

SOUNDER



March 2005

A Publication of the New Port Richey Harley Owners Group #1027
www.nprhog.com

From the Director

Greetings, and Happy HOGging to you all. I can't believe it's almost March already. Your Officers have been very busy this month working on ways to make the Chapter better, and run more smoothly to the benefit of all. Sometimes in the daily grind of running a Chapter that has grown as fast as ours, we forget that not everyone understands what the mission of this Chapter is, and what its goals are.

Our Chapter Charter as put forth by the National H.O.G. is very simple and can be summarized in one sentence. This Chapter exists as an organized group of members for the sole purpose of riding safe and having fun, to the benefit of its members. That's it. We all paid 15 bucks for the privilege of belonging to this Chapter, and have elected a group of Officers who have a fiduciary responsibility to manage the business affairs of our members. Although we support, and raise money for two very worthwhile organizations locally, we are not a charitable giving organization that donates Chapter funds for charity. It is not up to the Chapter Officers to make an arbitrary decision to donate money belonging to its members.

Administrative Officer

I would like to welcome Nancy Maker to our cadre of Chapter Officers. Nancy has accepted the newly created position of Administrative Officer, and is going to help us streamline the flow of communication to our members. She is going to start with our email database, which has been a constant irritant because we have so much wrong information. Once she has mastered that, she will be taking drink orders at the general membership meetings, plus anything else we can think up. Just kidding Nancy, and welcome aboard.

continued on page 2

Angelus Poker Run

Once again our annual poker run for the Angelus House is here. Mark your calendars for April 10th! One of the major components we are currently working on is sponsors. It only costs \$250.00 to be a sponsor of this event and we need them NOW! We already have some of the people and businesses who have supported us in the past 2 years on board for our third year. Our goal is to exceed the past years and be able to do an even better job for this year.

Another important part of this effort is the donations of items we can use for door prizes and auction. Gift certificates from restaurants, gas stations, grocery stores, clothing shops, just about any place you can possibly think of will help make our poker run the best it can be. We are growing every year and it's the word of mouth about how much fun we have that is making that happen!

Last year we raised \$4,500.00 with 125 bikes participating. This year we want to double all of that. It can only be done with your support. If you have not been to the Angelus House I strongly suggest you pay them a visit. You will come away with the understanding of why we try to make their lives just a little bit better. There will be sign-up sheets for volunteers at the next two chapter meetings. Please help out in any way you can! If you can't make a meeting but want to help, please contact me via e-mail at tincup1175@hotmail.com or call (727) 224-2070.

Ride safe and watch out for your friends!

Ken Roberts

Mentoring

Many of the returning Officers for this year, including Your Humble Chapter Director, will not be returning to office next year. It's not that we don't love the job and especially the pay, but we think that the Chapter needs new leadership and fresh ideas every so often. To that end, we are implementing a kind of mentoring program to make sure that we have a smooth transition that is seamless to the General Membership. If you have some interest in learning the duties and responsibilities of a particular Officer position, please let me know. As a reminder, all positions, other than Director, are voted upon by the Membership. The Director is appointed by the Dealer.

Angelus Poker Run

April 10th is the date of our biggest fundraiser of the year. We have a semi-friendly competition each year with the local Honda Gold Wing Chapter to see who can raise the most money for the Angelus House. Our first year of existence they beat us. We raised a paltry 1,000 bucks. Last year we raised \$4,500, and killed them. This year we hope to beat that record by a very long way, but we need your help to do it. We need Chapter volunteers for everything from soup to nuts. So we need a lot of you nuts out there to volunteer your time to make sure this event is successful. There will be sign up sheets at the general membership meeting. If you can't make the meetings, contact Ken "Rocket" Roberts, either by email or at 727-224-2070, and he will find you a fun job for the poker run.

Open Forum

Most of you know that we run our meetings by a relaxed version of Roberts Rules of Order. We do this only to keep the meetings from becoming chaotic and to keep us focused on one thing at a time.

Starting next month we will be adding an agenda item called "open forum". The idea is that if you have questions for the Officers, or comments, this would be the place to ask them. We ask only that you don't show up with a laundry list, and that you keep it focused on Chapter business. It would also be helpful if your comments are factually correct. If you are not sure if something is factually correct, you should check with one of the Officers first.

Website

We have decided to re-model the website and to add some extra buttons to click on, to find stuff. That's the technical explanation I got anyway. The bottom line is that we are changing servers, streamlining the navigation, and the site is going to be down for a few days, although I'm not sure exactly when. To be noticed is to be forewarned, as they say. It might be a good idea to print out the ride calendar, for example. One idea that seemed very popular with the Officers was to post all of the incriminating party photos in one area of the website unless the "victim" was willing to make a large personal donation to the Chapter. I had to veto that idea since most of the incriminating photos have me in them.

Ride safe, have fun, and mind your manners.

Larry

New Members

Welcome to all our new members! Glad to have you riding with us!

James Bramlett	Kelby Marlett
Toby Caroline	John McCormick III
David Cole	Mercia Middendorp
Claire Cummings	Brad Owens
John Fair	Todd Parsons
Gordy Harper	Curtis Singleton
Robert Kaminski	Jim Singleton
Anne Leach	John Wall

NANCY A. MAKAR
M.S.W., L.C.S.W.,
Owner/Clinical Social Work



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Hand Signals and Group Riding.

A few days ago I was approached by an NPR HOG member and asked, why all the emphasis on hand signals while we are riding on a group ride? The answer... of course it was safety. As I have said in the past it lets everyone in the group easily communicate without verbal cues. The response I got was, "Is it really worth risking loss of control of your ride while taking one hand off the handlebars to signal a turn when we have blinkers to use, especially inexperienced riders and people who are not familiar with riding in a group?" If taking your hand off the handlebars to signal a turn is going to cause you to lose concentration on operating your ride and your surroundings please don't do it! Use only your blinkers. Likewise, if coming to a stop let your brake light do the work.

However, while on a ride, we must communicate other things besides turns and stops and this is where hand signals play an important role in group riding. (I have incorporated a list of basic hand signals further along in this article for your benefit.) For inexperienced riders you may want to practice your hand signals on solo rides and become comfortable with removing one hand from your handlebars.

I am sure those of you who ride regularly with us have at one time or another been thankful for the riders in front of you for signaling a hazard in the road, avoiding damage to your ride and/or you and others surrounding you. Or having to stop to rest or use the restroom. Or if your like me and have to fill that small sporty gas tank.

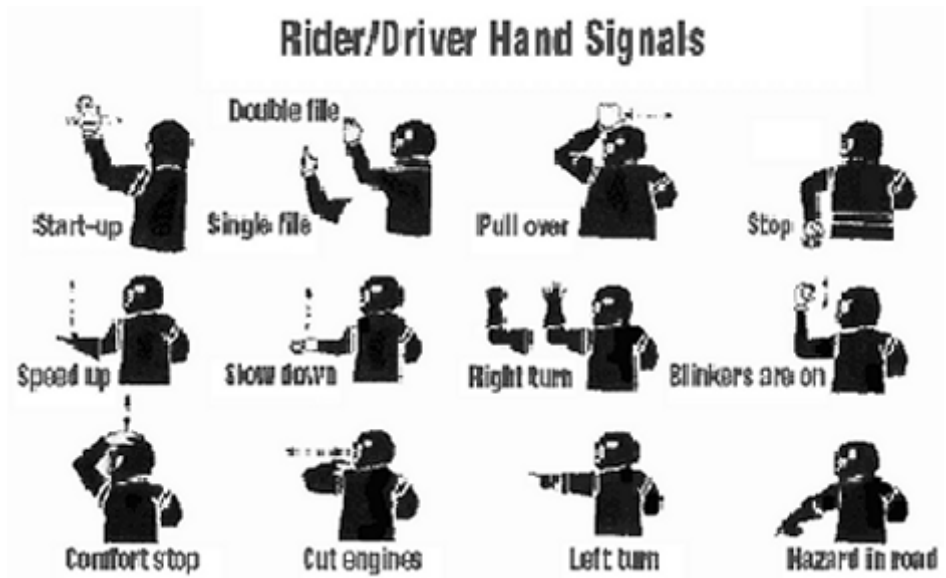
Hand signals are used by our group for everybody's safety. Please practice them, become comfortable with them and most of all, use them on our group rides.

Ride Safe and Enjoy!

Penguin

Any questions, comments

or suggestions contact me at jimhoos@msn.com or call (727)534-0883.



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A Word From Our Sponsor...

Brothers and Sisters, Spring is here!! So much is happening. Brandon H-D had their anniversary party February 19th. I hope a few of you were able to ride over to visit. Gulf Coast will be having their 3rd anniversary party this year. The date is not set in concrete yet, but it looks like it will be held sometime in May.

Here in the store we have new bikes arriving every week. Check out the new V-ROD Street Rod, it's really sharp looking and don't forget the 15th Anniversary FATBOY. Wow! Something else for sure! Our new line of Spring H-D motorclothes is also arriving daily.

The dealership has started something new in the Service Department. We will have a Service writer, two technicians and a Detailer available on Sundays. Service will be on a first-come/first-serve basis. If your bike needs scheduled service you can now drop it off on Sundays saving you the inconvenience of having to come in early or late (maybe saving you from having to take time off from work) during the week. We are always trying to make it better for YOU at Gulf Coast H-D. Don't forget.....we will top off your fluids anytime between scheduled services.

Some new faces have been added to our staff. Please stop by and say hello to Dave, a new service writer and Denise and Linda in Motorclothes.

Hope you get to ride out to Daytona during Bike Week. Until next time, I look forward to seeing all of you around the store.

Big George and the Gulf Coast Gang

Don't live in the dark!

Moved? New phone number or e-mail address? We can't read minds and don't get visions. PLEASE let us know if your information changes. Send your updates to Dick Tauber, Membership Officer. You can e-mail him at rtauber@pasco.k12.fl.us or snail mail him at New Port Richey, FL HOG, c/o Gulf Coast Harley-Davidson, 5817 State Road 54, New Port Richey, FL 34652.

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BIRTHDAYS!

Stephen Volante	3/1
Mary Harper	3/2
Willard Drew	3/8
Claire Cummings	3/10
Leonard Hartman	3/10
Toby Caroline	3/13
Michael Tollin	3/13
John Baughman	3/16
Mike Mulligan	3/16
Steve Debroux	3/17
Michael Whittaker	3/18
Rubin Belcher	3/18
David Mahoney	3/19
William Harris	3/22
Michael Richards	3/23
Philip Lang	3/24
Kyle Resler	3/24
Tom Berthold	3/26
Rob Harper	3/27

Members not listed have no birthdate on file.
Please let us know.

Ferman **BMW** of Palm Harbor

31480 U.S. Hwy. 19 North
Palm Harbor, FL 34684

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2005 Chapter Officers

Director 727-224-8014	Larry Marble lmarble@aol.com	Head Road Captain 727-372-8196	John Connors johnc@pascofl.com
Assistant Director 727-224-2070	Ken Roberts tincup1175@hotmail.com	Ladies of Harley Officer 727-862-9013	Heidi Ligotino heidi9996@aol.com
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Membership Officer 727-372-8006	Dick Tauber rtauber@pasco.k12.fl.us	Historian 727-862-5393	Dulcie Hinton harleychick1948@wmconnect.com
Administrative Officer 352-684-2065	Nancy Makar nancymac@tampabay.rr.com	Webmistress 813-784-0550	Ragan Jenkins raganjpix@raganjpix.com
Activities Officer 813-784-0641	Eddie Jenkins harleyz4us@hotmail.com	Dealer Representative 727-379-9870	Gary Williams gary_williams1@msn.com
Safety Officer 727-534-0883	Jim Hoos jimhoos@msn.com	Sponsor Representative 727-842-4547	Big George

Chapter meetings are held the last Wednesday of each month, 7pm at the VFW, Chester McKay Post 7987, 7445 Chester McKay Dr., New Port Richey, FL 34655.

Chapter members are encouraged to submit original articles for the newsletter. The deadline for articles is the 10th of the month. Submissions must be in a word processing format sent as an e-mail attachment. Articles may be sent to nprhog@tampabay.rr.com. If you have any questions please contact Susan Fucci, Editor, at nprhog@tampabay.rr.com or 813-695-6394.

Road Captain News

We have PAINS, growing pains that is. We will soon be pushing over 200 members and we are getting more and more people on rides. Now that's a good thing! The serious news is that we need to concentrate more on riding safely as a group.

To help with this, all the road captains along with Jim Hoos, Safety Officer are putting together "Rules and Guidelines" for group riding. The National H.O.G. Chapter handbook gives us some good tips; we are customizing it to meet our needs. We should have finalized by next meeting.

While we're talking about this subject, you as riders in the group have responsibilities also. If you see something during a ride that needs to be addressed, at the first stop please let the lead road captain or any road captain on the ride know. We can not address an issue if you don't tell us there is a problem. It's difficult to see everything going on during a ride if you are the first bike and there is a long line of bikes behind you.

Congratulations to Linda Roberts for being the first member to win a free meal on one of our rides. Once every month a lucky rider will win a free meal (up to a \$20 value). Linda won on the breakfast ride to Jeannie's 3. Who will win in February? You've got to ride to win so get on out there with us!

Remember, it's better to be safe than sorry.

John Connors, Head Road Captain

Our Activities Director has taken the input you gave him from the survey he did last month and has come up with some absolutely fabulous (forgive me Eddie) Weekend Getaways!

We start with March so get your butts in motion:

(1) Night - March 26th. - March 27th. Okeechobee, FL.

Pier II Resort - 2200 S.E. Highway 441 - Phone 800.874.3744

I have 15 rooms blocked until Mar. 1st. @ \$59.00 per night (Regular \$79-89). The resort has swimming pool & gazebo, 5 story viewing tower of Lake Okeechobee, it is the only hotel on the lake and the lounge is located on the water. Nearby there are airboat rides, swamp tours and the Brighton Seminole Casino. This trip was put together quickly, that is why there is not a lot of time for getting registered. I think this may be a place we will want to go back to, based on how cooperative and accommodating the staff has been to deal with. Rates are reduced \$30 per night.

You must call to make your own room reservations. Tell them you are with New Port Richey Harley Owners Group to get the special rate.

On to May when we all know the weather will be outstanding:

(3) Nights - May 5th. - May 8th. N.E. GA/N.C. Mountains (working on reservations)

One day for riding the loop of Tail of the Dragon/Deals Gap/Santeelah, and one day of riding the loop of Highlands, Franklin, Lake Rabun. Ragan and I have ridden some of the roads that are not "published" and can guarantee a thrill. Both days can be decided on by those that attend.

(1) Night - May 20th. - May 22nd. - Dealers Rally in Cocoa Beach - Holiday Inn Cocoa Beach \$79-89

No time to rest - he has something for June too:

(3) Nights - June 23rd. - June 26th. Key West (working on reservations)

PARTY! We will decide among those that attend about special rides.

Anyone interested in any of the trips please contact Eddie Jenkins at harleyz4us@hotmail.com or 813-784-0641 for additional information.

NATIONAL HOG RALLY NEWS !!!!

I had a whole presentation ready to evoke interest in the up coming National HOG Rally in Chattanooga, TN. August 26th & 27th. Our last meeting went a little long and I did not want to delay members any further. Pre-Registration opens March 2nd and closes June 24th. All information regarding this rally is listed at www.members.hog.com.

Bob Lazar and I are planning a ride up to the rally on Aug. 24th. The current plan is to ride it all in one day, about 560 miles. Even with a small group (10 bikes) it would take us about 10 or 11 hours, stopping for gas and meals.

The reason for the early departure is because there is a "street party" in the beautiful heart of downtown Chattanooga, a part of their riverfront renovation. There is an early bird party Thursday night also. All rally activities are within walking distance to many hotels and restaurants in downtown Chattanooga.

I will try to keep you abreast of all events regarding this rally including accommodations, route, etc. I will be putting out a sign-up sheet at our next meeting at the sign-in tables. If you are interested but not 100% sure please contact me at drhog316@aol.com or 727-379-0250.

Ride safe and watch for more information,
Mike Mulligan

Ride to Sugar Loaf Mountain

It was a crisp & chilly Sunday morning when we met. Most of the questions centered on "where is Sugar Loaf Mountain? I didn't know we had any mountains". Well it is really just a big hill but has quite a view by Florida standards. We left the dealership and headed east on SR 54 with 19 bikes and 24 souls (even one HOG member, Mike from Pennsylvania, who joined us a guest). We made a quick stop (27 miles) at SR 54 & Old Pasco Road at the 7-11 to pick up 2 more bikes and 3 more riders. I think I kept seeing Jan Drew make that special hand signal that seems to come so often early in the morning. We headed out on the back roads through Wesley Chapel, San Antonio, across Happy Hill and Frazee Hill (just a warm-up for the mountain later). Stopped again at SR 50 & Hwy 301 in Ridge Manor (60 miles) so the Sporty's could gas up for the rest of the trip & Jan could..... The next part of our adventure would take us thru the ghostly town of Center Hill. Can anyone tell me what happened to that little town? We continued on CR 702 (Seven Bridges Road) thru some nice little swooping curves and farming/agriculture areas. As we arrived at the top of Sugar Loaf, there were already a couple groups of bikes there, with one of the groups being antiques including an old Norton Commando that I swear looked like one I used to ride, an old Beemer, Triumph Bonneville, etc. Great looking bikes! They all started to flee when we arrived as we pulled off the side of the road to take in the view for a few minutes. As I shut off the bike I checked my odometer and it is on 100.0!!! Just like I said for the ride calendar! After we left Sugar Loaf (we can all say "we have been to the mountain top") we stopped again for everyone to gas before lunch because after there were not a lot of places to get gas for many miles.

Our only problem of the day came after we left the parking lot, stopped & waited for the light, pulled out and was cruising down SR 50. All of a sudden I see John & Pat Connors riding up beside me, at first I thought they wanted to race...but no John is the Head Road Captain... that couldn't be it. I slowed down to 85 or so.....just kidding, Pat is telling me I left someone at the gas stop. We slowed to group back up and rode about 10 minutes to our lunch stop of Lake Susan Lodge. I think everyone had a great lunch and a lot of laughs, I swear a couple of times I laughed so hard that my stomach hurt thanks to "Little Elvis" most of you know her as Nancy Makar (ask her to explain). We also had a newbie, first time ever on a motorcycle being a passenger for "Rocket" and I hear has already called to go take the MSF course and wants to go buy her own bike!! We must have made one hell of an impression! After lunch we road some more country back roads and ended up back at SR 50 & Hwy 301 where we split in a few different groups heading home in different directions. All in all I think everyone had a good time.

See ya on the road!
Eddie

2nd ANNUAL ANGELUS HOUSE POKER RUN

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FREE BBQ WHILE IT LASTS!!!

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to First 100 to Register

ALL BIKES WELCOME!

Last bike in by 3 PM

All proceeds to benefit The Angelus House

For further information, call:(727) 224-2070 Ken Roberts

Release form required to be signed by all participants. Prizes are based on a minimum of 50 hands sold.

If fewer are sold, we reserve the right to prorate the prizes.

March 2005

New Port Richey HOG

Feb 2005						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 7:00 PM LOH Meeting Jeanie's II	3	4	5 10:00 AM Mystery Ride Dave Hoegler 727-375-8781
6 9:00 AM Moss Bluff Eddie Jenkins 813-784-0641 100 mi one way	7	8	9 7:00 AM Daytona Beach John Connors 727-372-8196 165 mi one way	10 8:45 PM Road Captain Meeting 7:30 PM Officer's Meeting - VFW	11	12 10:00 AM Mystery Ride Jim Hoos 727-271-2094
13 9:00 AM Breakfast Ride Robert Goodwin 727-938-5336 20 mi one way	14	15	16 6:30 PM Dinner Ride Al Fraze 727-849-7033 15 mi one way	17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19 10:30 AM Uncle Ned's (Plant City) John Connors 727-372-8196 65 mi one way
20 9:30 AM Dead River Vics (Mt Dora) Bill Drew 727-772-1661 100 mi one way	21	22	23 9:30 AM Linger Lodge Lester Foldi 727-376-4036 120 mi one way	24	25	26 Overnight - Okeechobee Eddie Jenkins 727-784-0641
27 9:00 AM Breakfast Ride Dave Hoegler 727-375-8781 30 mi one way 2nd day - Okeechobee	28	29	30 7:00 PM Chapter Meeting - VFW Social Hour 6pm	31		

Spring begins

Apr 2005						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

All rides are closed events for Chapter Members and invited guests unless stated otherwise. Rides depart Gulf Coast HO unless stated otherwise and officially end at the destination.



New Port Richey, FL H.O.G.
c/o Gulf Coast Harley-Davidson
5817 State Road 54
New Port Richey, FL 34652