

Rockstar HEG Chapter #4352



Newsletter



April/May/June 2023



CELEBRATING 120 YEARS OF HARLEY-DAVIDSON®



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DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



A Great Year of Riding and Camaraderie is Underway!



Bob Hotovy

Hello all and Happy Spring! We've had a great start to the new year with some great rides and having fun with everything we are doing! It's been great to see many of you on our rides and the opportunity to ride with many of our new Members!

Our Road Captains have really stepped up with rides to some fun locations. Our participation has been so good that we have been splitting many rides to keep our groups safe. Please join us on our Wednesday and Saturday rides. Sign-up is at 9:30 AM and we leave at 10:00 AM. Please check our calendar as some destination rides leave earlier and we don't want you to miss them.

We recently had a great ride to cheer-up a boy with brain cancer and on Home Hospice Care. Rockstar Harley-Davidson provided a tee shirt and a hat for him and a couple of our riders gave him some Harley-Davidson gifts. We were able to help him sit on a bike and we took him for a short ride. It was great to brighten his day!

Our grilling teams have been having a lot of fun and making a bit of money from tips for our Chapter. Rockstar Harley-Davidson provides the food and we provide the Volunteers to help grill. It has been fun working with many of you and getting to know you better. Please call Curt Wellington to Volunteer. We

appreciate your help and thank all of you who help make these days fun!

We have some fun things planned as we move into spring and summer. Don't forget our Easter Bunny Toy Run on Saturday, April 8th. We will have Toy Donation Boxes at Rockstar Harley-Davidson where you can donate toys for the children at Golisano Children's Hospital. Or, it would be great if you would bring your toys with you and join us on our ride to the Hospital. We look forward to seeing many of you on this ride: KSU 10:00 AM, Saturday, April 8th.

Hospital suggested items: Infants - rattles, tethers, music and toddler toys; Teens - headphones, gift cards, pajamas (all sizes), remote control toys, bluetooth speakers, Lego sets, craft kits (no coloring books), and underwear for boys & girls (3T to adult small); Safety items - safety plugs, bike helmets, outlet covers & cabinet locks. NO stuffed toys, please. ALL GIFTS SHOULD BE UNWRAPPED.

We have a great team of Chapter Officers and we are planning and looking forward to having a fun year with a lot to do. Please come to our Chapter Meetings and come by to say hello if we are grilling. It's always great to see you on our rides.

Have a Great Summer!

Ride with a Smile!

Just Bob





ASSISTANT DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



Rockstar H.O.G. is Off to a Great Start for 2023

Hello Ladies & Gentlemen HOG members:

HAPPY EASTER!

Hard to believe it's April. We've been enjoying the beautiful Florida winter and spring weather.

It's been just about perfect. There's nothing like throwing your leg over your bike, starting it, feeling that rumble, and riding under a clear blue sky!

Our chapter is off to a great start for 2023. We've been on many interesting rides, and continue to have enthusiastic participation from our year-round members and our snowbirds.

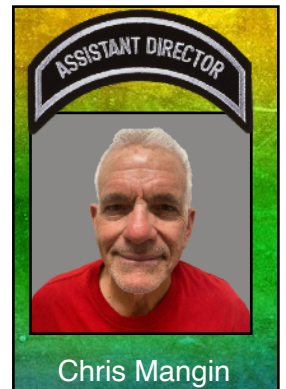
It's great to see so many members being active, happy, and enjoying the twice a week rides – and volunteering for other activities.

We endeavor as your officers to keep our rides and activities exciting, interesting, and safe.

We all appreciate your participation. Nothing makes us feel better than observing the camaraderie and seeing you enjoy the rides.

Several of your officers attended the Harley Regional Officer Training in Orlando last month. This was my first experience. It was well worth our time. We all had the opportunity to speak to people from many other chapters, and hear how they operate. We picked up some great ideas.

In closing, if any of you have suggestions for rides or activities you would like to see us plan, please let any of the officers know. And always remember, LIFE IS A JOURNEY – ENJOY THE RIDE!



Chris Mangin





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CHAPTER ROAD CAPTAINS



Larry Burgess



Paul "doc" Callahan



Charlie DeHart



Stephan Despin



Greg Holmes



Bob Hotovy



Kevin Johnson



John Leone



Chris Mangin



Steve Marshall



Bill Tatman



Paul Thompson



Lawrence "Smiley" Shorter



Maury Wiese

ALL RIDERS AND THEIR PASSENGERS ARE WELCOME ON OUR RIDES.





HEAD ROAD CAPTAIN

Report From the Head Road Captain



Larry (Smiley) Shorter

I hope you all have been doing well the last few months. I also hope by now everyone is getting their repairs completed after Hurricane Ian. This past three months we have had a lot of rides, with our most recent to Solomon's Castle, Ona, FL.

I would like to thank all the Road Captains because without them we wouldn't have great organized safe rides. As for the statistics, we now are doing yearly stats starting with October 2022 through February 2023. For that period, the total

rides 42. Average number of riders per ride is 12. The average trip miles destination only is 77 and average round trip miles per ride is 119. Lastly the total miles for all riders is 58,450.

I would like to recognize the Road captains who have led the most rides. Lawrence (Smiley) Shorter 9 leads and 2 sweeps, Bob Hotovy with 7 leads and 5 sweeps, Paul Thompson with 6 Leads and 5 Sweeps. Be sure to thank all your Road Captains. With that I would like to wish you more safe and exciting rides and miles on your bikes.

Larry (Smiley) Shorter





MEMBER PHOTOS



SECRETARY'S REPORT

Hello From Your New Chapter Secretary



Elle Shorter

I would like to introduce myself as the new Secretary. As your new Secretary, I am here to ensure that all Members receive the Weekly Blast. If you are not receiving the Weekly Blast, please let me or any Board Member know, and I will get that

corrected. Should you want to request a Special Blast to be sent out to the Members again let me or any Board Member know and I will get that out for you.

I look forward to a wonderful year as your new Secretary

Thank you!

Elle Shorter





ACTIVITIES OFFICER REPORT

Hello From Rockstar H.O.G.'s New Activities Officer

Hello. I'm Curt Wellington, the new H.O.G. Activities Officer of our Chapter. I've been actively trying to learn the job as well as meet as many people as I can. Being from Ohio, the joy of riding and going to outdoor activities year-round is exciting. There is sure a lot to do.

Over the last month, I've been on several local rides (Wednesdays and Saturdays) which are very well organized and wonderful, thanks to all the pre-planning from our Road Captains. Director Bob and I also took a trip to Key Largo, scouting it out for a possible summer ride and weekend getaway. The best month (and the warmest) is in August, as the pricing gets cut in half and the availability for great rooms on the beach is better.

I'll likely put a sign-up sheet or some kind of survey out to the group to gauge interest in going.

The Leesburg Rally is coming up on April 28th and runs through April 30th. Director Bob and I were up there two weeks ago and the whole town is excited and getting ready. We have 10 people going so far and if anyone else wants to go, please write me (cwellington@oeconciierge.com) or text to (614-402-3216) We have a hotel in nearby Brooksville, Florida, picked out to stay and many of us have already

made room reservations for both the 28th and the 29th. Their number is 352-796-9486, ask for Marilyn Diaz and tell them you're with Rockstar H.O.G. chapter. We are in the process of organizing and mapping the route now, choosing captains, etc. My guess is we'll take backroads up and freeway back.

Muster time is 9:30 at the dealership circle, KSU at 10:00.

Finally, we are doing the annual Easter Bunny Toy Run this year on Saturday, April 8th. Kickstands up at 10:00, leave from Rockstar HD. We'll ride to Golisano Children's Hospital. Please drop off any unwrapped toys you wish to donate, and we'll take them there for the kids. This will be the 18th annual run and benefits the Child Life Program. Highlight will be Director Bob dressed as the Easter Bunny.

If you have any suggestions of any rides, destinations, or events, please bring them to my attention.

Thank you!





MEMBERSHIP & GOODWILL

Key Membership Information



With this being the first quarterly newsletter for 2023, I think that I should introduce myself. My name is Larry Burgess and I am your newly appointed Membership & Goodwill officer as well as Treasurer. I have been working pretty much behind the scenes since January due to prior obligations before accepting this

position. I look forward to being more visible serving you during the rest of 2023. I want to thank Chris Mangin, our new Assistant Director, and his lovely wife Renee for covering for me during the last two monthly meetings.

Also I want to thank each you who have submitted and paid your annual membership dues thus far. To you who haven't renewed, I encourage you to legibly complete the renewal form and submit it along with your dues of twenty dollars check or cash. Yes, that's right, even with the current inflationary condition in which we live, your

annual local membership dues are ONLY \$20.00. I need remind you that you must also be current with your National H.O.G. membership in order to be a member of any local chapter. So be sure to check on your National membership status because I cannot update your Rockstar H.O.G membership until your National membership is current.

You may pick up a Rockstar H.O.G membership form from the Café area at our dealership, the receptionist or you may go online to our website: www.rockstarhog.com to obtain the form. Once you complete the form, you may submit it by dropping it in the H.O.G mailbox located next to the receptionist or you may use the USPS and mail it to

ROCKSTAR H.O.G Chapter 4352
9501 Thunder Road
Fort Myers, Florida 33913

Again, welcome all new and returning members and I look forward to a great year of riding and having fun.





SAFETY OFFICER'S MESSAGE



Best Practices for Lining Up For rides

The following paragraphs come courtesy of Paul Callahan, who is Safety Officer for his H.O.G. chapter in Milwaukee as well as a Rockstar Road Captain:

Believe it or not, there is an art and science to lining up for our rides. Here are some tips to make things easier and safer for everyone on our group rides:

- 1) Please pull up to the front of the group with no gaps. You should be within a foot or so of the bike in front of you. Leaving gaps make is difficult to keep bikes in order and confuses people when leaving for the ride as to who goes next.
- 2) Please line up in two columns, not haphazardly parked 3 or 4 across. This avoids all the side-to-side adjustments as we depart and people try to get into a proper staggered formation.
- 3) Please park all trikes in the left column. This sets the group up to avoid having two trikes next to each other. We have been told by some trike riders that the left column is easier to ride in and less rough.

4) Please make sure you check in with the Lead Road Captain or the Sweep using your VIB number. Remember, every ride gets you points which are worth \$\$ at Rockstar.

5) If you have a passenger who is not a member of Rockstar H.O.G., they must sign a waiver on every ride. NO exceptions for non-members. Road Captains carry these forms.



Following these simple guidelines makes our ride line up and departure much easier and safer.

Thanks, Paul. Also, I wanted to let Chapter riders know that the Collier County Sheriff's Motor Unit is again offering free S.M.A.R.T. classes on these upcoming dates: 4/15 – 4/16; 4/29 – 4/30; and 5/20 – 5/21. Their website says the site of the training is to be announced. For more information, call 239-252-2333 or email ColliereSheriff-SMART@CollierSheriff.org.

Enjoy all our rides and keep your head on a swivel!





CHAPTER EVENT SCHEDULE

GUESTS WELCOME at ALL CHAPTER EVENTS

Weekly Rides



2 Weekly Rides

Wednesday & Saturday

KSU at 10:00 PM (Usually)

See Calendar Insert for Dates & Times

Monthly Events

- ◆ Road Captain Planning Meeting - 1st Monday
- ◆ BOD Meeting - 1st Thursday
- ◆ General Membership Meeting - 2nd Sunday
- ◆ Chapter Grilling @ Rockstar H-D - Various Weekends

See Calendar Insert for Date & Times

Annual Events

Rockstar H.O.G. Chapter is involved in several charity rides, memorial rides and events throughout the year. Read this newsletter, our calendar, our Facebook page and our website for up-to-date information and scheduling.

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