

Elkhorn Valley HOG News

Issue 2

February 2009

2009 Officers

Director:

Cecil Brasher

Asst. Director:

Patti Brasher

Treasurer:

Lisa Logan

Secretary:

Judy Stahlnecker

Membership:

Kyle Vanderheiden

Safety:

Ace Stahlnecker

Editor:

Barb Smith

Activities:

Clint Strong

LOH – Ladies Of

Harley:

Julie Johnson

Head Road Cap-

tain:

Cathy Welchert

Webmaster:

Rex Johnson

Photographer:

Bob Gilbreath

Historian:

Janice (Kat) George



Director's Notes



Ok, it's February, which means what? Valentine's Day is just around the corner (so, don't forget your sweetheart); President's Day (a holiday for some); and then... spring is only a couple of months away! I'm sure everyone has cabin fever about now, but remember to check out our calendar of events. Our activities and LOH officers are working overtime to put together some new and fun things to do during the winter months; so pick one or pick them all and join in for some winter fun while we wait for some decent riding weather.

Many of you know that the American Legion is moving from their Millard location and so we've found a new place to hold our monthly chapter meetings. Beginning in February, we'll be conducting our chapter meetings at the Thunder Alley Bowling lanes in Elkhorn. Although we plan on keeping our meeting dates the same (third Tuesday of the month), we will begin our meeting ½ hour later at 7:00pm. Thunder Alley has a restaurant with some great food; so if you've a mind to; arrive a little early and grab some grub. After February's meeting please provide me with some feedback on our new location at cecil@evhog.net.

Next, I had several members inquire about the chapter's involvement with the Omaha Beef games this year. Well, great news! They want us back again and the first pre-season game is on Saturday, March 14 (as soon as I have the times, I'll post them on the website). Their Operations Manager has asked that we have as many bikes there as possible, so let's bring-em out!! I'm looking forward to another great partnership with the Omaha Beef (and the dancers) in 2009! GO BEEF!

Dan at our friendly Dillon Brother's dealership in Omaha is putting together a Harley night at the Funny bone. So let's join our friends at Dillon's for a night of laughter.

When: Sat Feb 28th

Act: J Medicine Hat

Showtime: 7:00 please be there by 6:30

Cost: \$8.00 a person

Contact: Dan McGaughey @ Dillon's to make reservations (must do this) He needs to know #'s by 2-14-09 so he can block out a section

danm@dillonharley.com or 289-5556

Finally, I'd like to once more thank our Holiday Party Committee (Lisa Logan, Judy Stahlnecker, Luanne Sirovatka, Vera Hammond, & Lisa Mason) for all the hard work put into the holiday party this year. What a great way to put a cap on 2008 and light the fuse for 2009!!!!

Ride Safe and Have Fun

Cecil

Wildcat Tales



Can't believe January is over all ready and we're heading into February. Not much longer and we'll be dusting off our bikes and heading out on the road once again. Okay maybe some of you won't need to dust off your bikes but I forgot to cover mine and it's getting pretty dusty. I know, I know, shame on me.

I've been getting a lot of volunteers for Road Captains already. Here's my list so far:
Patti Brasher, Mike Smith, Deb Owen, Rex Johnson,
Clint Strong, Adam Erb, Chuck Meier, Randy Carey,
Rick Majerus, Ace Stahlnecker, Jim Owen, Cathy Welchert

If I forgot anyone, I apologize. It's not too late to become a Road Captain. If you'd like to give it a try e-mail me at Cathy@evhog.net and let me know.

We are currently in the Frozen Spoke mileage contest for winter. If you are new to our group and would like to participate in the mileage contest just let me or one of the other Officers know and we will read your mileage so you can get started. The contest runs from our October meeting to the April meeting. As usual there will be first, second and third place winners for both male and female riders and then six drawings for gift certificates for the other participants. Since we have had such a cold winter and have not been able to ride much you still have a good chance in winning, so sign up today. Good luck to you all.

I am again looking forward to a great year as your Head Road Captain. We have a terrific team of Officers again this year. We will bring you lots of laughs, memories, and good times. Clint has already taken off as your Activities Officer with some great activities so be sure to join us as much as your time permits.

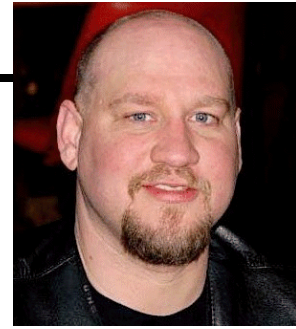
As we move forward in this New Year let's never forget where we've been, how far we've come and how much we've overcome. Then let's look forward to good times yet to come, new friends yet to meet, and new journeys and roads yet to travel. Keep your hearts and minds open to new experiences and you will be surprised at how much fun you can have. I heard this song by Billy Gilman this morning and it really moved me so I would like to share it with you now:

There's a flower in the smallest garden reaching for the light. There's a candle in the darkest corner, conquering the night. There is amazing strength in a willing hand. There are victories that you've never planned. There's a hero in everybody's heart. There's a fire inside of everybody, burning clear and bright. There's a power in the faintest heart beat that can not be denied. Go on and trust yourself. You can ride the wind. You are going to take your dreams where they've never been. By Billy Gilman "There's a Hero".

See you on road. Ride safe and have fun.

Cathy Welchert
Head Road Captain

Membership News



We would like to start out by saying 2009 is going to be a BLAST! It is shaping up to be a great year of activities and fun. It is that time to renew your membership for 2009. I would like to explain Elkhorn Valley membership and how it works. On the National H.O.G. level a membership is a term of 12 months and your membership due dates can vary depending on what month you renewed or joined. The local H.O.G. chapter runs for a calendar year, January 1st through December 31st. In order to be eligible you must be a full, associate, or life national member. To become a national member you can join online at www.hog.com, talk to a member of the Dillon Brothers' team, or one of the chapter officers for details.

Some might be asking what does our membership give us? What do we get for \$20.00 per person local membership? Unfortunately, \$20 does not really go that far today. For \$20 you can buy two tickets to a movie if you don't get the munchies and need food, which is another \$20. And it is all over in 2 hours. That comes out to \$10 per hour or \$20 with snacks. You could go out to dinner for \$20 but, in today's world that is going to be spent on the first round of drinks and appetizers. There are a number of examples like this you can think of where \$20 can be spent very quickly.

Let's take a look at the value you receive with your Elkhorn Valley H.O.G. membership.

- Be a part of a group that shares the same interest in riding and their Harley-Davidsons.
- Enjoy your investment of your H-D with others doing the same.
- Short rides, long rides, even overnight and weekend rides. Ride and Have fun that is what it is all about!
- 10% discount at Dillon Brother's Harley Davidson. (Who doesn't like that!)?
- Monthly news letter - Emailed to you as a PDF file or, for an additional \$4, a hard copy will be mailed to your home.
- Access to the members only on the EVHOG.NET site. (A great source to find activities, calendar of events, jokes and other chapter related information even games like "Kyle Spotting")
- Safety: Riding in groups can help in visibility of you and your ride. People notice groups of riders' better than solo riders. You receive the education benefits from experienced riders.

Monthly meetings: Have a great time with your friends while getting the latest chapter news and information.

Continued on page 5

Membership—continued

- Activities throughout the year.
 - Rides—Experience roads, restaurants, scenery that you may not have really seen before and with **GREAT** people. Family fun and safety oriented.
 - Day of the HOG
 - Holiday events and parties
 - Cookie runs
 - Charity events—Do some good while having a good time.
 - Activities for **ALL** levels of riding experience.
 - Volunteering—Elkhorn Valley H.O.G. has a variety of activities you can volunteer for – anything from helping at an event to becoming a chapter officer.

All that for \$20 per member per year!

You can get the Elkhorn Valley H.O.G. membership form by going to our website at http://www.evhog.net/HOG_Membership-2009.pdf and print out the membership form and mail it to:

Elkhorn Valley HOG
P.O. Box 540815
Omaha, NE 68154

Or you can drop it off at Dillon Brothers Harley Davidson.

By renewing your membership by February 28th you will eligible for a \$50.00 gift certificate drawing from Dillon Brothers.

Please feel free to email me at kyle@evhog.net with any questions that you may have on your membership.

Ride Safe!
Kyle Vanderheiden
Membership Officer



Inspector Gadget



Happy New Year! It's hard to believe that 2008 went by so quickly. I guess it's true what they say, "When you're over the hill; things speed up."

I want to thank all of you for your trust in permitting me to serve you as your Webmaster. This really falls into my area of expertise; I have been working with computer technology to solve business problems since 1976. If you do the math that means that I'm just a tad over 33. Well, maybe a little more than a tad. My wife, Julie (your new LOH officer), and I have been in Omaha since 1984, and in December 2005, I had the good fortune to achieve early retirement from First Data Corporation, with 25 years of service. Retirement didn't settle well with me. While I met all of career goals, I got bored. I work now as a technology architect for IBM specializing in very large, highly available, high-capacity system design worldwide. This offers me the opportunity to give my clients the same thing that I can give you – technology solutions that solve problems, not create them.

Before someone comes up with the idea of having me "...share my spark..." in front of a hundred or so people, I want to get on the record in advance. For me it's all about two things: 1) the ride, and 2) the price. I really enjoy the total immersion in the outdoors; the visibility, the view, the feel of the wind, the smells (good and otherwise) all combine to produce an environmental connection like no other. I'm also a private pilot. Flying is awesome and exhilarating as well, but one still gets the same sort of disconnection as one gets in a car – you're going through the environment, not participating in it. Maybe if I could fly one of those open-cockpit biplanes, I might change my mind but for now my Electra-Glide is the thing. 2008 saw huge price increases gas, particularly aviation gas, which at times soared over \$7 per gallon. I could have flown around Omaha for about an hour for around \$300. Alternatively, Julie and I could have ridden for about 10 weekends on that same investment and had more fun, in more places, with more people to boot – guess which alternative we selected. When you add together the fiscally responsible, environmentally friendly, and pure fun aspects of motorcycling, I find it hard to beat – but easy to enjoy.

You will already notice a few minor changes on the website. Formats and color schemes have been made consistent across all pages and the font has been changed to something a smidge more readable. Updated content is everywhere, and for convenience I have added links to the Motor Company catalogs on the "Links" page. I don't know about you, but the hardcopy versions always seem to be misplaced just at the moment that I want to consider spending money (Ha, Ha).

Inspector Gadget—continued

If you have ideas for additions or changes to the website, please email me at webmaster@evhog.net. I'd love to have a dialog about how we could make this communication hub more useful and enjoyable for you. On a broader note, if you have any questions about technology, in your home or work life, drop me a note and I'll see if I can demystify the situation. If your question involves motorcycle mechanics or riding technique, though, I will forward it to our Safety Officer for guidance; mechanical issues and bad habits on two wheels can be real threats – please keep yourself and your ride in good working order. Over the next months I'll be sending an article about the Scala Rider headsets Julie and I found and some interesting GPS technology. Beyond that, I'll let your questions guide the topics.

Rex Johnson

Bunny Prints



I've been very busy learning all about this fantastic new software that helps me give the newsletter more "eye-appeal". As someone who normally learns new technology easily, this has been an interesting process. Through the next few months, you'll be able to watch my progress with all the stumbles and successes that will involve. That should provide some entertainment for all of us. LOL

Of course, in order to make our newsletter fun and interesting for all of us, it requires your ideas, stories and feedback. Any and all ideas are welcome. Share your "Spark", tales of the road, inspirational or philosophical stories and funny antidotes. Email any articles to Barb@evhog.net. If you just have an idea for an article, send me your ideas and information. I'll do my best to turn it into something you will be very proud of.

Have a wonderful February! And don't forget to do something to make your Sweetheart smile on Valentine's Day!

Barb Smith
Editor

Clint's Corner



I can't believe that 2009 is already here. I would like to start by saying "Thank You" to all of the 2008 Officers. I am looking forward to jumping into my responsibilities as Activities Officer for 2009 with both feet!

I have been a member of the Elkhorn Valley HOGS since June of 2007, after I purchased my 2007 Heritage Soft tail Classic (affectionately named Neva). Initially, I chose not to participate in any activities (mostly because I'm shy – BELIEVE IT OR NOT!), until May 5, 2008. That was the night of the Short-Sweet-and Sassy ride to the Dairy Queen in Valley. After that I was **HOOKED!** I decided to participate in the LeMars ice cream ride, the MDA amazing race, multiple dinner rides, multiple breakfast rides, I rode along for the LOH cookie run, I showed up at the HOGoween party in a very edgy costume, showed up for almost all of the chapter meetings, and currently I am in a bowling league with some other EVHOGS! I'm sure there are more I just can't remember everything. Now I'm ready to step it up to help make 2009 even more exciting and fun!

There are two main reasons why I am so excited about being the 2009 Activities Officer. The first one is (again, nobody is going to believe this) I'm shy. This is my way to guarantee myself a way to meet more people in our group, because I'll have to. Maybe some of you have noticed me at one of the meetings or rides or somewhere else. I've been told I'm hard to miss. I'm the one usually wearing the camo hat. You might think that I seem quiet. Trust me that will wear off after you get to know me, or I should say after I get to know YOU.

The second reason is I like to plan things. Maybe with a little bit of luck, the activities that I'm planning this year will not only continue to bring out the regular participants, but will also bring others who in the past have chosen not to participate. Who knows maybe someone else who hasn't participated in any of the events yet will learn they love it, and will be next year's Activities Officer.

There are some activities already posted on the EVHOG calendar but make sure you routinely check it out because I'm always looking into different things. You can see that not all of the activities are riding events, mostly because of the weather, but some I think will just be fun social events. Some of the ideas I have in store for this year are the same - dinner rides, breakfast rides, pre-game for the Omaha BEEF and of course my personal favorite ICE CREAM rides! I have thought of some different ideas as well - ice skating, Omaha Lancers games, Biker Bingo, and lots more. Anyway make sure you check the website calendar for all of the upcoming events because sometimes I just get an idea in my head and try and go with it. Thanks for listening, and I'm looking forward to either meeting you, or getting to know you better!

Clint

"Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future" – JOHN F. KENNEDY

February

- February 2 Day of the Hog Committee Meeting
Dillon's
6:00 PM
- February 3 Ladies of Harley Meeting
Godfather's Pizza
168th & West Center
7:00 PM
- February 8 Biker Brunch
Granite City
North Parking Lot of Westroads Mall
Buffet is \$14.99 per person
10:30 AM
- February 10 Officer's Meeting
Oak Hill's Country Club— Second Floor
12325 Golfing Green Drive
7:00 PM
- February 17 Chapter Meeting
Thunder Alley
20902 Cumberland Drive
Elkhorn
7:00 PM
- February 19 Family Fun Night
Dillon's
Wildlife, skateboard demos and Wii Bowling
5:30—7:30 PM
- February 21 Bikers on Ice
Moyan IcePlex
12550 W Maple Rd
\$6.50 Admission and \$4.50 Skate Rental
7:30 PM
- February 23 Lazlo's Bar & Grill
2425 S 192nd Ave
7:00 PM
- February 28 Harley Night @ The Funny Bone
17305 Davenport St #201
6:30 PM
Must make reservations through Dan McGaughey by February 14
danm@dillonharley.com or call 402-289-5556

March

- March 7 Omaha Lancers
Mid-America Center
Meet at Box Office before 6:30 PM
- March 10 Officer's Meeting
- March 12 Ladies of Harley Meeting
Romeo's
146th & Center (Harvey Oaks Plaza)
7:00 PM
- March 14 Omaha Beef Pre-Game
Omaha Civic Auditorium
19th and Capital
Please arrive no later than
6:15 PM
- March 15 Biker's Breakfast
Farmhouse Café
3461 S 84th St
8:00 AM
- March 17 Chapter Meeting
Thunder Alley
20902 Cumberland Drive
Elkhorn
7:00 PM
- March 20 Omaha Beef Pre-Game
Omaha Civic Auditorium
19th and Capital
Please arrive no later than
6:15 PM
- March 26 Men's Night
Dillon's
5:00—8:00 PM



OMAHA, NE LOCATION		FREMONT, NE LOCATION	
174th & MAPLE (402) 289-5556		2440 E HWY 30 (402) 721-2007	
M, T, TH	9 am - 7 pm	BOTH LOCATIONS	M
W, F	9 am - 5:30 pm	CLOSED	T, TH
SAT	9 am - 4:30 pm	SUNDAY	W, F
			SAT
			CLOSED
			9 am - 6 pm
			9 am - 5:30 pm
			9 am - 4:30 pm
All Times Subject To Change...Please Call Ahead To Ensure Hours Are Accurate.			

The Chapter will periodically send out emails to provide updates and chapter information to our members.

If events are cancelled, you can find this information on our Swine Line at (402) 271-1794.

In addition, if you've forgotten the Username and Password to get access to the Members Only section on the website, please contact the Membership Officer, Kyle at kyle@evhog.net or Cecil at (402) 871-3944 or Director@evhog.net

CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP
ENROLLMENT FORM AND RELEASE

CHAPTER NAME _____
MEMBER NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
E-MAIL ADDRESS _____
PHONE NUMBER _____ MEMBER NATL H.O.G. NUMBER _____
EXPIRATION DATE OF NATIONAL H.O.G. MEMBERSHIP _____

I have read the Annual Charter for H.O.G. Chapters and hereby agree to abide by it as a member of this dealer sponsored chapter.

I recognize that while this Chapter is chartered with H.O.G., it remains a separate, independent entity solely responsible for its actions.

- THIS IS A RELEASE, READ BEFORE SIGNING -

I agree that the Sponsoring Dealer, Harley Owners Group (H.O.G.), Harley-Davidson, Inc., Harley-Davidson Motor Company, my Chapter and their respective officers, directors, employees and agents (hereinafter, the **"RELEASED PARTIES"**) shall not be liable or responsible for injury to me (including paralysis or death) or damage to my property occurring during any H.O.G. or H.O.G. chapter activities and resulting from acts or omissions occurring during the performance of the duties of the Released Parties, even where the damage or injury is caused by negligence (except willful neglect). I understand and agree that all H.O.G. members and their guests participate voluntarily and at their own risk in all H.O.G. activities and I assume all risks of injury and damage arising out of the conduct of such activities.

I release and hold the **"RELEASED PARTIES"** harmless from any injury or loss to my person or property which may result from my participation in H.O.G. activities and EVENT(S). I UNDERSTAND THAT THIS MEANS THAT I AGREE NOT TO SUE THE **"RELEASED PARTIES"** FOR ANY INJURY OR RESULTING DAMAGE TO MYSELF OR MY PROPERTY ARISING FROM, OR IN CONNECTION WITH, THE PERFORMANCE OF THEIR CHAPTER DUTIES IN SPONSORING, PLANNING OR CONDUCTING SAID EVENT(S).

WAIVER OF RIGHTS UNDER STATE STATUTES

I further agree to waive all benefits flowing from any state statute which would negate or limit the scope of this Release and Indemnification Agreement including, but not limited to, Section 1542 of the California Civil Code which provides:

"A general release does not extend to the claims which the creditor does not know or suspect to exist in his favor at the time of executing the release, which if known to him must have materially affected his settlement with the debtor."

By signing this Release, I certify that I have read this Release and fully understand it and that I am not relying on any statements or representations made by the **"RELEASED PARTIES"**.

MEMBER SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

LOCAL DUES PAID \$ _____ DATE _____

(Dues not to exceed maximum amount prescribed in, "Annual Charter for H.O.G. Chapters", as contained in the H.O.G. Chapter Handbook.)

RETURN THIS FORM TO YOUR CHAPTER