# MARCH 2024



Next Chapter Meeting: March 8





# BIGGS HARLEY-DAVIDSON

1040 Los Vallecitos #113 San Marcos, CA 92069

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### **Store Hours**

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 March to my HOG Family. The start of Daylight Saving Time, when clocks are turned forward an hour, signaling that spring has nearly arrived, is a little more than a few days away. Daylight Saving time will begin at 2 a.m. on Sunday, March 10, 2024.

Now, I don't know about you, but I'm so glad the rain has finally let up, and it even seems like it's starting to get a little warmer on rides. Add the fact that it will be lighter later, and we have all conditions for a great month of riding.

I'm happy to announce that we have a full complement of discretionary officers to keep the Chapter up and running. For our new members, there is always the opportunity for you to partner and apprentice with current officers to lend your talents and help the Chapter grow as future leaders.

I want to take this moment to thank everyone who helps the Chapter, no matter how big, no matter how small. This Chapter does not operate without the talents and time that members give back to help serve others.

As I sit here writing this article, I happened to glance at my digital picture frame which is connected with my photo account. I see scrolling photos of many of the rides that we have done in the past years. As I look at the faces in the photographs. I see some faces that I see regularly. And some faces that I have not seen in a long time. Which made me reflect on memories.

You see, life constantly throws changes at us; people ebb and flow in and out of our lives every year. Some people get a new job. Some people get new orders for deployment. Others may get tired of the high cost of living and decide to move out of state, or for whatever reason, the only constant again is change. But in looking back at the pictures, the memories remain of all the good times of the great rides and the funny conversations along with the road names that may have developed from those funny conversations.

You see, again, that's what this Chapter is all about, riding and having fun. You often hear me refer to "miles with smiles." And I think that in addition to smiles, it's also about the memories that we create along the way.

We are truly blessed to have the opportunity to enjoy a hobby that gives us the freedom to explore the open road, the fellowship to enjoy lifelong friendships, and the dealership that sponsors us so that we can all experience the Harley-Davidson lifestyle.



I feel truly blessed to have each and every one of you a part of the Biggs HOG family. And I look forward to many more miles together as we come into the Spring of our riding season.

Gene P "Tiki"

# **Assistant Director**

### **HOG History**

# How Did Harley Riders Become Known as HOGS?





Harley-Davidson sold its first motorcycle in Milwaukee in 1903. Within two years, company founders were on Midwestern race tracks. The early motorcycle market was crowded, and one of the best ways to get your young company on the map was to beat your competitors on the race track. By the mid-1910s, the Harley-Davidson factory racing team had earned the nickname "The Wrecking Crew" because of its dominance.

But racing, motorcycle sales, and a lot of other things went nearly dormant during World War I. Manufacturers and dealers alike succumbed to war economics. Some wondered if motorcycles were headed for extinction, to be displaced entirely by the automobile. To the surprise of many, racing was the spark that re-ignited post-war motorcycling. Organizers took a gamble and established a 200-mile road race in Marion, Indiana, over Labor Day weekend of 1919, hoping that riders would return to the highways and attend.

Fortunately for the industry, more than 15,000 motorcyclists converged on Marion. Some came from as far as the West Coast. And for us 21st Century bikers, remember, that's over 2,000 miles on a motorcycle with no interstate highway system and no rear shock absorbers.

The race was dominated by team Harley-Davidson, taking the top three positions. With such a great success, everyone returned to Marion a year later. That race was won by the colorful Ray Weishaar at an average speed of 71 miles per hour, a new record. In the hours leading up to the race, Weishaar adopted a piglet from a local farmer and named him Johnnie. Johnnie was immediately named the team's mascot.

Among the many photos taken after Weishaar's victory was the image of Weishaar jokingly offering Johnnie a celebratory sip of Coke from the famous Coca-Cola bottle, which was just a few years old at the time. The photograph has become one of the most iconic in Harley-Davidson history. In fact, the use of the word "hog" as it relates to Harley-Davidson, started in this era. A motorcycle journalist began to remark on team H-D "hogging" all the race track records. Some say another journalist began calling the racers "The Harley Hogs" after the Weishaar photo.





In later years, "hog" became a more common slang term for the motorcycle, as in "Nice hog, man." In 1983, the Motor Company decided to take advantage of this long -standing nickname and they turned the nickname into an acronym for their group, the Harley Owners Group. And last year Harley paid honor to Johnnie's legacy by introducing the Fast Johnnie Road Glide ST, Street Glide ST and Low Rider ST to the Enthusiast Collection.

Dave H

# What's Happenin' at Biggs H-D



MARCH 1-2



MARCH 9



# MARCH 16



# MARCH 23



# MARCH 30



**LOCAL FAMILY OWNED SINCE 1987** 

# Ride to Portillo's January 28, 2024









# **Road Captain**

### Two Up = Two Heads Up



For years we have referred to the back seat holder as a passenger. Now we call them co-riders and it

isn't simply to be politically correct. The word *co-rider* does not mean they are simply along for the ride, but that they may share in some of the responsibilities for the safe operation of the motorcycle.

Possession of the back seat means there is a lot more freedom to enjoy the scenery without worrying about the technical operation of the motorcycle, but with that freedom there is responsibility. A non-participating *co-rider* is of absolutely no help if not paying attention. What if a sudden maneuver is required to avoid road kill or an alligator (tire debris) on the road or sudden braking? Their actions may dictate the difference between a safe and successful transition or a not so safe or successful one.

The *co-rider* should ride not like a passenger, but like a second rider. When a *co-rider* remains alert, it means an extra pair of eyes for the rider. It means spotting road hazards, anticipating how the rider will react, and being ready to assist in any evasive maneuver. We all know the *co-rider* will need to adjust their position once in a while, but knowing when it's OK to move around comes with experience. A *co-rider* can and will affect the balance of the bike.

The rider has responsibilities too; pointing out objects for fellow riders behind alerts your *co-rider* that something is in the road and a possible maneuver is coming up. Having a CB or helmet-to-helmet radios is another great way to communicate with your *co-rider*. On occasion, potholes or alligators will be run over, but with "time in the saddle" together, both rider and *co-rider* will take it in stride.

Two-up riding is a cooperative sport. Rider and *co-rider* work together as a team to make the ride fun and safe and it just may make a difference in those favorite memories.

Ride safe and ride often...together.







David L "TAZ"





# Safety

### Fighting Rider Fatigue

The Long Distance riding season is coming up on us which means longer stretches in the saddle. One thing we preach in this Chapter is to Own Your Own Safety. One important strategy for controlling ourselves is to maximize our alertness, which reduces our reaction time to the dangers imposed by other motorists and road debris, as well as our own misjudged braking requirements and excess speed on curves.



Here are 10 key strategies to help:

### 1. Sleep Like a Baby

Fully rested is the best condition to begin a long ride or trip. That means getting a full night's sleep before departure.

### 2. Ditch the Freeway

The more interesting the route – those that require more mental engagement and use of the motorcycle's brakes, gears, and steering – the more engaged we'll be as riders.

### 3. Stop Before It's Needed

A surefire way to ride so long that you get tired, is to ride so long that you get tired. Think about that for a minute, then break the habit by stopping before tiredness sets in, via planned stopping points at distances that are short enough that they don't induce tiredness (every two hours or less).

### 4. Move That Body

When you do stop, exercise lightly for a few minutes by walking or stretching.

### 5. Drink Like a Fish

Yes, drink water like you're a fish, and yes, this means you'll need to make frequent pit stops, which is precisely the point.

### 6. Eat Like a Bird

Eating large carbohydrate heavy meals will give you a big, quick shot of sugar, but can also lead to a sugar crash that's exacerbated by long energy-sapping digestion. Instead, eat like a bird. That means having smaller, more frequent meals of protein which produce a longer and more sustainable energy supply.

### 7. Nap Like a Baby

Human beings are hard-wired to need naps, although most of us short-circuit this wiring through various coping mechanisms. If drowsiness begins to affect your trip, pulling over into a suitable location; taking a short nap will take you off the road at a time when you need it, and recharge your system.

### 8. Communicate

Riders who use electronic communication systems to converse occasionally with a riding partner report feeling more alert and engaged.

### 9. Pass for Position

Sitting behind another motorist for a long period of time can lull your brain into a dull form of cruise control.

### 10. Don't Fight the Wind

A key strategy for reducing fatigue is to eliminate its source. Wind is a primary source of fatigue for motorcyclists, both as audible noise and a tiring force against your torso. Wearing earplugs and a full-face helmet, as well as a windscreen, will reduce the impact of wind and keep you fresher for longer.

### **Safety Is No Accident!**

Dave H

# **Website & Social Media**

I was "today" years old when I realized we are fast approaching the end of the first quarter of the 21st century. Wasn't it just last week when people were warning us about Y2K? Where did those 25 years go?







For Biggs HOG, as for many other groups, those 25 years showed remarkable growth by virtue of the internet and social media. Biggs HOG has a website – www.biggshog.com. If you're reading this article www.BiggsHOG.com via email, you've probably already explored the website: perusing the

Events page to plan upcoming weekend rides or Long Distance trips, reading prior issues of the Express on the Members page, considering serving our Chapter as a Road Guard and reviewing the qualifications listed on the Safety page, and maybe even delving into greater detail of all things HOG and Harley through the links on the Resources page. If you haven't visited in a while, I urge you to take a few minutes and look at what's new.











Public Facebook Page

Members Only Facebook Page

Biggs HOG has two pages on Facebook - (1) Biggs Chapter North San Diego County Harley Owners Group #0270 and (2) Biggs HOG Chapter Member **Chat Room.** The former is our *Public Facebook page* and contains pictures and information about past and upcoming events. It is where non-members go to learn about our Chapter (and perhaps interest them enough to become members!) The latter is our Members Only page, where we as a family communicate with each other about our bikes, our rides, our families, and our lives. If you're a member of Biggs HOG and have a Facebook account but are not a member of our Member Chat Room, please go to that page and request to join. You'll get up-to-the-minute information about everything that has to do with our HOG Chapter, including pictures of rides and events and a weekly listing of upcoming rides with destinations, times, length of ride, and a map! Of course, feel free to post also – don't be shy!







Just this month Biggs HOG entered the world of Instagram. You can find us at biggshog0270. If you're an Instagram technocrat, here is where you'll see pictures and ride information like that on our Facebook pages. Please like and follow us - this account is in

its infancy and if we don't have followers there's not much use in posting.

I'm enthusiastic about our Chapter's increased presence on social media and the web and am hopeful it will pay dividends in the form of increased participation and membership. To quote Chet Huntley (remember him? If not, google it!), "All we need to make us really happy is something to be enthusiastic about."

Syd B

# Membership

### The H-D App and H-D Membership

Greetings to all our Biggs HOG family members! Here we are with the March newsletter, and can you believe it? Two months of the year 2024 have already slipped through the proverbial hourglass. How are you faring with your New Year's resolutions? Yeah... me too!



Let's delve into some updates. Last month, six of our Chapter officers and Richard L attended Regional Officer Connection (ROC) training. During ROC, we were introduced to the *H-D App*. Harley-Davidson always strives provide its customers with cutting-edge and modern tech and this is one of their newest initiatives. I encourage you to download the *H-D App* on your smartphone and start exploring all kinds of cool features including the option to design, save and share ride routes, track your Ride 365 miles, engage in rider challenges which earn digital assets and points that translate into spendable cash, connect with other riders, keep updated on H-D events, and so much more. All these features are enhanced by GPS to customize the content based on your current location or destination. BEST OF ALL, the app is free to download and use!

Harley-Davidson is transitioning to a new membership structure in 2024, introducing four distinct tiers: *H-D Membership* (free), *Access Pass* (\$29/yr), *Rider Pass* (\$49/yr), and *Harley Owners Group* (\$59/yr). The *Harley Owners Group* tier membership is required to join a HOG Chapter and replaces the former "Full," "Full Life," and "Associate" memberships. The *Harley Owners Group* tier includes: exclusive access to HOG only events, Chapter access, challenges, and rallies; new Deluxe roadside assistance for up to two H-D VINs; new Premium partner benefits; a new HOG Printed Publication (coming in 2024); unlimited H-D Museum visits; free expedited shipping at H-D.com for orders \$50+; four points per dollar spent; and more. For co-riders/passengers, the \$59 annual fee comes with an immediate bonus of 3,000 rider rewards points (worth \$30) credited to your H-D account, essentially making the co-rider/passenger membership \$29 annually.

Now, addressing a significant change: the discontinuation of the "Life Membership." If you're currently a Life Member, your Life Membership automatically converts to the "Harley Owners Group" tier with no annual fee and no required action on your part. Harley-Davidson has made sure all is in place for our Life Members.

For detailed information on each membership level, visit Harley Davidson's membership comparison page: <a href="https://www.harley-davidson.com/us/en/content/membership/compare-passes.html">https://www.harley-davidson.com/us/en/content/membership/compare-passes.html</a>

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

As we embrace the next month of the riding season, remember to visit the Biggs H-D Service Department at least twice a year to log your mileage for *Ride 365*. HOG suggests recording your mileage as soon as the new year begins and again toward the year's end to ensure no miles are lost. You must EXPLICITLY request the Biggs H-D Service Department to log your mileage; otherwise, it might not be recorded as part of your service visit. If you're riding with a passenger, make sure to ask to have their mileage recorded as well.

Should you ever have any inquiries about your membership status, benefits, how to navigate the *H-D App*, or anything else, please don't hesitate to reach out to me! I'm here and eager to assist you in any way I can. You can reach me at membership@biggshog.com.

**LET'S RIDE!!!** 

Shawn E



# e G

# Getting to Know Our Biggs HOG Family

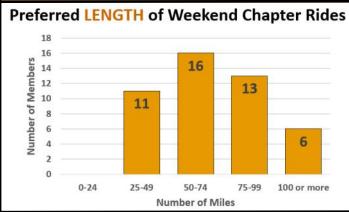
46 members completed the January 2024 Survey.

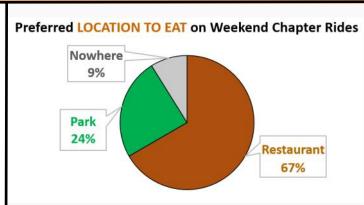
Congratulations to Ann J who won the gift card drawing.

A new survey opens on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.



### Weekend Ride Preferences









# Harley-Davidson Regional Officer Connection (ROC) February 3, 2024

# **Volunteers**

**Upcoming volunteer opportunities include:** 

☐ Help Set Up and Take Down at the March 8 Chapter Meeting. Arrive by 5:45 PM.





□ Save the Date: 22nd Annual MAY RIDE and Family Festival, Saturday, May 18

We'll need help with set up, registration, poker draws, parking/traffic control, clean up, and more.

Sign up sheets will be available at Chapter Meetings.

For more information on how you can help our Chapter, please stop by the Volunteer Table at the back of the next Chapter Meeting on Friday, March 8. I look forward to seeing you there!

Volunteers@BiggsHOG.com

Andrew K-R

### **2024 PRIMARY OFFICERS**

DIRECTOR ~ Gene P "Tiki"

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR ~ Dave H

SECRETARY ~ Patrick K "OC Pat"

TREASURER ~ Ken F "Coyote"

Director@BiggsHOG.com
AssistantDirector@BiggsHOG.com
Secretary@BiggsHOG.com
Treasurer@BiggsHOG.com



### 2024 DISCRETIONARY OFFICERS

ACTIVITIES ~ Mark B "The General"

Activities@BiggsHOG.com

CALENDAR ~ Jona K Calendar@BiggsHOG.com

EDITORS ~ Patrick & Cathy K Editor@BiggsHOG.com

HISTORIAN ~ Mark B "The General"

Historian@BiggsHOG.com

LONG DISTANCE LongDistance@BiggsHOG.com

MEMBERSHIP/AMBASSADORS ~ Shawn E

Membership@BiggsHOG.com

CHAPTER MANAGER ~ Howie W

DealerLiaison@BiggsHOG.com

MERCHANDISE ~ Patrick & Mary D

Merchandise@BiggsHOG.com

MILITARY ~ Ken F "Coyote"

MilitaryLiaison@BiggsHOG.com

ROAD CAPTAIN ~ Dave L "Taz"

RoadCaptain@BiggsHOG.com

RG at LARGE ~ Dale D RGatLarge@BiggsHOG.com

SAFETY OFFICER ~ Dave H Safety@BiggsHOG.com

**VOLUNTEERS** ~ Andrew K-R

Volunteers@BiggsHOG.com

WEBSITE and SOCIAL MEDIA ~ Syd B

Webmaster@BiggsHOG.com

Check the most current calendar www.biggshog.com

# HOGTIVITIES

Call our 24 Hour Ride Line (760) 736-2920



# March 2024

= Feather Pin Ride

SAT 2 -- Ride to Chicken Pie Shop

10:30 AM BIGGS H-D

Medium distance on Back Roads to

2633 El Cajon Blyd. San Diego, CA 92104

SUN 3 -- Ride to Teri Cafe 11:30 AM BIGGS H-D Short distance on Back Roads to 3809 Plaza Dr, Oceanside, CA 92056

WED 6 -- Officers Meeting

6:45 PM The Mining Company 5:45 PM meal (optional); meeting starts at 6:45 PM 579 Grand Ave, San Marcos, CA 92078

FRI 8 -- Chapter Meeting 7:00 PM BIGGS H-D

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

SAT 9 -- 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 9 -- Get Acquainted Ride (GAR)

10:15 AM BIGGS H-D

After Formation 101, put your knowledge to work during our popular Medium distance ride on Mixed Roads and then eat lunch with your HOG family. Destination: This changes every month, but it's always someplace to eat!

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

www.facebook.com/biggschapter/

SUN 10 -- Ride to Tom's Famous Family Restaurant
11:30 AM BIGGS H-D
Short distance on Back Roads to
1110 Sycamore Ave. Vista. CA 92081

SAT 16 -- Ride to El Patrón HOG St Patrick's Day Poker Run 8:00 AM STARBUCKS Short distance on Mixed Roads to El Patrón H-D 621 El Cajon Blvd, El Cajon, CA 92020

SUN 17 -- Ride to Milton's Deli
11:30 AM BIGGS H-D
Medium distance on Back Roads to
2660 Via De La Valle, Del Mar, CA 92014

SAT 23 -- Ride to Black Bear Diner

10:30 AM BIGGS H-D

Medium distance on Back Roads to

24640 Madison Ave, Murrieta, CA 92562

SUN 24 -- Fratello's Ristorante & Pizzeria
9:00 AM STARBUCKS

Medium distance on Back Roads to
54295 Ridgeview Dr, Idyllwild-Pine Cove, CA 92549

TUES 26 -- Activities Meeting
6:45 PM Coyote Cafe
6 PM meal; 6:45 PM meeting; everyone is welcome.
1450 North Santa Fe Ave, Vista, CA 92083

SAT 30 -- Ride to Heroes Wood-Fired Pizza

10:30 AM BIGGS H-D

Medium distance on Back Roads to

4355 CA-78 Santa Ysabel (Wynola-Julian), CA 92070





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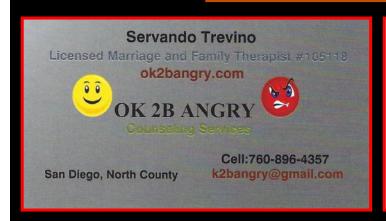
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# Biggs HOG Chapter 2024 Rides Recap January 1 - January 31

Type of Ride	Number	Total Days	Total Miles	Ave Miles Per Day
Local Feather Pin Rides	7	7	284	41
Overnight Trip Rides	0	0	0	0
Long Distance Rides	0	0	0	0
2024 Total (Jan)	7	7	284	41

Local Feather Pin Rides mileage is "one way" from starting point to destination. Miles not included in totals:

- \* 2 Local Feather Pin Ride Rain Outs
- Biggs H-D Autism Poker Run (Not a Chapter Event)
- \* Optional RARs (Ride After Ride)

revised 1/31/2024

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



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