



H.O.G. SNOUT BIG SKY CHAPTER 2641

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Sponsored by:

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H.O.G. Slop:

Elizabeth Moore, Editor

Well, if you missed the Crawfish Boil, you missed one he** of a party! We had 100 pounds of hot, spicy mudbugs, complimented by corn on the cob, new potatoes, Zydeco music, and good company. Once they went into the pot, you could smell the spices for blocks!

Those of us who knew how, taught the newbies what to do with them once they were ready to eat, and we stood there and ate and ate for hours, till there wasn't any more to eat.

And we don't know what all was in Sam's special recipe hot sauce, but it was quite a hit! I think one of his ancestors might have been a Cajun!



We've had requests to make this an annual event, so we'll see you at the next one!

Director's Notes:

Sam Steffan

Ayee!! We let the good times roll with a little Cajun Music, jiggin refreshment and food. By the time you read this newsletter the Cajun Crawdad feast will be history - just one of the many events that the Chapter has planned for your summer fun.

Believe it or not summer will arrive and the sun will shine. Next on the agenda is the ride to Havre for the June meeting along with a tour of the Havre Underground, followed up with the 2nd Annual Outhouse PokerRun and Bar-B-Q hosted by the Fairfield Gang; then finally, the "Biggie" - the "Last Chance Rendezvous Rally" in Helena on the Weekend of 9 July.

As you can see we tried to come up with something that may just suit each and every member's fancies. For the "Last Chance Rendezvous" a block of rooms are available at the Wingate in Helena, which have to be reserved by June 8th. Also the Jorgenson Inns & Suites in Helena are giving you a great rate, better than Wingate. Both will provide shuttle service to and

AND THE WINNERS ARE . . .

HOG Number: – not present
50/50 – Darrell Chambers
Door Prize Winner: Rick Morin

from their respective motels, from the Lewis & Clark fairgrounds. Remember to watch for the Hogfather flashes to keep you informed of all upcoming events, as some changes may occur due to scheduling conflicts.

Special thanks to all the members who braved the cool weather after the meeting and rode to Butte to support Copper Canyon on their big sale day. We are on a roll so let's keep it going and catch the fast fleeting days of summer. Before we hitting us in the behind again, Wave as you pass a member or me on some of your outings
GIT ER DONE
THE HOGFATHER



Activities

Director's Notes:

Mick Myskewicz

So what's the big deal in Helena at the Lewis and Clark County Fair Grounds July 9th? What's the big deal with a few bikers getting together to share a few old stories and have a few laughs? Here's the big deal...we are opening the event up to other "HOG" chapters as well as other bike "CLUBS" and the general public!

Walk in or drive a cage, who cares, just show up to join Big Sky Harley Owners Group's event. Here is what's different. Most bike rallies are only for bikers, some others only to certain clubs or chapters based on



memberships. Example you must own a Harley Davidson motorcycle to become a "HOG" member. (Harley Owners Group). Now you know why some riders are referred to as HOGS. As you would guess, most of their "events" are reserved only for their members. This is true for most bike clubs. We decided it was time to invite the public to a "OPEN" event. "Why not, we share the highway together"!

Countless times people wave at us from their cages (cars, motor homes trucks). I remember myself seeing groups of bikes headed down the highway, all information. There was always a powerful feeling of admiration and curiosity combined. Couldn't help wonder who they were and were they were going.

Helena is the perfect place and July 9th is the perfect time to get together and meet each other. Big Sky Harley owners Group has invited their sister chapters from Butte, Bozeman, Missoula and Billings to join them in Helena as well as opening up to all other motorcycle clubs and individuals. We have a full day of activities planned. Just getting there is half the fun; then a bike rodeo, where riders and passengers show off their riding skills. After the rodeo we have a poker

run planned around the city of Helena with a chance to win a little cash. Then end up back at the fairgrounds.

All the bikes will be staged for a “ride in” bike show. The winners will be decided by “the people’s choice”. The evening events will be centered around the bands and food/beverage vendors with overnight camping for the brave ones. Come get to know us and get a closer look at the bikes. Best of all no charge to get in! Remember, most of us look “bad”, but we are not. Most of us have big families and little budgets. And most important-- we are your neighbors. NEXT TIME WE PULL UP AT A RED LIGHT TOGETHER AND GLANCE AT EACH OTHER----- MAYBE WE WON'T BE STRANGERS ANYMORE! Sorry fellow members this was not only to remind you what's going on, but more importantly to use as an invitation to family, friends and co-workers, or just cut it out and nail it up somewhere.

Safety Director's Notes: Doug Davenport

Road Conditions

Riding a motorcycle safely and in control means not just better bike handling; it also means judging road conditions. No matter what your experience level, riding on busy roads – which often have poor surfaces – can challenge any rider. According to the Motorcycle Safety Foundation and other instructors, the best attitude to adopt is to become a “life long learner.” Enrolling in a rider’s class from time to time, as well as proactive self-learning are healthy continuing education habits to get into.

With experience, riders learn the importance of scanning the road, and they develop greater awareness of conditions as they ride, including ability to estimate traction, which has been described as “reading” types of pavement. Gauging traction is critical! With only two thin tires, it is more important for riders than drivers of four-wheelers. Recognizing when clean pavement is slick, or offers average traction, or is especially grippy, as well as noticing if it is littered with sand, gravel, oil increases chances for safety and control.

Road Conditions Rider Quiz:

1. If you are caught riding in strong or severe winds, you should:

- a) Steer away from the wind so it pushes you safely.
- b) Steer into the wind as much as possible.
- c) Keep a good grip on the handlebars, a firm planting of your feet on the pegs and keeping your arms and shoulders flexible.
- d) A and C.
- e) B and C.

2. If it is wet or raining, when using the brakes, it is best to:

- a) Pump both brakes alternately.
- b) Pump the front, and lightly tapping the rear.
- c) Use only the back brake, not touching the front brake.
- d) Use both brakes like normal, as long as you are straight up and down. us3275701
- e) Use both brakes carefully, progressively and smoothly.

3. If riding on gravel-strewn roads:

- a) Slightly accelerate to better accommodate clearing the gravel.
- b) Slow down as needed.
- c) Meander back and forth to dodge the bulk of the gravel if you can.
- d) Never use the brakes.
- e) Carefully use the brakes.
- f) A and D.
- g) B and E.

4. When riding on gravelly road surfaces, you should:

- a) Watch the front wheel closely.
- b) Keep your eyes up looking ahead to where you want to go.
- c) Increase your speed slightly.
- d) Decrease your speed slightly as needed.
- e) B and D
- f) A and C.



5. When attempting to slow on a straight section of gravelly road, you should:

- a) Use only the back brakes.
- b) Use both brakes gently.
- c) Pump the brakes.
- d) Don't use the brakes at all.



6. When cornering and you realize you are on sandy or graveled road surface:

- a) Straighten up and go into the other lane as long as no cars are coming.
- b) Try to steer sharply and avoid the gravel.
- c) Try not to use the brakes.
- d) Gently use the brakes.

7. If you see a pothole coming:

- a) Slam on the brakes so you don't hit it too hard.
- b) Swerve as hard as you can.
- c) Steer around it if you can, and if you can't avoid it, hit it as squarely as possible.
- d) Speed up so you will clear it better.
- e) Stand up and pull back slightly on the handlebars to lighten the front end.
- f) Either C or E, depending on circumstances.

8. The following usually offers the best grip:

- a) Weathered and oily asphalt.
- b) New asphalt.
- c) Old dry asphalt.
- d) Concrete.
- e) Could be either B or C.

9. If you have to make a swift evasive turn left, at speed, you:

- a) Press hard on the right grip.

- b) Press hard on the left grip.
- c) You lean left hard and do not press the bars either way.
- d) You press on the right grip, and lean left as well as you can.

10. When riding after dark, the following is the best all-around advice for safety:

- a) Never exceed the speed limit.
- b) Slow down below the speed limit.
- c) Ride normally.
- d) Do not outrun your headlights.
- e) Do not ride after dark unless you absolutely have to.

11. If it starts to rain:

- a) Find a bridge and pull under it.
- b) If there are no bridges, pull over and seek shelter if you can.
- c) At least slow down, especially in the first 10 to 30 minutes to allow the road to get "washed" clean.
- d) Don't do anything different than if it were dry.

12. In worn out, rutted asphalt at intersections:

- a) The center third of the lane is most slippery and oily and so you should stay either to the right or left third.
- b) Even though it is more oily, the center is less worn, and statistically the safest pavement.
- c) It makes no difference which third you ride as long as you are careful.

13. If you hit a big piece of debris on the road:

- a) You should take the bike to a motorcycle shop for them to inspect it.
- b) You should schedule an oil change.
- c) If you don't hear any strange noises, check the bike after the ride.
- d) Pull over and inspect the bike's tires, and undercarriage, etc.

14. Generally, which could potentially be more hazardous while riding:

- a) A front flat tire because steering will be most affected.



- b) A rear flat tire because when the bike is upset, you usually want to use the rear brake, but can't.
- c) It makes no difference, both tires are equally important.

15. When crossing railroad tracks:

- a) Accelerate slightly, while hitting them at a slight angle, if possible.
- b) Attempt to hit them square, and accelerate as you approach them.
- c) Ride over them like normally, and don't worry, modern motorcycle tires easily cross them, and it is no longer necessary to exercise caution.
- d) Attempt to cross the tracks approaching at a 90-degree angle under normal power, or a little slower if possible.

16. When crossing the occasional "metal grate" bridge:

- a) If you speed up a little, it actually smooths out the ride.
- b) Never attempt to cross a metal grate bridge because studies show they are usually too slippery and could cause a fall.
- c) As you approach, slow down as much as practical, neither on the gas, nor on the brakes, and ride it out as straight up and down as you can.
- d) You must be very careful on these types of bridges. Even in dry conditions they can be slippery, and they are extremely slippery when wet.
- e) B and D
- f) C and D

17. If road construction crews are re-routing traffic:

- a) There is no cause for concern; construction managers are licensed by federal highway safety officials, and know how to safely divert traffic safely.
- b) It is advisable to avoid construction re-routes. Riders have been injured and killed, and you should avoid construction zones any time it is possible.
- c) Slow down, use the front and rear brakes gently as you come near, and ride within the posted construction zone speed limits, using caution.
- d) Slow down, use the front and rear brakes gently as you come near, and ride 10 mph below posted construction zone speed limits. Do not worry if motorists seem impatient.

18. What is the best way to handle roadways in process of being resurfaced that have been "chewed up," or made rough by a roadway surface removal machine?

- a) Stop, and find a way to turn around. Do not ride on these surfaces.
- b) Slow down to a speed about half the posted speed limit, and take your time getting through. Do not let tailgating cars concern you.
- c) Absolutely do not use the brakes on these surfaces.
- d) Use the front sparingly, concentrating on the rear brake on these surfaces
- e) Ride slower, stay calm, and treat as rain grooves. Use both brakes carefully and be aware that the handlebars might oscillate from side to side which will get worse with higher speeds.

19. If you encounter long sections of patched or repaired pavement:

- a) Try to stay on the new, patched sections.



- b) Do not ride on the new, patched sections.
- c) Ride wherever it looks smoothest, as long as you are steady, not meandering too much. Don't ride along the seams between old and new sections.
- d) It does not matter what line you take. Road crews must do repairs within inspected standards.
- e) Avoid patched sections. If you have to stop, and turn around, it's OK.

20. When crossing large swaths of painted markings (such as crossways, etc.):

- a) Use extreme caution. Stop and turn around if possible.
- b) These painted sections are super slippery when wet, and while ride-able, should be avoided if possible.
- c) These sections are not as slippery as some think because they have sand mixed in with the paint for traction.
- d) Use the brakes as normal to gently slow down to 15-20 mph below the limit, and otherwise do not worry about the painted sections.
- e) Make sure you are as close to vertical as possible. If you need to use the brakes while crossing through the painted road, use them gently. When wet, these surfaces are more

slippery, but ride-able.

Answers:

1.e, 2.e, 3.g, 4.e, 5.b, 6.c, 7.f, 8.e, 9.b, 10.d, 11.c, 12.a, 13.d, 14.a, 15.d, 16.f, 17.c, 18.e, 19.c, 20.e

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, or contributions concerning the Big Sky H.O.G. Newsletter, please contact Elizabeth at 781-5143, or by e-mail at eemoore@3riversdbns.net.



JUNE 11 MEETING:

The meeting will be in Havre on June 11. We will depart the dealership At 9 and arrive Havre approximately at 11:30. We will join up with the Havre members at the Holiday Shopping center and proceed to the City Park for the meeting. After the meeting lunch will be at the Boxcars. For members who are interested touring Havre underground. The fee is \$12, for groups of over 15, the fee are reduced to \$8. If you are interested please let the

director know prior to the meeting, so reservations can be made.

LAST CHANCE RENDEZVOUS (HELENA) July 9 Meeting:

The July meeting will be held in Helena in conjunction with the Rendezvous.

We will depart the dealership at 9 and hold a joint meeting with the Mile High Chapter from Copper Canyon H/D. The meeting will be held at the Lewis & Clark County Fairgrounds, There will be food vendors available at the fairgrounds. Big Sky Harley Davidson will have demo bikes available for taking demo rides on throughout the day. After the meeting the festivities begin with an in town Poker Run entry Fee \$10. Upon completion of the Poker run, the Bike Rodeo will start, consisting of 5 events. Some require a partner. Trophies will be awarded for 1st and 2nd places in each event.

There will also be a ride-in bike show, with 3 classes: Harley Davidson, Customs and Metric. Voting will be peoples' choice by the general public who are at the Rendezvous. Live Music will finish off the evening. Awards ceremonies will be held at 10 P.M., when poker run winners will be announced as well as the event winners for the rodeo and bike show. Best of all this is all free, with exception of the Poker Run.



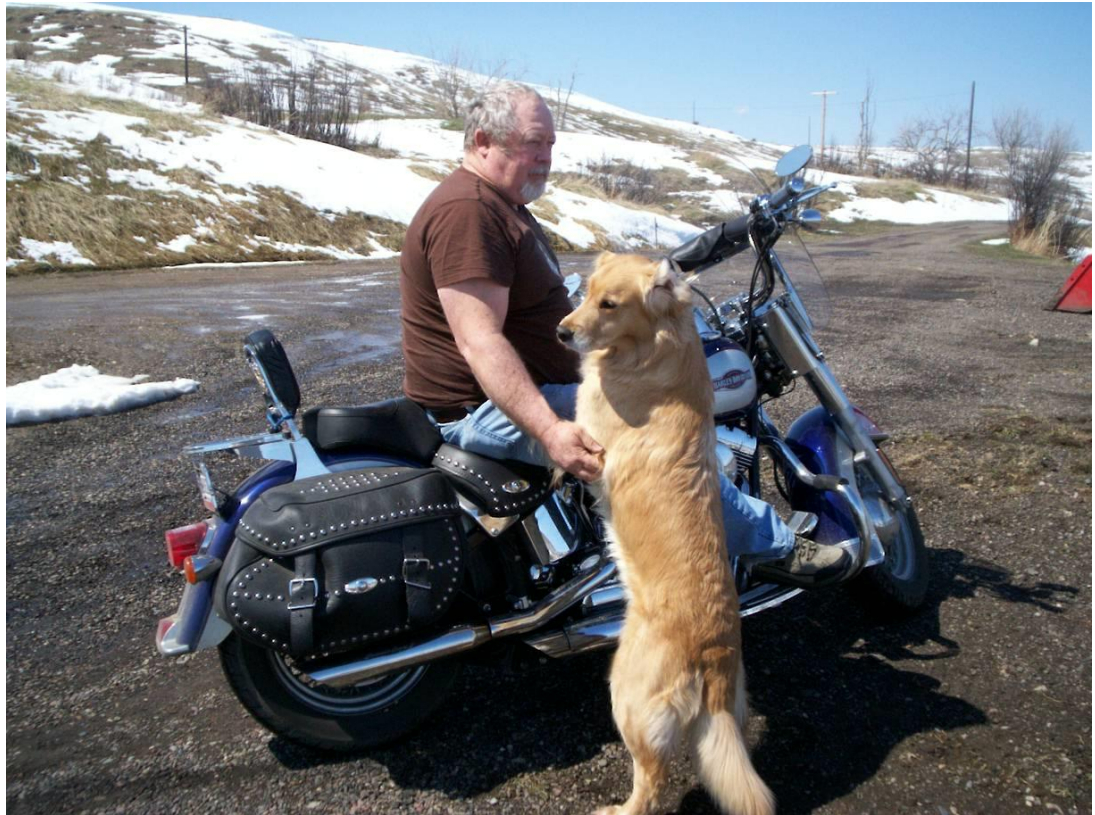
For those of you who like to rough it, camping is available on the fairgrounds for a fee of \$10. Motel rooms are available at the Wingate Inn 406-449-3000 & 406-449-3001 which have to be reserved NLT than 8 June. The Jorgenson Inn & Suites also are making rooms available. Their phone number is 406-442-1770, 406-442-1772. Both lodging establishments will provide shuttle services to and from the fairgrounds for the partiers. Let's all enjoy this event with fellow riders from throughout the state. Big Sky and Mile High can be proud of this summer event.

Profile: Road Captain, Charlie Pepos

Ever wondered who that guy is with the beautiful golden retriever? Read on.....

I was born and raised just Southeast of Great Falls in the Coulee. I've been married to Chris for 32 years.

The winter months find me at the bowling alleys or in the ring training obedience to dogs. I have been employed at the Montana Department of Transportation for the past 22 years and I hold the position of District Bridge Inspection Manager.



I got my first motorcycle at age 6 and graduated to my first Harley the next year. I still have that old Harley Pacer and plan to finish restoring it one of these years.

My youth was filled with cross county racing and hill climbing and any other way one could go wild on two wheels. I currently ride an '06 Heritage Classic Softail and may soon upgrade. May need to get a side car as Bella, my golden retriever, just can't understand why she can't get on the bike and ride with me.

I'm a member of H.O.G. - life is good, let's ride.

...and then there's what happens if there's a little crawfish left over...



mmmmmm...*Étouffée!*

Until next year, Laissez le bon temps rouler!

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.

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