

SE MN H.O.G. CLUB #2443
ROCHESTER HARLEY
DAVIDSON
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Southeastern Minnesota Harley Owners Group #2443
April 2011 Newsletter

Directors Notes

Runge's Ramblings

Seeing as how it will be riding weather soon and we will be getting the bikes out of storage, I'll dwell a little while on safety. Did you know that 89% of riders involved in motorcycle crashes have never had any formal training? Think about it, 89%, that's a lot. I've never had any, I just learned from doing I guess. And we learn quickly if it doesn't work don't do it again. Other than the obvious things like checking tire pressure, looking for loose bolts or other things that vibrate loose, we need to reintroduce our brain to looking for obstacles on the road, crawling or running out of ditches and of course our speed, especially on curves. There's still sand on the roads and we all know what it can do. Then there's that idiot that never sees motorcycles. Defensive driving is a must. Cars aren't used to watching for bikes so be aware of what you're doing and always watch out for the unexpected. Make sure your tabs are up to date and on the bike, not on the refrigerator door like mine are. Wipe your helmet off (your choice) and just be aware of your surroundings. We're a riding club so let's ride and have fun. See ya on the road and ride safe.

Gary Runge
Director

March 2011 Meeting Minutes

The March 12, 2011 SE MN HOG meeting was called to order by Gary Runge, Director. Gary led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Two different cancer ride forms are available at the desk. Please take a few and distribute. Gary also has raffle tickets available. It would be great if each member would sell at least one book of 10. Bike drawing will be October 15 at the RHD Open House.

Request for donation to the Red Cross has been tabled until the contribution committee meets.

Mary Hamilton, Membership Officer, reported that the information board for SE MN HOG has finally been ordered. Cindy Fawcett will be helping her set it up.

Julie Williams, Ladies of Harley (LOH) reported a balance of \$335 from last month's chili feed. Thanks for the great participation. First place winner was Bob Anderson, Second and third place was a tie between Steve Koball and Jim Ertelt. Congratulations to all the winners! There is a bake sale put on by LOH today in the RHD lounge. Lots of goodies. Come and check it out after the meeting.

Frank Fawcett, Assistant Director, announced the dealership news. Today is the last day for the annual "Leather Madness" Sale. Don't miss out on the great deals. The Donnie Smith Bike Show is at the River Center in St. Paul on March 26 & 27. For those that have a bike in storage, please remember to give the service department a few days notice to get it out. Remember your 2012 tabs. Our April "Kick Start Sale" is the 8th through the 16th. Get all your gear for the season.

Frank Fawcett also discussed the bike blessing. The chapter received a letter from the pastor of South Troy Church asking to have a bike blessing at their church on May 15. They will be having a lunch for us after the blessing. They have plans for a bike/picnic shelter in the future. They are also working on indoor plumbing so it's a possibility we could have a collection for that after the lunch.

Frank Fawcett, in Ron Brewster, Treasurer, absence, reported a balance of \$12,191.59

Roger Hamilton, Activities Officer, stated he is in the process of updating activities as he just took over the duties this past month.

Gordy Haubenschild reported that there will be a CPR class given by the Red Cross after the next meeting. All the road captains will be taking the course but any member can take the class. The cost is \$15.

Gary Runge circulated a picture of the 2 pins for the cancer ride. The black pin was decided to be ordered.

Gordy Haubenschild announced that there is a Cancer Ride Committee meeting scheduled for April 13 at 6 PM in the lounge at RHD. Cancer Ride is June 4!!!

Respectfully Submitted by Mary Hamilton in Patty Haimers, Secretary absence

Activity Officer Notes

If you are going out for a ride and looking for folks to ride with, send an email to rogerhd69@gmail.com and Roger will forward it to the group. Include how others can contact you if they have questions.

Roger Hamilton
Activity Officer

Membership News

We have ordered our SE MN HOG information, white board. Cindy Fawcett is helping me "design" the content of the board. Any suggestions would be helpful. Currently the format is:

SE MN H.O.G.

Website:

Next Meeting

Ride #1

Ride #2

Upcoming Events:

We had a great turnout at the last meeting and signed up new members as well as returning members. Thank you

Mary Hamilton, Membership Officer

Editor Notes

All input for newsletter should be submitted no later than the 20th of the month to make the next newsletter. Please make a statement in subject line as to content. If you have any questions on this subject or have any suggestions for a future newsletter, please e-mail or give Jeff Williams a call.

Thank you all for your support and input for the newsletter. You all help make this a good monthly newsletter.

Please also consider submitting information for the "Meet Other HOG Members" section of the newsletter. Contact Jeff for the questionnaire or just write up your story and send it to Jeff.

You may submit articles to jeff1851@charter.net.

Jeff Williams
Newsletter Editor

Webmaster Notes

When submitting info for web site, please include all info needed such as pictures and events plus make a statement in subject line as to content. If you have any questions on this subject or have any suggestions for content on web site, please e-mail or give Roger a call.

Thank you all for your support and input for the web site. You all help to make this a good web site that will keep us all informed and help promote SE MN H.O.G. Club

You may submit input, pictures, events, etc. to rogerhd69@gmail.com.

Roger Hamilton
Webmaster

Meet Other HOG Members

This month, we meet and Tony and Kelli Larimer, and Frank Vondrashek.



Tony and Kelli Larimer. We live in Spring Valley with our 4 girls. They are Shelby 14, Ashley 13, Erin 13 and Taylor 10. We have been married since September 2005. I (Tony) work at SATA Spray Equipment as the Director of Sales & Marketing for the past 15 years. Kelli has worked at the Mayo Clinic for 16 years. She works as a travel coordinator arranging the travel plans, as well as expense accounts of the Mayo Clinic Doctors, Nurses and other support staff. Kelli grew up as a rural IA farm girl, and moved to the big city of Spring Valley in 1992 when her parents moved up here. She has lost most the accent, and has even been seen cheering for the MN Gophers when they play the Hawkeyes! I grew up in Chatfield, MN.

I guess my first motorcycle would go back to the old mini-bike days! Had a 50 cc Honda that screamed biker! Upgraded early on to the 70 cc Arctic Cat, and grew up on various dirt bikes and enduros over the years. My first experience with John and Judy McGuire was when I was young, through buying Yamaha parts mostly for dirt bikes. I remember once when my dad, an upholsterer, built a cool removable top with boat-style windows on a side car for a little guy named Jake McGuire. I remember back then that Judy's hair was longer than both John and Jake's! Through all the years, I keep going back to John and Judy McGuire, and now to Jake.

My first Harley Davidson would have been in 1990. Fresh from college, broke, and with a lot of infinite wisdom I bought a 1989 HD Softail. Rode it to the Sturgis 50th anniversary. Slept next to it on the ground each night, got no sleep, and ran out of money and could barely afford the gas home way earlier than planned. Had a great time! Luckily one of the guys I rode out there with was on an old rigid suicide shift sporty that beat him to hell, and I sold him my Softail when we got home. I had to make only two payments! It was two more than I had money for!



I had other bikes over the years, but the first brand new one ever was in 2004. Bought a 2004 V-Rod from Judy, and spent the next year changing all I could do. Put a pretty cool paint job on it. Did all the base and clear work myself, and my friend Nub from Nub Grafix did all the artwork. That bike is the one I owned when I met Kelli. It is also the bike that helped me with the whole engagement thing. When I bought her ring, I rode it to her house and told her to come outside and see the new "Bling" on the bike. She of course being the supportive girlfriend she was came right outside to see the new "bling" that she thought was gonna be chrome. Instead it was a diamond engagement ring hanging on the handlebar from a string. I got down on my knees, which was way easier then, and proposed. She made me stand up before someone saw us out in the driveway!

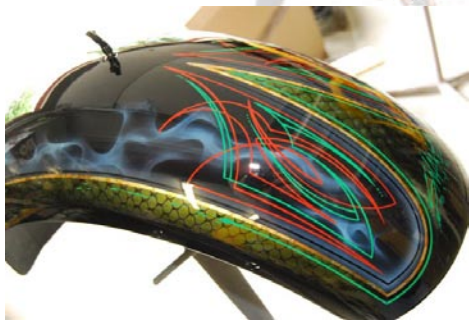
Today our hobbies include riding together. Kelli loves to ride, but has no intentions or wishes to ride her own. Kelli also does a lot of scrapbooking and we spend a lot of time with the kids at sporting events, primarily Volleyball. We ride snowmobiles, all of us, and I also like to camp, hunt and fish. We were both married before, so every other weekend we don't have our kids, they are with the ex's. When this happens, we ride most the time when we can. Our short runs are usually around 350 miles. Sometimes we will watch Guy Fietti on the food channel, who does that drive-ins diners and dives show, and if there is a place within a day's ride, that's where we go the next day! That has been fun.

Although early on Kelli was a real trooper and we rode a lot of miles on a V-rod two-up. That little wedge of a seat was brutal, but she hung in there. Well that was until we rode it to Rapid City. When we were there we met two others on V-roads who had Sundowner seats. We called from out there and ordered one from Rochester HD. Had that installed upon our return! But that did not last long either. Four seasons ago we bought a 1999 HD Ultra Classic from Rochester HD. It was one that Darryl Burton had owned before, and RHD had all the history on it. We are still riding it today! It is in the engine shop, getting a makeover right now, and can't wait to get it out, and back on the road soon! Should run great! Gotta keep up with the Joneses, or the Dr Toms, Eric Thorns, and Frank Fawcett's of the world in this case.



Just this past year I got rid of the V-Rod, and went to a full one-off Kris Krome Custom Chopper. It is a rigid frame, rigid mount motor, with loud pipes, open primary and absolutely nothing extra for wiring, except a small headlight, and a brake light mounted to the license plate bracket. It has an awesome paint job that is a Cobra Snake theme, and it is called Snake Bite. Nub Grafix did all the airbrush work, as well as all the pinstripe work and goldleaf. That's the ride I take when Kelli can't go, and if I know there is a gas station close by! Although she has toughed it out on a couple trips on the suction cup seat on the rigid rear

fender. I guess Kelli's motorcycle experience has now come full circle!



When asked what my favorite bike trip was, I think the right answer is I am not sure I have had it yet. We keep looking forward to many new places that we have not been. Looking forward to a trip to Niagra Falls this summer!



It has been great riding with and making friends with a lot or people in the S.E. MN HOG group. I am glad to be the lead road captain this year, and am looking forward to many great trips in 2011.



Frank Vondrashek (nickname Frank or FrankV)

Frank lived in 10 towns as he grew up and before moving to Rochester 31 years ago. He says that Rochester is the best place he lived. Duluth would be the worst due to the winters and the long walks to school.

Frank held several jobs before starting a career with IBM as a Software Engineer/Programmer, which is his best job so far. He now does mostly Project Management. His worst job was as a supermarket stocker and bagger in Austin, MN across the river and downwind from the Hormel plant.

Frank is married to his wonderful wife Rosalie and has a son Nick and a daughter Jenny. Jenny is the one family member that enjoys riding. Frank has a number of pets – a dog and two cats. Gabe is his Husky with steel blue eyes. Gabe is the most mellow dog you may ever meet. One cat, Shadow is a Persian female and is Frank's buddy. The other cat, Watson, is a Tabby that Jenny rescued. Watson now looks and acts like Garfield on steroids

Frank is an eight year cancer survivor (Blood Cancer). "I know that just leading a normal life makes me an example to others (didn't say a *good* example). I host a monthly cancer support group that I really find rewarding".

"I do a fair amount of community service and have been involved with Christmas Anonymous for over 20 years. It is a 100% volunteer group of people that care about others".



Frank thinks that it is great that many HOG members give back their time and support in community service.

Frank led a HOG group from Eau Claire/Wabasha to the Gift of Life house last year, so they could donate in memory of one of their club. They were great group of bikers.

Frank's hobbies include riding his Harley, activities with the kids, and when time permits golfing, fishing, tubing, skiing, and sitting by the fire pit on a nice evening. His kids keep him busy and there is too much yard work for much else.

Frank now rides a 2007 Dyna Wide Glide. His first bike was a 1965 Honda 65cc. His favorite bike is the Dyna Wide Glide, but the Honda was a blast when he was a kid of 13.

Frank enjoys riding for the feeling the road, curves, bumps and all, and feeling, seeing and smelling much more than in a car. Mastering a twisty section of road is pure fun.

When asked to describe his best ride, Frank said he is "still looking for that 'best ride'". His favorite local ride is County 11 thru Hammond, Millville, then County 2 and County 60 to Wabasha.

Franks said the most stupid thing he ever did on a bike was “dropped my bike in my gravel driveway, softly”. Frank “almost center punched two deer last summer, one on the way to our cabin in Wisconsin at night and the second on the way to drop by bike off at storage for the winter in November”

Frank dislikes other riders who are riding in an unsafe manner doing things like popping wheelies in traffic.

Chapter Events and Rides Photos

Dinner Ride to Godfathers



Dinner Ride to Old Time Café



Chapter Events and Rides

- March 26th-27th [Donnie Smith Bike Show](#)
- April 2nd April Fools Ride! Ride leader Steve Liggett. Time and Route TBD
- April 9th Meeting @ Rochester Harley @ 9:30. Breakfast at Hy-Vee South @ 7:30 A.M on Saturday prior to the meeting. After meeting ride to Road Trip - Dover for lunch , ride leader Tony Haimes.
- April 9th (Red Cross CPR training more info to follow)
- April 16th [Flood Run](#) (info only non-H.O.G. event)
- April 27th April Birthday Ride – 2011
Name of the Ride: King's Place
Theme: Leon "The Legend" B-Day Party Ride
Where we are celebrating: King's Place in Miesville. Meet at Rochester Harley, kickstand up at 5:00 PM Dinner 6:30 PM.
Birthdays for Jeff, Keith, Pam, Leon, Bill and Bill
Ride leader Jim Ertelt
- May 14th Meeting @ Rochester Harley @ 9:30. Breakfast at HyVee South @ 7:30 A.M on Saturday prior to the meeting. After meeting trash pickup, bike blessing, ride to LeRoy and IA loop, ride leader Tony Larimer
- May 21st Ride to Red Wing and Wabasha more info to follow. Ride leader Don Mitchell
- June 4th HOG Ride Against Cancer Charity Event at RHD. Registration at 9:00 A.M. More info to follow
- June 11th Meeting @ Rochester Harley @ 9:30. Breakfast at HyVee South @ 7:30 A.M on Saturday prior to the meeting. After meeting ride to the Irish Shanty in Gunder IA, ride leader Tony Larimer.
- June 12th Bike Blessing then ride to Mound MN and around Lake Minnetonka Led by Tony Haimes. More info to follow
- June 17th - 18th [MN State H.O.G. Rally](#)
- June 18th Ride to Decorah, IA MaCaffery's Dolce Vita. Ride lead by Frank Vondrashek
- June 23rd - 25th [WI State H.O.G. Rally](#)
- July 8th - 10th [Hot Harley Nights Sioux Falls SD](#) (non-H.O.G. event)
- July 9th Meeting @ Rochester Harley @ 9:30. Breakfast at HyVee South @ 7:30 A.M on Saturday prior to the meeting. After meeting ride to
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- July 9th - 10th** Over night ride to Lumberjack Steakhouse & Lodge, 15820 W. 1st St., Hayward, WI. For Reservations call 715-634-4211. Ride leader Tony Larimer. (More info to follow)
- July 16th** Ride to Rushford Ice cream. Ride leader Don Mitchell
- July 16th - 17th** [IA State Rally](#)
- July 24th** [The "Cruise" 2011.](#) (11th Annual) A benefit ride for the Ronald McDonald house (non-H.O.G. event)
- July 30th** Ride to Galena, IL. Ride leader Eric Thorn. (More info to follow)
- August 8th – 14th** Sturges (info only non-H.O.G. event)
- August 13th** Meeting @ Rochester Harley @ 9:30, Breakfast at HyVee South @7:30 A.M on Saturday prior to the meeting. After meeting ride to Stage coach ride at Mantorville. Ride leader to Mantorville is Jim Ertelt.
- August 20th** Sheriff's Posse ride (info only non-H.O.G. event)
- August 20th** Leather&Pipe Cancer Ride -Pine Island (info only non-H.O.G. event)
- September 3rd** Ride to Galena, IL. Ride leader Jim Ertelt. (More info to follow)
- September 10th** Meeting @ Rochester Harley @ 9:30. Breakfast at HyVee South @ 7:30 A.M on Saturday prior to the meeting. After meeting trash pickup and ride to Hanson's Holdup, ride leader Gordon Haubenschild.
- September 16th -18th** Tomahawk WI ride (More info to follow)
- October 8th** Meeting @ Rochester Harley @ 9:30. Breakfast at HyVee South @ 7:30 A.M on Saturday prior to the meeting. After meeting ride to Grand Dad's Bluff in Lacrosse, ride leader Frank Vondrashek
- October 15th** RHD Open House and SE MN HOG Bike Drawing
- November 5th** Freeze Your Butt Ride, ride leader Roger Hamilton. (more info to follow)
- November 12th** Meeting @ Rochester Harley @ 9:30, (Election Nominations). Breakfast at HyVee South @7:30 A.M on Saturday prior to the meeting. After meeting ride and ride leader to TBD.
- December 10th** Meeting @ Rochester Harley @ 9:30, (Elections). Breakfast at HyVee South @ 7:30 A.M on Saturday prior to the meeting.

All dates are subject to change or cancellation. Notification will be sent out if there are changes. Questions contact [Roger Hamilton](#)

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