THE HOG PEN

Newsletter of the Memphis Harley Owners Group
Chapter 4928~Founded February 20, 1986

Volume 33 Issue 12 **December 2019**

Robert Gantt

Here we are rapidily approching the end of 2019. I hope you will agree with me in saying “It’s been a fun year”. I would like to say “Thank You” to my officer team. Without them we would have not had the great year that we have had. It takes a lot work to put together an event scheudle for an entire year. It takes even more work to execute. They have worked tirelessly to insure that we have long rides, day rides, social dinners, chapter meetings, parties, etc. If you also enjoyed this year in the HOG chapter, take a moment the next time you see them and thank them. I know I cannot thank them enough. I would also like to thank our sponsoring dealer, Bumpus Harley-Davidson of Memphis. Tim and Bill have been great to work with and I am sure this will continue in 2020.

So on to 2020. I am honored to continue to serve as your Director for another year. I am even more honored that the majority of my officer team will also continue on into 2020. We have already start working on next year. I know we ask this often, but if you have something you would like to do, let us know. Otherwise, as Roelant says, we will just do what he wants to do. Good thing for us is he likes to do fun things.

I usually ramble on for a full page, but this month I’ll keep it short. I’ll close the year year out by saying thanks for letting me be part of your chapter. Merry Chrstmas and Happy New Year to you and yours.

One more thing, when I ask, the answer is Griswold.

Ride Safe, Ride Smart, but most of all Ride

Robert
Director

HOG Christmas
By: Jim Ferguson
(Rhymed to Twas the Night Before Christmas)

Twas the month of December and all through the store
The Harleys were all polished and ready to roar!
The deals were plenty the staff well prepared
in hopes that the shoppers would soon be in there.

While I in my leathers and boots to stay warm,
mounted my bike for a ride, this cold morn.
I pulled in the clutch and pressed on the start
as the bike gave a rumble, I was off like a lark.

Dash away, dash away, dash away I
turned on to the highway and started to fly.
Late for a ride with my Chapter, I yelled
to the cop who just clocked me at a 112!

I zoomed down the road like my hair was on fire
only to notice, I had one smoking back tire.
I pulled into Bumpus just in time for the ride
The members were staring as I stepped off my Glide.

They smiled and waved as they passed me a pen,
to sign in for the ride, just as I started to grin.
We covered the route, the pledge, and a prayer,
and mounted the bikes, in the cool morning air.

We lined up like reindeer, on Santa's red sleigh
to head out on the ride, for another great day!
On Ultra, on Road King, on Softail, and Glide,
On Road Captain on Riders, let's get on with this ride!

We pulled out the lot with precision and noise
a few of us revved, you know boys will be boys!
We leaned left, and then right, as we ate up the street
and headed you guessed it, for lunch, now let's eat!

Another successful ride with my friends,
the Chapters amazing, the fun never ends.
As we headed back home, from another great day,
I turned to my HOG family and just had to say...

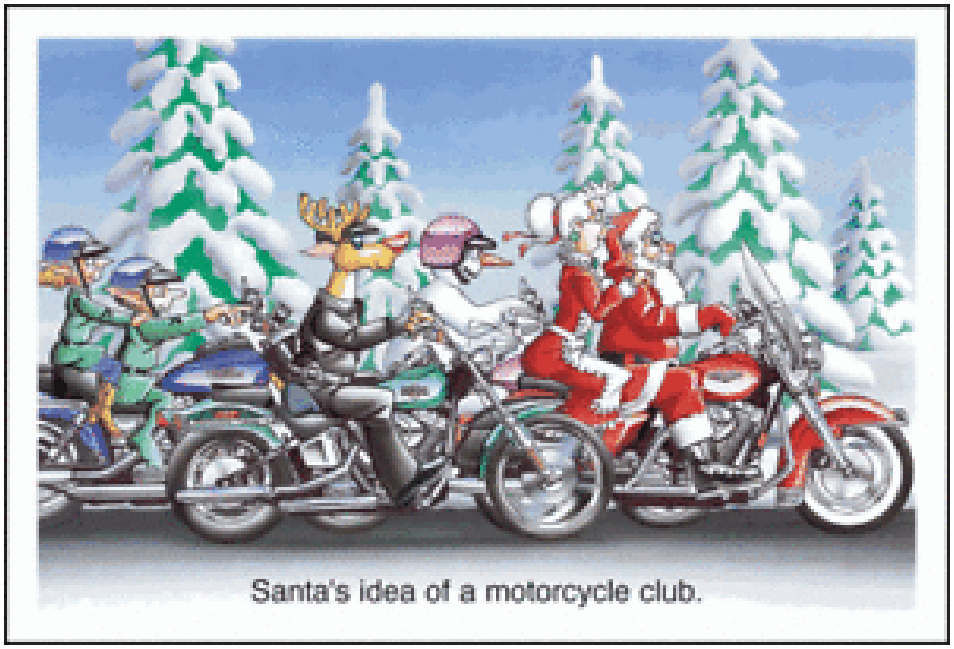
Merry Christmas to you fellow HOG members and friends a toast to you all that your ride never ends.
I wish you Happy Holidays full of family and Joy, and if you've been nice, maybe a shiny new toy!

Whether, you're young, or you're old, been around, or still new, we have something for everyone looking for something to do.

So, join us next year for some all-new adventures like the Polar Bear ride, where you chatter your dentures...
(Yeah you try to rhyme with adventures!) lol

Wishing each and every one a Merry Christmas and joyous Holiday Season! It's been my pleasure serving you in 2019, as the Memphis Chapter Assistant Director. I consider you all friends and family and I hope you come back in 2020 to join us again for another great year of rides and events!

Jim Ferguson
2019 Memphis Chapter Assistant Director



Amy & Roelant Verbeek

Activities Corner

Even though the weather has gotten a lot colder, we were able to get some rides in this November and early December. I always say, I can dress for the cold, but I hate the rain. Maybe due to my upbringing in the Netherlands where it rains way too much. Okay, so what did we do over the past couple of weeks?

- On November 16, Jim and Carol Tactac did a discovery ride to the Biscuitry in Bolivar. They wanted to check the place out to see if it was worthy for a later visit with the chapter, and it was.
- On November 21, we held the annual HOG Thanksgiving dinner at Bumpus. I know I have a lot to be thankful for, so I always enjoy this holiday. We had a good turnout and the food was excellent as well. We learned that you don't wear a shirt from a competitor dealership, but that it is a good way to get a free t-shirt.
- The Sunday after Thanksgiving a couple brave folks took a ride to Reelfoot Lake for some lunch at the Blue Bank Resort. They were in the midst of putting up their Christmas decorations and it looked pretty festive.
- December started off with the chapter supporting the Lebonheur Toy Ride. It was fun getting together with other riders and bring toys to the children's hospital. I do think we should be able to get more people in the entire Memphis area to support this ride, so maybe we can put some effort into this for next year.
- Today, my daughter finished the St. Jude half marathon, the Tigers beat Cincinnati for the 2nd week in a row and ten chapter members rode to the Biscuitry in Bolivar. The Tactacs were correct, this was a neat place to visit. We took a little roundabout way to get there and practiced our riding skills on Raleigh LaGrange, a fun curvy road.
- Today is the Ladies' Christmas party at the Gantt's residence, complete with a white elephant gift exchange.

So, what's coming up in the near future?

- Next Saturday, December 14, we will host the chapter's Christmas party. I am looking forward to a good party. And, who knows, maybe Michael Smith will bring some more tequila.
- On January 1, we will have our Polar Bear ride to support the Ski Freeze. We will have our annual New Year's lunch immediately following. This time not at Robilio's, we will have lunch at Neil's Grille and Bar on Quince.
- One January 14, we will hold our first chapter meeting of the year. Where is yet to be determined and I will let you know as soon as we have secured a place.

What about the rest of the year?

- We will continue to have the Officer's meeting on the first Thursday of each month. These are open to everyone, so if you have the desire to join the meeting, just show up.
- Our chapter meetings will be the second Tuesday of each month. As you can imagine, we are looking for a location, if you have any suggestions, please reach out to one of the officers.
- We will continue with Bikes on Beale on the third Wednesday of each month.
- And our monthly social will be on the fourth Thursday of the month. If you have any suggestions for locations or activities, please reach out to Amy or me.
- Each month we will schedule an overnight ride, we will present our suggestions at the chapter meeting in January. A trip to Patti's Settlement will be on the list. Again, any and all suggestions are welcome. We are going to add a day trip a month to any festivals nearby.

Hopefully we will be able to provide something for everyone, so that we can see lots of you at our events. Enjoy the rest of the newsletter and hopefully we'll get to ride together soon.

Jim Tactac

It's hard to believe that the end of the year is almost here. In my humble opinion, I think it's been a great one for the chapter. We've had multiple new members join, some of which through the work of your membership officers, and others from simply buying a bike and being granted their complimentary membership, and of course, some great group rides. Carol and I have really enjoyed our membership roles. We've tried some new ways to increase membership and stuck to some tried and true methods as well.

This year, Carol and I have gone on many of the rides, and thanks to Roelant and Amy for putting together some great trips.

One of them was the Natchez Trace ride on 11/2. This was our first time on this route, and I loved it! What an easy, relaxing ride, with some great scenery, good laughs, and a nice dinner that evening. It's this ride that leads me to the main point of me writing this. On our way home, Carol and I took I-840 as part of our route. At one point, two guys on crotch-rockets screamed by us, at what had to be at least 100 miles an hour!!! I was cruising along at 80, and these two blew by us and were out of sight in literally a minute or two. Part of the HOG slogan is to "ride safe…" And while these two weren't on Harleys, it didn't really matter. As they flew by us, my immediate reaction was holy crap!! (but with some more colorful language!) Then I thought…one mistake, one second of losing concentration, a pothole, or even a large enough bump, and they'd be history. I also thought, as a rider, what kind of negative image of motorcyclists these two gave all of us to anybody they passed, by riding, what I would call, recklessly, even dangerously.

I am not and have never been a rider like that. Carol and my daughters often accuse me of driving a car like an old man, and that's true! I rarely will go much over the speed limit in a car, or while riding, and haven't had a ticket in over 17 years. Frankly, when those two passed us, it startled me.

So, while I know this might be a little corny, I just thought I'd speak out about it. I'm not trying to preach to anyone. We are supposed to "ride our own ride." But I would hope we all first and foremost, ride safely, and second, perhaps consider what kind of image we are projecting if we were to ride like those two!! Kind of goes back to the newsletter where Jim Ferguson talked about what is your vest saying about you.

P.S. We are starting to get membership renewals already for 2020. That's great!! Please keep in mind that the form MUST be dated 1/1/20 or later. Per national HOG requirements, renewals are based on the calendar year, and renewals forms must be dated according to the renewal year. Keep those renewals coming!!

Anyway, thanks for listening! And as always, for those of you who are not getting out there with us on these rides, why the heck aren't you?

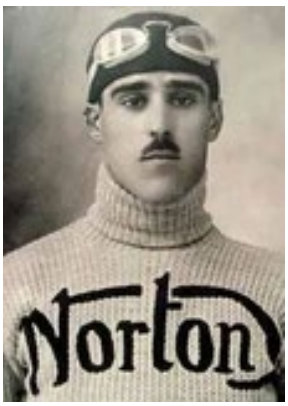
Till Next Time….

"Every Ride a Memory"

Jim

The “Cut”

The vest is an indelible icon in motorcycle culture. Worn by riders as a testimony of their motorcycle lifestyles, vests are symbols of rebellion and individuality.



In the early days of motorcycle history riders wore sweaters, varsity jackets, and garage overalls as a means of protection while operating their machines. Only a few organized motorcycle clubs had their names stenciled in the back of their jackets. A practice that would evolve itself in parallel with the future emerging vests. The evolution of the motorcycle vest can be traced to the Second World War. The men who fought in WWII were barely out of adolescence, some as young as 18 years old and the war was the first place they’d ever been besides home. Airmen tended to cling to things that were familiar to them and this sense of identity was expressed by painting their airplane noses and their amazing A-2 jackets (Bomber Jackets) with icons of the Americana pop culture of the times.

After the war, veterans came home with the need to relieve the impact of the stress they lived during the armed conflict and many found such relief in motorcycles. These machines were the vehicle to break the monotony of the quieter life back home, injecting a dose of adrenaline and excitement.

As motorcycles became more powerful and faster, the need for more adequate protection was in place, so the use of the war bomber jackets, such as the limited AN-J-3, the standard B-10, and the leather A-2 (probably the coolest jacket ever made) became a common sight among riders and motorcycle clubs. These jackets offered better protection but presented the problem of restricting the mobility of the arms and being too warm for most riding conditions.

During the following decade, into the late 50’s, America saw the propagation of motorcycle clubs. At the same time, a series of social and media events that alienated segments of the motorcycle community, ignited a significant force of rebellion on these clubs (Hollister 1947). All these ingredients were reflected in their social view, their culture and sense of style. It is this rebellion and the need for functionality that made bikers cutting off the sleeves on their jackets resulting in what is now known as “Cuts”. The Cuts evolved in parallel with the styles and trends of the times, from earlier cut off leather bomber jackets to lighter denim jacket cuts.

In the 50’s, the fashion trends of the Greasers in the US and the Rockers in the UK turned the leather jackets into emblematic part of their style. In this era, silver screen hero, Marlon Brando, sealed the fate of the Schott Perfecto motorcycle jacket. It was an emblem of the motorcycle outlaw club in the film The Wild One (1953), but cuts were still in its infant stage. The cuts got amplified in the 60’s and 70’s by the club’s tradition to sew patches in their vests with their club names, logos, and the cities where they were active. These vests became a presentation card in the motorcycle culture, evolving into a sacred symbol of respect, displaying something not just made but earned. Later in the late 70’s, 80’s and part of the 90’s, the leather vest took the spotlight in the evolution of the cuts. Departing from the raw look of the

70’s denim, the leather vest became the symbol of motorcycle rebellion catapulted by the style’s permeability of the punk, metal, and glam music styles.

RG

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Membership

To Join HOG National

In order to join the Memphis HOG Chapter, you must first be a national or associate HOG member in good standing. Click the link for the Harley Owners Group website to read about HOG Events, Membership Types and Membership Benefits.

Once you join, you receive a membership number. Use this number to join Memphis HOG.

Join the local Memphis HOG Chapter

Download the Memphis HOG form and fill it out. There are three ways to submit the form;

1. Drop off the form along with $20 cash or check at the Bumpus HD Memphis parts counter.
2. Bring it to the next Memphis H.O.G. activity. Check the Events Calendar for upcoming events.
3. Mail the form and a $20 check made out to "**Memphis HOG Chapter".** Mail to:

Memphis HOG Chapter # 4928
Bumpus Harley Davidson
2160 Whitten Road
Memphis, TN 38133-6004

To get to the Memphis Chapter Membership Form follow the following link:
https://www.memphishog.com/membership

2019 Officer Team

Sponsor: Tim Bumpus

Director: Robert Gantt

Assistant Director: Jim Ferguson

Treasurer: Bob Browder

Secretary: Mathilda Doorley

Activities: Amy & Roelant Verbeek

Head Road Captain: Dave Stockton

Membership: Carol & Jim Tactac

Safety Officer: Steve Lyon

Photographer: Tony Crook

Web Master: Tony Crook

Historian: J. Carolyn Rice

Dealer Liaison: Joe Moscon

Chapter Events

2019 2020

December

05 **HOG Officer Meeting**
Tactac house at 6:30pm

08 **Ladies Chrsitmas Party**
The ladies Christmas Party will be on Sunday, December 8th at Laura Gantt's house from 1pm to 4pm. Address available upon request. Please bring a wrapped gift ($20.00) for Dirty Santa. Also bring your favorite dessert or appetizer. Please RSVP.

14 **HOG Christmas Party**
Join us for Christmas Dinner and Party at Navy Lake. We will have DJ (Go Vince!), cash bar and door prizes. Dinner includes your choice of Smoked Brisket with scalloped potatoes, Poached Salmon with scalloped potatoes or Chicken Marsala with spinach fettuccine. All dinners include shrimp appetizer, squash and zucchini vegetable mix, house salad, dinner rolls and apple cobbler a la mode. Tickets are $25.00 per person and must be paid in advance. This will also be our December Chapter meeting.

January

01 **Polar Bear Ride**
Come ride with your friends to the 43rd Ski Freeze Memphis location and donate to a great cause. All proceeds benefit the Dream Factory of Memphis. Donuts and coffee will be served at 9:30, KSU at 10:00.

01 **News Day Lunch**
12:00pm Neil's Bar and Grill 5727 Quince Rd, Memphis, TN 38119

14 **Memphis HOG Chapter Meeting**
TBD

February

06 **Memphis HOG Officers Meeting**
TBD

11 **Memphis HOG Chapter Meeting**
TBD

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Business ads run for $50/yr. for a business card, $75/yr. for a ½ page, and $100/yr. for a full-page ad. Please contact Robert Gantt to set up your ad.

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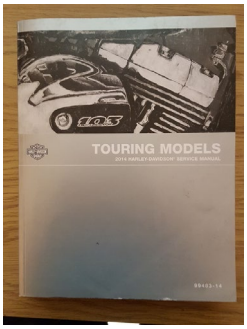

For Sale

Dave Stockton
901.378.1466

Saddleman Luggage Rack
Bag $20

DO YOU KNOW HOW TO STAY IN CONTACT WITH THE MEMPHIS HOG CHAPTER?

- Get text alerts or follow us on Twitter

  To get texts: Text a message to *40404* with the following information:
  Follow memhog4928
  You should receive an instant confirmation.

- Join our members-only Facebook group

  Link: https://www.facebook.com/groups/282199048513345/

  To join: Go to the page and click "Join"
  One of the officers will add you to the FB group.

  Note: There is a public FB page, but it DOES NOT have event information.
  https://www.facebook.com/MemphisHogChapter/

- Check out our webpage and online calendar

  http://www.memphishog.com/
  http://www.memphishog.com/#!calendar/c1nf7

  The chapter calendar is compatible with Google Calendar and iPhones.
  Search for the calendar associated with the chapter activities email: memphishogactivities@gmail.com

- Special Note to AOL mail users

  Please add memphishogactivites@gmail.com to your email contacts. This will help insure chapter emails don't end up in your trash\spam folder

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Website: http://www.bumpushdmemphis.com/

Event calendar: http://www.bumpushdmemphis.com/check-out-our-events--xcalendar

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/BumpusHarleyMemphis/

Twitter: @BumpusHDMem

YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/user/bumpusmphs/videos