

Nov/Dec 2011

Harley Owners Group, Decatur, Illinois Chapter

'Tis the holiday season

Time flies when you are having fun and I would say we did have some fun this year! BUT, the year is not over yet so let's not miss out on the next five events of the year:

Dinner Ride: Wed. - 11/16 - 6:30 PM - Meet at Whit's End, 3663 E. William St., Decatur, IL. (Wed night is Fried Chicken Buffet)

Officer's Mtg: Tue. - 11/22 - 6:30 PM @ CHD

DECEMBER EVENTS

Breakfast Ride - Sat. - 12/3 - 8 a.m., Meet at IHOP, 1280 E. Pershing Rd.
Dinner Ride - Wed - 12/7 Christmas Dinner at Jimmy Ryan's, 101 S. Main, Decatur, Cocktails 6:00 PM - Dinner 7:00 PM

When you sign up, please indicate your choice of entrée by its number - 1.-2.-etc. The sign up sheet and menu will be posted on the HOG Wall at Co-ziahr's.

We need your ideas and suggestions for the upcoming year. Please drop those in the box by the HOG Wall. Thank you for all your help and support you have given Dean & me this year. We have had a great time and hope you have too. You won't want to miss the Christmas Dinner Ride.

Martha Kendall



Stacey and Ken Long (above), and Ruth Gorden and Rhonda Heinz socialize at the Oct. 15 wiener roast at Tim and Debbie's house.



It's been a great ride with all of you!..... Bill Valentine, Director

What a GREAT ride it has been the past two years. It all started in 2003 when I bought my first Harley from an employee of Decatur Ambulance. Dave Burkham (I had worked with Dave on and off for the past 25 years, him as a paramedic and myself as a Deputy) got me to come to the Decatur Chapter HOG meeting and invited and encouraged me to go on several rides. That was all it took to get me hooked, and they can't get rid of me now. I can't say enough about the people that Erin and I have met and the friendships that have grown out of this group of Harley people.

After being on officer for the past seven years, I don't know what I am going to do now, not being one. I have a couple of special projects that I am going to be doing and of course being a good active member of HOG. I look forward to being able to take an event and concentrate all of my efforts toward that event.

A big THANK YOU goes out to all the members that have jumped in and helped out making this the best HOG chapter that I know of. I know now how a lot of members have done things for this chapter that not a lot of people know is even going on. They do things to make things run smoothly and get things done. What a GREAT group of members that we have and everyone should pat themselves on the back for a job well



ing that, I do have to mention the two biggest supporters that we all have and that is Tim and Debbie Coziahr. Tim is in the background doing whatever it takes to make our events run smoothly and be a big success. He puts in more hours than anyone else so that we can be successful in whatever we are doing. Debbie is always with us with support and encouragement from planning, getting things ready, and participating in all our events. We wouldn't have such a successful chapter without the two of you. Thank you for all the help that you have given to myself and this Chapter.

done. I can't mention all of you in this short article. You know who you are, and we do appreciate all that you do. After say-



Ken Long, former Chapter director, is the new HOG Director for 2012-2013, taking the reins from Bill Valentine

Cozi's Corner..... by Debbie Coziahr

It's hard to believe that another year has almost passed but here we are, making plans for the upcoming holiday seasons, our officer base has shifted a bit and in December, we will be planning the events for 2012, both HOG and the dealership. We invite any and all suggestions for rides, events, cool ideas that you might have. And don't forget our Chapter's Mentoring Award!!

If a member has touched your life in a good way, has helped you and you'd like to show your appreciation, submit your story. The idea behind this was born with Bill Valentine and it is done in Joe Dubree's name because Joe was always helping others, promoting the HOG Chapter and the dealership. On



Debbie gets in costume for the October Halloween social!



our HOG wall, you will see the plaque and winners from last year.

If you haven't been in for awhile, you'll see some new additions to CHD staff- Neil in parts, Chris, Blaine & Kyle in service, Josh and Robin in Sales .

We are kicking off a new event on Nov. 16- Motorcycle Boot Camp! It is designed to reach out to new future riders- guys who have an interest in riding but don't really know a lot about the bikes yet. If you know anyone like that, tell 'em to check out our website and event calendar for details!!

We are hosting another Harleys Heroes event on Nov.12- the DAV will be here from 9-2 to meet with veterans and their families. They have many stories of how they were able to help a vet find benefits that they may have earned but haven't received, so pass the word and help us help our veterans!!

The past few years we have had

a HOG appreciation party after hours for all of you, offering specials, food, drink and music- with so much going on during the holidays, we have decided to simply send you a coupon to use at your convenience (through Dec. 24).

We will be closed on Thanksgiving day and then the season kickoff starts on Friday, Nov. 25 through Sunday, Nov. 27. We will have lots going on that weekend !! On Dec. 3, Santa will once again be in the house!!!! From 11-2, he will be here having his picture taken with any kid- young or old, little or big! The pictures are free to you and we hope to see you !! Also that weekend, Dec. 1-3 is Ladies Days and Mens Days is Dec. 16-18. As always, we'll have lots of cool stuff happenin' PLUS the HOG Chapter will be wrapping on the weekends throughout the holidays. Starting Jan. 1, we will go to winter hours (just January and February) and on Sunday, March 4, we will move back to regular hours, open seven days a week.

From all of us to all of you- we wish you a wonderful holiday season and we look forward to seeing you!!

Tim and Debbie

At the October Social costume party.....



Dean Kendall was named the funniest.....



John and Becky Flanders were the scariest.....

and Ken Workman and Jack Lamont were the most original!

Thanks, Martha, for a creative twist on the Halloween Social!



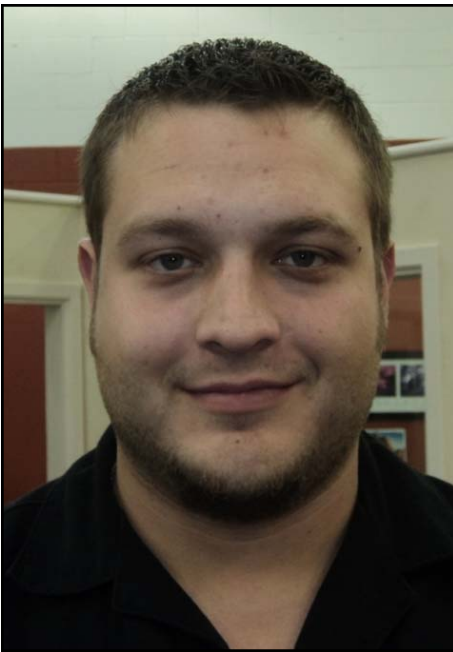


IT WAS AN EASY RIDER kind of night Nov. 5 as HOG members watched the classic motorcycle flick at Decatur Ambulance Service's training center. Thanks to all who attended and enjoyed the night.

More from the October Social



David Swartz and Lon Herring came in costume....as themselves, while Brenda and Jen took on new identities for the night



On the Job at Coziahr Harley-Davidson!

This month we are putting the shine on Bryan Booth who got married Saturday, Nov. 5!!

Booth started at CHD in June 2006 as a service writer. From there, he moved into the parts department as our Chrome Consultant and more recently, he has moved across the building into the sales department. Before CHD, he worked at Wabash Depot Antique Centre and O'Reilly Auto Parts. He was a fulltime student at RCC also. In his off time, Booth likes to fish, ride, do yard work, fight fires and he does EMS training.

Booth's family is new- he and Ashley Lamb will be married November 5th. Judging by his actions, it is fair to say that he is very happy and excited about this new chapter in his life!

Booth rides a 2001 FXSTD-I and his favorite ride/road trip is to Moonshine and MVP's in Falmouth. They go a couple of times a year with the same group and it's always a great trip!

The question is "When did "it" start for you ? And Booth answered "When Lynn adopted me". Did we mention that Booth has a sense of humor?

He has a few tattoos and the inspiration for them are designs that he likes and some are of fire-fighting, which is a passion of his. He has been a volunteer firefighter for seven years now.

Asked about his PHD/PACE/MBA training at CHD- he has done it all!!!!

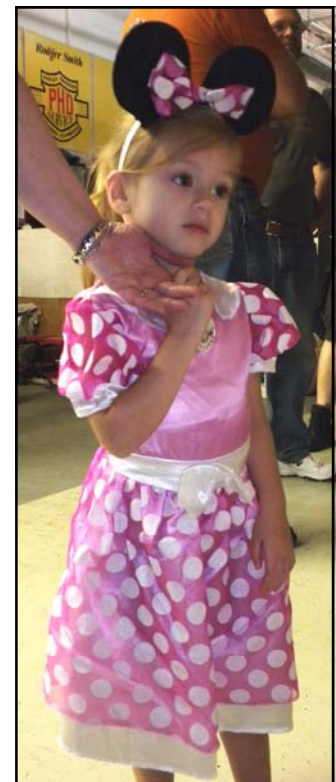
A little time now may save grief later...

The latest issue of *HOG* magazine has two articles ultimately pertaining to safety. One called Group Dynamics covers all aspects of group riding. It is a good refresher. Everyone has to ride their own ride.

But as we follow the guidelines, it can make group riding safer and more enjoyable for everyone. The second article called Tire Talk gives a lot of information on tire care and safety. I check tire pressures weekly. With Jan and I both riding, I have put four tires on in one year. This can really get in your pocket. But on the other side of the coin is how far are you will

ing to push your luck. I am as guilty as anyone for trying to get as many miles out of my tires as possible. In the end, tires are cheaper than a trip to the Emergency Room. With winter and storage of bikes and other gas powered equipment upon us, be sure to check for leaks and drips. Oil is an issue that can be fixed in the spring. Gas leaks are another matter. All gas leaks should be addressed immediately. A small drip with a small spark and you could have a disaster. So over the winter, check your stored equipment and extra gas cans for leaks.

*Ride safe,
Rob*



Addison Kuster came to the social dressed as Minnie Mouse!

Meeting Paul, Jr. and Mikey

I called Bill Valentine to see if he wanted to go with me for a chance encounter to meet Paul Teutul, Jr. of “American Chopper” fame. He was going to be at the Farm Progress Show to unveil a custom motorcycle he had built for DeKalb Seed Company. Bill did not hesitate to answer “yes”, even when I told him I would be by to pick him up at 6:00 am!

I had information that the public unveiling would be at 7:30 am at the main gate of the Farm Progress Show. I was also told that if I reported to the Emergency Medical Services tent an hour before that, I could get a good close-up look at the bike. I guess that was a perk of providing all the ambulances, equipment and personnel to the show free of charge.

Bill and I arrived well ahead of time and were directed to a plain white trailer pulled by a non-descript black pick-up truck. We visited with two Illinois State Police motorcycle troopers who were there to escort Paul, Jr. and the DeKalb bike. It was enjoyable to talk to the troopers about their job, Harleys and looking over the police mounts. At about 7:00 am, two golf carts pulled up with Paul Teutul, Jr. and Mikey Teutul. I introduced myself to Mikey and asked for his autograph (he’s taller than you would think). He was happy to oblige. I then went over to Paul, Jr. to talk with him and get his autograph. While friendly, I think he was more focused on the business at hand. I had them autograph one of the IDOT “Start Seeing Motorcycles” yard signs. Pretty cool!

We then waited to see the DeKalb bike come off the trailer. Bill and I were two of only a dozen or so people there, and that included other people associated with “American Chopper” and the Discovery Channel camera crew. A wheel was poking out the back of the trailer. It was skinny, so I thought they may have loaded the bike backwards. Wrong!



Dave Burkham gets an autograph from Paul Teutul, Jr. at the Farm Progress Show


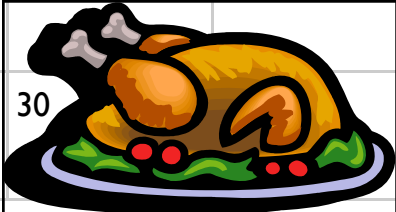
Paul, Jr. backed out of the trailer and that was the back wheel. It was as tall and skinny as the front. Quite a difference from the “fat rears” usually seen on “American Chopper” builds. Paul, Jr. Designs was going for a retro look of the old Harleys with skinny wheels, long narrow tank and small solo seat. The green bike with “woody” accents did just that, even though more low slung and healthier sounding than the oldies.

Bill and I took lots of pictures while Paul, Jr. let the bike warm up. He then left for the main event with his police motorcycle escort. Only after he had left was I told that we were not to approach the TV celebrities. Oh well...I have my autographed souvenir!

Dave Burkham



November 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 HOG Social 6:30, CHD, Thanksgiving potluck	9	10	11 	12 CHD: Harleys Heroes Event 9a-2p
13	14	15	16 Dinner ride meet at 6:30, Whits End, Decatur	17	18	19
20	21	22 Officers meeting 6:30, CHD	23 	24 CHD-Closed	25 Gift wrapping begins at CHD	26 Gift wrapping at CHD
27 Gift wrapping at CHD	28	29	30			

December 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Dec 1-3 Ladies Days at CHD	Dec 16-18 Mens Days at CHD		1	2 Gift wrapping at CHD	3 Breakfast ride, IHOP; Santa at CHD 11-2 Gift wrapping
4 Gift wrapping at CHD	5	6	7 Christmas dinner ride, Jimmy Ryan's, 6 pm	8	9 Gift wrapping at CHD	10 Gift wrapping at CHD
11 Gift wrapping at CHD	12	13 HOG Officers planning meeting, 6:30 pm	14	15 	16 Gift wrapping at CHD	17 Gift wrapping at CHD
18 Gift wrapping at CHD	19	20	21		23	24
25 CHD Closed	26	27	28		30	31