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CHAPTER MILES
RIDDEN THIS YEAR **202112**

JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2015

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CHAPTER RIDER AND RIDE LEADER OF THE YEAR

For the past few years most of you are aware that from April through October you were invited to participate in what we called our Chapter Mileage Challenge. To do this you were required to give us your verifiable odometer mileage at the beginning and end of the program dates. While the idea was to encourage you to ride your Harley, it didn't really have any correlation to participating in Manassas HOG Chapter rides. Since the mission of our Chapter is "ride and have fun", we have changed the program to make it easier for each and every member to participate by only counting miles that are actually ridden within our Chapter framework.



For the past couple years, each Chapter member has been asked to sign in at each scheduled Chapter ride on the Ride Roster form which tracks which members and guests participate and who on that ride needs to complete necessary release forms. These forms have been used in the last year to also keep a running total of the cumulative miles we have ridden as a Chapter, but they also tell us who is riding and how many miles each member is riding with the Chapter. In addition, it tells us who is creating and leading rides and how many miles are included in those rides.

We felt that riding with the Chapter throughout the year is what should be recognized as Chapter participation. This what we have been striving to achieve and what our ultimate goal is as a group. So, beginning with January 1, 2015, the Chapter Mileage Challenge will be discontinued and replaced by what we will call the "CHAPTER RIDER OF THE YEAR" and "CHAPTER RIDE LEADER OF THE YEAR" programs. The programs begins January 1st and ends December 31st of each year. The rider that rides the most miles based on totals from Ride Rosters throughout the year shall be designated as the winner. We will also recognize the persons creating our rides and leading them based on number and total ride mileage, because while our mission is to "ride and have fun" it takes effort by individuals to make that happen.

Your participation in this program has been made easy as all you have to do is show up for our rides and make sure your ride leader has a roster for you to sign and has made a route sheet available that indicates the miles you'll be riding. Simple, right!

Though this program will be begin on January 1, 2015, we have not determined yet what our winners will receive for winning, but certainly "bragging" rights is always a good thing.

Even though the program was not created until recently, we have gone back throughout the 2014 riding year and have tracked every participant's mileage and will make that available in January so you can see how you fared this past year. We will also announce our winner at the first meeting of the year and recognize that person at the HOG Ball as our "FIRST CHAPTER RIDER OF THE YEAR".

SAFETY ZONE

Here are ten motorcycle safety tips to keep you alive and well this season:

1. MAKE EYE CONTACT

Never assume others see you. Always try to make eye contact with drivers who may be about to pull into your path.

2. READ "VEHICLE LANGUAGE"

Even when drivers, cyclists and pedestrians do see you approaching, they often misjudge your distance and speed. Don't rely on them.

3. WATCH OUT FOR LEFT-TURNING VEHICLES AT INTERSECTIONS

Getting hit by an oncoming vehicle that's turning left is the most common type of motorcycle crash.

4. CHECK BEHIND WHEN TURNING LEFT FROM A HIGHWAY

Watch your mirrors and make sure you have plenty of space behind. The drivers behind might not slow down for you.

5. LOOK OUT FOR HAZARDOUS ROAD CONDITIONS

Wet roads, fluid spills, sand, gravel, highway sealant, railroad tracks, potholes and other road-surface hazards reduce your traction. They cause many falls.

6. TAKE IT EASY ON THE CURVES

Many crashes happen there. You might overshoot the road or cross the centre line and get hit by oncoming traffic. Watch the road ahead, slow down and choose the correct lane position, before entering a curve.

7. WEAR A GOOD HELMET

Helmets prevent head injuries in 67 per cent of crashes and deaths in 29 per cent. Make sure your helmet has a sticker showing that it meets current safety standards. Avoid buying a used helmet. It may have been in a crash, and the damage may not be obvious.

8. WEAR PROTECTIVE CLOTHING DESIGNED FOR MOTORCYCLE RIDERS

It can provide some protection during a crash, as well as shield you from the weather and flying debris. Keeping warm and dry will help you stay alert and maintain coordination. Wear your riding gear in layers so you can adjust to changing conditions. Jeans give little protection. Never ride in lightweight pants or shorts.

9. PROTECT YOUR EYES AND FACE

Constant wind can make your eyes water, preventing you from spotting hazards. Flying insects, dust and debris can hurt your eyes and face. The best protection is a full-face helmet with a built-in face shield.

10. BE VISIBLE

Wear bright, reflective clothing. Add extra reflective material to it or wear a reflective vest. Likewise, buy a bright-coloured helmet and stick reflective tape to the back and sides. Always keep your headlight on. Ride in the lane position where other drivers can easily see you and you've got room to move. Avoid all other vehicles' blind spots.

CHAPTER RIDER OF THE YEAR – 2014

The Chapter Rider of the Year is determined by taking the mileage that the Chapter rides throughout the year and determining which member rides the greatest number of those miles.



In 2014 the Manassas VA Chapter had 18 organized rides completed covering a total distance of 2558 miles. By participating in 67% of the Chapter's rides, riding 73% of the total miles or 1884 miles,

Kevin Chrisman was the first annual winner of this award. At January's Chapter meeting, in addition to his trophy, he was the recipient of a \$250.00 gift certificate at Whitt's HD.

In addition we would like to congratulate those riders that finished in the top-ten behind him:

#2 Russell Taylor – 1534

#3 Bob Ficken – 1482

#4(tie) Brian & Gayle Delhagen – 1333

#5 John Batcheller – 1259

#6 JoAnne Christensen – 1136

#7 Christina Batcheller – 1092

#8 Leon McGlothlin – 1064

#9 Steve Bencivenga – 1038

#10 George Key – 994

In addition, and possibly more importantly, are those that took the time and effort to create this year's rides. Without their efforts none of this would have been possible.

Jeff Haydon

Carol Phillips

Glenna Sawyers

Rick Christensen

Gayle Delhagen

Brian Delhagen

Tom Milton

Bill Edwards

Leon McGlothlin

John Batcheller

Terry Reed

Mason Magid

Joanne Christensen

SO, YOU WANT TO BE ROAD CAPTAIN...

Road captains are an integral part of the HOG chapter. Our chapter is planning a great riding season with lots of fun and interesting rides. But, to make this all happen, we need qualified road captains to lead these rides. You may be asking, what does it take to become a qualified road



(continued on next page)

UPCOMING EVENTS

(All calendar event subject to change)

HOG BALL

WHEN: SAT, JANUARY 24TH, 6PM – SUN, JANUARY 25TH, 12AM

WHERE: ANTHONY'S RESTAURANT

HOG BOWL

WHEN: FEBRUARY 7TH, 12:30PM – 3:00PM

WHERE: BOWL AMERICA ON
BALLS FORD RD.

ANNUAL PLANNING MEETING

WHEN: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21ST

WHERE: TBD

ROAD CAPTAIN MEETING AND GROUP RIDE CLASS

WHEN: MARCH 8TH, 10:30

WHERE: AMERICAN LEGION

WHITT'S OPEN HOUSE

WHEN: MARCH 14TH

WHERE: WHITT'S HARLEY-DAVIDSON

WHITT'S OPEN HOUSE

WHEN: APRIL 25TH

WHERE: WHITT'S HARLEY-DAVIDSON

WHITT'S SPRING POKER RUN

WHEN: APRIL 26TH

WHERE: WHITT'S HARLEY-DAVIDSON

WHITT'S OPEN HOUSE

WHEN: MAY 23RD

WHERE: WHITT'S HARLEY-DAVIDSON

RIDE TO ROLLING THUNDER

WHEN: MAY 24TH

WHERE: WHITT'S HARLEY-DAVIDSON

CAR SHOW

WHEN: MAY 31ST

WHITT'S OPEN HOUSE

WHEN: JUNE 20TH

WHERE: WHITT'S HARLEY-DAVIDSON

VIRGINIA H.O.G. RALLY

WHEN: JUNE 24TH - 27TH

WHERE: WILLIAMSBURG VA

WHITT'S OPEN HOUSE

WHEN: JULY 18TH

WHERE: WHITT'S HARLEY-DAVIDSON

STURGIS RALLY – THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY!

WHEN: AUGUST 3RD - 9TH

WHERE: STURGIS, SD

TOM'S YORK FACTORY RIDE

WHEN: SEPTEMBER 17TH

WHERE: WHITT'S HARLEY-DAVIDSON

WHITT'S FALL OPEN HOUSE

WHEN: SEPTEMBER 26TH

WHERE: WHITT'S HARLEY-DAVIDSON

captain and what are the responsibilities of a qualified road captain? Every year we hold Road Captain Training sessions and qualifying rides for members who are interested in

becoming road captains. We will be scheduling the first session in March. This session will cover the responsibilities of the road captain as well as group riding techniques. It is usually a 2-3 hour meeting demonstrating group riding techniques, planning and organizing rides, pre-ride briefings as well as staging and leading the ride. Road captain candidates will then, at a later date, go on a short training ride with currently qualified road captains to demonstrate the skills needed to safely lead a group of riders. After completing the training ride, the candidate will then plan and lead a chapter ride.

In order to begin the training, candidates should have at least 1 year of riding experience or have ridden at least 3000 miles without at-fault motorcycle accidents or major traffic violations; and it is highly recommended to have completed a rider training course such as the MSF Experienced Rider Course or equivalent within the past three years.

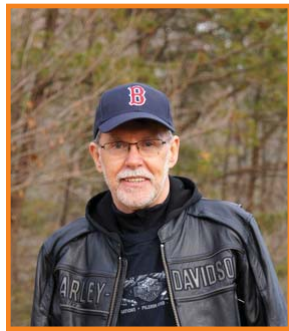
So, if you think you may be interested in qualifying as a road captain please let me know and we can discuss and begin planning. However, if you are really sure you want to be a road captain but you would like to know more about group riding be sure and watch for the training session on the events calendar and come out and join us.

And remember, you don't have to be a road captain to plan and organize a ride. If you have an idea for a ride that you think would be interesting we can work together to develop the ride route and ensure a qualified road captain will be able to participate and lead the group.



NEW MEMBERS

The next time you see these new members be sure to introduce yourself and give them a big WELCOM TO THE CHAPTER!



Joe Gillam



Jack Belcher



Jack Belcher

END NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

I have just a few more things to mention as reminders:

1. If you have any articles that you would like to submit for the next issue of The Hogwash the deadline is February 15, 2015. If you have any questions or need some help pulling things together please don't hesitate to [contact](#) me.
2. If you would like to have your photo included in the Chapter Member Photo Album please send a photo to [Brian Delhagen](#).

RECENT HAPPENINGS

POLAR BEAR RIDE

They say that whatever you do on New Year's Day you'll be doing for the rest of the year. That's why my wife or my Mom refuse to do laundry on January 1st. But, if the saying is true, 24 of our members, who braved temps in the 20s for our Polar Bear Ride, should have a very good year. The turnout was beyond expectations as we met in Manassas for a cold ride out through Clifton and Great Falls to the Blue Ridge Grill in Ashton. It was a beautiful day for a ride with plenty of sunshine and dry roads. The ride was about 85 miles on local roads that we don't often ride. It also gave us a chance to get to know and ride with some of our newest members. All in all, it was a great way to kick off the New Year and I know I am looking forward to a lot of great riding the rest of the year.




The Manassas Hog Chapter would like to thank all the businesses that advertise in our newsletter. These businesses support our Chapter, please support them whenever you can!



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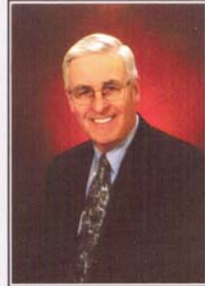
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