

## Intermountain Chapter HOG (1255) Historical Report 2013

### Officers:

Director: Shannon Weston

Editor: Charle Knoblock

Assistant Director: Bill Smart

Safety Officer: Chuck Cox

Secretary: Lori Sirs

Equipment Officer: Pat Bryant

Treasurer: Rick Polenske

Lead Road Captain: Jim Moore

Activities/Vol Coordinator: Karen Peterman

LOH Coordinator: Vicki Smart

Membership Coordinator: Joy Hammel

Sponsor HOG Manager: Dave Thomas

Photographer/Historian: Valerie Moore

Members at Large: Herb Weston, Tom Reeb

Ass. Photographer/Historian Dale Shaw

Jr., Ted Wenzel, Dan Lockwood, Doug

Webmaster: Scott Beale

Mann

### Harley Officer's Training:

Conducted March 22/23 in Salt Lake City, UT. Attended by Shannon Weston (Director), Bill Smart (Assistant Director), Rick Polenske (Treasurer), Lori Sirs (Secretary), Vicki Smart (LOH Coordinator), Scott Beale (Webmaster), Joy Hammel (Membership Coordinator), Herb Weston (Member at Large) alternate

### Membership:

Starting Membership: 193 (as of January 1, 2013)

New Memberships: 50 (does not include late renewals)

Ending Membership: 267 (as of December 31, 2013)

### Chapter Rides:

Twenty-seven Road Captains planned, organized, and conducted 39 rides. There were no reportable mishaps.

### Cooking Events:

Pancake Feed: 1

BBQ: 4

### Board Activities:

January:

Herb discussed the terms of our meeting agreement at the Eagle's Lodge, and also our concerns with the manager about service in general. They agreed to let us have a potluck in November, as we did this past year.

February:

Todd Godfrey reported Dave Thomas is recovering from his fall at the Oregon Coast and should be back in town by the end of the week. He fractured his skull, but the swelling is down and there is no bleeding in the brain.

Todd Godfrey was asked to speak to a question regarding the VIP card system. Rick stated he has been asked by a couple of members why only one VIP card per household instead of each member having their own card. Todd reminded the board this was an incentive the dealership initiated to bolster attendance at the general meetings and other chapter events. He said there is no advantage to members having more than one card as the points are pooled when used for purchasing items at the dealership. This holds down overhead for the dealership and additional work on behalf of the staff. Todd stated the 50 points accrued at a general meeting, over the course of 11 months, adds up to about \$6 for the year. He agreed to discuss this in detail at the upcoming February General Meeting as well as provide something in writing for Charle to put in the newsletter. It was the intent of this discussion at this meeting to arm all board members with the same information so we are all giving the same answers to questions when members ask. Lori will be asked to send an email out to remind everyone their accumulated points must be used by March 31 or they will be wiped from the computer.

Todd Godfrey stated the dealership is exploring a partnership with the local MDA Chapter and asked for volunteer support from the Chapter for the Ride For The Cure, which is tentatively set for Saturday, July 20. He stated leadership at the local level has changed and they have a good working relationship with the dealership. The board stated we will support the dealer function and a call for volunteers will be put out once the needs are determined.

Shannon stated at the After Christmas, Christmas Party Diane with the Elks approached her with the idea of hosting the general meetings at their facility. After discussion, it was decided to try doing the May and June General Meetings at the Elks and see how it is received by the chapter. It was suggested for those that might want to ride to the two meetings we could meet at High Desert Harley-Davidson at 5:45 p.m. to go to the Elks in Nampa as a group. Shannon will explore the possibility with Diane of having a buffet dinner provided for those that wish to participate if no guarantees are needed by the Elks for the number of dinners and the cost is appropriate. Shannon will correspond with the Eagles that we are 'trying something new to increase attendance at our summer meetings' for those two dates.

Chapter Charity Event on Sunday, May 19th to Benefit the Meals on Wheels – Scott reported the committee is working on the details but registration will be \$20 per person with early-bird registration and \$25 for on-site registration after the cutoff date. Online registrations will be available. The ride will be from High Desert Harley-Davidson to the senior citizen centers in

Horseshoe Bend, Emmett, Weiser, and Caldwell. There will be a later start to the event to accommodate church attendees.

Pat briefed he will purchase the two awnings approved from last year.

### March:

Shannon shared that Joy's father passed away early this morning. There is no information yet as to whether or not there will be a formal memorial service.

New board member, Karen Peterman, was formally recognized and thanked for stepping into the position of Volunteer Coordinator.

Update regarding Elks in Nampa to host meetings in May and June for the General Meeting: Diane met with her trustees to see what they will offer us as far as costs to use their facility for the General Meetings in May and June and they will honor the same cost we have been paying the Eagles in Boise. Shannon has created a carefully worded letter to be sent to the Eagles. After the May meeting, we will send out a survey to the membership to get their input; if we decide to continue on meeting in Nampa, we will give our 30-day notice to the Eagle's club, as per our contract. Discussion was held regarding geographic location in relation to the demographics of our membership and potential parking issues. A lot of our members actually live near the Nampa venue so we anticipate a very positive response from the members.

### April:

Meeting location: The venue for our General Meeting in May will be at the Elks in Nampa. After we meet in May, Shannon will be surveying the membership via social media to see about moving our meeting to the Elks on a permanent basis; if so, we will give notice to the Eagle's in Boise. The tickets, buckets and other meeting supplies will be gathered up after the meeting to take to the Nampa venue for the May meeting.

Canopy: Pat has done some checking on prices and has not found real competitive pricing. Jim notes that there is a current sale on commercial-grade canopies at Camping World; Jim also has a 15% discount to use if we purchase through this vendor. The cost is approximately \$149; Jim would like Pat to take a look at these as a second opinion. If the canopies seem durable, we would like to purchase 3. Jim and Pat will look at these together this weekend. In the past, the frames have been the more vulnerable piece of the canopies.

Trailer Registration: The tabs have expired; Joy will get the plates to Rick so that he can renew the registration.

Chuck would like to keep track of the number of miles and number of riders to share at the Christmas Party. One idea is to have a contest where members guess the number of miles ridden for the year. Additionally, Chuck would like to track "how many miles between accidents."

Dan: Has a number of paper plates and plastic ware from a family event for which they overbought; these will be donated to the Chapter, which is much appreciated.

Vicki would like to see LOH also promoted alongside the local Chapter; perhaps when a woman rider or a couple buys a bike. We are looking for a proper way that protects privacy of new bike owners but enables us to personally share information about joining the local HOG. Perhaps the financial officer can pre-address a postcard from IMHOG, courtesy of HDHD that gets sent out 2 weeks after the purchase date. This would give new buyers information about our meetings and other Chapter information. Shannon will check with Dave.

Jim: Would like to encourage Board members to mingle at meetings, in an effort to avoid/break up “cliques.” However, while we are bonded by friendship and our love to ride, we are not “exclusive.”

Bill noted that on the Volunteer Sign Up sheet, there is a place for members to indicate interest in becoming a new member mentor. Bill like would like to have a list generated of those willing to mentor so we can make sure that they get matched up with members who are looking for a mentor.

Mike suggested that we ask some members to volunteer to be a “greeter” at the meetings.

Rick suggested we make follow-up calls to new members after the meeting, to thank them for coming, let them know how to access the website, remind them about upcoming events, etc.

Jim encouraged Board Members to distribute business cards.

Kim would like to volunteer as an Ambassador to take this on – whether she calls them all herself or recruits other members to help. She and Shannon will develop a checklist to help standardize the process.

### May:

The venue for our General Meeting in May will be at the Elks in Nampa. Scott will check on the parking situation to be sure there are no issues with having enough public parking available downtown for the bikes since we meet after traditional business hours. After this meeting, Shannon will be putting together a survey for the members for consideration of making this our permanent meeting place. Joy will arrange to get supplies from the Elks in Boise and get them to the new location in Nampa. Vicki also volunteered to help pass out the door prize tickets at our General Meetings to help share the work load of greeting members and selling 50/50 tickets, pass out flyers, etc.

Meals on Wheels Ride: Scott reported that the final meeting with them will be tomorrow. There has not been a great deal of response from the Agency representative with respect to communication requests, which is unfortunate. If the Club decides to continue this event next year, Scott will not chair the event. A big thank you to Scott for all the work he has done to promote this event.

### June:

Community Concern: Email received by the secretary from a “concerned citizen” was shared with the Board. This was concerning noise level of motorcycles and the request was to help volunteer to reduce noise made by motorcycles in town. As we are not a political organization, but a social one, this request will not be forwarded with the General Membership.

Scott: Final numbers for Meals on the Wheel are as follows: 70 paid registrations were received; 12 who prepaid did not show up, so 58 riders participated. \$2165.47, including a \$500 donation from John’s Medic Pharmacy, was raised. Lots of prizes were donated, and it was a good event, overall. We also got good feedback from volunteers from the Senior Centers, which was also nice. Good job, Scott! We still have patches and pins for sale. We intended to have the patches be “generic” (no year listed) but they did come with year, unfortunately.

Shannon: Was given a “memory box” (very nice felt lined cabinet) that was in storage at the dealership. There are a number of pins and patches in the box. Ideas entertained to honor the memories contained included displaying at our monthly General Meeting vs. auctioning it off at the Christmas Party. Chris Williston, a one-time historian, put this together. The consensus was to display this at our meeting, if possible.

### July:

Chapter Member Survey: These were forwarded to the Board earlier today. Discussion was held regarding the results. Herb noted some rides were mixed up – dealer vs. HOG; this is to be expected. In all, 69 responses were received. A summary will be presented at the General Meeting. In general, the comments were positive. Most of the discussion about the survey revolved around ride planning and having a wide variety of ride types. Shannon also received verbal feedback about the survey from folks who did not fill out the survey but appreciated having the opportunity to do so. As some comments from the survey were a bit critical; one suggestion was to set up an anonymous comment box at the General Meeting.

General Meeting Location: After our last General Meeting, Shannon was approached by the Director from the Elks in Nampa, who would like us to continue to meet there. In fact, he offered to pay the fee we are committed to paying the Eagles for the remainder of the year for our room fee there. There has been mixed feedback from the members about the venue. Round table discussion with the Board then ensued. With respect to changing to Nampa - Cons: general resistance to change, limited parking, stairs/accessibility, the ride there, difficulty getting to Nampa after work that early, lower attendance in general, less socializing happening, parking not perceived as safe, not able to use credit cards downstairs for drinks, bar downstairs not fully stocked, poorer service in general/understaffed, microphone not working. Pros: the ride there is pleasant, the fee waiver for 3 months, not having to set up and break down the tables, pleasant service in Nampa compared to the poor service in Boise. One suggestion was meeting half the year in Nampa, and the other half in Boise, finding a completely different venue somewhere between the two, negotiating for a room upstairs at the Elks (Nampa location). Board vote – clear

majority to remain at the Elks in Boise for now; this does not mean the discussion is over as clearly there is interest in potentially a different venue. Shannon will send a formal thank you to the Elks for their offer.

Shannon: Shannon shared a letter from J.T. The date for the Tristate (Washington, Idaho, Oregon) Rally for next year has been set: it will be July 24-27, 2014 in Spokane Valley.

Herb: One of our Board members, Doug Mann, has not been attending the last several Board and General Meetings, and has cancelled several rides he committed to lead. He will be approached by Shannon to gauge his interest in continuing in this capacity.

Charle: Talked to Ax about having the cornering/braking class. September looks like a good possibility for offering this class – Rick shared that it may be better to offer this class sooner in the year so people have more opportunity to use skills gained during the current riding season. There needs to be 4-6 people signed up in order to offer this class. Info will be forthcoming in the newsletter. With summer daylight hours, there is also the potential for an evening class during the week. He would also like to publish a summary of the member survey in the next newsletter.

#### August:

#### September:

Herb: Will be leading the non-HOG Grass Attack fundraiser (purchase of a riding lawn mower and snow blade) for Fairmont Junior High on September 14th. He still needs some help for the ride; please let him know as soon as possible as the ride is only a week and a half away. He would like permission to use the Club BBQ and clean-up supplies for this event. The food has already been donated. There have been some very generous door prizes donated and registration is only \$10; the goal is to raise \$900. Herb has planned a very interesting route that should make for a nice ride, as well. Motion made by Tom, seconded by Val to allow Herb to use the Club equipment and supplies. Approved

Vicki asked if information about IMHOG was given to new bike owners; Shannon will confirm that this is happening, as we have been told that it is part of the new owner checklist.

#### October:

Becky Tillman, Marketing Field Manager, HD Motor Company: Becky shared her story about how she came to be in her current position with the company. We are hopeful that the Rider's Edge program will return to Idaho – stay tuned... It was great to have someone from corporate at our meeting! Also, we are hoping the Rider's Edge program may return to Idaho.

Herb: The Veteran's Parade is coming up; we have traditionally donated \$100 to help defray cost of the parade. Herb suggested that we increase our donation to \$150 this year. Approved

November:

December:

A motion was made to increase the amount to \$500 for door prizes at the After Christmas, Christmas Party. Approved