

# Muletown News

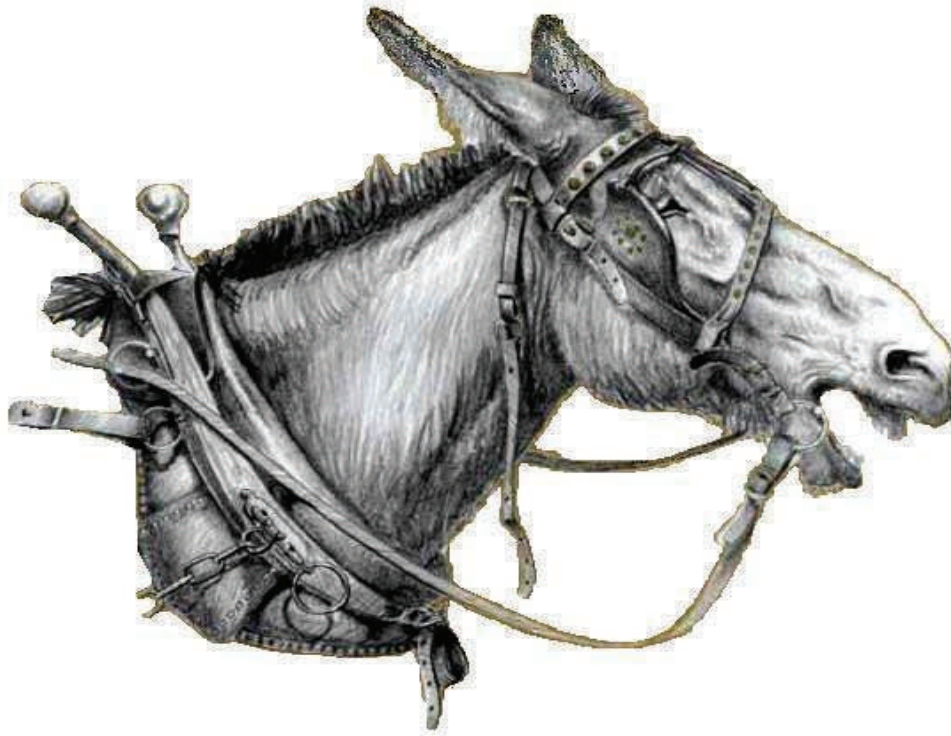
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Volume 1

Issue 4

## September /October 2006

*Harley Owners Group®*



*Muletown Chapter 2033*

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

Sponsored By:  
Harley-Davidson of Columbia  
1028 Nashville Hwy.  
Columbia, TN 38401  
(931) 540-0099

## Chapter Officers

Director - Bill Isom

Assistant Director - Gary Shearer

Secretary / Webmaster - Arnold Conner

Treasurer - Ken Steverson

Membership Officer - Linda Darch

Head Road Captain - Ron Miller

Randy Kinsey - Safety Officer

Newsletter Editor - Hope Conner

Ladies of Harley - Cindy Sanford

Photographer - Darlene Mayfield

Membership Total As Of  
September 18, 2006 Is:  
- 78 -



Congratulations to Frank & Cindy Sanford on the birth of their grandson, Franklin Paul weighing in at 7lbs. 9oz. and 20 1/2" long!! ("Little Ernest T")

## Classifieds

100th Anniversary '03 Heritage Springer  
Gunmetal (Blue)

12,000 miles, Dealership Serviced

One Owner, Excellent Condition

\$18,900 (\$17,900 for Muletown Member)

Call Andy Rutter at 931-215-5200

Mark  
Your  
Calendars!  
December 16th

Muletown  
Chapter  
Christmas  
Party







### *2006 Tennessee State HOG Rally*

#### **Check Out Your Knowledge Of Harley History**

1. What were the first names of the Harley Founding Fathers?
2. In what year did AMF take over Harley Davidson?
3. In what year did 13 members of the Harley Davidson management team purchase the company from AMF?
4. The First Edition "Silver Fat Boy" has a connection to a very historical event. What is that event?

4. The development of the first atomic bombs. The bombs were known as "Fatman" and "Little Boy". The bombs were silver in color and had 7 distinctive yellow rings. The 1990 "Fat Boy" was silver in color and had 7 yellow rings painted throughout the bike, one on the ignition ring, one on the ignition cover, one on the cam cover, two on the tank, and two on the head covers. Also the Fat Boy emblem resembles a U.S.A.F. wing emblem. The design of the bike was intended to recognize a very difficult period of time in American history.

1. William and Walter Harley and Arthur Davidson
2. 1969
3. 1981

**Answers**



#### **Who Am I ??**

**Please e-mail your response to  
Hope Conner - [hsconner@msn.com](mailto:hsconner@msn.com)**

**First correct answer will receive a  
\$20 Gift Certificate from  
Harley-Davidson of Columbia**

**Winners name will be posted on the Chapters website**

# *Calendar of Events*

*September 23rd - 24th - Fall Creek Falls Ride (Overnighter)*

*September 29th - October 1st - Vietnam Veterans Traveling Memorial*

*September 30th - Florence, AL Lunch Ride (Old Rocking Chair Restaurant)*

*September 30th - Freedom Ain't Free Ride ([www.mwbfoundation.com](http://www.mwbfoundation.com))*

*October 7th - 8th - Joe Wheeler Park Overnight Camping Trip - Rogersville, AL*

*October 8th - Dierks Bentley Miles & Music Ride (HD Cool Springs)*

*October 14th - 15th - Shiloh / Pickwick Landing Overnight Ride*

*October 17th - CHAPTER MEETING*

*October 21st - Party at HD-Columbia with Trent Tomlinson*

*October 22nd - Chapter Ride - Destination Unknown - Stay Tuned!*

*October 28th - Lynchburg, TN Ride*

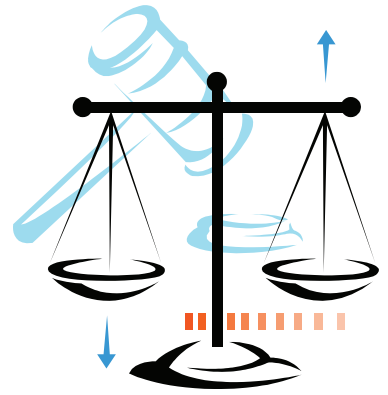
*October 29th - Riding Practice - 1:00 p.m. UAW Hall, Spring Hill, TN*

*November 21st - CHAPTER MEETING "Big 50/50 Drawing Giveaway"*



## “Quality Is Better Than Quantity”

By: Gary Shearer, Assistant Director



By the end of July 2006, the Muletown Officer Team began to realize that our chapter membership had dropped significantly after the renewal period. Just about ½ of our membership renewed its dues in July. As an officer you immediately feel depressed wondering “what did we do wrong”? “Why did so many people not renew their memberships”? The answer to that question is one of the eternal questions. There are probably as many answers as there are members who didn’t renew. To all those who didn’t renew, we miss having you around!

There are some positive aspects to this issue as well. “What” you maybe saying to yourself? “How can losing membership be a positive for the chapter”? It is a wonderful goal to hope we reach 200 or 300 members some day, but what is a member if you never see them at any chapter events? What reason would anyone have for joining the Muletown HOG Chapter if they never planned to participate in any activities? The answer is NONE!! There is no reason to be a member of Muletown HOG unless you want to participate. That is what we are seeing this fiscal year!

We are somewhere around 75 members (give or take a few) as of September 18<sup>th</sup>. On any occasion it is common to expect to see any one of 50 regular attending members. Whether it is a chapter meeting or an overnight weekend ride, I have seen around 2/3 of our membership on a somewhat regular basis. That is un-heard of in HOG chapters. There is probably not a chapter out there that regularly has over ½ of its membership at a chapter meeting. In September, we have about 1/3 of our membership joining in on an overnight trip to Fall Creek Falls. That is awesome!!!!!!

If we only had 20 members in the chapter and all 20 of them looked forward to the chapter events and participated as often as they could.....it would be considered a successful chapter. The people in this chapter are what makes the chapter successful! You all have stuck with us thru the growing pains. You continue to come out and participate even after the ride before turned out terribly. You support our charity efforts to make sure the chapter is always represented well.

To each and every Muletown HOG Chapter member: Thank You! Thank you for being apart of the family. I am sure I speak for each and every officer of this chapter when I say what a pleasure it is to serve this HOG chapter. Together we will continue to make this chapter better and better.

Ride and Have Fun!



# 1st Annual MDA "Amazing Run"

By Cindy Sanford, Ladies of Harley Officer

Our 1st annual MDA Amazing Run was a success. Everyone I have talked to enjoyed it. For those of you that didn't get to make it on Saturday I can now fill you in on what we had planned.

We had a run consisting of Road Blocks at each stop. We gave out the first clue at the dealership to find the Flat Creek Market. Once at Flat Creek Market you rolled 5 dice to get the best score possible (30). If you didn't like the score it would cost you \$1.00 per roll to better it. Then you got the clue to the second stop. The second stop was the UAW Hall in Spring Hill. There you had to do the "BOX". Having points taken away if you put your foot down or went out of the box or dropping the bike. If you didn't like that score you could pay \$5.00 for 20 points. 25 points being the top available for that Road block. Then you would get your next clue to find the top of the hill at Maury County Park. There you had to answer 5 questions for the top score of 25.

Then you would get your last clue leading you to the picnic area, and a great picnic. The picnic was catered this year by Nolens BBQ. We had pulled pork, potato salad, cole slaw, and corn bread. Frank Sanford made his baked beans. We also had hot dogs and chips which were donated by Kroger and desserts from the Fresh Market in Brentwood.

If you missed out on all of the fun of our 1st annual MDA Amazing Run and 2nd Annual Chapter picnic ask anyone that participated to tell you what you missed. However, we still have T-shirts for \$15.00 and MDA pins for \$5.00 for everyone to purchase. Just look for Mary Steverson, Hope Conner, Romy Billman or myself to purchase them. Hopefully we will see you all at next years 2nd Annual MDA "Amazing Run".

We would like to thank the following businesses for their generous donations:

Harley-Davidson of Columbia  
Muletown Chapter 2033  
Consolidated Electric  
Fresh Market  
Kroger  
Coca Cola of Columbia, TN  
Sam Hill Restaurant  
Rebel Hill Florist

A 'Special Thanks' to Jenny Newman, Jay Billman, Frank Sanford, Arnold Conner, Ken Steverson and Gary Shearer for helping out the Ladies of Harley for this event.

## Winners of the 1st Annual "Amazing Run" were:

1st Place—Blake Gordon  
2nd Place—Terry Fox  
3rd Place— Bruce Tardiff  
Last Place—Linda Darch



## Rugby, TN Ride

By: Ron Miller

Eight bikes and twelve riders thirsty for some adventure left Columbia HD under threatening skies. Teresa (Yamaha Girl) told us to not worry, that the clouds would dissipate in an hour or so--no need for rain gear. Trusting her because she is a little different from the standard girl Harley rider, no one geared up. The farther to the East we traveled, the darker the skies. She repeated her prognosis at the first gas stop. We believed her. About ten minutes down the road we wondered why we had believed a girl who rides a Yamaha. Bad mistake.



Ken Steverson started out with us, but he had to get back home. At Cookeville he split off from the group and made his way back to Columbia and Mary. He and Mary were missed at the subsequent festivities in the afternoon and evening.

Apart from the rain, and the fact that we couldn't enjoy the curves that Larry Best had planned for us because of the wet roads, and the fact that we were cold and hungry, it was a nice enjoyable ride to Rugby. It was especially nice once we got there and got out of the rain. Surprising how a dry restaurant and hot food makes it more fun.

Once there, and having been fed, we made a run for provisions. We were directed to a "market" a few miles from the settlement. It was a market all right, a beer market. They had plenty of beer, and a few bags of potato chips when we got there. When we left they had some beer left and no potato chips. After a three hour porch party I finally got everyone rounded up and started toward the restaurant for dinner at 7:45. The restaurant closed at 8:00 and we just made it. No alcohol was sold at the restaurant, but they were nice enough to let us bring our libations with us. I heard the next morning that they were reconsidering this policy. The restaurant was within stumbling distance of the house where we were staying, so there was no problem with dropped bikes on the way back from dinner. After dinner the porch party recommenced in earnest. Several there that night fully appreciated the reason for the rule that "what happens on the road, stays on the road."

Eventually everyone made it to bed and to sleep. Jerry Knox was fortunate enough to have drawn room number four--the haunted room. He made it through the night without any spooky sounds coming from his direction. The next morning Teresa couldn't find her Yamaha. First thought was that someone had stolen it, but then the comment was made that with all of those Harleys around, why would anyone even think about stealing a Yamaha! Teresa was not amused but concerned that she had lost her ride home. Here she was, stuck in the middle of nowhere, with nothing but bears around and she had lost her transportation--even if it was a Yamaha. Eventually the wayward bike was found hiding behind a nearby bush. Not going to name the culprit, but Joe Hopper later made some inculcating remarks and was noticed smiling at poor Teresa's discomfort.

Continued on the next page....

## Rugby, TN Ride—cont.

Joe redeemed himself by leading us on a great ride back home after breakfast. With Nancy up behind him giving directions, we got away about 10:00. This was Sunday morning and what a difference a day makes. The sun was out big time. It later turned out to be the hottest day of the year. Coming through Murfreesboro at about 4:00, I wondered if I would have enough tread left from the searing pavement to get back home. After a seven hour trip on some great Middle Tennessee roads, we all got back home safely.

It was a good trip with good fellowship, good food and drink, and some great riding after the weather cleared. Thanks to Larry, Ginny and Joe and Nancy for ably leading us and orchestrating the accommodations.

Can't wait for the next one.



## LESSON LEARNED

BY: RON MILLER



Fall is almost upon us. That means the leaves will soon be on the roads. We all know that wet leaves are as slick as ice and should be avoided. But until a couple of years ago I never realized the danger that dry leaves on the roadway presented. Not so much from the leaves themselves, but from the objects on the road that the leaves conceal.

About two years ago I was on a familiar road with a lot of curves and was approaching an almost 90 degree curve to the left. I saw some leaves on the curve ahead and decided to slow, even though I knew the leaves were dry. Good decision. At the apex of the curve, I felt a sharp whack and the bike started skittering to the right toward the side of the road. The lean angle had increased to the point that I was about to go down on my left side. I was able to get it back upright, but that meant that I was no longer turning with the curve, but was still headed for the side of the road, but in an upright position this time. I immediately leaned it over to the floorboards on the left side and kept it on the road. All of this takes a while to tell, but the actual elapsed time was probably less than two seconds.

When I got to a safe spot I looked at my front tire and found a scuff mark about the size of a golf ball on the left sidewall. A few days later I saw loose rock in the curve that had come from an intersecting driveway. The rocks had been camouflaged by the leaves and not noticeable on the approach. Had I been going a few miles an hour faster, or had the rock been a little larger, the outcome may not have been as favorable.

Now when I approach a curve with leaves, I approach with the idea that objects may well be concealed by the leaves and adjust my speed accordingly.

As a former military pilot, one thing I remember most is the adage that pilots must learn from the mistakes of others, as no pilot will live long enough to make all the mistakes himself. That is, sooner or later, something he didn't learn from others will be his undoing. This is especially apropos to our sport. Lesson learned.



# Group Riding Handbook Update

By: Randy Kinsey, Safety Officer

Muletown Members,

I'm glad to finally say that our Group Riding Handbook will be handed out at this month's chapter meeting. I want to thank everyone for their patience and encouragement as I struggled through this project. I would like to give a special thanks to; Gary & Ruth Ann Shearer, Ron Miller and Darlene Mayfield for all their help and input.

I hope that you will find this handbook helpful in answering your group riding questions, if not please ask.

Let's all ride safe and have fun

Randy Kinsey  
Safety Officer



## October 7th Overnight Camp Out Ride

Come join us for an overnight camp out ride to Joe Wheeler State Park. We will be heading out Saturday, Oct. 7th, at noon from the Dealership and returning Sunday. Since this date is quickly approaching I wanted to give everyone as much time as available to make their plans to come and have a great time.

Joe Wheeler State Park is located in Rogersville, Alabama about a 75 mile scenic ride from the Dealership. The Park is located on Wheeler Lake and has a large campground, for those who want to rough it but it also has Cabins and an Inn for those who's idea of roughing it is "no room service." After arriving and getting checked in and set up they are serving an all you can eat seafood buffet at their restaurant. So it won't be beans from the chuck wagon for all the "cowboys & girls on their iron horses." After a belly filling meal let's gather around the campfire and swap lies and stories as the sun sets over the trees and into the lake. Just remember as always, "What happens on the road stays on the road."

If this helps I will be pulling my toy hauler down on Friday so if anyone has any gear they would like carried down I can tote it for them as long as I get it before I leave. If you need any more info the web site for the park is [www.joewheelerstatepark.com](http://www.joewheelerstatepark.com) or you can contact me by e-mailing [gran-patenn@aol.com](mailto:gran-patenn@aol.com) or calling me at 931.215.4807

I'm looking forward to a great time and turnout so check your calendars and "Let's go Camping."

Randy Kinsey

## From The Secretary's Desk....

By: Arnold Conner, Secretary / Webmaster



**MY, HAS TIME FLOWN!!!** With almost a year and a half now passed since our very first Chapter meeting at the Sports Page Restaurant, I can't help but reflect back at everything that has taken place in such a short period of time. Doing this has led me to one conclusion, **THE MULETOWN CHAPTER ROCKS!!!!**

Not wanting to get too sentimental about all of this, but I personally have made some friends for life. Regardless of where our travels or journeys lead us, I think we can all say the same thing about being a part of this Chapter. Another reality that I have taken from this experience is that we live in an absolutely beautiful part of the world. The satisfaction of owning a Harley-Davidson motorcycle and being able to enjoy and share with my friends the same sights, sounds, and smells of Middle Tennessee is awesome. We are truly lucky!

Our Chapter is successful because of the membership. All of us coming together to share in the same interests and to have fun. Have we struggled some? Absolutely. It was a challenge getting this thing off the ground, while also trying to accommodate as many of our members likes and dislikes as possible, both equally and fairly. But from our mistakes I think we have learned what does, or does not work, and we'll only be better in the future. We're not perfect, but I'll say this one thing for sure, we have some very dedicated people trying to make sure that **EVERYONE** enjoys this experience!

Speaking of the future, please don't forget to visit the Chapters website often. We are continually making changes to the "Calendar" and "Muletown Update" pages. If there's anything you would like to see added to the site, please do not hesitate to let me know. My goal is to keep the membership as informed as possible.

Till Next Time, Ride Safe and Have Fun!