



Chapter 1959

April 2010

Lake Region Harley Owners Group
Apol's Harley-Davidson, Inc.
Hwy 23, P.O. Box 242
Raymond, Minnesota 56282

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Harley Herald

Director's Corner

Butch Watson, Director



One for the money, two for the show, three we're getting ready, so when spring comes we can go. The Board is working at a feverish pace to plan 2010 rides. But like fine wine, it takes time. There are still a few wrinkles to iron out, but the ride schedule is coming together nicely.

One thing in place is a ride description title. In the ride reminder we will describe the ride such as a "Dinner ride" or "Destination ride", where we go to dinner (or any meal) or a specific destination and that's the end of the ride. "Round-about" is where we start and end the ride at the same location. "Over night" is just as it sounds, over night for one or more nights and "Posse ride", an iron butt high mile ride (like 300-400 miles in a day). The thinking is that members might want to know that we aren't necessarily coming home right after the ride, or we're planning 371 miles in a day. (As a group, that could be grueling, but fun, but a long day).

Another new idea for this year is to publish national HOG numbers in the ride reminder. We will place a couple of randomly selected national HOG numbers of our chapter members in the ride reminder. If your number is in the reminder, you will get a gift certificate just for showing up. The unclaimed certificates will be given by drawing at random from the members present on the ride.

The high mileage contest is still going to happen this year. Get your mileage registration card at Apol's beginning on April 1 and register the starting mileage. On Nov. 1, turn in your card and have Apol's record the ending mileage; you could win a nice prize just for riding.

Take advantage of the opportunities this year. Your Harley family is always glad to see you and riding is the only goal of your chapter.

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Want the Harley Herald sent to you by e-mail?
Contact Mark with your information:
apols@apols.com



Share the experience and the ride

Note from Roger Power, Assistant Director



I don't know about the rest of you but I have had enough of winter and am looking forward to getting on the Harley and riding. Check out the great rides that are planned for the coming riding season.

A big thank you goes out to Evie Joyce for all the work she did for the Nov. brunch, the Christmas party and St. Patrick's party. Good time was had by all.

Just a reminder for those interested in attending the State Rally in 2010, the dates are June 20th-24th. It will be limited to 1000 riders and the deadline for registration is April 15th. Check out the State Rally website for the ride route and hotels that are available. The State Rally for 2011 will be held in Alexandria.

Happy 2010 to everyone and looking forward to seeing you riding your Harley this spring.

Happy Trails Roger

Ride Safe

By Wayne West, Safety Officer

Well, I had a game plan today on things to get done. Of course I never stick to my schedule, but it's always nice to have one isn't it. So what could change my plans so quickly? The same email the rest of the HOG Board of Directors received. The one that said an article is due for the newsletter.

Now I have noticed that even though I have all day to get anything done, it now takes me all day to get anything done. Isn't retirement grand!! My game plan this morning was to sheet rock where I took out the old registers when our house was still on hot water. Now I am not the fastest sheet rocker, but I do get the job done in a somewhat reasonable time. Just don't ask my wife that question, I am sure her answer will be different than mine. Several years ago I was suppose to remove wood paneling in the living room. Naturally I waited until two weeks before my son's graduation party to tackle that project. It was an easy project. Remove the paneling and the walls underneath would be nice and smooth. Well, whoever put the paneling on used about 5,000 nails on each 4 x 8 sheet. Needless to say

the paneling stayed on the wall and was covered by 4 x 12 sheets of dry wall. The wife thought I had lost my mine if I was going to have it done by graduation. Well even to my surprise, I did get it done, but just barely!

All these years later I find that I can still sheet rock, but it takes me longer because I haven't done it for a while. Riding is sometimes like that. We spend all winter sitting around or working and when the riding season starts, we think we can just jump on our bikes and ride. I know that the first few rides I have to go easy and get used to how the bike handles.

This spring would be the perfect time to sign up for an Experienced Rider Course from the MN Motorcycle Safety Center. On May 29th, from 1:30 to 6:30 our very own Gary McDowell will instruct an ERC training course at the Willmar Ridgewater College. The cost is \$55.00 and you can sign up by calling the college at 320-222-6063 or 800-722-1151.




When spring comes.....ride safe.

2010 HOG WILD

HIGH MILEAGE CONTEST

Ride over to Apol's in Raymond and pick up your 2010 HOG Wild High Mileage contest card. Register your starting mileage. On November 1st, turn in your card and have Apol's record the ending mileage. You must be a Lake Region H.O.G. Chapter member to participate for the award.

★ Welcome to Stillwater ★ On the Bluffs of the St. Croix River

Make plans now for a Lake Region HOQ Chapter overnight to historic Stillwater this summer. Our trek for the weekend of July 24-25 will be led by Evie Joyce and John and Carolyn Swanson. We'll stay in Hudson, Wis. the 24th, at the Fairfield Inn - across the river from Stillwater. The one night stay is \$99.00. Call for reservations at 715-386-6688 and mention "Lake Region HOQ". We have a block of 20 double queen rooms for our chapter and will be ready for reserving this weekend. Rooms will be released on June 24, 2010.   

Leave time from Family Practice Med. Center in Willmar is 7:00 am. There will be a stop for breakfast on the way.

Cell Phone Contacts:
Evie - 507.829.5847
John - 320.894.7543
Carolyn - 320.894.7518

We'll check in at the Fairfield Inn in Hudson, Wis. with our arrival Saturday. The hotel is 4.8 miles out of Stillwater across the St. Croix. After we get settled we'll head over the bridge into Stillwater...



On Saturday afternoon we'll take an old-time Trolley ride. It's a 45-minute journey back in time to the era of Victorian finery and turn-of-the-century charm. Nestled in the wooded hills and bluffs of the beautiful St. Croix River, Stillwater is a treasure that time forgot. Besides learning about the history and folklore of Stillwater's founders, we'll see lumber barons' mansions, the historic lift bridge constructed in 1931 and beautiful views of the St. Croix River Valley. Cost for the Trolley ride is \$12, or \$11 for seniors.



For our evening on Saturday, a two and one-half hour dinner cruise on the St. Croix is planned. We'll board one of the many riverboats at 5:00 pm, and at 5:30 enjoy a complete buffet feast with a jazz band featured. All of this is at a cost of \$28.95.

Bike Bonding

By Doug Watson

Last summer I took my daughter, who is married with four kids, on her first group ride. Her husband owns a crotch rocket and she refuses to ride with him because the aches in her body take so much longer to heal now that she has reached the ripe old age of thirty. As she swung her leg over the passenger seat I told her she would be nice and comfortable on my geezer glide and she could just lean back, relax and enjoy the ride.

Truth be told, I was the one that truly was enjoying the ride. You see, this was the first time I had the chance to take my daughter for a real ride. Oh sure, I took her around the block when I got my dresser but that's not a real RIDE. This was a real ride, over the hills, through the twisties, around the lakes and twisting the throttle on the curves kind of ride. My heart swelled with pride as I pulled up to the group and introduced my first born child. It's a good thing I was wearing sunglasses because the twinkle in my eyes would have reflected off the chrome and blinded the other riders.

The bikes were started and the group was on its way. I rode in the middle of the pack so she could see the bikes in front of us and behind us. I think she enjoyed it when people would stop and watch as bike after bike would pass by them. After a few miles she realized she could relax, sink into the comfy seat, lean back and just enjoy the ride, something she could never do on her husband's crotch rocket. Together we soaked up the sun, the wind and the smells of the open road.



When we stopped for supper, about twenty leather clad road warriors made their way to the restaurant door. She wasn't sure what to think as people stared at all the "bikers" entering the restaurant. Soon the staring stopped and we were seated at our table. The riders in the group conversed with her and made her feel welcome and she instantly felt like part of the group. We laughed at the stories that were told, she shared her stories about touring Europe and as usual we all had a great time conversing before and during the meal. Little did we know the adventure was just beginning.

As I stepped outside for a breath of fresh air, I saw a huge black cloud with lightning flashing out to the west and rapidly heading our way. I went back into the restaurant and told everyone that it might be best to get your bikes under the overhang of the bank drive through to protect them if it hailed. By the time we got back outside the downpour had started and boy did it rain. With everyone's bike wet, but protected from potential hail, we decided to wait it out for a while.

After about an hour the lightning subsided and the downpour became just a steady rain. It was getting late and we had to get home so we decided to just go for it. Fortunately my wife's rain gear was in the saddlebag so we donned our goofy rain suits and we were ready to hit the road. My daughter started to laugh. I asked her what was so funny? She was watching these leather clad warriors trying to put on rain suits. I admit it was humorous to watch. People were tipping over, hopping on one leg trying to get the other leg into the suit. We laughed together until it was time to saddle up.

Bike Bonding Cont.

The ride through town wasn't too bad, but when we left the lights of the city it got dark. Really dark. The lines in the road were impossible to see, the windshield was covered with rain and all you could see was a distorted version of the tail light on the bike in front of you. The fact that at 55mph you are hydroplaning on two wheels didn't help to calm my nerves either. I turned and asked my daughter if she was nervous. She told me she was more relaxed now than she was on the way up. Me? I was white knuckled, hadn't blinked for 30 miles, my shoulders were up to my ears, and to make matters worse, I had to pee. No this was not the most relaxing ride for me.

About 15 miles from home the rain let up. The windshield started to clear a bit. The bond between my ears and shoulders was broken as the tension started to ease. Soon the lights of the city were in sight and I was able to relax knowing I would get my daughter (and myself) home safely. What a great feeling it was to watch the garage door open and ride into a nice dry garage.

The best part of this whole ride was I got to share all of this with my daughter. Another bonding moment that will last forever. If the ride had been perfect, it may have been forgotten, but because we faced adversity together, it will be a memory that neither of us will forget.... Isn't that what life's about?

SUMMER CELEBRATION – REDLIN ART CENTER

AUG 7th

www.redlinart.com

Visit the Art Center, Enjoy Live Music By Restless Heart, Blackhawk, and Little Texas. Food & Beverage Vendors

We have a block of rooms at the Country Inn & Suites for the night of Aug. 7th. They are directly across the street from the Redlin Art Center, thus can walk back and forth. The rates are \$89.99 for a regular room and \$98.99 for a suite.

Call 605-886-8900 to make your reservation. Mention Lake Region HOG.

WANTED

Articles from members. Ride/Road Trip stories, Good Eating Places, Special Memories, Ride Events that might be of interest to the Chapter members.

Please send to Cathy at chiggins51@centurytel.net or to Mark at apols@apols.com



Let it ride. By day and by night. 2010



<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Leave From/When</u>	
April 25 (Sun)	Sloppy Joe Ride Ride to North Breeze Resort Cabin, Diamond Lk & Eats. Rain or Shine	FPMC	1 pm
May 1 (Sat)	Apol's Hog Roast OH 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.: Raymond Meet n' Greet		
May 23 (Sun)	Director's Ride & New Member's Recognition Ride & Picnic	FPMC	1 pm
Jun 12 (Sat)	Ride 'em & Eat 'em Ride to Famous Dave's at St. Cloud	FPMC	1 pm
Jun 13 (Sun)	Shriners Toy Ride - 11 a.m. Registration: Robbins Island		
Jun 20-24	MN St HOG Rally - Motoring the "Mighty Miss"		
Jul 11 (Sun)	Observation Ride Enjoy the Road!	FPMC	1 pm
Jul 24 - 25	Destination Stillwater Fairfield Inn Stay Trolley Car Ride & Dinner Cruise	FPMC	7 am
Aug 7 – 8	Watertown 'n Music Pancake Brkfst at Apol's 8:30 am Redlin Art Ctr 3 Bands/Fireworks All Free Comfort Inn Stay	Apol's	9:30 am
Aug 21 (Sat)	Posse Ride 360+ Day Ride to Maplewood St Park Area Stop at Pickle Factory for Lunch	Apol's	8 am
Sep 19 (Sun)	St. Peter Ride, Etc. Ride to Brunch/Southern MN Annual Car Show	FPMC	9 am
Oct 3 (Sun)	Fall Chill E Ride Ride to Iverson's N Shore Green Lk & Warm-up/ Jean's Chilli & Fixin's Beverages Weather Decides Ride Length	FPMC	1 pm

Calendar is subject to change. Families always welcome.
FPMC, Family Practice Medical Center (The Lakeland Health Center Bldg.) is located at 502 2nd St. West, Willmar.
If rides/events are designated at Apol's H-D, it is the Raymond location.

Lake Region H.O.G. Information Center

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Join the Family and Ride with Us

- You must be a current Lake Region H.O.G. member to participate in activities and to receive this publication
- Annual membership fees: H.O.G. International \$45/Lake Region Chapter 1959 \$15
- *Pog Tales*, the magazine of H.O.G., is included with international membership; published bi-monthly. The *Harley Herald*, Chapter newsletter, is published bi-monthly
- The web site for all current information on H.O.G. related events world wide: www.Harley-Davidson.com

NOTICE

A separate mailing will come to you from Apol's H-D one month prior of when your Lake Region H.O.G. Chapter membership is due for renewal. To renew your membership, please mail or bring the fee to Apol's H-D, Raymond.

Carolyn Apol, Treasurer



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TO: