



The first day of Spring is rapidly approaching (March 20th at 4:37AM if you wanted to set an alarm. As it's a Saturday, I'm going to trust that it happens and sleep in a bit). The technical name for the first day of Spring is the vernal equinox. What does that mean? On March

20th at 4:37AM, the Sun will be directly above the equator as it passes from South to North. Days will get longer and warmer (Yea!). The short-term downside is that we have to get past April, the rainiest month in Memphis (on average 10.6 days of rain). We know what April showers bring...May flowers. And what do May flowers bring.....Pilgrims (think about it...dad joke).

So again, I ask what does that mean? Spring cleaning in the attic? New outfit for Easter? Clean the leaves out of the gutters? Nope, nope, and nope. Warmer weather and more sunlight sound like the first couple ingredients for great motorcycle riding. Let's modify those tasks a bit. How about give the bike a spring wash and new coat of wax? Maybe a new jacket or helmet to match the shiny recently waxed bike? Certainly, we should do a safety check of the bike.

Now that we have clean, shiny, and safe bikes along with a new jacket (or helmet), lets ride! Where to you say? Does it really matter? Need help deciding? Head to Memphishog.com and take a look at the event calendar. Roelant has already added our planned overnight trips and even some day rides. Make your plans now for the overnight trips. We are heading to New Orleans this month and to Hot Springs (hopefully to watch the horses run in the Arkansas Derby) in April. We also have 2 overnight trips planned for May: Brushy Mountain Prison/Devils Triangle and Southern Illinois. We always have a great time. Plan ahead and be part of the fun. In addition to the overnight trips, we will have plenty of day rides. I wouldn't be surprised to see multiple rides during a week from time to time. So, let's welcome Spring and say so long to Winter (and that crazy snow week).

Get on your bad motor scooter and ride!

Ride Safe, Ride Smart, but most of all Ride

Robert
2021 Memphis HOG Director





Activities Corner

This last month sure was icing on the cake of the year 2020, the temperatures were way too cold to be riding. It brought back some memories of home when I was growing up where we had a few years where the winters were pretty brutal. In Holland you don't get a lot of snow, but it gets cold! In the northern part of the country (keep in mind from east to west takes you about 2-2.5 hours and north to south takes you about 3-3.5 hours) there is an ice skating race that can be held every so often that connects 11 cities (Elfstedentocht), it's 125 miles long and the winner is a hero in Holland. One day I may have to do that tour by motorcycle with some of my cousins, niece, and brother in law (the ones with a motorcycle license). Even though it was cold, we still got some miles and events under our belt.

- A Monday ride was held on February 8, Redbones in Jackson, TN, was the destination. We had 8 brave members going out before the deep freeze started and ate some cajun food in Jackson.
- Our first chapter meeting of the year was held at Brendalay Grill in Arlington on Thursday, 2/11. Almost 40 members came to hear what the chapter has to offer this year. The food was great, the drinks were good, and hanging out with fellow chapter members was even better.
- The Saturday after the chapter meeting was the third annual Mardi Gras party at Bumpus. More than 40 members made it to this great event. The fact that I had forgotten the hot sauce, cocktail sauce, and butter didn't seem to bother anyone (thank you Liz and Amy for going to Walmart to buy some of that stuff). The music bingo was another hit this year, especially the false bingos that were called out. I am still having a hard time remembering everything because those hurricanes snuck up on me. I am already looking forward to next year's event.
- The next get together was our monthly social. This month we went to the Commissary in Collierville, they did a great job of hosting all our members, the temperatures were actually good enough so that some took their bike to dinner. We had close to 30 members trying out the Commissary's new location.
- Then today, we had a large contingent coming out to ride to Happy Daze in Nesbit, MS. We took a roundabout way getting there to make sure we rode some of our favorite roads, e.g. Raleigh Lagrange. The place was overwhelmed with our group showing up and quickly an extra employee was called in to help. We had 20 bikes spread over 2 groups with a total of 25-chapter members trying out the burgers, chili dogs, meatball subs, and frozen treats. The weather was great although there still was a little nip in the air.

We are moving this month's social to March 25, because many members will be in New Orleans on the 18th the original scheduled date for the social.

We have a lot of good stuff planned for this coming year, we will beat last year's points and mileage opportunities. Below are the (tentative) overnight trips that we have scheduled so far (with their tentative dates), there will be many more rides than these, so keep your eyes open for announcements:

- March 18 - 21: New Orleans
 - April 9 - 11: Hot Springs (Arkansas Derby)
 - May 14 - 16: Brushy Mountain - Devil's Triangle
 - May 29 - 30: Southern Illinois/Walker's Bluff
 - June 25 - 26: Tour of Duty - Lynchburg Frontier Days
 - July 3 - 4: Mississippi's Championship Hot Air Balloon Fest - Canton, MS
 - July 15 - 18: Whiskey Tour in KY (extended by a day to visit Corvette museum in Bowling Green)
 - August 13 - 15: Chattanooga
 - September 4 - 6: Mena, AR - Ouachita National Forest
 - September 28 – October 2: 2021 Great Smoky Mountain HOG Rally, Maryville, TN
 - November 6 - 7: Patti's Settlement
-
- Other notable events to mark on your calendar are the following:
 - Ride with the GM on March 14
 - Experienced Rider Class: March 14 and 28 (both are full)
 - Past Directors' Ride: April 3
 - Iron Butt: June 12-13
 - RC and MoonPie Festival, Bell Buckle, TN: June 19
 - Beatles at the Ridge, Walnut Ridge, AR: September 18
 - King Biscuit Blues Festival - Helena, AR: October 9
 - HOG Waller: October 16
 - Thanksgiving: November 18
 - Christmas Party: December 11

Roelant and Amy Verbeek
Activities Officers





Carol & Jim
Tactac

Welcome to March!!

Who rides a Harley?

I may have told this story before, but I was reminded of it again just a day before I wrote this.

As some of you know, I have operated a small lawn and landscape business for years. I was out giving a quote to a potential customer and we started to chat. I told him that two or three times during the mowing season that my wife and I go on trips with our Harley group. When I said that, he had this look on his face, and a slight grin. He said to me, "You ride a Harley?" and I of course said, "I do." He looked at me again and said, "You ride a Harley?" as if I caught him off guard or something. Again, I said, with a little more conviction, "I do!" Then, I turned to show him the tattoo on my calf and said I would have NEVER had this done if I didn't ride. He looked at me with a smile and said that I didn't look like the type.

Also, back in Colorado, Carol had a coworker whose wife wanted a ride on a Harley. Carol came home from work and told me, and I of course I offered to take his wife for a ride. When Carol went to work the next day, she told her coworker and he then went home and told his wife about her getting her wish. When she asked who had the Harley, her husband said, "Carol's husband, Jim." She then refused the ride because I did not look like a bad ass Harley dude! She wanted someone with long hair, tats, all dressed in black leather. And since I am not that...she didn't want the ride!

I found it interesting that so many people have a perception of what a "Harley dude" looks like. But what does a Harley dude look like? Who rides these bikes we love?

Which brings me to our first HOG meeting back in Colorado. We just bought our bike. I had heard of HOG, but really had no idea what it was, what "they" do, what kind of people belong to it, etc. I remember telling Carol as we were driving to that chapter meeting for the first time that I was a little nervous. I had no idea what to expect! As my now future customer perceived me (yes, I got the landscape job,) I too had some preconceived ideas and perceptions in my head.

Big, burly guys? Yes! Guys all tattooed up? Yes! Kind of cold, stand-offish, and maybe a little rude? I honestly didn't know what to expect. Fast forward four years, and now part of Memphis HOG, and I can say I was right!! Except for the cold and rude part. And that's the beauty of a HOG chapter. We've got people from all walks of life. Some ARE big, burly guys. Some are tatted up, girls too! We've lived amazingly different lives, with good times and hardships. But we all come together at monthly meetings, dinner socials, weekend rides, etc., making new friends, having some good laughs, and of course good food. And the common bond we all have is our Harley! Regardless of our backgrounds, we come together under that uniquely iconic brand....Harley-Davidson.

We have had a great time with Memphis HOG, both as members and as serving as Chapter Officers. It truly is a great bunch of people we have!!

From a membership perspective, our February 28th renewal deadline has passed. We have reconciled both our membership roster and the national HOG rosters. As of March 1, 2021, we have 133 members. Of course, if for some reason you have not renewed, you can always do so. You just need to fill out a membership form and pay the annual dues of \$25.00. There will be a small late fee and aggravation charge for renewing after the deadline.

Just kidding!! LOL!!

I also wanted to remind everyone that if you have not renewed, and you plan on riding, you will need to fill out the waiver form. And if you ever bring a non-member to a ride he/she must also fill out the waiver form. Any minor children riding with the group must fill out the two minor release forms.

As we get closer to hopefully better riding weather (how about that snow!!) I am looking forward to getting out on many of the rides that are planned. I'm also hoping we'll be able to get back to the Saturday BBQs at Bumpus.

Thanks everyone!!

"Every Ride A Memory"

Jim and Carol Tactac

Membership Officers





Larry Allen

Message from HOG Safety Officer

Warmer weather is coming. Now is the time to get your motorcycle ready to ride. Change the oil and check the bike out thoroughly or have Bumpus HD do it for you. The facts are we participate in a slightly dangerous activity with risks. Most of us feel the enjoyment outweighs the risks so we keep riding while trying to improve our skills as best we can. Don't get complacent about riding and keep your radar on at all times for pending situations. Constantly play what if in your mind as a training tool as it will make you more instinctive and react faster when the need arises. Most of all take the Experience Riders Course on your bike. Take the time to do it now as it may save your life.

Below is my group-riding article for the month. Hope you enjoy it and put it to use.

Keep the chrome side up, rubber side down and the wind in your face.

Larry

Never Hit the Bike in Front Of You By James R. Davis

Group riding has lots of benefits for its participants, and a few new responsibilities.

For example, recently we heard about a group ride that turned sour when the lead bike failed to recognize where he was supposed to make a left turn and drove past that road. The second bike in the group did recognize the turnoff and decided to make it. He turned left and the third bike promptly ran into him. What went wrong? It was argued that if nobody was following too closely then the actions of bike two would have saved everybody in the group (other than the lead bike) from having to make a U-turn and there would have been no accident.

Probably true, but almost any group rider with experience understands that it is up to the leader to make decisions about when and where the group will change directions. It might well have been that the leader had a reason for failing to make that turn. He could, for example, have realized that the group was going too fast to safely make that turn. (If anybody in the group understands the danger to a group of making sudden moves it is an experienced lead bike.) Further, what if the second bike did not willingly make that left turn - that he had a mechanical problem such as a flat tire that caused it. Since all members of a group are expected to follow the direction set by the lead bike, **UNLESS IT IS INTO DANGER**, all other bikes in the group (other than the drag bike) should have attempted to avoid bike two and continue behind the leader.

An example: The past State Director for GWRRA in Texas was once leading a ride in which he took a turn too fast and left the road. Not one single rider behind him followed - they were experienced group riders, not just 'chicken'. You are, ultimately, responsible for your own ride from a safety point of view. Bike two, in the accident described earlier, was way out of line to unilaterally decide to take over lead position - to mutiny, if you will. However, the fact that the third rider ran into the second rider suggests that she was either riding too close to the second rider, or was inattentive, or was so confused by the unorthodox behavior of bike two that she could not react fast enough to prevent the accident. Whatever the reason, bike three broke the prime directive - 'Never hit the bike in front of you!'

When you are riding in a group as other than lead or drag bike your principal activity is 'station keeping' - maintaining proper distance between yourself and the bike ahead of you. Since the vast majority of accident threats present themselves to you from the front, each person should be encouraged to focus their attention

primarily in front of them. In other words, it is dangerous to spend too much time watching your rear-view mirrors. Thus, the prime directive.

That said, if you accept the prime directive and assume that all the other riders have done the same, then you are also tacitly acknowledging that you trust the rider behind you. But, of course, you may never have ridden in a group with that person before. You may not have even met that person before. Further, it is common practice to put the weakest and least experienced riders towards the back of a group. Is that not setting up for an accident? Not at all! The weakest/least-experienced riders are in the back because these are the people most likely to have an accident. Thus, they are placed towards the back so that such an accident can put the fewest other people as possible into danger. It also allows the drag bike to observe how these riders handle themselves and to work with them at stops about the little things that they may be doing wrong.

As to their potential danger to the riders in front of them, that can be managed. Let me give you an example of savvy group riding behavior by an experienced rider who became concerned that the bike following was too close to her. She simply used a hand signal telling the bike behind her to slow down.

Even though most of us have CBs, we tend to use hand signals as well - to keep those without CBs informed. While there is a stated rule that all hand signals must be passed back, most individuals in a group ride tend never to originate such a signal thinking that this is just one more job of the lead bike. The exception to this is the case where an individual rider in the group notices a hazard in the roadway and points to it so that all behind will be alerted.

Individual group riders CAN ALWAYS initiate a hand signal telling the person behind him/her to slow down. This is the way to reduce concern about an inexperienced rider in the rear driving too close to the bike ahead of him. On the other hand, nobody but the lead bike is entitled to originate a hand signal telling the person behind him/her to speed up. (This is another way of saying that spacing in a group is usually specified in terms of minimums ('no closer than 1 second') - the riders can individually decide to use a larger space.) The prime directive, if flawed, errors on the side of conservatism. It mandates that attention be primarily directed towards the front. It mandates that you do not follow too closely. It makes you think about what the bike ahead of you (closest ahead of you, not literally 'straight ahead') is doing or might do next rather than what the lead bike is up to. It gives you a modest suggestion about what to do if *you* are about to have an accident. (i.e., if you are riding in the right track, and there is a hazard in the road ahead of you, the prime directive forces you to tend to turn towards the right to avoid that hazard - thus, taking you farther away from the closest bike ahead.)

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Bumpus Harley-Davidson®



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 \$25 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 \$25 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>



2021 Officer Team

Sponsor: Tim Bumpus
Director: Robert Gantt
Assistant Director: Jim Ferguson
Treasurer: Bob Browder
Secretary: Tim Backus
Activities: Amy & Roelant Verbeek
Head Road Captain: Dave Stockton
Membership: Carol & Jim Tactac
Safety Officer: Larry Allen
Photographer: Tony Crook
Web Master: Tony Crook
Dealer Liaison: Joe Moscon

Participation Points and Club Mileage through
March 8, 2021
Max Points = 23
Max Mileage = 1060

Top 20 Participation Points		
Place	Name	Points
1	Richard Cooley	21
2	John McDowell	18
3	Christopher Taylor	16
3	Frank Rector	16
3	Bradey Eskins	16
6	Roelant Verbeek	15
7	Dan Benson	14
7	Timothy Backus	14
9	Jordan Wells	13
9	Jim Tactac	13
9	Timothy Harris	13
12	Tracy Taylor	11
12	Paul Dunaway	11
12	Kenneth Barbee	11
15	Yancy Wagner	10
15	Madisen McDowell	10
15	Kristi Dunaway	10
18	Deanna Jackson	9
18	Tommy Caldwell	9
20	Dave Stockton	8

Top 20 Club Mileage		
Place	Name	Miles
1	Richard Cooley	1060
2	John McDowell	1015
3	Roelant Verbeek	830
3	Christopher Taylor	830
3	Frank Rector	830
3	Dan Benson	830
7	Yancy Wagner	807
8	Timothy Backus	793
9	Bradey Eskins	645
10	Jordan Wells	608
10	Timothy Harris	608
12	Dave Klunk	520
13	Madisen McDowell	472
14	Paul Dunaway	430
14	Kristi Dunaway	430
16	Jim Tactac	423
17	Tracy Taylor	378
17	Deanna Jackson	378
19	Mike Farina	355
20	Mike Zdancewicz	310

Chapter Events



2021

March

04 **Memphis HOG Officers Meeting**
6:30pm. More details coming

07 **Memphis HOG Lunch Ride**
Join us for a lunch ride to Happy Daze Dairy Bar/Restaurant, 110 Pleasant Hill Rd, Nesbit, MS 38651. Meet at Bumpus at 9:30am with KSU at 10:00am.

11 **Memphis HOG Chapter Meeting**
The chapter meeting will be held at Brendalay Grill. Join us for good food and socializing beginning at 6:30pm.

14 **Ride with the Bumpus GM**
The second "Ride with the GM" has been scheduled. It will be on March 14. Meet at Bumpus at 1030 for KSU at 11. Let's show our support for Colby and the team at Bumpus.

14 **Memphis HOG ERC Class**
12:00pm at the Bumpus Riders Course.

18 **Memphis HOG Dinner Social**
More details coming

18 **Memphis HOG heads to NOLA**
Join us for a long weekend in New Orleans (Thursday-Sunday). See FB and emails for details

21 **Blessing of the Bikes**
It's always a good idea to get a blessing for your bike. Memphis Wheels of Grace is hosting a blessing of bikes event. The event starts at 10 and will include a lunch and a ride if you so desire. Meet at Bumpus at 9 for KSU at 9:30.

28 **Memphis HOG ERC Class**
12:00pm at the Bumpus Riders Course.

April

01 **Memphis HOG Officers Meeting**
6:30pm. More details coming

03 **Memphis HOG Past Director's Ride**
More details coming

08 **Memphis HOG Chapter Meeting**
6:30pm. More details coming

09 **HOG Weekend Ride Arkansas Derby**
Hot Springs, AR. More details coming

22 **Memphis HOG Dinner Social**
More details coming



Chapter Events



2021

May

06 **Memphis HOG
Officers Meeting**
6:30pm. More details coming

13 **Memphis HOG
Chapter Meeting**
6:30pm. More details coming

14 **Memphis HOG
Weekend Ride to
Brushy Mountain and Devil's
Triangle**
More details coming. Friday-
Saturday

20 **Memphis HOG
Dinner Social**
More details coming

29 **Memphis HOG
Weekend ride to
Southern IL**
More details coming. But we do
plan on eating dinner at Walker's
Bluff (really cool place). Saturday-
Sunday



Memphis HDG Patches



*Memphis Chapter Top Rocker
Available in Gold and Silver
Small \$13.00
Large \$24.00*



*HDG Logo
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*HDG Heritage Logo
Small \$5.00
Large \$14.00*

INTERESTED IN ADVERTISING IN OUR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER?

Ads are free to current members selling personal items, e.g. bikes, bike parts, garage sale items, etc.

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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MEMPHIS, TN 38016
901-382-7400 WORK/CELL
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 (\$14 to keep pocket open)

Drop off and pick up, or for small simple patches, call for an appointment and we'll sew them on while you wait.



Custom Saddle Bags

Traditional styles and designs or ones to complement your bike

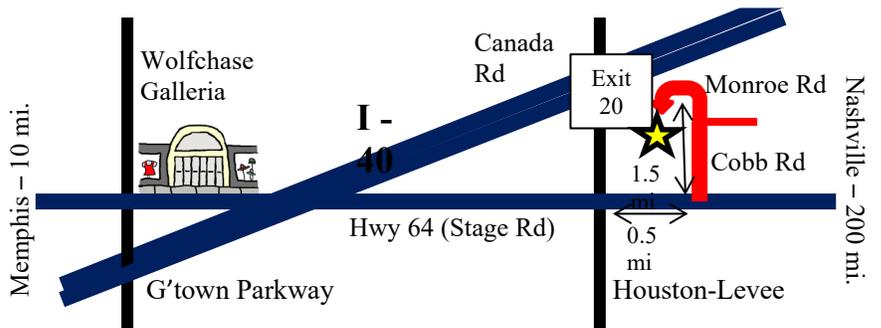
Call us for an e-copy of our 60-page color catalog to see more of the leather products we make in our shop.



Custom Chaps

In your Choice of Styles

slide on or attached to a separate belt, sewn on jeans, or "cowboy-style"



BTW...The ride on Monroe Road from Canada Road to Chambers Chapel is amazing

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 memphishogactivities@gmail.com to your email contacts. This will help ensure chapter emails don't end up in your trash/spam folder

DO YOU KNOW HOW TO STAY IN CONTACT WITH BUMPUS HARLEY DAVIDSON (MEMPHIS)?

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

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

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

Twitter: [@BumpusHDMem](https://twitter.com/BumpusHDMem)

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