

The Squealer

The Official Newsletter of the Sarasota H.O.G. Chapter #0725

January – March, 2012

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From the Chapter's Director, Barry Tarleton

The Florida riding season is here, the holidays are over and the weather is perfect. Ride often and ride safe. The 14th Annual "Great Teddy Bear Run" was another great success. This year's new destination at Twin Lakes Park was the perfect place for a group to gather to support Kids by the Sea. The music was great, the vendors were diverse, and the food choices better (we plan on working towards having quicker service next year). Kudos to Sharon for her year-long effort and her countless hours of planning (and pulling out her hair) to make our Chapter's premier event such a success. And, a special "Thank You!" to all of the volunteers who helped her. There will be an appreciation get-together at the Budweiser facility in Lakewood Ranch for the volunteers on January 25th from 5:00 to 8:00 pm. *Born to Ride* had a great article and some pictures which can be found on their website. Princess Sharon has already begun to plan next year's 15th Annual Great Teddy Bear Run, and she is looking for many more volunteers and people willing to head up some chairman positions to help this growing event continue to get better every year. Congressman Vern Buchanan accepted my invitation to lead our ride on his Harley. He loved the entire event and has put our event on his schedule for 2012. Thanks to the Sarasota Sheriff's Department for the escort and keeping it a safe and fun ride for all.

At the December Membership Meeting a few new ideas were presented, including an incentive system of points that will start next year. Points will be awarded for volunteering at Chapter events, attending a meeting, etc. Awards will be given out for points accumulated. Membership Director Chris Shultz will be at the Hot Dog Hut the first three Saturdays in January (the 7th, 14th and 21st). Bring your National H.O.G. Membership Card and renew your Chapter membership. All renewals receive a wooden nickel for a free hot dog, and the first 100 renewals will get a H.O.G. beverage coozie. The Chapter also voted to donate \$500 to the All Faith's Food Bank.

Anyone interested in becoming a Road Captain should contact Keith Crawford, our Chapter's Head Road Captain at 371-0040 for more information.

The 2012 Annual Joint Picnic for the Sarasota and Manatee Chapters is set for May 20, 2012. Put it on your calendar and try to be there for some fun competition between the chapters at the Farm Bureau on Palmer Boulevard.

The Chapter meetings are the second Saturday of every month at Rossiter's. The officers meet at 9:30 am, followed by a general membership meeting at 10:00 am. Please attend and bring your ideas.

I hope everyone gets out to attend the 14th Annual Thunder by the Bay Motorcycle Festival on January 6th through 8th. Rossiter's Harley-Davidson is once again a major sponsor in what has become one of the largest motorcycle rallies in Southwest Florida, with proceeds going to the Suncoast Charities for Children.

Ride Safe...Ride Often...and support our dealer.

Barry Tarleton, Chapter Director

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What's New at Rossiter's?

I hope everyone had a great Christmas and a Happy New Year. I hope to see everyone at Thunder by the Bay this year. We are having a Thunder party on Saturday, January 7th, with a Big Inventory Reduction Sale in the MotorClothes Department. We'll have vendors, food, music and much more. Come



in on or before Jan 7th to get your 3-2-1 Cash giveaway ticket. \$600 will be given away at from each dealership (Rossiter's, Manatee River H-D, Haps, and Sarasota Ford). For your best chance buy a ticket or 3 at each dealership. Right now the odds are pretty good!

Rossiter's next bike night is scheduled for Saturday, January 21st from 5 to 9 pm. We'll be giving away a Budweiser Cooler donated by Will from Straggler's, plus much more!

I hope everyone has a safe, healthy and prosperous New Year!

Lori Rossiter-Sinclair, General Manager of Rossiter's Harley-Davidson

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 2010



The 14th Annual Great Teddy Bear Run, by Sharon Sieradzki, Teddy Bear Run Coordinator and Ladies of Harley Director

A HUGE heart felt thank you to all who participated in this year's 14th Annual Great Teddy Bear Run! If you were there, then you know it was a great success. Everyone seems pleased with the new changes; the extended 14.5 mile police-escorted ride ending at our new venue of Twin Lakes Park and with Gecko's serving up the food. And again, to all those who so graciously and generously donated your time to volunteer...congratulations on a job well done! We ended up with 1,800 NEW Teddy Bears...no "gently used" bears were received this year. Nicely done! The official count was 757 bikes, and some additional 200+ arriving at the venue. The Charity, KIDS by the SEA, was presented with checks totaling \$8,000.00! In today's tough economy we are all to be commended for a job well done. Remember, no time or effort is too small and to volunteer is not enough. Like the saying goes "It took volunteers to build Noah's Ark, and professionals to build the Titanic". You all made many children smile this Christmas season as they come to the treatment centers and see Santa there surrounded by bears AND then they get to sit with Santa and take a bear home! They are distributed at the treatment centers through out the year, so every bear counts! I hope you all had the Merriest Christmas Holiday surrounded by family, friends and memorable traditions ~ Be Blessed! Be sure to mark your calendars for January 25th from 5:00 to 8:00 pm at Gold Coast Eagle Distributing's Hospitality Suite for the volunteer Thank You Party...you earned it!

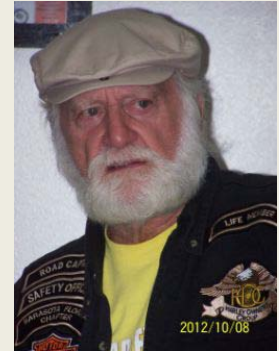
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Safety Article

by Tony Renkert, Assistant Director
and Chapter Safety Officer



First of all I want to thank the Sarasota HOG Chapter for honoring me with the position of Assistant Director. I am looking forward to working with Barry, the Chapter's Director, and all the officers and members of HOG. I have a few programs in mind that I will discuss with Barry and the Officers that I hope will stimulate more attendance on the rides and meetings.

As Safety officer, I am open to all questions concerning safety issues on rides or, for that matter, anything else. Safety is an issue that all members have to be aware of and any thoughts that you have about safety should be brought up at a meeting or with me personally if it is about another member. Remember, when it concerns you or your fellow riders it concerns all of us.

I know there are many ideas out there about where to go on rides. Call our Head Road Captain, Keith Crawford, with your ideas. Also, think about being a Road Captain. The more captains we have, the more rides. When you see me roaming around and you have a suggestion, give it to me and I will pass it on.

Last word ---- Be aware! Keep those eyes on the road and be safe.

Tony Renkert



It's Time to Renew Your Chapter Membership By Chris Schultz, Membership Director



Hard to believe but 2012 Sarasota HOG Chapter membership signup is just around the corner. This year we have added an extra incentive.....the first 100 people to sign up will receive a functional and very attractive HOG koozie. Everyone who signs up in the month January will also receive a wooden nickel good for a free hot dog at the HOG Hut or add a dollar to that and get a delicious brat! I will be at the HOG hut on January 7th, 14th and 21st from 11:00 till 1:00, so stop by and sign up!

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