



Mendocino County Harley Owners Group (Chapter #351)

HOG Wash

From Me to You

Allen Ott, Director

Gosh, this weather is crazy isn't it? Ma nature can't seem to make up her mind. We get a few days of nice riding, then a few days of getting wet with showers. Winter just wants to keep holding on for a bit longer I guess. Soon, real soon I'll bet ya, and we'll be wishing for a quick shower to cool things off.

Let's see, since I last talked with you, I, Mike A, Keith G, and Michael F, attended Primary Officer's Training in Las Vegas. We had a very good ride down, with the exception of one hitch. There was a breakdown. It happened within seeing distance of Las Vegas. Bummer! Luck was with us though and all turned out fine. We experienced a very enlightening, informative and re energizing two full days worth of learning. All four of us came away with more knowledge than we had going into the training, and are looking forward to passing the knowledge along to all of you. There was ample opportunity to meet officers from other chapters throughout the U.S. and compare stories about our chapters. We also walked away receiving some pretty neat stuff too. The ride back was nice, a little wet at one point, but very nice all the same, and trouble free.

We had a good ride on Sunday, 06/05. We did a practice run of the route that will be used for the poker run, and stopped at all three of the designated stops. It is a pretty decent route, with lots of beautiful scenery, and for those of us with map dyslexia, a fairly easy route. Shouldn't be too easy to get lost. The designated stops are easy to find, and have lots of parking available. The highlight of this ride was when we arrived at the destination, the Elk's Lodge. A young lady having her 4th year birthday celebration with her father and a handful of family & friends

(both adult and children), were stunned when about a dozen roaring bikes pulled up and parked just a matter of feet from them.

After talking with the father, I come to learn he is a member of the Elk's, and will be helping with our poker run. Kind-a neat. Well, to make a long story short, none of the invitees to the birthday party showed up, and an invitation was extended to us to celebrate his daughter, Andrea's, birthday with them. They had lots of good food to share, and a very nice birthday cake, which we helped devour after singing happy birthday to little Andrea. I wonder just how many 4 year olds can say they had their birthday party crashed by singing HOGs.

Well, I'm running late at submitting this article to our editor, so I'm going to stop here, and hope it makes the presses in time for publishing.

Until next time, remember, let's ride and have fun.
Allen Ott, Director MCHOG



Primary Officers Training

Michael Fischer, Secretary

Primary Officers training Las Vegas, Nevada May 13th – 14th 2005

Director: Allen Ott, Assistant Director: Mike Andrade, Treasurer: Keith Graydon, Secretary: Michael Fischer

Chapter one: **THE JOURNEY BEGINS**

Day 1: Tuesday, May 10th 2005

For me the trip to Las Vegas began a day earlier than the others. I decided to do the sixty miles from Fort Bragg to Ukiah Tuesday evening and spend the night at the local Motel 6. I figured a little less butt time on Wednesday would be a good thing? That proved to be a wise decision. After a quiet dinner with my friend Cathy, it was time to call it a night. The morning would come soon enough.

Day 2: Wednesday, May 11th 2005 (0900 Ukiah Harley Davidson)

The morning air was cool and there was the promise of a warm clear day ahead. After all the rain on the days before, this was a welcome sight indeed. After a quick bite at Carl's Junior I found myself the first to arrive at our departure point of Ukiah HD. I pull up in front and stretch out on my Dyna. With all the gear on the back it was like the coolest recliner in the world! Kicked back in the morning sunlight, I was starting to doze off when I heard the sound of approaching bikes. Allen and Keith were rolling in from the North with Mike not too far behind. A final check of our gear and our rides and we are heading South down U.S. 101. Our plan was to make it to Hollister for lunch with a shop stop at the House of Thunder in Morgan Hill. The ride down to San Francisco went by quickly and as we passed through the tunnel at Sausalito I realized I would be riding over the Golden Gate Bridge for the first time. I've been over that bridge dozens of time's over the years, but it never felt like this. Well, maybe once, back in 1965 as a little boy of 12 going over it for the very first time. It was that kind of feeling. It was bigger, brighter, and higher and I felt cool as hell riding over it on a Harley Davidson!

Riding out 19th Avenue and onto Hwy 280, the traffic was light and the pace was quick. We were around Daly City when up ahead I could see the complete shadow of a passenger jet on the concrete freeway ahead, we would pass right through it. That just felt....weird? I'm not sure how Mike did it, but he got us to the new location of House of Thunder Harley Davidson in Morgan hills. You have to know where this place is, because you can't see it from the freeway. It's a brand new building with marble like floors and high vaulted ceilings (and the bathroom is pretty cool too)! After a lap around the floor to check out all the new rides, Allen and I purchased dealer pins and we are on our way once more. Finally we pull into Hollister for a late lunch. The town is much larger than I imagined. I thought it would be like Ft. Bragg, one main street and you're done. Lunch was at Johnny's place where

it was cool inside and nice to get in out of the heat. Keith treated us to a round of cold one's and lunch was ordered. They serve a pretty mean burger and their homemade potato salad wasn't too shabby either. A photo op out in front with the "Brando" sign and we were gearing up to go when Mike discovered one of the bolts holding his side bag was missing. In search of a new fastener we found a local bike shop just a few blocks up the road. I cannot remember the name of the shop, but the dude was very cool and gave Mike a bolt.

Out on the sidewalk, it looked like a very bad Nextel cup pit stop. While Mike and Allen sorted out tools and replaced the bolt on his soft tail, I decided to re-install my stock foot pegs on the Dyna. With only forward controls and a long ride on the Low Rider I thought it would be prudent to have a back up leg position. This would prove to be a very wise decision down the road. So with Keith's help and \$ 21.00 worth of "genuine Harley Davidson" replacement bolts (4 -zinc no less). We were once again good to go. We decided that too much of the day had slipped by for us to take Hwy 25 - 198 and 33 diagonally across the coastal range down to Taft, and instead booked it due west on Hwy 156 to the intersection of Hwy 152 and US 5 just east of Los Banos.

"We got-a long way to go, and a short time to get there". South bound now, hooked up and haulin' butt. I've never seen so many F-ing big rigs in my life! For me this was the only unpleasant part of our trip. At Buttonwillow we hooked a left and headed into Bakersfield on old hwy 58. I was glad it was only the middle of May; this place can be painfully hot in dog days of summer. We checked into a Best Western after I did my best to get run over by an SUV by jumping into the next left turn lane following Mike without looking! This was much to close for my liking as I was looking right into the face of the woman in the passenger's seat. With their horn blowing and my heart in my throat I squeezed between them and the big shinny tanker to my right. That was a dumb F-ing move on my part and one of those lessons you're grateful to have learned without finding out if Blue Shield is your primary or secondary insurance carrier. The lesson learned: Ride your own ride, don't fixate on the bike in front of you. Check the lane next to you by looking yourself into it, not just with your mirrors. It's your ass, cover it!

The Best Western hotel Bakersfield is right next to Buck Owens Crystal Palace Museum and Dinner Theater, which translated means "A fancy cowboy bar with fixins". It was actually a very cool place with lots of memorabilia from "Buck's" humble beginnings, through the Hee-Haw day's to the present where he still performs live on week-ends. The food smelled great but was a little too pricy for our budgets so we settled into the hotel café next door where we had a quiet, simple and satisfying meal. This time Mike picked up the tab on the cold ones; I see a pattern forming here and tell myself that the next round down the road will be on me. We'll get to that in the next newsletter with Chapter Two: SEE YOU LATER, HARLEY STATOR!

Till then, be safe. Michael Fischer, Secretary MCHOG

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2005 Chapter Camp-out

Dean Giese, (This event is being organized by our "Ladies of Harley").

It's all set up at Bandon/Fort KOA campground for the campout on the 29th and 30th of July. Make campsite reservations ASAP. The phone number is 1-800-562-3298. There are no cabins available, only tent and trailer sites. Here is some info on the place.

Is this the enchanted forest? The Bandon / Port Orford KOA sure seems like it, with eight acres of native Oregonian trees creating wonderfully woodsy, secluded campsites. Add a half-acre playground, heated pool, 14-foot-long hot tub, daily pancake breakfasts with fresh strawberries, blackberries and blueberries, and you've discovered a truly magical setting. Located on the beautiful Oregon coast, Bandon boasts endless stretches of wide sand beach and rocky sea stacks. With Floras Lake and the Rogue River nearby, every water activity from crabbing to windsurfing is at your fingertips - or toetips.

The fun continues back at the campground. In summer, young campers - or their parents! - get free rides on KOA's miniature train. Join in the fun basketball and horseshoe contests too.

Our Amenities

Sites:

- Maximum Length Pull Through - 70 feet
- 50 Amp Service Available
- Cable TV (no charge).

Services:

- Entrance Gate
- LP Gas (available with charge)
- Modem Dataport (no charge)
- Snack bar (available with charge).

Fun:

- Swimming Pool (May 27 - September 30)
- Hot Tub/Sauna (no charge)
- Firewood (available with charge)
- Planned Activities Available

Our Activities

Miniature Train Rides

Free mini train ride for the young and the young at heart. Offered nightly from Memorial Day through Labor Day!

Pancake Breakfast

Big fluffy pancakes with maple syrup, strawberries, blackberries, or fresh blueberries and whipped cream. Yum! Offered every day Father's Day through Labor Day.

Ice Cream Socials

Vanilla ice cream topped with chocolate, caramel, or butterscotch with whipped cream. At a \$1.00 a dish-it is a sweet treat. Served most nights Father's Day through Labor Day.

Local Attractions

West Coast Game Park

10 minutes north, visit their website at www.gameparksafari.com

Floras Lake

3 miles from the campground - this fresh water lake is the wind surfing capital of Southern Oregon. Equipment and lessons available at the lake.

Cape Blanco Lighthouse

A 15 minute drive to the most westerly point in the continental United States. Take a tour to the top of the lighthouse, and tour the Hughes House.

Bandon

Bandon Cheese Factory, Old Town Bandon, Bandon Coquille Lighthouse, Cranberry Museum, Vitra's European blown glass studio, Bandon Beach Horse Riding Stables.

July 2005

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
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
31						

Friday, July 1st to Sunday July 3rd

Hollister Independence Rally, Hollister CA.

Thursday, July 7th

General Meeting and Dinner. Ukiah Garden Cafe Cocktails
6:30 Dinner 7:00

Sunday July 10th

MCHOG Poker Run, see our website for details.

Thursday, July 28th

Officers meeting at Ukiah Garden Cafe 6:30 PM

Friday, July 29th to Sunday July 31st

MCHOG Camp-out, see page 3 for more details.

(Check our website for more information on these events)

August 2005

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	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	31			

Thursday, August 4th

General Meeting and Dinner. Ukiah Garden Cafe 7:00PM

August 6th to the 12th

Sturgis Bike Rally, Sturgis, SD

Sunday August 7th

Monthly MCHOG Ride, leave Coffee Critic at 9:00AM.

Sunday, August 21st

17th annual Redwood Empire Chapter Run.

Thursday, July 25th

Officers meeting at Ukiah Garden Cafe 6:30 PM

Saturday, July 27th

Redwood Coast Rider's "Beat The Heat" Poker Run

Our Own Poker Run, Sunday July 10th
Tell all your friends, see details on our website



Our sponsor

Harley Davidson of Ukiah

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Duell Parks, Owner

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