

# Muletown News

March / April 2009

**Mark your calendars!!!**



## **Muletown's Annual Pancake Breakfast**

Saturday April 25, 2009

7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Park Place Catering

All you can eat pancakes, sausage and breakfast beverages for just \$5.00.

### **AND DON'T FORGET:**

This year anyone who purchases a ticket and has it stamped the morning of the breakfast will receive a 10% discount off of all in-stock motorclothes, parts and accessories at Harley-Davidson of Columbia. *This offer will be honored from April 25th through May 9th and is not valid towards the purchase of motorcycles and the cost of labor. This is a one ticket per customer offer!*

Tell your friends and family, help sell some tickets and get a discount!

## **GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION**

Harley-Davidson of Columbia

Sunday May 17, 2009

1616 Harley -Davidson Blvd.

(931)540-0099

Refer to their website for up to date details:

[www.hdcolumbia.com](http://www.hdcolumbia.com)



## **Muletown HOG Chapter #2033**

### **Officers**

**Director - Bill Ison**

**Assistant Director - Arnold Conner**

**Secretary - Jock Floyd**

**Treasurer - Ken Steverson**

**Activities Coordinator - Eddie Campbell**

**Head Road Captain - Jerry Knox**

**LOH Director - Hope Conner**

**Membership Officer - Jay Morgan**

**Newsletter Editor - Tricia Shearn**

**[www.muletownrider.com](http://www.muletownrider.com)**



## Who'll Stop The Rain?



Welcome to Spring??? Are you kidding? This cold and rainy weather is just killing me and let's not mention putting a real damper on the beginning of our riding season! Shouldn't it be about 80 degrees and sunny by now? I guess I really shouldn't wish time away, but man I'm ready for some warm weather! Oh well, I guess that sooner or later we'll be complaining about how hot it is and will be hoping for some cooler temp's.

Even though ol' Mother Nature has slowed us down a little we've still got plenty of rides and events planned for the next several months. Our Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser being held this year on April 25<sup>th</sup> is just around the corner (don't forget we've got a ride planned after the breakfast!), the TN State HOG Rally is coming up in early June and HOG's Million Mile Monday is coming up pretty soon as well. Let's not forget that our sponsoring dealer, Harley Davidson of Columbia will be holding their Grand Opening Party on Sunday, May 17th. Details are still being worked out, but one thing's for sure, there's a huge celebration planned so mark your calendars!

Isn't "Riding and Having Fun" what it's all about? In 2009 the Muletown Officer Group wants to reach out and share that objective with you - let's see how far we can go, together. Each of our officers are passionate, enthusiastic and committed to creating great, safe rides, creating real friendships and making memories. Consider us as your architects of good times, drawing up a blueprint for you to "Ride & Have Fun".

If you have suggestions for rides or destinations, please get in touch with one of the Officers, or check out the Ride Suggestions page on our website. We always appreciate your help and it definitely makes our jobs a lot easier to give you what you are looking for from your membership in the Chapter.

Keep an eye on the calendar for upcoming rides. Hopefully Spring will finally show her true colors!

*Stinger*



## **EVENTS CALENDAR**

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<b>April 25<sup>th</sup></b>	Pancake Breakfast: Park Place Catering; Columbia, TN (Open Event)
	Chapter Ride: Five Guy's Burgers & Fries – Brentwood, TN (Closed Event)
<b>May 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	Chapter Lunch Ride: Miss Mary Bobo's - Lynchburg, TN (Closed Event)
<b>May 16<sup>th</sup></b>	Chapter Lunch Ride: Beacon Light Restaurant – Bon Aqua, TN (Closed Event)
<b>May 19<sup>th</sup></b>	Chapter Meeting: Park Place Banquet Hall – Columbia, TN (Open Event)
<b>May 30<sup>th</sup></b>	Chapter Lunch Ride: Fall Creek Falls – Pikeville , TN (Closed Event)
<b>June 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup></b>	State HOG Rally: Murfreesboro, TN
<b>June 13<sup>th</sup></b>	Chapter Lunch Ride: Paris Landing Restaurant – Paris Landing, TN (Closed Event)
<b>June 16<sup>th</sup></b>	Chapter Meeting: Location TBD (Open Event)
<b>June 26<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup></b>	National HOG Rally: “Club H.O.G. OKC”; Oklahoma City, OK
<b>June 27<sup>th</sup></b>	Chapter Lunch Ride: Emerald's Restaurant – Waynesboro, TN (Closed Event)
<b>June 29<sup>th</sup></b>	Million Mile Monday: “Lick It Like You Mean It 2” Ice Cream Ride (Closed Event)

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**CLOSED EVENTS** – Are those chapter events which are open to chapter members and one guest per member.

**MEMBER EVENTS** – Are events that are open only to H.O.G. members.

**OPEN EVENTS**- Are those chapter events which are open to chapter members, national H.O.G. members and other guests as desired.

***DID YOU KNOW?*** *The Muletown HOG Chapter donates all the leftover food from our monthly meetings to Hope House. Arrangements for the delivery of this food is graciously taken care of by Cheryl Craig (our caterer) on our behalf. Just another way that Muletown gives back to the community.*

## **Cranking up the Thunder!**

Well folks, winter has passed, with the exception of locust and blackberry winter, and it's time to enjoy what we all have in common. It's time to ride! So far in '09 we have managed to have three chapter rides, and they have all been fun, provided you don't mind getting a little moist.

However, the weather will continue to get better and better so that we can spend our weekends doing what 1,000,000 plus H.O.G. members do. **CRANKING UP THE CHROME THUNDER!!** Since there haven't been very many good days over the past few months to ride, I would suggest giving the ol' hog a good going over while getting ready to ride. One subject, as many of you know, that is very dear to me, is checking your tires. The springtime weather has brought a few storms, and with it, storm debris on the road. Along with checking your tire pressures, it is also a good idea to notice the condition of your tires for wear as well as the possibility of something stuck in them. I'm sure most of you own a motorcycle jack, but if you don't, I feel it is a wise investment. You can pick one up at TSC or most auto parts places for usually less than \$100.00. Getting your bike up on a jack is the easiest way to check out those tires. Also, it makes it easier to polish the chrome beast to a lustrous shine while you have it up and easier to get to. This year promises to be another good one, with the rides we have scheduled to date, and with the ones yet to be scheduled. We have a few new Road Captains, as well as the old ones, and we are looking forward to new destinations, new roads, new friends, and the common bond we all share. Make plans to make as many events as you can. You'll be glad you did!



See you on the road,  
**Jerry**

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The fundraiser for the Maury County Animal Shelter was a huge success ! We delivered approximately 265 pounds of pet food ! A large amount of treats, toys, cleaning supplies, pet beds, cat litter, pet carriers and more ! My car was packed from the front to the back...I could not see out the back window ! The employees were very grateful for our efforts to help the animals.

A huge thank you to all those who donated !! Our Muletown Chapter Rocks !!

Hope Conner



## **FOOD FOR THOUGHT**

By Ken Steverson

One of my favorite motorcycle publications is Motorcycle Consumer News. The January “Proficient Motorcycling” article by Ken Condon was entitled “How Crashes Happen”. I’m going to highlight portions of his article in hopes that it will entice you to read the entire article.

Right off the bat Mr. Condon makes a clear distinction between accidents and crashes. He prefers to use the term “crash” rather than “accident” because the term “accident” implies that the mishap was out of their hands” and beyond anyone’s control when in fact most crashes are preventable. Given that there are so many crashes that involve only a single motorcycle, I think his use of “crash” is appropriate.

The bulk of the article discusses nine conditions that contribute to crashes. Below is a brief summary.

**Inattention:** Ever been riding along and all of a sudden you don’t remember passing a familiar landmark? We’ve all done that and that’s a perfect example of inattention. Failure to recognize the subtle hints of your surroundings can lead to serious trouble

**Distractions:** We are so fortunate to live in such a beautiful section of this great country, beautiful scenery abounds and begs for our attention. A large flock of wild turkey, a great view of a valley stretching out before us, or a water front view can take our attention away from the road ahead. We all need to remember, “Where the head looks the bike goes”. If taken in for too long that great view can quickly turn into a visit to the roadside ditch or worse.

**Looking Away:** Ever look at your GPS, change channels on your radio, or adjust gear while still moving down the highway? Sure you have, we all have. Each time we give our attention to something other than the road ahead we are increasing odds of something bad happening.

**Fatigue:** We all push the limits from time to time. Fatigue leads to poor decisions and poor decisions lead to problems.

**Rushing:** “Feeling rushed can lead to impatience, which often results in bad decisions. Impatience can “cloud your judgment; it can also cause a rider to tailgate or make unsafe passes.” Bottom line “Never get in a hurry on a motorcycle”

**Unfamiliar Bikes:** Every bike has distinguishing characteristics. After riding a Fat Boy for several years, I recall hearing Arnold talk about how differently his new Street Glide handled. It pays to be particularly cautious when riding an unfamiliar bike. I recall a situation from a few years ago when a police officer was killed while riding home from a dealer after buying a new bike, he simply ran off the road.

**Group Riding:** Riding with a group sometimes pushes less experienced or skilled riders to ride beyond their skill level in order to keep up with the group. I think Muletown HOG does a great job of stressing the need for riders to “ride their own ride” and making new riders feel comfortable when riding with the group. Our safety briefings are also an important part of every group ride and we need to take them seriously.

**Overconfidence:** An honest appraisal of one’s riding skill level is essential to staying out of trouble. Riding a motorcycle has inherent risks and compounding that risk with an over inflated opinion of one’s riding skills is a crash waiting to happen.

**Nighttime Riding:** When riding at night the ability to recognize road hazards is seriously compromised. You are riding beyond your light any time you exceed 50 miles per hour. It should be readily apparent that slowing down at night is necessary for safe riding. In addition, we are far less visible at night. Does your riding gear make you more visible to others when riding at night?

## Top 10 Reasons to Ride by Eddie Campbell

10. The smell of freshly mown grass in the springtime.
9. The breath of cool fresh air at the higher altitudes on a hot summer day.
8. The camaraderie of good friends and good food at an out of the way eatery.
7. The feel and sound of a powerful V-twin as you open the throttle.
6. The smell of a wood fire late in the fall as the trees turn to red and gold.
5. Waving at the passing rider knowing that they too are a member of the universal brotherhood.
4. The exploration of a new and different road that takes your breath away.
3. The small children in the yards waving with excitement as you pass by.
2. A line of a dozen bikes that are perfectly choreographed riding in formation and knowing that you are one of them.

### And Number 1,

1. You don't have to have a reason! Just say, **Screw it, Let's Ride.**



Well here it is 2 months later already. Man time flies! As we get ready for the April meeting, we have 60 members signed up. A few of you received your new cards and I have mailed out the rest. Some people have noticed that there are 3 years at the bottom of the card. We figured we would go "green" so next year when we renew at the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting, we will just punch the year out. I'd also like to thank my little subcommittee for their help and great ideas, my wife Judy, and Rodney and Patty (Schmitt). They make this a lot of fun! So far!! In this month's newsletter the featured "Muletown Bio's" will be Eddie Mann and Terry Fox, looking forward to reading those. Additional members will be featured in the months ahead so don't forget to turn in your bio. We have also typed up an invite letter for the Dealership to enclose with each new bike they sell. (Please see below) At the last meeting I mentioned something about 100 members, at 60 we have a ways to go, so let's make it 70 to 75 and go from there. So don't forget to invite your friends along for a few rides. If anyone has ideas for the membership crew, please let me know. I'll keep this short. See you at the meeting and remember: Always drink upstream from the herd! Catch you on down the road. RIDE SAFE and HAVE FUN!

Jay Morgan



## MULETOWN HOG CHAPTER #2033



HARLEY DAVIDSON OF COLUMBIA  
1616 HARLEY DAVIDSON BLVD.  
COLUMBIA, TN 38401  
(931) 540-0099

Chapter Membership  
Total as of April 2009

**-60-**



**Welcome!**  
**Our newest members:**

Denise Earlywine  
Rick Payne  
Danny Hogan

Hello and Congratulations from The Columbia Muletown HOG Chapter on the purchase of your New Dream Machine!

We all hope you have many Great Rides planned out for the future.

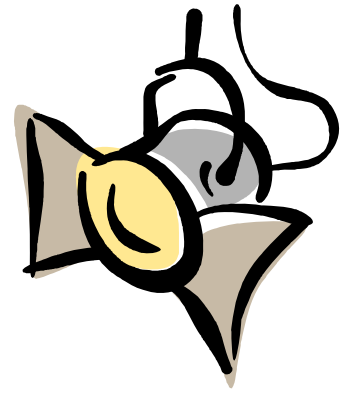
Soon you will be receiving your National HOG Card and when you do we would like to invite you to join our Local Chapter for a few rides.

Please check us out on the Muletown website for more information [www.muletownrider.com](http://www.muletownrider.com) We hope to see you soon, until then Have Fun and Ride Safe!!

Sincerely  
Muletown HOG Chapter #2033

# *This month's spotlight on...*

**EDDIE MANN**



WHAT WAS YOUR FIRST BIKE? Step through Honda 90

WHEN AND WHAT PROMOTED YOU TO START RIDING? You could ride before drive – 14 for bike license.

WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR MOST MEMORABLE MOTORCYCLE RIDE / TRIP SINCE YOU HAVE BEEN RIDING?

Round trip to Glacier National Park Montana

WHAT WOULD BE YOUR DREAM MOTORCYCLE RIDE / VACATION? Go around the rim of the Grand Canyon.

MOST FRIGHTENING EXPERIENCE AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO HELP OTHERS PREVENT IT:

Going onto 'on ramp' in construction zone on I-40 in Knoxville. There was no merging, I thought it was a merge and came close to going into the side of a tractor trailer.

CURRENTLY RIDES: 2006 Ultra Classic  
2000 Screamin' Eagle Road Glide (Orange & black)



Eddie seldom rides alone. On the left is a picture of Eddie and his wife Lori with their 1974 Honda 550 4 cyl. and on the right a current picture with the bike they ride now, a 2006 Ultra Classic.





**TERRY FOX**

WHAT WAS YOUR FIRST BIKE? Honda 90

WHEN AND WHAT PROMOTED YOU TO START RIDING? Watching “Then Came Bronson” – my idol.

WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR MOST MEMORABLE MOTORCYCLE RIDE / TRIP SINCE YOU HAVE BEEN RIDING?

Bryson City ride last summer

WHAT WOULD BE YOUR DREAM MOTORCYCLE RIDE / VACATION?

Ride down the Keys

MOST FRIGHTENING EXPERIENCE AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO HELP OTHERS PREVENT IT:

Going too fast on some ‘S’ curves on Cross Bridges Road, meeting a tractor trailer and having to lay it over as far as I could, without going under the truck. SLOW DOWN AROUND CURVES!

CURRENTLY RIDES: 2004 Electra Glide Classic



## Harley Declares May Women Riders Month

Courtesy of [Harley-Davidson](#)

Tuesday, February 03, 2009

This May the rumble from those April showers will continue a little longer as thousands of female riders will be hitting the open road to celebrate the first-ever Women Riders Month.

Throughout the month of May, Harley-Davidson is staging a series of events designed to celebrate the number of women who have already hit the open road on two wheels, as well as to encourage even more women to get behind the handlebars. Two of the larger Harley-Davidson Women Riders Month initiatives include:

- Activities for the 3rd Annual International Female Ride Day on Friday, May 1, 2009, which was founded by Vicki Gray of Motoress.com. The day celebrates women of all ages who take life by the handlebars by encouraging them to ride. Harley-Davidson plans to stage special rides in New York City and Milwaukee to commemorate International Female Ride Day. Harley-Davidson dealerships, subsidiaries and suppliers across the world have been encouraged to plan rides in their areas.
- Encouraging 100,000 women to learn to ride either by taking the Harley-Davidson Rider's Edge New Rider Course or the Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) Basic RiderCourse training program. Several Rider's Edge New Rider Courses and MSF Basic RiderCourses are scheduled for the first weekend of May. To kick-off this initiative, a Guinness World Record will be set for the number of women motorcycle riders trained in one weekend during the first weekend of May. For information on the Rider's Edge New Rider Course™ or a MSF Basic RiderCourse visit your local Harley-Davidson dealership or log on to [www.ridersedge.com](http://www.ridersedge.com) or [www.msf-usa.org](http://www.msf-usa.org).

"Women have been enjoying the sport of motorcycling for the last century," said Leslie Previsch, women's outreach manager, Harley-Davidson. "In the past two decades, we've seen a dramatic increase in number of women embrace the sport. By declaring May as Women Riders Month, we're honoring all of the women who enjoy the freedom and adventure found in taking control of their own handlebars."

In the past 20 years, the percentage of women who have purchased new Harley-Davidson motorcycles has tripled, with women now accounting for nearly 12% of new Harley-Davidson motorcycle purchases.

"We know there are thousands of women who are interested in the sport, but aren't sure where to start," said Previsch. "We are encouraging women to learn how to ride a motorcycle to increase the women rider community and help them along their journey."

During Women Riders Month, the Motor Company also plans to showcase several other programs it has designed specifically for women, including:

- Harley-Davidson dealerships will also be hosting women-only Garage Parties™ which provides a non-intimidating environment for women to learn more about motorcycling.
- Distributing We Ride, a comprehensive and inspirational brochure on what a new rider or a woman interested in riding needs to know about getting into the sport.
- Share Your Spark™: A Guide to Mentoring is a tool kit the Motor Company developed for current and aspiring riders featuring information on how to be a resource and support system to others during their motorcycling journey.

For more information about Women Riders Month, including the opportunity to participate in the special International Female Ride Day rides, visit your local Harley-Davidson dealership or log onto [www.harley-davidson.com/womenriders](http://www.harley-davidson.com/womenriders).