



The H.O.G. Tells

ELECTRIC CITY CHAPTER #4769

Web Address: www.electriccityhog.com

May / June 2019

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**REVISITING A
FORMER
ARTICLE
BY TIM JONES**

This month I would like to **RE-share** my article from a newsletter this time two years ago. The shared message was from an article written by our then HOG manager, Todd “Thor” Robinson. I don’t believe I could say it any better whenever this comes up in discussion. I titled my original article “I think we all clique” and by that I meant I know of no one meaning any evil or maliciousness toward others within our group. Thor’s article was mainly directed as you can see toward officers giving guidance of how to handle these situations if they occur and may become detrimental to the Chapter. I think we all as Electric City H.O.G. “clique” when it comes to “doing H.O.G.”, and I’m proud to call all our members friends.



CLIQUE: THE GOOD AND THE BAD

Over the many years we have been doing Harley Owners Group® Officer Training (H.O.T.) and one thing that comes up almost every year is the topic of “cliques. I guess a good starting point is to first define what a clique is. According to Wikipedia: “A clique is a group of “persons who interact with each other more regularly and intensely than others in the same setting.” Interacting with cliques is part of normative social development regardless of gender, ethnicity, or popularity.”

So what can we learn from this? Well first, we know that they are not innately evil. Second we know that they are not bound by gender, race, politics or status. Lastly I think if we come at this with an open mind, we might realize that we as H.O.G.® Members are a clique.

We are by our very existence a “clique.” We are a group of people who interact more regularly and intensely than others. The Chapter officers may be perceived as a clique. The setting may change, but go to any biker function and H.O.G. Members are easy to find. We are a “clique” and it’s a good thing.

In most discussions at H.O.T. the word is used in a negative connotation, “How can we get rid of cliques?” I think that is the wrong question. Should not the question be “how do we engage those people who are interacting more and with more intensity?”

We as Chapter Leaders, as Chapter Members, need to not focus on that because we may have a group that prefers to ride together, eat together etc. that is not automatically bad for the Chapter. We instead should focus on welcoming them into the group as a whole and finding ways to let them DO H.O.G.® the way they need to DO H.O.G., DO Chapter they way they need to DO Chapter.

However, if a group of members are acting in a way that is detrimental to the Chapter or the sponsoring dealer then that is an issue. The best way to address this issue is to get together with those members in a non-public, safe setting. Discuss the perceptions of the Chapter; it may be that they just don’t feel engaged by the Chapter or its leadership. It may be just a simple lack of communication and understanding. It could be many things, but one thing for sure is that without communication it won’t get better. If that does not resolve the issue then a conversation with the sponsoring dealer or H.O.G.® Manager should happen.

I think that if we really think about this, most “cliques” are not bad for the Chapter. They in fact have little or no bearing on the Chapter, how it functions, the rides we do or the fun we have. Embrace those people who chose to hang with their closest friends, eventually they will be the Chapter’s closest friends.

When I started in my Chapter life, I rode with two friends, and two friends only. They got me eventually to attend some Chapter events and rides. At those events and rides I rode with my two friends, and only my two friends. I am sure looking back we were viewed as a “clique” but we had nothing in our hearts but riding and having fun. It took a while for us and for the rest of the Chapter to warm up to each other but eventually all three of us became Chapter Officers, served proudly for many years and are still active with our Chapter.

It took both the Chapter Members and the “clique” members to make sure that the situation worked. It took both sides working to find common ground, acceptance, and validation. It’s not easy to be an outsider, and in this situation, there are outsiders on both sides. Work as Chapter Officers to be inclusive, to be understanding that not every rider is the same, has the same needs and wants. So long as those “cliques” are doing no evil...Let’s just get back to RIDING and HAVING FUN.

Todd Robinson H.O.G. Regional Mgr

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Thanks for taking time to read (or re-read).

Also, I ask that you take the time to introduce yourself to the new members (or any member you may not know). Remember when you first joined the family? How you felt coming in as a stranger? I think we all can relate. Show your southern hospitality, and aren’t we all here for the group riding fun?

Let’s Ride!! (and have fun).

Tim Jones

Director – Electric City HOG



Riding with the Head Road Captain

It's always a good idea to take every opportunity to check your bike for any issues that may cause you a problem. When you walk past it sitting in the garage pause for a few seconds and just observe it for any obvious concerns. Take note of the tires, look for loose nuts, bolts, or accessories. You can also do this when approaching the bike after you have parked somewhere.

And, of course, from time to time you should put it on the jack and do a more thorough inspection of brakes, cables, belts, and, while you're at it, check the tire pressure. Most of us enjoy doing a little wrenching so take the opportunity to knock the dust off your tools and tighten up a few things.

Or you can take it to the friendly folks at Timms Harley-Davidson and ask them to do a safety check for you. Practice your riding skills and remember a better rider is a safer rider. Ya'll stay safe out there and try to keep dodging the nut jobs.

Ken



ELECTRIC CITY HARLEY OWNERS GROUP #4769
Minutes of the May 7th , 2019 Chapter Meeting

Meeting called to order by Tim Jones at 7:06 PM

Opening prayer was given by George Turner

Pledge of Allegiance was led by George Turner

Roll Call Member Enrollment 81

Officers Reports

Tim Jones (Director)

- **Welcome** – Tim welcomed everyone to the May meeting
- **May Birthdays** – Acknowledged members who have a birthday this month by singing Happy Birthday.
- **Tim Hill (Assistant Director)** – Talked about the regional HOG Rally's- Johnson City – Hills of Hollar
- **Pam Waitekus** – T-shirts and name tags are in.
- **Bruce Reigner (Activities Committee)**- Please look at web site for all upcoming rides. We have a lot of great things coming!!
- **Calendar** – Check the ECHOG calendar for other events

Karen Blomberg (LOH Report)

- **LOH Meeting** –Meetings are held 3rd Tuesday of each month at Sue's Wings & Things (eat at 6:00 and meeting begins at 7:00).
- **We are doing a bake sale June 6th at Bike Night, May 25 we are riding to Augusta to meet the LOH group from the Augusta dealership.**

Ken Higgenbotham (Safety)

- Talked about Counter Steering, use this in the mountains, Braking - don't use in curves (front brakes)

Gary Clemmons (Head Road Captain)

- “ I have nothing to say, I cant follow up that”

Mike Coco

- Don't forget bike nights!. We still need volunteers for the year.

Timms Rep – No one present**Other Business and Drawings**

- **Winner of \$25.00 gift card donated by Timms HD:** Lisa Coco
- **Door Prize Winners of \$20.00 gift cards:** Denise Higginbotham & Luanne Jones
- **50/50 Winner of \$90.00:** Bruce Reigner
- **FUDRUCKERS** – Thank you for the cookies !!!
- **Membership Pride:** \$20 John Waitekus

Meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Submitted by Robin Perry, Secretary



ELECTRIC CITY HARLEY OWNERS GROUP #4769

Minutes of the June 4, 2019 Chapter Meeting

June Meeting held at Timms Harley Davidson pavilion.

Meeting called to order by Tim Jones at 7:00 PM

Opening prayer was given by George Turner before the meal at 6 pm, food provided by the chapter for donation.

Members stood for Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call Member Enrollment 96. Members in attendance tonight 40. Luanne Jones sat in for membership officer Melissa Clemons (absent) and Secretary Robin Perry, present but unavailable.

Officers Reports

- **Welcome** – Tim welcomed everyone to the June meeting
 - Acknowledged members who have a birthday this month by singing Happy Birthday.
 - Pizza night at the pavilion. Members asked to make a donation and proceeds after cost will go to charity. Thanks to Bruce Reigner, Activities Director for taking care of food delivery.
 - Website has had some updates, check them out when possible.
 - Bike night reminder. Mike Coco, Volunteer Coordinator passing around gate sign up sheet.

- Register your HOG miles for Ride365 at the dealer.
- Next months meeting to be back at Fuddruckers as usual.

- Tim Hill (Assistant Director) – Discussed the rally in Tennessee and some of the events.
- Pam Waitekus – Absent.
- Bruce Reiginer (Activities Committee)- Present and discussed methods of keeping up with rides.
- Karen Blomberg LOH Meeting –Meetings are held 3rd Tuesday of each month at Sue’s Wings & Things (eat at 6:00 and meeting begins at 7:00). No bake sale at bike night as discussed previously. No June meeting this month.
- Ken Higgenbotham (Safety) Absent
- Gary Clemmons (Head Road Captain) Absent

- Mike Coco. Don’t forget bike nights!. We still need volunteers for the year.
- Timms Rep – Ashley Chavez discussed upcoming Fathers Day event. Announced the referral program will be doubled for EC HOG members who refer buyers. \$100 will now be \$200, etc., etc.

Other Business and Drawings

- Held drawing for Members Pride \$10. Christine Minor name drawn. Not present, will roll to July drawing. Drew for (1) \$25 Timms gift card and (2) Chapter \$20 gift cards. Drew names for several left over pizza’s and donated remaining to Timm’s employees. Donations for food broke even with cost.

Meeting adjourned and members mingled.

Meeting minutes submitted by Tim Jones in Robin Perry’s absence.



Historian

Luanne Jones (Historian) – Please check out our dedicated Facebook site for albums/pictures and details of our rides at:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1058735334162011/>

Once more I give thanks to our Road Captains for leading us on our great riding adventures and helping us make history!!



Have you made your plans to attend the Hills N Hollers Rally yet?

HILLS N HOLLERS H.O.G. RALLY

You've had a taste of the beautiful riding experiences in Tennessee with previous rallies, now it's time for the Main Event, the Hills n Hollers HOG Rally, coming September 18-21, 2019.

Mark your calendars now, and plan on being in Johnson City, TN during this prime time of the year. This is a four day event with a nominal registration fee that includes admission to all HOG Rally events & performances. You will enjoy daily guided rides, an abundance of non-guided rides, and nightly entertainment. The rally events include, but not limited to, the Opening and Closing ceremonies, nightly entertainment, poker runs, and great destination rides. The rides will showcase a variety of things from winding curves, breathtaking natural and manmade scenery, historic land marks and local points of interest. There truly is a ride for everyone. As a special incentive to register early, everyone that pre-registers will be put in for a chance to win a free hotel stay at the rally. On-site registration will be available by credit card only.

Come experience our hills and hollers with southern charm and hospitality while creating memories to last a lifetime! Reserve your room today and turn a great trip into an unforgettable journey. Host hotel for the Rally along with registration check in will be held at the Holiday Inn located at 101 W Springbrook Dr, Johnson City, TN 37604.

Please follow our Facebook page.

Remember, the Rally runs on volunteers and your help is needed, if interested in volunteering for a short timeframe, please contact our volunteer coordinators at rallyvolunteers@yahoo.com

Thanks!



Note from Tim Jones- Director.

Robin Perry, 2019 Chapter Secretary, has given me her resignation effective June 5th 2019. I wish her the very best and thank her for serving as Secretary in 2018 and this portion of 2019.

In the interim, sign in sheets can be e-mailed to me at TimJonesRE@gmail.com. You may give me the sign in/guest waivers in paper form at the next following Chapter Meeting if this works best for you. Melissa Clemons, our membership officer and I will work to assure we all have the latest list of members and the latest copy of the sign in sheets.



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