



HOG Wash

Mendocino County Harley Owners Group Chapter #351

September, 2008

From August to September... Cindy Browning, Activities Co-Director

Hi There Everyone! How have we been doing?
Riding I hope.

Wow! August what a month of riding! Our Ride to Yountville to feed the Vets—thank you to all who could make it. I know the Vets appreciate us coming out to help and visiting with them. Our Covelo ride to the Blackberry Festival was a beautiful but hot one. At least most of us were able to cool off with those berry shushes with ice cream, yummmm! Our ride to Point Arena (suggested by our Road Captain Gregg Wilson) should be awesome. Seafood, the beach, music, and great company: who could ask for more.

In September we have of course our monthly general membership meeting at the Ukiah Garden Café on the 4th starting at 5:30 p.m.

Now this date is one to remember, so make sure to put it on your calendar. It's our annual MCHOG Picnic at Lake Mendocino. On Sunday September 7 from 8 am to 6 p.m. The club has reserved Oak Grove Day Use Area. The club will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, drinks, and such but we would like to ask you to bring a potluck dish. There are some great cooks in this crowd (you know who you are) so bring a dish to show off. So make sure you're there, it really is a great time. Friends and family are always welcome.

Also we have a ride to Occidental-Sonoma on the 13th with lunch at the Howard Station Café with another ride on the 28th to Konocti-Lake County with lunch at the Classic Rock Café. This is a reschedule that was rained out at the beginning of the year.

Well with the days getting shorter and with fall almost here there will be plenty of beautiful rides and events coming up so make sure to keep checking our calendar and take advantage of this great riding weather.

Anyone with ride suggestions please feel free to contact me at cindymbrowning@earthlink.net or call 354-2727 to get a ride of your choice scheduled today!



From Don M., MCHOG Director:

Hi Folks. Want you all to know that I am in grape harvest over here in the Anderson Valley and won't be able to attend the next couple meetings. As far as I know there isn't any ground breaking news to report. I do plan to attend the annual picnic on September 7. Talk to you all later. *Don't do anything I wouldn't do.*



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From The G.M. — Ride Planner Rich Venturi, General Manager, H-D Ukiah MCHOG Former Director

Greetings My Fellow MCHOGs.

Since we are still pretty much in the middle of our riding season I want to talk about trip planning. Many of you, like me, like to take long journeys on our motorcycles. In March of this year, I took an 11 day trip and covered Eastern California, South and Western Arizona and Western Nevada for a total of 2700 miles. I planned this trip using the new and improved Ride Planner that is available on www.harley-davidson.com.

Now I know there is always the two sided argument – pre-planning vs. just hitting the road and end up where you end up that day. This article is not about any discussion one way or the other. You do what you wish. For those of you, like me, who like to have an idea of where you're going – the Ride Planner is for you. It also comes in handy in mid-trip and I'll explain that as well.

By going to the Harley-Davidson website, you can access the Ride Planner. This program will not only allow you to lay out your route, it will also give you information on the location of Shell Gas Stations along your route as well as Best Western Motels. All you do is plug in your starting point and ending point and the program will lay out a route for you. You can make the selection to “avoid highways” – always the best selection to take – and it will show you the most direct route without highways. The nice thing is you can add destinations along the route and physically change the route using your mouse and cursor pointer. Once you change your route, the program will recalculate the mileage and time of travel. Now we all know these trip programs give us straight travel time. They do not allow for the gas stops, stretch stops, picture stops and nature calls – which as I get older, seem to come more frequently! But I digress.

The feature I really like about the Ride Planner program is the Motels feature. I like a nice comfortable bed at the end of a day's ride! It will show you all the Best Western Motels in the area of your planned route. The nice thing is you can click on a motel and a new window will pop up on your screen. It will give you motel information, let you check room availability and make your reservations without having to go to a separate website for the motel. It also gives you a discount for booking the reservation from the Ride Planner. I found some of the rates lower than what motels offer for AAA discounts– not too shabby. It will then add the motel directly to your ride plan along with directions on how to get there!

During my trip, I ran into some bad weather and had to revise my plan. With the help of my lovely wife, at home on her lap top, she was able to access my ride plan on line and with me in a motel room and a map and her on the computer, we were able to find a great re-route along with Motel reservation all on the Ride Planner.

So, next time you're on the web and find yourself just surfing the net – check out the Ride Planner on www.harley-davidson.com. It's under the “Experience” heading across the top of the website page. Plan a trip and check out all the features of this really excellent program.

Until Next Month, Ride Safe and Have Fun



We Get Letters...

There is a gentleman who has a business in Ukiah that will sew leather and patches. I thought it might be a good piece of info for the newsletter: Iron Paddock Upholstery, 122 Orr Springs Rd, Ukiah 707-489-3868. The owner's name is Drew Wallace.

Rich Venturi

Sure do miss you guys. Haven't even had a chance to get together with HOG here in Oregon yet! But planning on it soon. Riding as much as I can though. We bought a place with 10 acres, do I need to say anything more?! It's a lot of work. Just bought a tractor last week so that should help. Tell Milt I miss him also. You all take care.

Melanie Curley

Might as well remove me from the mailing list. Attachments don't come through...and I am about to sell my Harley. So will be resigning from the HOG. As they say in golfing, “Keep your left arm straight.” Happy Trails.

Ron Kuns

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September Calendar of Events

Calendar dates and times can—and do—change.

Check our web site www.MendocinoHog.com for the most current information. We also send out email Ride and Meeting Alerts. If you do not get these Alerts, send your email address to HOG@bellsprings.com. If you don't have access to email or the Internet, call the editor, Bear K, at 459-1532 for updated information.

MCHOG Events:

September 4, Thursday. Monthly Membership Meeting and dinner, Ukiah Garden Cafe, 1090 South State Street. Meet and greet, 5:30 pm, dinner 6:00 pm, meeting at 7:00 pm. Guests are always welcome.

September 7, Sunday. MCHOG Annual Picnic, at the Oak Grove Picnic Area, Lake Mendocino, 8 am to 6 pm. Coming in from the Highway 20 entrance, Oak Grove Day Use Area is just past the boat parking lot, next to the lake on the left. Friends and guests are welcome.

September 13, Saturday. MCHOG and Ladies of Harley Combined Ride to Occidental in Sonoma County, for lunch at Howard's Station Cafe. Great run along the Russian River and into the West Sonoma countryside. Meet at H-D Ukiah 9:30 am, leave 10:00 am.

September 24, Wednesday. MCHOG Officers Meeting, 6 pm, Rosie's Pizza, Ukiah. All members are welcome to attend officers meetings.

September 28, Sunday. MCHOG ride to Konocti Harbor Resort on Clear Lake for lunch at the Classic Rock Cafe. Meet at Ukiah Starbucks on Perkins Street east of the highway 10:00 am, leave 10:30 am.

Other Events:

September 14, Sunday. RIP's Bad Ride, to support the Diabetes Foundation, Napa Expo, 11 am to 4 pm. Information: cambenzler@comcast.net.

September 18-20. California State HOG Rally, in Victorville near San Bernardino. Information: www.castatehogrally.com.

September 24-28. Street Vibrations in Reno.





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www.MendocinoHOG.com*



Our Sponsor:
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**The 2009 Harleys are coming in
at H-D in Ukiah. Discover the
difference a year makes. Stop in
and let Danny show you
what's new.**