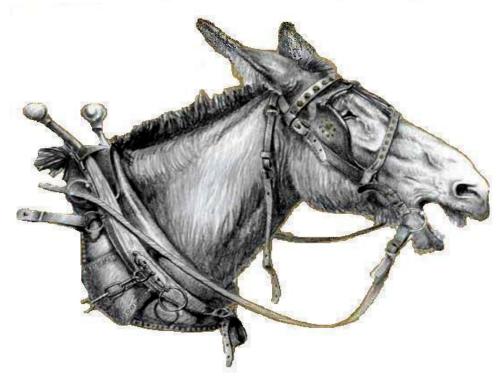
Muletown News

April / May 2007

Harley Owners Group®



Muletown Chapter 2033

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



www.muletownrider.com

Chapter Officers

Director - Bill Isom
Assistant Director - Arnold Conner
Secretary - Randy Kinsey
Treasurer - Ken Steverson
Activities Coordinator - Eddie Campbell
Head Road Captain / Safety Cord.- Ron Miller
Newsletter Editor - Hope Conner



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 28th - Pancake Breakfast

May 12th - Chapter Lunch Ride, Winchester, TN

May 15^{th -} Chapter Meeting

May 15th-17th - Lynchburg, TN Motorcycle Rally

May 16th - Ride for TN Children's Home

May 27th - Chapter Lunch Ride

May 29th – June 2nd TN State HOG Rally, Nashville, TN

June 9th - Chapter Lunch Ride, Manchester, TN

June 19th - Chapter Meeting

Express Yourself - In The Company Of Others By: Arnold Conner

The Harley Owners Group is much more than a motorcycle organization. It's one million people around the world united by a common passion: making the Harley-Davidson dream a way of life.

Not everybody rides a Harley and that's probably just as well. Not everybody that does chooses to join HOG, and, that also is probably just as well. However, those that do reap the benefits of an organization that provides exceptional opportunities to it's members. Being a HOG member is an active pursuit. Exactly *how* active you are is up to you. You're completely free to go where you want to go, and do what you want to do. But whatever level of involvement you seek it's nice to know that there are many ways to get there. One of those ways is through your participation in this Chapter.

The Muletown Chapter is going strong. We're well into our second full year of existence and continue to look for ways to improve upon making the Chapter work for it's membership. The Chapter Officers Board and Road Captains work hard to plan rides and other events and are always open for suggestions, and volunteers to help out. We continue to build upon our successes and learn from failures. We realize that not everyone can participate in every planned ride or event but hopefully you'll get the chance to do soon, if you haven't already. Remember, exactly how active you are is up to you, but we certainly want everyone's participation.

Welcome to all of the new members. This year alone the Muletown Chapter has grown by approximately ten (10) members and we have ninety-three (93) total as of this writing. We hope that you enjoy the experience of belonging to the Harley Owners Group. I would like to encourage everyone to check out the National HOG website for more information about the benefits provided by being of HOG.

You're mission is simple, if you choose to accept it and that is: "To Ride and Have Fun"

Ride Safe!



Why A Local H.O.G. Chapter?

By: Gary Shearer

Why do people join a local H.O.G. chapter? This maybe a very difficult question to answer. There is possibly as many answers as there are members in a chapter. I wanted to write this article to challenge each and every member to be able to answer this question for yourself. Look in the mirror and truthfully answer this question in your own words. Can you do it??

Riding a Harley has many different levels of enjoyment. For me, one of the highest levels of enjoyment is being around others who love the sport and the brand as well. As the years go by, my motorcycling priorities have changed. First it was the look of the bike! My first Harley (1999 Heritage Softail) had every known chrome part Harley made and many the after market companies made as well. It was truly decked out and a beautiful bike it was. Then I moved on to power! I bought my second Harley (2001 Screamin Eagle Road Glide) because it had all the power you could want already built into the bike from the factory. Never fear however. I found more power building accessories to add as the years went on. Then I moved on to my riding abilities. I wanted to be able to ride my bike as well as possible. I watched some folks ride their Harley's at the State Rally one year in a riding competition. I knew I wanted to be as good as they were. Then I bought my wife her first Harley (2005 Softail Deluxe). I wanted her to be able to enjoy everything I did about the riding experience. But through all of these changes in myself, I have always belonged to a local H.O.G. chapter and have been active in helping do whatever I could.

Now that I am not the assistant director any longer, I believe I can impact the chapter even more than I did before. It is so easy to be involved and pitch in when nobody expects it from you. You don't have to be an officer of a chapter to be involved. Just showing up to support a ride or event tremendously impacts the success of a local chapter. So many people are devoting their free time to create a fun atmosphere for all of us. You don't have to make any decisions or lead any rides to be helpful and supportive.

If you are reading this article, then you must be a Muletown H.O.G. chapter member. Look over the calendar of events set up on our chapter website. We have rides planned on many different dates and times. Some are "pick-up" rides and some are chapter "planned" rides. If you looked in the mirror and decided you too love to be around others who love the sport and the brand, join the chapter on an upcoming event. It's really all about the people and fun stuff we do together. Don't sweat the small stuff! All you have to do is "Ride and Have Fun"!!!

ALCOHOL LIMITS

There's no plainer way to say it: Riding a motorcycle when you're not in complete control of your mental faculties is not smart. Using alcohol (even a small amount) or other drugs (including even certain prescription drugs and over-the-counter medications such as antihistamines) can have a deadly effect on your ride.



DANGEROUS DECISIONS

Data collected by the Motorcycle Safety Foundation shows that almost 40 percent of riders killed in motorcycle accidents had been drinking. And only about one-third of those were considered legally intoxicated. The rest, though below the "legal limit," had consumed enough alcohol to diminish their skills and impair their judgment – which ended up costing them their lives.

A MATTER OF TIME

Contrary to popular belief, drinking strong coffee, splashing cold water on your face, or "getting some fresh air" will not help you sober up. These things may all help you temporarily feel less impaired, but the only thing that eliminates alcohol from your system is time. That said, there's only one sure way to keep alcohol from affecting your riding ability: If you're riding, don't drink—period.

BAD CALL

It's easy to tell yourself, "I'm only going to have one drink". But after that first drink, it becomes easier to tell yourself "one more won't hurt". With each successive drink, your self evaluation abilities diminish—not to mention your riding skills and judgment. The best way, therefore, to avoid end up drinking more than you wanted to is to ask for a soft drink instead of that first serving of alcohol. Better yet, just leave the bike at home if you or others are going to be drinking and arrange for a designated driver. Don't risk your own and others' safety by putting yourself in a situation where you may lose control of your better judgment.

Know Your ABCs (ABCs of Touring)

Knowing your HOG® benefits should be like knowing your ABCs. Take, for instance, the ABCs of Touring ... it's not as if any of us really need an extra incentive to ride. But there's something thrilling about exploring the back roads and happening upon a town that begins with the letter "Z." It's the little discoveries that make riding so fulfilling. Not to mention, all the great prizes you could win.



It doesn't take much to take part in the ABCs of Touring. All you do is collect photos of yourself and your Harley[®] holding a current edition of *Hog Tales*[®] in front of "official" signs for various entities – cities, counties, states, countries, etc. – and you could be eligible for great prizes.

Check your *HOG Membership Manual* for more details on how to take part, or visit members.hog.com



2004 Yamaha V Star 650

White Close To 10k miles Extended Warranty and Maintenance Warranty

Added Features: Saddle Bags Windshield Sissybar Garage Kept

Contact: Teresa Hamrick

yahama61@yahoo.com

Women's Leather Jacket

(Similar To Harley Basic Skins Jacket) Like New Size 20 \$100.00

Contact: Ken Steverson

kwsteverson@charter.net

Anyone interested in submitting a classified in the next newsletter please send your information to Hope Conner hsconner@msn.com