

H.O.G. SNOUT BIG SKY CHAPTER 2641

Volume 14, Issue 02



Feb., 2011

Sponsored by:
Big Sky Harley-Davidson
Brian and Tami Moen
4258 10th Avenue South
Great Falls, MT 59405
(406) 727-2161
www.bigskyharley.com

Director
Sam Steffan
(406) 788-6891
samiam01@bresnan.net

Assistant Director
Jim Hoffmann
jimkarehoffmann@msn.com

Treasurer
Cheryl Turner
jeffturner9@bresnan.net

Secretary
Linda Decker
(406) 761-7825
lindadecker57@yahoo.com

H.O.G. Slop:
Elizabeth Moore, Editor

HOWDY PARDNER...WE'RE LOOKIN' FER A POSSE THAT KNOWS HOW TO HAVE A GOOD TIME.

Got a Harley? Want a Harley? Just want to have some fun?
Don't miss the Big Sky Harley Owners' Group Annual Membership Drive.
Win prizes, play a little poker, sing a little karaoke or just hang out
with friends and share refreshments and tales of adventure!

A NIGHT AT THE DEADWOOD SALOON
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26TH
7:00 PM AT BIG SKY HARLEY DAVIDSON

Director's Notes:

Sam Steffan

Well, two down and only ten more months to go for 2011. Not much riding time in the past two, as we seem to be having one of the snowiest winters on record. But alas, spring is just around the corner, according to our little furry friend the Ground Hog.

Our first big event of the season, Deadwood Casino night, should be a “coming out” for the membership to rid themselves of cabin fever and to get ready for riding fever. We hope that this evening will prove to be one of the highlights of the year. With the transformation of the dealership into “historic Deadwood” scenery, along with fun and games we hope to rev up the membership. Dust off your old western duds and join us in a fun filled evening in the old robust days of 1876. You just may see Calamity Jane, Wild Bill Hickock, Potato Johnnie, saloon girls, an outlaw or two and maybe even an unscrupulous sheriff. So try to stay out of the Deadwood Jail.



Use your card game winnings to bid on one of the many super prizes at the end of the evening. Be a gambler and buy a few chances on the 2-day getaway at the First Gold Casino and Hotel in Deadwood, which also includes one dinner meal or the super buffet on the weekends. With this being the kickoff of the year, we have plans for many new different events for you to enjoy throughout the year. So see you all down the trail, road or whatever you want to call it, let's enjoy 2011.

See you all in Deadwood.

I would also like to thank member Mike Young for the very interesting briefing on the aspect of insurance for motorcycle riders and owners. I am sure many members were not aware of the many idiosyncrasies that go along with insurance for the owner as well as passengers.

Again, thank you, Mike

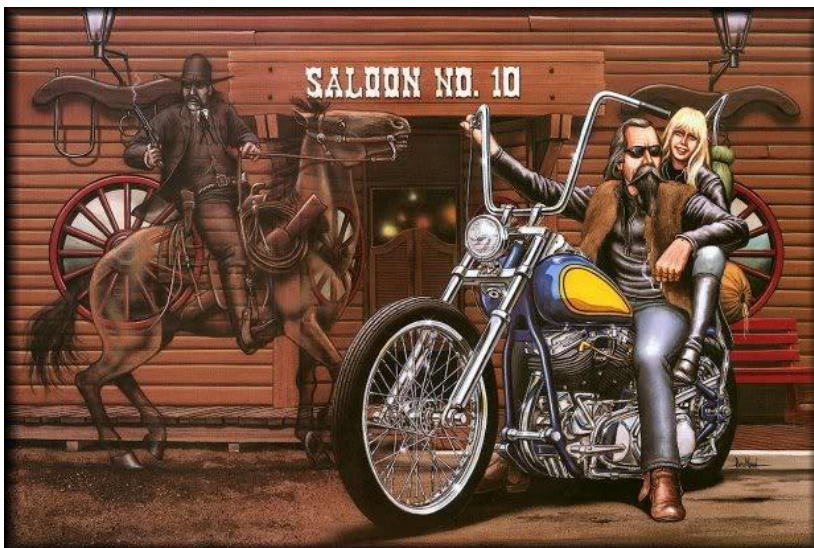
Git Er done

Sam I Am, AKA the Hogfather

Assistant Director's Notes:

Jim Hoffmann

Well Mother Nature is fooling with us AGAIN!! The weather changed for the better this past week causing me (and probably many others) to start getting my ride ready for the upcoming season of great riding! As I stated at the February meeting when you renew your national HOG membership take some time to go thru the booklet you will get with the packet you receive from HOG. It has many items of interest in it that you can utilize and/or take advantage of. If you wish to know more about HOG you can contact me or go to members.hog.com. As a chapter we have many things planned this year for your enjoyment. A calendar of events will be posted on the chapter web site and updated continually and a hard copy will be posted on the bulletin board at the dealership also.



The Membership Night - “A Night at the Deadwood Saloon” is coming soon, Saturday the 26th, and I urge you to get yourself dressed up and bring a guest to enjoy the festivities and camaraderie with your fellow members/riders and share some refreshments and tell some tall tales of past adventures. There will be plenty of fun and probably a few surprises knowing Mick and Sam. I thank all the volunteers in advance for helping out to make this an enjoyable and fun night! See y'all there!

Remember it's the Journey! Ride Safe.

Jim

Assistant Director

Membership Director's Notes:

Linda Decker

"Hey Cowboy, wanna buy a lady a drink?" Ok, ok, I know we are bikers but for one night, let's say, Saturday, February 26, let's pretend that we are back in the Old West, hanging out at the Deadwood Saloon. Cowboys playing poker, saloon girls, singing and dancing - doesn't get any better than that.

If you are current with your local dues, a \$1,500 voucher is yours to try your luck at the poker tables or enjoy a game of keno. Bring a guest. They too can participate in the fun with a \$500 voucher. Remember, this Chapter is all about having fun.

I would like to welcome our new members to our Chapter, Shannon Chambers (also the Chapter's new secretary), Jason Garrison, Christine and Donald Peckat, Randy Wenzek, and Dennis Williams. Please join us at the Deadwood Saloon on February 26th.

To those members who pay their dues but have never participated in an event sponsored by your Chapter, this is one event you don't want to miss. Come join us and see what we are all about. Who knows, you may get hooked!



Need a patch sewn on that leather vest or jacket?

Linda Heggem - 452-2425 - will sew patches for a donation to MDA.

Newsletter Comments or Questions?

If you have any questions, comments concerning the Big Sky H.O.G. Newsletter, please contact Elizabeth at 781-5143, or by e-mail at eemoore@3riversdbs.net.

AND THE WINNERS ARE . . .

HOG Number: – 2635245 - not present

50/50 - \$71.00 Charlie Pepos

Door Prize Winner: Leroy Weikum

PROFILES...

This month, in addition to the local officers, we have a special profile from our new Regional Director, Todd Robinson!



Hello to my brothers and sisters of the Big Sky Chapter. Some of you may be wondering who this new RM is, so I thought I would let you know a little bit about me. My name is Todd Robinson, but my friends call me "THOR" (you're all my friends, I assume). I have been riding Harleys for 31 years and have been a life member of H.O.G. since the late 80s. I served as Treasurer, Head Roadcaptain and Assistant Director in my home chapter in Lansing, MI. In 2008 MI was the only state to never have a state rally, so I did a proposal and started the first ever MI State H.O.G. Rally. I also was privileged to serve as the rally coordinator to both the first and second rallies. I am H.O.G.

I am or have been a member of 26 Chapters around the world - I only join if I have ridden with them in their country, and I love to ride. I came to Harley/H.O.G. in January after a 20 year career as an attorney. I owned a small law firm in Lansing, MI specializing in criminal defense work. I like to say I finally got paroled. I come to you with a lot of excitement and am anxious to get to know all of you. I am in the process of moving to the region, but for now will be doing a lot of flying. I promise to get out to meet you all as soon as I can.

Jim Hoffmann Profile

Married for 38 years to the love of my life, Karen.

Together we have two boys and 3 ½ grandkids which take up a lot of my time and I am enjoying every minute of it!

My passion is to get out and ride whenever I can and weather permits (and sometimes when it doesn't) and to spend time with family at our cabin at Fort Peck Lake.

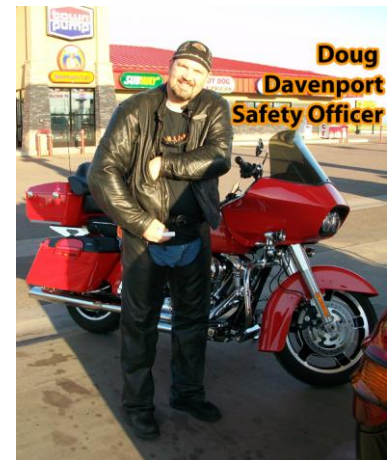


Doug Davenport:

I am 50 years old and grew up in a small town 50 miles south east of Nashville, Tennessee. After moving all over the US for my job, I moved to Great Falls in 2007. I have over 20 years' experience as the top financial officer in various Hospitals and Health Systems, having worked in individual hospitals, academic medical centers and as senior vice president for several for profit health care companies.

Currently, I am the Chief Financial Officer for Benefis Health System and took this position in 2009.

I have been married to my wife Dana for 30 years. We have two daughters and a new grandson. I am an avid motorcycle enthusiast, a member of the Iron Butt Association and enjoy wrenching on my bike. I ride a 2010 Road Glide Custom.



Elizabeth Moore:

As many of you know, I moved up here in '05 from Austin, Texas, and will never go back. My husband David and I LOVE jumping on our '06 Electroglide and zooming up and down the backroads of Montana.

I have two stepsons and three grandchildren, all of whom still live in Texas. I'm an avid photographer and have served as such in the chapter for a couple of terms. This year, I share that duty with Nan Chambers. I've been your Editor for the past four years (this is my fifth), and I hope you're not tired of me yet.

I worked for Dell as a web designer for 11 years before coming here, and currently am an independent sales rep for Sign Pro & Big Sky Imprints of Great Falls.

This month's Safety Report:

Protective Gear

The benefit of wearing protective gear when riding is obvious. It enhances riding comfort by reducing exposure to the elements, road debris, flying insects, and more. It also reduces the risk of injury. How much riding gear to wear is a personal choice, but it is strongly recommended to wear appropriate gear every time you ride, including a helmet that meets DOT requirements, a long-sleeve jacket or shirt, sturdy long pants or chaps, gloves, eye protection, and over-the-ankle boots.

Helmets

A good helmet provides more than vital protection in case of an accident. It also cuts fatigue by reducing wind noise and blast, lessening the impact of the elements, and deflecting bugs and road debris. Three different basic styles are available to meet individual rider preferences: half helmets, three-quarter (open-face) helmets, and full-

face helmets. Before deciding which one you will wear, read about the steps you should take when fitting a helmet.

Half Helmets

Half helmets sit on top of the head, leaving your chin and the sides of your face exposed. Most can be fitted with a face shield for extra protection.

Three Quarter – (Open Face) Helmets

Three-quarter helmets cover your ears and the sides of your face and can reduce wind noise. Most can be fitted with a face shield and/or a visor for extra protection.

Full Face Helmets

Full-face helmets offer the most protection while covering the ears, sides of the face, and chin. Most models feature airflow venting to enhance comfort in warm weather. The face shield can be worn in a raised position to further enhance airflow.

Eye Wear

Wind, dust, bugs, and rain can suck all the fun out of the ride. Protect your eyes by keeping a pair of quality eyewear in sight. Eyewear should offer a variety of options like:

- Convertible goggles
- Wrap goggles
- Mid-flex goggles
- Single lens goggles
- Over-the-glasses goggles

Lenses should be distortion-free, more impact resistant than standard polycarbonate, and enhance visual clarity. They should also have UV protection and repel water, fog, dust, and oil.

Jacket

A sturdy riding jacket protects your upper body and arms against perpetual road demands, whether it's wind, sun, bugs, or debris. Look for US3953712 jackets with venting, removable liners, action backs, and more to enhance your ride.

Chaps/Pants

For comfort and protection in the saddle, long pants are a must. Avoid loose-fitting styles that flap in the wind. Steer clear of tight-fitting pants that restrict movement. Instead, choose comfortably fitting bottoms made from an abrasion-resistant material like leather or denim. For an extra layer of protection and warmth, add leather chaps over your jeans.

Gloves

Motorcycle gloves protect against wind, sun, rain, cold, pavement, and blisters while aiding your grip of the hand controls. Gloves should fit snugly, but comfortably. Fingerless, full-finger, and gauntlet styles provide a range of coverage. A Windproof and waterproof design will keep out the elements and ensures comfort in any weather condition. Ergonomic thumb construction delivers a more natural fit and great comfort and anti-slip grip keeps your hands where they need to be – even in the rain. Padded palm, fingers, and knuckles give extra cushion to absorb road vibrations.

Boots

Proper footwear protects your feet and ankles from hot exhaust pipes and debris that may fly up from the road. Over-the-ankle boots with sturdy heels and non-slip soles are preferred for riding.

Footwear designed to provide better traction on the pavement and to help keep your feet on the pegs is preferred.

For all your protective gear needs see the staff at Big Sky Harley Motor Clothes Department, they will help you get you suited up correctly.

That's this month's safety tip. I'll see you on the road.
Doug Davenport, Safety Officer





The contents of this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of Big Sky Harley-Davidson & Buell or those of the Harley-Davidson Corporation. This newsletter is intended for the entertainment of the Big Sky Harley Owners' Group.

**Big Sky Harley-Davidson
Attn: Big Sky Montana H.O.G.
4258 10th Avenue South
Great Falls, MT 59405**