 34 years, we’ve attended countless Gulls Hockey games, Lake Elsinore Storm Baseball games, and Harley Nights at the Speedway in Orange County. In 2015, 2016, and 2017 Biggs HOG members rode to Pasadena to help decorate floats for the Rose Bowl Parade. Each of these events epitomized the Ride and Have Fun philosophy that is Biggs HOG.

Biggs HOG also has a philanthropic side. Since its inception, Oceanside/Biggs HOG holds Poker Runs and other events supporting charities such as Breast Cancer awareness, Heart, Autism, Toys for Tots, and the Military. We give back to the community in many ways, including the Carlsbad marathon and the America’s Finest City marathon. (We are a generous Chapter!)

We’ve traveled near and far, making anywhere from five to seven long distance and overnight trips each year, missing that mark only once due to fires and Covid. Many members take other (non-Chapter) trips to places like Sturgis and the east coast for Run for the Wall (DC). (We are a Chapter that loves all kinds of rides!)

The Biggs HOG Chapter (unofficial) motto is “Live to Ride, Ride to Eat”. We do an abundance of both. (Beginning in 2019, Biggs HOG enabled members to link the monthly calendar of events to both Androids and iPhones using their respective apps, so no one needs to miss a ride OR a meal.) The Activities Committee comes up with creative places to ride, followed by interesting places to dine. We’ve had monthly “Challenge Rides”, which are not only about the ride, but also about the quality of the type of food. There was the Deli Challenge in 2015, a Breakfast Challenge in 2016, the Taco Challenge in 2017, a Meatball Challenge in 2018, a Burger Challenge in 2019, and the Chili Challenge in 2020. Watch for a “Return of the Challenge” in 2024. (We are a Chapter that loves to eat!)

This is but a smattering of the 34 years of Biggs HOG “Ride and Have Fun” lifestyle. Stick around and see what the next 34 years will bring.

**Mark B “The General”**



## Ride to Tip Top Meats December 23, 2023



## Annual Ride to Original Pancake House December 24, 2023





# Membership

## *Renewals, Ambassadors, & Mileage*



Hello Biggs HOG Family Members.

Here we are, the beginning of a new year and January's newsletter. That also means the Holiday Season is in the rear view and it's time to make good on those pesky resolutions most of you made.

It's no secret that we have a Chapter with outstanding members. Many of you stepped up over the past two months and made heart-warming donations to Bill B who is recovering from an unfortunate incident on the ride home from the Reagan Library trip. We all hope to see Bill B in person soon; whether it be on a bike or just showing up to hang out with us once again.

This is last-call for membership renewals! Renewals are still just \$25 per application. One key thing to know is that you must wet sign the application/waiver you submit. National HOG will not accept copies, emails, facsimile transmissions of these documents. Please fill out the application/waiver legibly so we can read your information to transfer it into the Chapter management software. Our target is to have all members complete their renewals by January 31, 2024. Those who miss this deadline will lose access to the Biggs HOG members Facebook page and the Chapter e-blasts. They will also need to sign waivers for each ride until they renew.

Additionally, we are also seeking dedicated Chapter members to become ambassadors, helping with new member orientations and introductions during Chapter meetings. This initiative reflects our commitment at Biggs HOG to create a welcoming environment for new members. If you're interested, please drop by the membership table at the next Chapter Meeting or email me or one of the primary officers for assistance.

National HOG is no longer offering a "Lifetime Membership" option. Matter of fact, they have revamped their membership altogether. You now have 3 options. Please visit the link listed below to learn more about the new options and their respective benefits. NOTE: You must be a member of National HOG to join the Biggs HOG Chapter. If you are not a member of Biggs HOG and you want to bring a guest or ride with the group, you will need to sign the appropriate waiver(s) each time you do so. You must be at least 18-yrs-old to join National HOG. [www.harley-davidson.com/us/en/content/membership.html](http://www.harley-davidson.com/us/en/content/membership.html)

As we begin the new year, don't forget to stop by the Biggs H-D Service Department and have your mileage recorded so you can earn those Harley gift cards and your National HOG mileage milestone patches again in 2024. I spoke with a National HOG customer service member and they recommended that you record your mileage at least twice per calendar year. They recommend recording your mileage on the first day possible in the new year and, minimally, having it recorded again as close to the last day of the year as possible. This will prevent you from losing any miles earned for that calendar year. Only the Biggs H-D Service Department is authorized to record your mileage for submission to National HOG. See Taz or me for more information if you need it.

Non-member guests are always welcome to join us on our Chapter rides. All they need to do is sign the appropriate waiver paperwork at the ride brief.

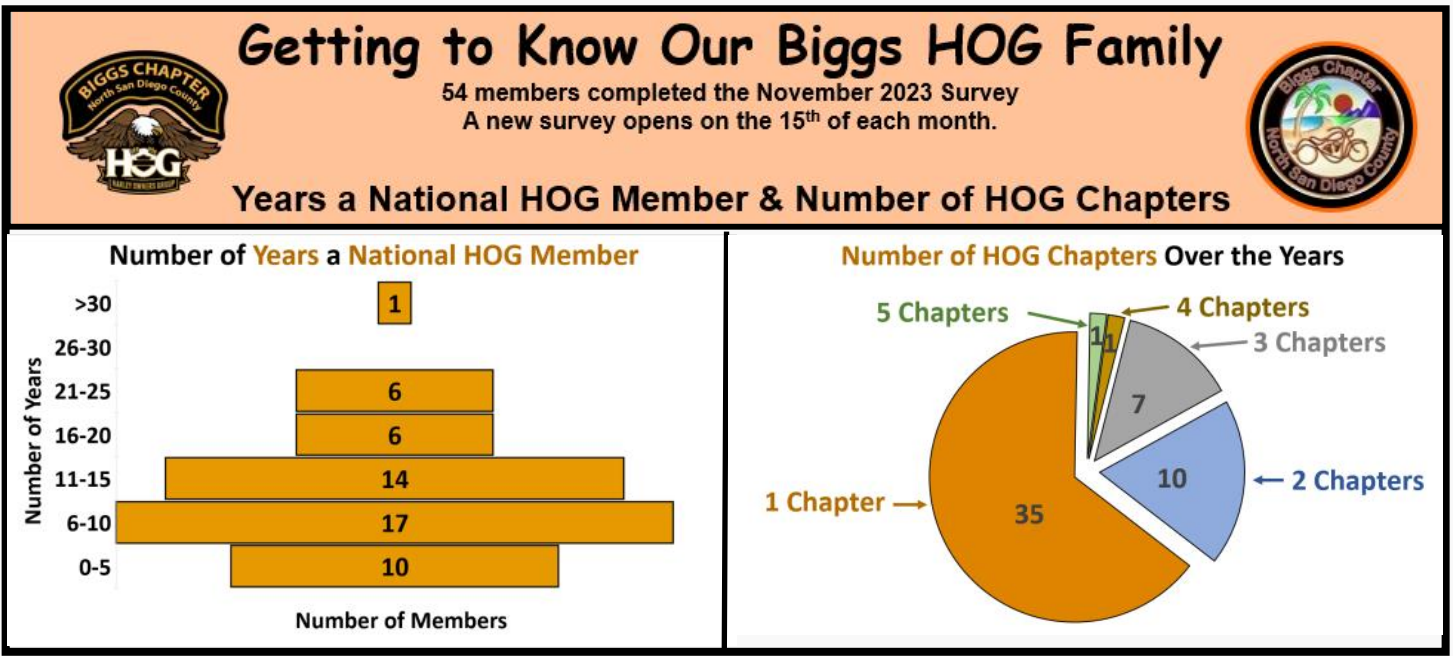
In closing, adios to a fun-filled 2023 and hello to a brand new 2024...  
Let's make it a SAFE and GREAT year!!! LET'S RIDE!!!

**Shawn E**





**Holiday Party December 9, 2023**





# Volunteers



Please allow me to introduce myself. . .

My name is Andrew K-R, and I've been with Biggs HOG a little over a year. I'm the incoming Volunteer Coordinator for 2024. My special thanks to Victor M, who preceded me in this position. Please take a moment to stop by our table at the Chapter meetings to say hi and to see how you too can help serve the Chapter.

## Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities:

- ☐ We will be looking for rider/passenger duos to assist with the Carlsbad Marathon and Half-Marathon on Sunday, January 14th.
- ☐ We will have some slots to fill on Saturday, January 27th when the dealership sponsors its annual Poker Run to benefit Autism awareness.
- ☐ We can always use extra hands to help set up and break down chairs and tables at our monthly Chapter meetings!

I look forward to serving you!

[Volunteers@BiggsHOG.com](mailto:Volunteers@BiggsHOG.com)

**Andrew K-R**

## 2024 PRIMARY OFFICERS

DIRECTOR ~ Gene P "Tiki"

[Director@BiggsHOG.com](mailto:Director@BiggsHOG.com)

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR ~ Dave H

[AssistantDirector@BiggsHOG.com](mailto:AssistantDirector@BiggsHOG.com)

SECRETARY ~ Patrick K "OC Pat"

[Secretary@BiggsHOG.com](mailto:Secretary@BiggsHOG.com)

TREASURER ~ Ken F "Coyote"

[Treasurer@BiggsHOG.com](mailto:Treasurer@BiggsHOG.com)



## 2024 DISCRETIONARY OFFICERS

ACTIVITIES ~ Mark B "The General"

[Activities@BiggsHOG.com](mailto:Activities@BiggsHOG.com)

CALENDAR

[Calendar@BiggsHOG.com](mailto:Calendar@BiggsHOG.com)

EDITORS ~ Patrick & Cathy K [Editor@BiggsHOG.com](mailto:Editor@BiggsHOG.com)

HISTORIAN ~ Mark B "The General"

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MEMBERSHIP/AMBASSADORS ~ Shawn E

[Membership@BiggsHOG.com](mailto:Membership@BiggsHOG.com)

CHAPTER MANAGER ~ Howie W

[DealerLiaison@BiggsHOG.com](mailto:DealerLiaison@BiggsHOG.com)

MERCHANDISE ~ Patrick & Mary D

[Merchandise@BiggsHOG.com](mailto:Merchandise@BiggsHOG.com)

MILITARY ~ Ken F "Coyote"

[MilitaryLiaison@BiggsHOG.com](mailto:MilitaryLiaison@BiggsHOG.com)

ROAD CAPTAIN ~ Dave L "Taz"

[RoadCaptain@BiggsHOG.com](mailto:RoadCaptain@BiggsHOG.com)

RG at LARGE ~ Dale D

[RGatLarge@BiggsHOG.com](mailto:RGatLarge@BiggsHOG.com)

SAFETY OFFICER ~ Dave H

[Safety@BiggsHOG.com](mailto:Safety@BiggsHOG.com)

VOLUNTEERS ~ Andrew K-R

[Volunteers@BiggsHOG.com](mailto:Volunteers@BiggsHOG.com)

WEBMASTER ~ Syd B

[Webmaster@BiggsHOG.com](mailto:Webmaster@BiggsHOG.com)

# HOGTIVITIES



## January 2024



= Feather Pin Ride

### MON 1 -- New Year's Day Ride

9:00 AM STARBUCKS

Short distance on Mixed Roads to Richie's Real American Diner

This annual event is rain or shine! In case of rain, meet at Starbucks.

40651 Murrieta Hot Springs Rd, Murrieta, CA 92562

### WED 3 -- Officers Meeting

6:45 PM The Mining Company Steakhouse and Saloon

5:45 PM meal (optional); meeting starts at 6:45 PM

New location inside the Creekside Marketplace

579 Grand Ave, San Marcos, CA 92078

### SAT 6 -- Ride to Silverback Breakfast and Café

9:30 AM BIGGS H-D

Short distance on Back Roads to Silverback Breakfast and Café

1717 E Vista Way, Unit 117, Vista, CA 92084

### SUN 7 -- Ride to Windmill Food Hall

11:30 AM BIGGS H-D

Short Distance on Back Roads to Windmill Food Hall

890 Palomar Airport Road, Carlsbad, CA 92011

### FRI 12 -- Chapter Meeting

7:00 PM BIGGS H-D

Arrive early at 6 PM to socialize, sign up to volunteer.

Take this opportunity to renew your Chapter membership. Everyone is welcome.

### SAT 13 -- Formation 101

8:30 AM BIGGS H-D

Come learn how we ride as a group. If you haven't been in a while, come refresh your knowledge.

Coffee and doughnuts. Members receive a Rider Pin.

### SAT 13 -- Get Acquainted Ride (GAR)

10:15 AM BIGGS H-D

After Formation 101, put your knowledge to work during our most popular ride and then eat lunch with your HOG family. Destination: Someplace to eat!

### SUN 14 -- Carlsbad Marathon

4:30 AM STARBUCKS

This event is rain or shine.

Contact Road Captain to sign up to help.

### SAT 20 -- Ride to Guy Woodward Museum

9:00 AM BIGGS H-D

Medium distance on Back Roads to Guy B Woodward Museum. The museum is devoted to preserving and sharing the history of Ramona.

645 Main St, Ramona, CA 92065

### SUN 21 -- Ride to Breakfast at Penfold's

7:00 AM STARBUCKS

Short distance on Freeway to Penfold's Café

28250 Old Town Front Street, Temecula, CA 92590

### SAT 27 -- 11th Annual Biggs Autism Poker Run

8:00 AM STARBUCKS

Short distance on Back Roads to the 11th Annual Biggs Autism Poker Run "Starbucks to Biggs the long way"

### SUN 28 -- Ride to Portillo's

11:30 AM BIGGS H-D

Medium distance on Back Roads to Portillo's

12840 Day St, Moreno Valley, CA 92553

### TUES 30 -- Activities Meeting

6:45 PM Coyote Cafe

6 PM meal, 6:45 PM Meeting at Coyote Café

1450 North Santa Fe Ave, Vista, CA 92083

Happy 34th Birthday, Biggs HOG!



Chartered January 12, 1990



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## Biggs HOG Chapter 2023 Rides Recap

### January 1 - December 31

Type of Ride	Number	Total Days	Total Miles	Ave Miles Per Day
Local Feather Pin Rides	95	95	5,026	53
Overnight Trip Rides	3	6	1,157	193
Long Distance Rides	3	13	3,685	283
<b>2024 Total (Jan-Dec)</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>9,868</b>	<b>87</b>

*Local Feather Pin Rides mileage is "one way" from starting point to destination.*

*Miles not included in totals:*

- \* 11 Local Feather Pin Ride Rain Outs
- \* 4 Canceled Rides
- \* 1 RGIT Eval Ride
- \* Optional RARs (Ride After Ride)

**BIGGS HOG CHAPTER**  
**NORTH SAN DIEGO COUNTY**  
**P.O. BOX 610**  
**SAN MARCOS, CA**  
**92079-0610**



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**Biggs HOG...**

**More than three decades of riding and having fun!**

