

Intermountain Chapter HOG (1255) Events Report 2011

January:

We had a pretty good turnout of both riders and drivers for this year's Frozen Butt Ride.

February:

March:

April:

BBQ Kick Start, 4/16

Road Captain Training, 4/16: Eric Sirs (Lead Road Captain)

Breakfast Ride, 4/17

Baker City Overnighter, 4/29-30: Dan Hammel (Asst. Director)

May:

Hagerman Ride, 5/1: It was a chilly morning when 38 club members showed up for this year's Hagerman ride. Just like years past, we were treated to sightings of an assortment of critters along the route to make it interesting: the ever-present Whistle Pigs, cows (including a persistent calf that seemed determined to join our procession), coyotes, deer, and dead Rock Chucks. Rock Chucks? As we pulled into Bliss, the main road was lined with parked vehicles and people wandering around with rifles. Little did we know we picked the same weekend as the world-famous Hannah Bates Memorial Rock Chuck Derby (if you don't believe me, Google it). After negotiating the crowds in Bliss, we made our way to Hagerman's Snake River Grill and laid waste to the fabulous breakfast buffet Kirt's staff had prepared for us. After breakfast, some headed off to Balancing Rock, others to Shoshone Falls, and still others undoubtedly headed back to Bliss for the final weigh-ins at the great Rock Chuck Derby. Perhaps next year we can include the event in the ride. "Strap the rifle to the luggage rack Martha. We're headin' for the Rock Chuck Derby after breakfast." Mason Clarke (Road Captain)

New Bikers Ride, 5/4: Dan Hammel (Asst. Director)

International Ladies Ride Day, 5/6: Laura Middleton (LOH)

ICMS Awareness Rally, 5/7: Scott Beale

LOH Ride, 5/10: Wow, what a great ride! The first LOH dinner ride for the year took place on Tuesday, May 10. It was a little breezy out but the temperature was in the high 60's with mostly

clear skies. There were 8 bikes that went on the ride and 10 for dinner at El Gallo Giro in Kuna. We took a short but sweet 20 mile ride out to the South of Kuna then looped back around into town. Thanks to all who came out and rode and or joined us for dinner. Next month (June 14) I will be out of town but Lori Sirs will take you on a great ride out to Marsing for dinner. Should be fantastic! Laura Middleton (LOH)

New Bikers Ride, 5/18: Dan Hammel (Asst. Director)

Dan Hammel Ride, 5/20: Dan Hammel (Asst. Director)

BBQ Spring Swap Meet, 5/21

Lucky Loop Ride, 5/22: Tim Alexander (Road Captain)

New Bikers Ride, 5/25: Dan Hammel (Asst. Director)

June:

New Bikers Ride, 6/1: Dan Hammel (Asst. Director)

Patriot Thunder Parking Detail, 6/5: Mason Clarke (Road Captain)

New Bikers Ride, 6/8: We had a great turnout of 25 people on 20 bikes for this Wednesday evening ride. It was a very nice evening as we gathered at HD – HD. We left at 6:00 pm. Our route was out Overland Road to Meridian Road to Amity to Happy Valley to Deer Flat Road to Powerline Road and then onto Lake Shore Drive. Things went well until about 3/4 the way around the lake the wind started to really blow, but we continued on to Marsing Road and then on to Highway 55 into Marsing to the Sand Bar Restaurant just before the rain hit. I guess it was a good thing that dinner took 2 hours because the rain was done after we all finished eating. We dried off our bikes and headed home. Thanks to Dave Wall and Dan Hammel for riding Mid and Sweep for me. Boyd Rue (Road Captain)

Baker City Ride, 6/11: Wow...what a day. Nine members arrived for the run. We left the shop at 8 am. Seven bikes running down the highway. The route took us to Caldwell on I84, then on 20-26 through Notus, Parma, Nyssa, Vale, and Unity. A couple miles west of Unity we turned North onto 245 eventually merging onto 7 and in to Baker City. The weather was most cooperative. A little on the cool side but very agreeable. The scenery was epic. The climb through the mountains was fun...much like the run up to Idaho City from Lowman. Was a lot of fun. We finished up with lunch at the Main Event Sports Bar. The ride home was more challenging...at least Lori and I ran into a very bad section of rain and some hail....that being weathered we finally reached clearing and then home. A very full day....but well worth it. Thanks to all who came... and especially to Mason and Cliff for assisting with the ride. Eric Sirs (Lead Road Captain)

You bought your bike to ride it. And you joined HOG to ride with friends - both established friends and friendships yet to forge over miles of highway and maybe a snack. There were 9 of us who made the day trip to Baker City on Saturday, June 11th. The weatherman said "40% chance of rain" so we just took the 60% chance of sun, and hit the road expectantly. We were not

disappointed! Now, even though I have only been riding 3-1/2 years, there are several stretches of highway that have made it to my personal list of favorites, but I have a new one now. Well, two. The ride from Vale to Unity (Oregon) was absolutely stunning. Clear roads, a crispness in the air and amazing countryside. Plus, there was that hawk that swooped over a nearby hillside to welcome us. I am talking HUGE, and I gotta say, he came close enough I thought he was going to take over and let me ride in back! The countryside was beautiful, and it smelled like spring. I honestly didn't think it could get any better. Then we hit the road again, going from Unity to Baker. Oh. My. Goodness! This will certainly be an all-time favorite ride for me! Winding up the mountain, and then back down again, greeted by fellow bikers going the opposite way made me feel like I was part of the greatest club on the planet!... the folks lucky enough to see, hear and enjoy our part of the world this gorgeous day on two wheels! As we turned onto Highway 7, we passed a field that was chock-full of wild miniature irises. So much of what I saw, I wish I could have captured on film, but when you are riding, your only recording instruments are your own five senses and your memory. To my fellow riders that day, I want to say that I am glad I got to share it with you! For those of you who couldn't make it, I hope to see you next time. Life is too short not to ride YOUR Harley! Lori Sirs (Chapter Member)

LOH Ride, 6/14:

New Bikers Ride, 6/15: Dan Hammel (Asst. Director)

Ice Caves Ride, 6/18: We started the morning at High Desert. The weather was overcast and cool but not bad. We left around 9 with 18 bikes and 24 riders. When we arrived in Mountain Home we picked up another bike and rider. The ride went great! We arrived at the Ice Caves around 12:30. While we were waiting for our tour, people checked out the museum and gift shop. The tour took about 45 minutes. It included a short walk through a lava field and down stairs, made of rock, to get to the entrance of the cave. Our tour guide told us how the cave was formed and discovered. Yes, it was freezing... about 30 degrees. After the tour we sat and ate our lunches, enjoying the company, then headed home. It would have been a perfect day except for the rain from Fairfield back to Boise. Thank you to all that came. Hope you enjoyed yourselves as much as we did! Jim Moore (Road Captain)

Lolo Pass Ride, 6/21-23: We left Boise @ 11am after a fine brunch at the Griddle. Five bikes and 8 members headed north on 55 to Banks for our first leg stretch. The Payette river impressed us with its power and flow. Then we continued on to McCall and then into New Meadows for fuel, with a stop in Riggins for a sandwich. The weather was very cooperative and the sun felt great on the leathers. Heading up the Salmon River was impressive too as the water was running high and fast. We turned off the highway into White Bird to tackle the old highway switchbacks...an awesome road, with just a bit of tar and gravel to keep things interesting. Safely on top, the view was magnificent. We pulled into Grangeville for the first nights stop and the birthday cake for Penny was a hit!

Kickstands up at 9 the next morning we were looking forward to the ageless ride of Lewis and Clark's trail to Lolo pass. What a day!... Highway 13 to Kooskia and then right on 12 towards the pass. The weather again was awesome, sun above our line of sight as we started and the

mountain colors were brilliant. The powerful surge of water down the Lochsa River was another impressive sight. At Lowell, our first stop of the day, we were informed that in the last 24 hours the river had risen over 2 feet! We continued on in single file as the roads twists and turns tried valiantly to keep the riders' attention as the scenic beauty tugged at our eyes. A quick stop at Lochsa lodge for a bite to eat and off to Lolo Pass Visitors Center for a photo op. The weather did not let us down as the entire day was picture perfect. But, the day was only half over so we saddled up and headed off to Lolo, Montana for our next gas stop. Heading south on 95 we encountered the worst part of the ride with 8 miles of road construction just before Hamilton. Safely negotiated, we were cleared hot to Darby for a little leg stretch and ice cream. A few of the group would have liked to stay and shop but, as luck would have it we were in need of miles to the night's accommodations. So we were off to the Montana/Idaho border along the Bitterroot River... another beautiful river full to capacity and running fast. As we topped the Bitterroot Range and took a break at the 7,000 ft. Lost Trail Pass Rest Area there was enough snow for our sweep to engage in a snowball fight. Glad Mason can't throw! although he did come close a couple of times! Then downhill the next 20 miles and on to Salmon for a well-deserved night's rest. The group enjoyed a great dinner at The Shady Nook, a couple of refreshments to relax the bodies and the minds followed. Except for the spectacular lightning storm about 1 am the night was restful along the Salmon River. Our last morning wakeup was again, sunny. How great is that! We followed the Salmon River down to Challis for a stop and right turn onto highway 75. Staying with the river we were treated to turn after turn of the most amazing views Idaho has to offer. As we turned into Stanley our ride together was drawing to a close. Our lunch was full of "remember this? remember that?"... too bad it had to end. My thanks to all in the ride for making my first road captain experience memorable, thanks Mason for the "helpful" insights, and to Wayback and the Wanderer. Happy birthday Penny.

We'll be on the calendar again next year hope you can make it! Cliff Lewis (Road Captain)

New Bikers Ride, 6/22: Dan Hammel (Asst. Director)

State Rally Volunteer Meeting, 6/25

Black Sands Ride, 6/26: Herb Weston (Member at Large)

Million Mile Day Ride, 6/27: What a great morning for a ride! As we gathered, sipping on our coffees, we couldn't help wondering what others were doing that fine morning. We quickly realized that what others were doing probably involved some manner of work and quickly dismissed it from our minds... It was time to get on the road. We had 19 bikes with 22 participants once we picked up our last rider near Eagle. Oddly enough, the traffic on Eagle Road was far less than expected for that time of day. Hopefully we'll experience the same bit of luck during the rally! Since it was more of a working ride (checking stopping points for the rally's feature ride), we made a number of additional stops along the way to Stanley. The reduced speed limits between Garden Valley and Lowman allowed us see more of what the Payette had created as we wound through its canyon. As the road flattened during the last few miles before Stanley, we were greeted with a view of the still snow-capped Sawtooth Range and what appeared to be a Bald Eagle flying directly over our procession. I forgot to check with the others when we

stopped for gas to confirm what I thought I saw. After fueling we continued on to Red Fish Lake and picnicked at the lodge overlooking the lake. The group separated after lunch with some going on to Sun Valley, or back to Boise either through Banks or Idaho City where the local ice cream shop served a fair number of bikers passing through. Thanks to all for their patience on a ride that was longer than it should have been. Thanks also to those participating in the stimulating rally discussions. Finally, thanks to my assistant road captains Pete, Bob, and Clancy for yet another uneventful ride. Mission complete. Mason Clarke (Road Captain)

Million Mile Evening Ride, 6/27: Dan Hammel (Asst. Director)

New Bikers Ride, 6/29: Dan Hammel (Asst. Director)

July:

New Bikers Ride, 7/6: Dan Hammel (Asst. Director)

New Bikers Ride, 7/13/: Dan Hammel (Asst. Director)

LOH Ride, 7/12: I wanted to report on the LOH Tuesday night dinner ride for July. We had 14 bikes and 17 people join us. Thanks ladies for bringing your chauffeurs and riding buddies, they are a hoot in those wigs. I love the support! We took some new roads for most back into Caldwell to hit the highway to Notus. We ate at the Notus Garage Café which was well staffed, friendly and so happy to have us. If you have never been, this is a great small town with big heart diner. On the way, there were a few unusual sites that not many noticed; there was a flower garden in the shape of a sun, moon and star, there was a huge flag painted on the side of a garage, there was a barn bigger than any of our houses, a very old one lane trestle bridge, and we went by the Ward Party Massacre Memorial and the Emigrants Crossing historical sites. Thank you to all who came! We had a few newbies in the group as well and they did fantastic! Thanks to my road captains who always have my back (Shannon & Susan). And thanks to the men brave enough to put up with following women around just to get a great meal. Laura Middleton (LOH)

Halfway Oregon Ride, 7/17: The ride to Halfway Oregon was an excellent run. We left the dealership pretty much on schedule. We had 13 bikes and 16 riders for this event and traveled more than 300 miles. The weather was perfect when we left and quickly warmed as the day progressed. The ride from Boise to Cambridge was great with several stops along the way. We were informed at Cambridge that there was a section of road leading into the canyon that had been recently seal coated with a fresh coat of fine gravel on it. The first half of the trip down into the canyon was uneventful, and then we got to the construction area. We probably had 10 miles and then some of relatively fresh gravel. We took our time as we progressed to the bottom of the canyon, all arriving just fine, but it required all of us to hone our skills for riding on loose gravel. I learned some new words that day from fellow riders. We continued our ride on to Halfway without any further delay. We had lunch at the Stockman Cafe which was a great meal. The staff at Stockman's had everything ready for us which is always a special treat. Following lunch and great conversation, half of our group forged their way home using several routes and the rest of us went to Baker and headed home down the freeway. By the time we arrived at the Idaho State

line it had hit 100 degrees. All were eager to get home and cool off. We met fellow travelers from Canada and had a good visit with them during one of our rest stops. I would like to thank my mid Road Captain, Dave Wall and my sweep Road Captain, Boyd Rue for their assistance in making this ride a success. I do not think it is out of the question to suggest we put this ride on the schedule for next year as it was really a great time. Given the high temperature, perhaps we could call this ride in the future "The Halfway Oregon Hottie Ride". Ok, just a thought. Thanks again to all who participated; it was fun spending time with old friends and getting to know more about our fellow HOG members who joined the ride. Ted Wenzel (Road Captain)

New Bikers Ride, 7/20: Dan Hammel (Asst. Director)

New Bikers Ride, 7/27: Dan Hammel (Asst. Director)

BBQ, 7/30

Breakfast Ride, 7/31: I would first like to thank the 21 riders that showed up at High Desert to go on this ride. It was a much larger group than expected, considering that the temperature was going to be 100+ that afternoon. We had another 7 riders join us coming down the hill into Emmett. The ride around Black Canyon Reservoir was very pleasant and the road was mostly clear from any rocks. We had a great meal with the winner at our table being Megan and her mushroom burger. Doug Foye (Road Captain)

August:

New Bikers Ride, 8/3: Dan Hammel (Asst. Director)

New Meadows Ride, 8/6: The New Meadows ride had some uncertainty at the beginning. The pre-ride a couple weeks earlier encountered a couple spots with road construction, but nothing bad. However, a few days before the ride I was getting reports of new chip seal and heavy road construction. We kept a close eye on the road reports. Thanks to Kevin for all the information about the roads. When the morning came, we decided to go for highway 55. The ride went better than expected. The road had some sections with slow (35 mph) speed limits, but mostly fresh smooth black top. The weather was perfect. The traffic was light except for one idiot that wanted to share the same spot with my sweep Steve. We made the usual stop at Horseshoe Bend. We had luck with the lights through Boise and everyone arrived there together. The next stop was at Cascade. We spent a few minutes relaxing and admiring the paint jobs on a couple of the bikes. The final stop was in New Meadows at the Granite Mountain Cafe. The Cafe had good food and great service. I feel sorry for the waitress for all the teasing she took from our group. There was 10 members, 1 guest and 8 bikes for the ride. We all had a good time and enjoyed the scenery. Ric Tallada (Webmaster)

Brunch Ride, 8/7: We left High Desert at 9:00. There were 20 bikes and 26 people on Harleys, out for a fun ride. It started to sprinkle rain while we were on Eagle Road, but it didn't last long and we had sun and were dry the rest of the way. We stopped at Horseshoe Bend for quick break... then on to Crouch for brunch. After brunch we rode the Lowman Loop to Idaho City,

which had very little traffic. There we took a break for ice cream and/or lunch before heading home. It was a fun ride with great people on great Harleys. A big thanks to Val and Jim Moore, Shannon and Herb Weston for their help to make the ride organized and fun. To the gentleman whose bike tipped over when he was parking, I'm sorry it happen but believe me, you are not the "Lone Ranger"... you said you were ok, I hope you are and your Harley is ok as well. Thank you all for coming! Cancy Anson (Road Captain)

LOH Ride, 8/9: Laura Middleton (LOH)

New Bikers Ride, 8/10: Dan Hammel (Asst. Director)

Oregon Trail Ride, 8/11: Dan Hammel (Asst. Director)

Riders in the Sky, 8/14: The Riders in the Sky Memorial Ride saw 38 members and guests show up at High Desert Harley-Davidson. It was a relaxing ride to Garden Valley with stops at Horseshoe Bend and the Garden Valley store for a cool drink, talking and generally just enjoying each other's company. The weather Gods cooperated and made the day so it wasn't too hot or wet. The ride is always so scenic and makes you feel good.

It was nice to see Shannon and my daughter Candyce had all the food set up and the drinks on ice as we pulled into the parking area. I thanked everyone for coming and told them how this ride started and why it is so important to the chapter to do it every year. The food was from Goodwood BBQ and was really tasty.

This ride is a good way for us to remember and show our respect for all those riders who have gone to the highways in the sky. We miss them but they are still alive in our minds and in our hearts. This place always brings back such good memories for me of my friend, Irish Mike. I miss my friends that are gone and am so grateful to the friends I still have. I honestly appreciate the time we all have together. Herb Weston (Member at Large)

New Bikers Ride, 8/17: Dan Hammel (Asst. Director)

Lewiston Ride, 8/20: Dan Hammel (Asst. Director)

New Bikers Ride, 8/24: Dan Hammel (Asst. Director)

BBQ, 8/27

Sourdough Ride, 8/28: Herb Weston (Member at Large)

New Bikers Ride, 8/31: Dan Hammel (Asst. Director)

September:

New Bikers Ride, 9/7: Dan Hammel (Asst. Director)

Military Appreciation Day Parade, 9/10: Mason Clarke (Road Captain)

Bug Run, 9/10: Mark Berns (Road Captain)

LOH Ride, 9/13: Laura Middleton (LOH)

New Bikers Ride, 9/14: Dan Hammel (Asst. Director)

Dan's Ferry Service Brown Bag Lunch Ride, 9/18: Jim & Valerie Moore led a fun and interesting ride to Cleo's Ferry Museum and Nature Walk at Dan's Ferry on Highway 45. If you like unique things, this is a place you have to visit! Jim Moore (Road Captain)

New Bikers Ride, 9/21: Dan Hammel (Asst. Director)

Breakfast Ride, 9/25: Joe Cardona (Road Captain)

New Bikers Ride, 9/28: Dan Hammel (Asst. Director)

October:

Lowman Loop, 10/2: John Mays (Activities Coordinator)

LOH Ride, 10/11: Well we finished out the LOH dinner riding season in style! Five bikes headed out for a short suburban sprawl ride. We ended at Timberland Creek Pub and Grill, a small local neighborhood meeting place. I was reminded that this is what belonging to HOG is all about. Riding and eating and socializing. We are a riding group and the best part is riding, the second best part is sitting around afterwards talking about the ride... and past rides, and future rides too!
Laura Middleton (LOH)

Fall Picnic, 10/15: Dan Hammel (Asst. Director)

Breakfast Ride, 10/30: I would like to thank all those who participated in the Sunday, October 30th, breakfast ride out to the Red Neck Café. I would like to also thank both of my Road Captains Rick Tallada and Tony Lancaster for helping me out with this event. We had 22 bikes and 25 riders. The weather was a little chilly at the start but the day developed into a great fall afternoon. The single server at the Red Neck worked her butt off to make sure we were all taken care of. It did take a while, but in the end she did a great job. It's always great to lead a ride, and even a greater pleasure to spend time with new and old friends. Looking forward to the next ride! Thanks again to all who participated!! Ted Wenzel (Road Captain)

November:

Veteran's Parade, 11/5: Eric Sirs (Lead Road Captain)

Southern Canyon County Loop, 11/5: Dan Hammel (Asst. Director)

Boise Holiday Parade, 11/19: Herb Weston (Member at Large)

December: