

**ELECTRIC CITY HARLEY OWNERS GROUP #4769** 

# **NOV / DEC 2020**

## H.O.G. Tells ELECTRIC CITY CHAPTER #4769

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### Ride, Be Safe, Have Fun

BY Mike Coco

Director- 2020 EC HOG

From the Director Mike Coco November/December 2020 Newsletter Submission

Hello all members and hope you and your families are doing well and staying safe.

The COVID-19 pandemic is with us and we all need to use common sense when around others since there is no way to know who might be a carrier.

The Vaccines to slow the spread are scheduled to be administered and we hope to see the numbers drop so that we can return to some sense of normalcy.

As a chapter, we were able to complete two group rides plus the annual You Are Not Forgotten Veterans event and the annual Jack Hurley memorial Toy Run in November.

In December, there was also the LOH Christmas party with a men's ride the same day. Check out the chapter website link to pictures from some of the rides or go directly to the Face Book page Electric City HOG Chapter #4769 Historical Records to view some of the great pics taken by our chapter Photographer/Historian, Tim Jones who is also our Assistant Director.

We did skip our annual Electric City HOG Christmas party at Tucker's restaurant for the safety of our members. There is some thought to postponing this annual event and depending on the state of COVID in 2021, we may have an event next year or do an outdoor event in the spring time.

Your chapter officers worked on tabulating final numbers for awards to be presented at the December chapter meeting for the chapter milage challenge, participation percentage, and Volunteer recognition. We presented the awards at the December chapter meeting to all that were present and mailed the awards to those recipients who do not attend the meeting. We will also have some rockers to give out at a later date for the participation category.

During our October meeting, we asked for nominations for primary and secondary officer positions but did not receive any. During the December meeting we had one of our members nominate themselves to take over two secondary officer positions. Tim Rogers will be our chapter's 2021 Safety Officer and Webmaster replacing Ken Higginbotham and Lyn Guffee respectively. The current status and the projected chapter officer list is as follows: Director - Mike Coco Assistant Director – Tim Jones Secretary - Christina Copeland Treasurer – George Turner LOH Officer – None Membership Officer – Luanne Jones Merchandise Officer - Christina Copeland Safety Officer – Tim Rogers Webmaster – Tim Rogers Editor – Ray Keiper Volunteer Coordinator Officer – Mike Coco \*Contact any officer for more details on these positions or to nominate yourself or someone else. Keep an eye on our website calendar (electriccityhog.com) and our group Facebook page (Harley Owners Group Electric City Chapter #4769) for any events. Thanks to all for being a part of this great group. Stay safe and hope to see you all soon!



#### Fill in the blank:

The person most responsible for my safety on the road is?

> BY TIM JONES Asst. Director

I hope you got the answer right (hint: they are usually hiding in your mirror, take a look when no one else is around).

2021 is here and your Chapter Officers are looking forward to some great riding and events filled with lots of fun this year for us all.

The **fun** part can seriously be hampered by an accident or injury while on the ride, and by **everyone** on the ride. Many of us have had the unpleasant experience of "going down" on a motorcycle or simply having to be witness to their riding companion go down and see and feel their pain.

Boy, I started out talking about fun, but seems I got off topic?? Well not really, because as we hear so often in todays world about precaution and prevention, that is part of what it takes to preserve "fun", by being proactive in avoiding the lack of. I would much rather celebrate after a good ride, than to remorse for someone actions that may have led to them or others on the ride being involved in something that possibly could have been prevented, especially if these actions were my own.

There are tons of good articles on safe riding out there. I would like to share one I think has some relevance to our livelihood when it comes to riding. I have attached an article from the Road Guardians 2021 Newsletter. Check them out if you like to browse the web for quality tips and articles about being a safe motorcyclist.....and preserve your FUN!

Our Chapter has been blessed with new members, some with little riding experience. I ask you to just think back for a moment when you first began riding, whether last year or fifty years ago. Who has been the person over the years who made the most positive influence on your riding safety? Be that person to others.

Vicki Sanfelipo AKA "Spitfire" Co-Founder Road Guardians Director Accident Scene Management

I've heard it all!

- Pull over safely
- Never pull over under a bridge
- Always drive to an exit to get off the highway
- Angle your vehicle to increase visibility

Blah, Blah, Blah, What's a biker to do? If you experience an emergency and are unable to drive to a "safe" location, what should you do? If the rain coming down so hard that you can't see a thing and you are hydro-planning, is it still unsafe to stop under a bridge? I won't pretend to be the ultimate expert but this is a question I just don't see answered when I search the Internet. Opinions from motorcyclists are as varied as the wind, so I will speak from 30 years of riding experience. You are welcome to share your opinions after the article and give us some examples of what YOU have done or would do. I will speak about interstate travel only in this article.

Pull Over Safely



When I need to pull over on the interstate, I check my mirrors first to be sure no one is coming up fast from behind me or following too closely to avoid rear ending me. I assume they are distracted and may need a little extra time to make an informed decision about moving over or slowing down. When I feel it is safe, I apply my turn signal before backing off of the throttle or hitting my brakes. I slow down a little and check my mirrors to be sure the person in back of me understood my intention. I slow down enough to be able to exit onto the shoulder and past the rumble strip with ease. While crossing the rumble strip, I let go of the brake. I am constantly scanning the shoulder to be sure there are not any hazards, such as pieces of tires, broken glass, etc. I pull as far as I can to the right before stopping. I put my flashers on and check my mirrors again before I put my bike on the kickstand. I then exit to the right (away from traffic). If you have never done this before, give it a try. Reach with your left hand and grasp your right handlebar. Hop once or twice with your right foot then step away from the bike. You are exiting away from traffic rather than backing your body toward traffic.

With a little practice you won't look too silly. Now you can carefully do whatever it was you pulled over to do, keeping your body facing traffic so you will know if you suddenly need to jump out of the way. When remounting your bike, be sure the handlebars are turned all the way to the left so full weight of the bike is on the kickstand. Grasp the right handlebar with your right hand. Step on the footboard with your right foot and step over the saddle of the bike with your left foot. Again, this will keep you from the vulnerability of turning your back to traffic as you mount your bike from the left side. Cancel your flashers and put your left turn signal on. Do not start advancing your bike until you see a large enough gap in traffic. Increase your speed on the shoulder so when you move into traffic, you are going fast enough to avoid being rear ended or causing other traffic to apply their brakes which increases the chance of them losing control.



Never pull under a bridge If that is wrong then I'm going to hell. It's not like I see a bridge and think, "I want to pull under that bridge!" But there are times when it is safer to be under that bridge than out on an open highway with a deluge of rain pouring down and lightening striking so close I am temporarily blinded. It's best to plan ahead and not get caught in the rain or to exit if you need to put rain gear on, but there are times when rain just happens. If you've been riding for any length of time, you know what I am talking about.

There are a few rules for pulling under a bridge, however. See my notes above. Here are a few extra hints. When you pull over, pull as far forward as you can without getting back out into the rain. There will be others who may join you. If you must double up, get as far off of the road as possible and never leave your bike near the traffic lane. It is not safe for anyone and you jeopardize more than your own safety when you do that. If there is no room for you, and you still want to stop, leave your bike in the rain, grab your gear and go under the bridge to seek shelter. Do not risk the safety of others to keep your bike under the bridge. Keep your rain gear in your right saddlebag. That way you won't have your back to traffic as you access your gear. Angle your vehicle to increase visibility

Your motorcycle should NOT be angled to increase visibility. Angling your bike just gives cars and trucks more surface to strike. While a large car with strobes or a truck can get more attention that way, a motorcycle is simply not sturdy enough and being hit by another vehicle can cause it to strike other people who are on the shoulder of the road. Keep your bike pointed in the direction it was traveling, add flashers for extra visibility, and move off the road as far as possible.

#### Always drive to an exit to get off the highway –never pull over on the shoulder

I hate the words always and never. It's just not reality. Sometimes pulling over is necessary. If it is not necessary, then wait for an exit or rest area to pull over safely. Happy Travels! Here's to a better year in 2021! I hope to see you soon....and Let's Ride!!

#### Tim Jones

#### **2021 Assistant Director – Electric City HOG**



#### ELECTRIC CITY HARLEY OWNERS GROUP #4769 Minutes of the November 3, 2020 Chapter Meeting

Meeting called to order by Mike Coco Opening prayer was given by George Turner Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mike Coco Roll Call (Luanne Jones) Enrollment 91, Members Present 24, 0 guest

#### **Officers Reports**

Mike Coco (Director)

- Welcome Mike welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- Birthdays Luanne Jones, George Turner, & David Young
- New Members Jeff Hunt
- Christmas Party Postponed until a later date due to gathering restrictions
- Mileage Challenge Ends November 3rd. Next year's dates: Feb 3 to Nov 2, 2021. Three categories to win: Retired, Working, and LOH. You have to attend at least 12 activities to be entered and you can only enter one category.
- **Ride 365** Ends December 31<sup>st</sup>. Please see Rob at Timms to log your mileage.
- Activities:
  - Veterans Tribute @Timms November 7<sup>th</sup>, 11AM 5PM Volunteers Needed
  - **Ride to the Rock:** November 7<sup>th</sup> KSU 10AM
  - Richard Campbell Veterans Home: November 8th KSU 12PM
  - **Ride to Lake Lure, NC:** November 21<sup>st</sup> KSU 10AM
  - Black Friday @Timms: November 27<sup>th</sup>, 7AM 1PM. Volunteers Needed
  - **Toy Run:** November  $29^{th}$  Watch for details
  - Brasstown BBQ Ride: December 12<sup>th</sup> KSU 1PM
  - LOH Christmas Party: December 12<sup>th</sup> 2PM at Lisa Coco's home.

#### George Turner (Treasurer's Report)

- HOG Balance: \$2,228.36
- LOH Balance: \$248.13

#### Karen Blomberg (LOH Report)

• LOH Meeting – November 17<sup>th</sup> at Sue's

#### (Head Road Captain)

- 11/7 Ride to the Rock: KSU 10AM
- 11/21 Lake Lure, NC: KSU@10AM.
- 12/12 Brasstown BBQ: KSU 1PM

#### **Timms Representative (none present)**

#### **Drawings**

- Chapter Pride: Lisa Coco
- Winner of \$25.00 gift card donated by Timms HD: Larry "Tank" Moore
- Door Prize Winners of \$20.00 gift cards: Deb Gutcheus & Neil Wagner
- Cookies: Redman, Jeanie, John Munns, Chris Sherman, Christina
- **50/50 Raffle:** Redman (who donated it back to our Chapter!)

#### Meeting adjourned

#### December 1, 2020 Chapter Meeting

- 1. 50/50 on rides supports out chosen charity Calvary Home for Children in Anderson.50/50 onLOH rides supports Quilts of Valor.50/50 @ meetings supports our chapter.Dollars raised will be reported out at January 2021 meeting and reported on our Facebook page.
- 2. Activities:
  - A. CHAPTER Mileage Challenge: Next year our chapter challenge will start February 2 thru November 2.
  - B. NATIONAL Mileage Challenge is January 1 through December 31.
  - C. 12/12 LOH Christmas Party. Also ride scheduled for those not attending LOH party.
  - D. ROAD CAPTAINS: Still have dates open in December. We have upcoming rides scheduled:
  - E. 12/12: Ride to Brasstown BBQ. KSU @ 1 PM.

End of year awards and drawings:

Membership ticket drawing: Timms Cash \$20, HD Mason Jars, HD Key Holder, HD Oil Sign, (7) \$20 gift cards.

Awards presented for the following categories. Participation: List of members who had their chapter dues paid for 2021. There was also a drawing for two \$25 gift cards and an HD mug.

Coco	Michael
Jones	Tim
Blomberg	Karen
Jones	Luanne
Wagner	Neil
Jensen	Jeannie
Gutcheus	Deb
Munns	John
Copeland	Christina
Waitekus	Pam
Barton	David
McGinty	Lisa
Gutcheus	George
Turner	George
Rogers	Timothy
Coco	Lisa
Guffee	Fish
Waitekus	John

Volunteers: All 28 members that volunteered this year received a \$20 Timms gift card with and extra card going to the top two volunteers, Christina Copeland and Jeannie Jensen who were tied at 6 each. There was also a drawing for an HD flag.

**Road Captains that lead a ride:** 

NAME	LEAD RIDE	Received \$20 Card
David Barton	6/6, 8/16, 9/15	X Plus US Bike Flag
Karen Blomberg	8/30	Х
Mike Coco	8/22, 9/19	X
Christina Copeland	5/2	X
Ken Higginbotham	8/8	Х
Tim Hill	3/7	
Tim Jones	1/1, 2/29, 3/14, 5/16, 8/11, 8/27	x
Mark Miller	6/14	Х
George Turner	3/21	Х
Neil Wagner	2/15	X
Lisa McGinnity	9/26	X

Mileage Challenge winners and Runners Up:

Karen Blomberg	Top Mileage (Full Service)	
Neil Wagner	Top Mileage (Set of Tires)	
Tim Jones	Top Mileage (1 Tire)	
Beverly Munns	LOH Mileage RU	
Christina Copeland	LOH Mileage RU	
Pam Waitekus	LOH Mileage RU	
Luanne Jones	LOH Mileage RU (Gift Card)	
John Munns	Retired Mileage RU	
John Waitekus	Retired Mileage RU (Gift Card)	
Mike Coco	Working Mileage RU	
Larry Moore	Working Mileage RU (Gift Card)	
Tim Rogers	Working Mileage RU	

3. 50/50 Raffle.

### PLEASE STAY SAFE .... WEAR A MASK ... GET THE VACCINE .... COVID-19 IS NO JOKE LIVE TO RIDE AGAIN.

#### ELECTRIC CITY HOG CONFIRMED ROAD CAPTAINS TO DATE FOR 2021

DAVID	BARTON	864-642-5339
MIKE	COCO	407-361-3304
TIM	JONES	803-463-9758
JOHN	MUNNS	864-483-4294
MARK	MILLER	864 -303-8071
GEORGE	TURNER	864-642-5639
NEIL	WAGNER	610-213-0286

And our Lady Road Captains

KAREN	BLOMBERG	401-226-6511
CHRISTINA	COPELAND	864-518-4735
LISA	MCGINTY	864-979-6956





FEEL FREE TO FORWARD THIS ISSUE OF H.O.G.® OFFICER CONNECTION TO YOUR CHAPTER MEMBERS

#### A Message from your H.O.G. team

As 2020 closes out, the entire Harley Owners Group team here in Milwaukee thanks you for your continued support of H.O.G., your chapter members, and your sponsoring dealer. It's been a challenging year, yet you have risen to the occasion by finding creative ways to engage with your fellow officers and chapter members and provide compelling reasons to ride while navigating a changing patchwork of regulations and restrictions. In short – well done.

As we look forward to the new year, we know there will still be challenges ahead. But we know together we can face any obstacle and come out even stronger on the other side.

From all of us in H.O.G., best wishes to you and your families. And we look forward to an even better 2021.

Your H.O.G. Team: Jennifer, Sheila, Bruce, Pete, Paul, and Stan.



#### **Get Ready for Daytona**

The 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Daytona Bike Week is coming up March 5-14 and next year more than ever it will be an epic kick-off to a fresh and exciting riding season as well as the first public chance to demo ride all the new 2021 Model Year Harley-Davidson motorcycles, including the new Pan America adventure touring model.

To make planning a trip to Daytona easier than ever, Harley-Davidson is working with dozens of dealers in the area and along the route to provide safe, secure and hassle-free bike shipping service and free Bike Week Park & Ride trailer storage at select dealerships to ensure your members' pilgrimage to the Sunshine State is convenient and fun.

Spread the word and share all the details with this link on <u>h-d.com</u>.



2021 H.O.G. Rallies are filing up fast

The H.O.G. team has planned a great group of 2021 Rallies for you to get back out on your Harley-Davidsons and see the great U.S.A. in 2021 and they are filling up fast. Spread the word among your members to check out the schedule and start planning.

All the dates and details are available on the <u>rally map</u> along with registration links and lodging information. Note that planning is ongoing and additional rally info will be published as plans are finalized. All events are subject to change, so visit the rally registration page for the most up to date information.

Run to The Fun H.O.G. Touring Rally	3/2/2021	3/5/2021	Virginia Beach, VA > St. Augustine, FL
Texas Hill Country H.O.G. Touring Rally	4/26/2021	4/29/2021	Austin, TX > San Antonio, TX
Riding the Ozarks H.O.G. Touring Rally	5/3/2021	5/6/2021	Little Rock, AR > Rogers, AR
Old Spanish Trail H.O.G. Touring Rally	5/19/2021	5/26/2021	Glendale, CA > Santa Fe, NM
Bikes Bourbon and Bluegrass H.O.G. Rally	6/9/2021	6/12/2021	Lexington, KY
Legends and Lore H.O.G. Rally	6/24/2021	6/26/2021	Cumberland, MD

Iron Adventure Run H.O.G. Rally	7/15/2021	7/17/2021	Ludlow, VT
Border to Border Posse Ride	7/21/2021	7/31/2021	El Paso, TX > Missoula, MT
Great Lakes H.O.G. Rally	7/22/2021	7/24/2021	Escanaba, MI
Rocky Mountain H.O.G. Rally	8/19/2021	8/21/2021	Durango, CO
Reflections H.O.G. Rally	8/26/2021	8/28/2021	Lake Placid, NY
Lake Michigan H.O.G. Touring Rally	8/29/2021	9/2/2021	Battle Creek, MI > Milwaukee, WI
Oregon Volcanoes H.O.G. Touring Rally	9/11/2021	9/15/2021	Portland, OR > Medford, OR
Great Smoky Mountain H.O.G. Rally	9/28/2021	10/2/2021	Maryville, TN



#### **Regional Officer Connection Update**

As we noted in the last issue of HOC, Regional Officer Connection training will be completely virtual for 2021.We're looking forward to a more comprehensive experience next year, with the added opportunity of working in smaller groups as part of the session. We'll be starting sessions in mid-January and completing them by the end of February so that you can attend the training before the riding season begins. We will provide more specific details on dates and registration in the next issue of HOC.

#### H.O.G. webpages on H-D.com have been updated and moved

The Chapter Officer Resources link is now located in the FAQ at the bottom of the Harley Owners Group > <u>H.O.G. Chapters webpage</u>.

Direct link to Chapter Officer Resources.

#### <u>Chapter Tip</u>

Auto-Renew makes Membership Renewal Simple

Remembering to renew your H.O.G. membership every year can be a hassle, especially during this busy time of year. Encourage your members to enroll in H.O.G.'s Auto-Renew program so they don't skip a beat on the benefits of membership. It's easy, and there's even the bonus incentive of an exclusive free T-shirt for new sign-ups. Some restrictions apply. Full details at hog.com/renew.



