

Director Rob Stirling	 Welcome and thank you for attending. 18:33 start meeting. Let's finish meeting before it snows, supposed to snow Friday evening. Pledge of allegiance: Don French Thank you to All American for hosting and the pizza. Has everyone signed in? Yes How many rode tonight? 6 people rode to meeting. Thank You LOH for the snacks! Has everyone here paid for membership in 2024. Yes
Dealer Sponsor Lyndon Abell	 Riding Academy has started- just in time for snow Friday night! Raise your hand if you've ridden a fair amount in the last 2 months. Several hands raised. For the rest of you- if you didn't have your bike serviced in the fall please do it now. Your bike will run better, last longer, be more reliable, and be worth more at time of trade in if you keep it properly maintainedand that means not letting it sit thru the winter with contaminated fluids. Spring is just around the corner- if your tires are iffy now is the time- save \$60 on one tire and \$150 on two tires when we install them. We will also check your wheel bearing, your cush drive and your brake pads while we are at it. If your tires are not iffy- keep them that way by setting your tire pressure properly: check your tire pressure often. Another plug for the compact and inexpensive air compressor. Upcoming Seminars- signup sheet at the parts counter Suspension- this Saturday New Helix model Road Glide and Street Glide – Saturday Feb 24- 24's on 24! Road Trip Evidently we have had requests for a Milwaukee 8 motor seminar so – coming soon Also Demo Day on March 23- will need volunteers for help (Thanks Ed for wrangling and the many who have already stepped up!) Great time to check out the new Helix model Road Glide and Street Glide models. Pat has motor clothes specials:
Asst. Director Nick McConnell	 Ride365 results are still pending release. Not posted at this time, audit not completed by National HOG. Wild and Wonderful Rally Charleston, WV. Wednesday August 21st - Saturday the 25th. There is no Host Hotel, most of the hotels are within walking distance to shops and



	restaurants and where evening events will be held.
•	HATB 2024 is Friday September 27th - Sunday the 29th at the Francis Scott Key Resort call
	and give Lone Wolfe as the password for the hotel block.
•	Doc is leading a ride to the Tour of Valor HOG Touring Rally starting on the 13th of May.
•	Ed is leading a ride to the Rally Up Laconia Touring Rally starting on the 2nd of June.

Make sure you register for these Rallies and get with Doc or Ed for more details on their rides to the rallies.

o If you are or know any new members, be sure to get them out to our first HOG grilling day of the year for burgers and dogs followed by our New Members Ride @ 3:00 PM March 16th

Head Road Captain Ed Wilbur

Chapter Meeting inputs... for February 2024

Upcoming rides for February

- 18th Monthly Breakfast ride w/Rob Stirling
- 24th Snow Moon ride w/Bob Smith
- 25th February Social ride w/Phyllis Warman

March

- 7th Monthly lunch ride w/Fred Heppner
- 10th First 2024 Chicken ride w/Phyllis Warman
- 12th Monthly Bulrushes Brunch ride w/Bill Mattingly
- 16th Monthly New Member Ride w/Joe Stalcup
- 16th Baltimore Primary Ride Chili Cookoff w/Fred Heppner
- 17th Breakfast Ride w/Drew Stirling
- 17th Post Breakfast ride w/Drew Stirling
- 20th Spring Equinox ride w/Bob Smith
- 21st First Monthly Chapter Meeting ride w/Joe Stalcup
- Several of our RCs have already met and begun plugging into calendar for this year. Please if you have any thoughts/ideas for a ride please get with an RC and let's see if we can put a ride together.
- One already added for each monthly is from Joe Stalcup with a Monthly Ride to the Chapter Meeting so please check out the calendar if you would like to join Joe for a ride to the dealership for our meeting.
- With this Joe, Joe if you could please join us up front...
- As Joe makes his way to the front, I am pleased to announce that Joe Stalcup has worked hard and dedicated time and completed our RC process and is now an All American H.O.G. Road Captain! Presented RC patch to Joe.
- Demo Day scheduled for March 16th has been moved to March 23rd, many of our RCs will be lending a hand leading the Demo Route rides in support of the dealership, for all of those who have volunteered thank you! There will be many events/activities that day so please come out and lend a hand. I am sure we will have more info to pass as the time gets closer.

Activities Debbie

- Phylis Warman is leading a ride to the social.
- Next Social will be Held Sunday, February 25th, Boomerangs in Solomon's Island at 2pm.
- 50/25/25 T-Shirt Game The pot is \$10 for February. Tennessee, won by Jim Filyac and Shirley Ridgel (donated back)



Membership Jim Filyac	 Current Membership Total: 198 Members in attendance: 51 Ari is a new member, first meeting. Likes twists and turns riding. Welcome 		
LOH Rene Wilbur Becky Dunn	 Sock Hop was a huge success! 43 tickets, 41 attended. Great costumes, Thank you Cortney for the great music. Round of applause for ladies who put on Sock Hop. March 16th LOH Swap and Sell (Our 1st grilling day of the year) Clean out closet or garage. Clothes, parts, household goods related to Harley Davidson. You must set up, take down and clean up your area. Pricing up to seller. Sign up for a table. Will also be having a bake sale that day. April 13th LOH Movie Night with Penny. More to follow, time and address Ribbon available for wreaths given away at holiday party that were missing ribbons. Interest sign-up sheet for Ladies Weekend house rental in October. Riders and passengers welcome, limited to 12 ladies, Will be sharing sleeping rooms/area, other common areas. Ladies with trikes will be there so everyone can ride around (double up) This is a togetherness event, share room/expenses. 		
Rob Stirling	 Jake Dunn (Service) recovering from shoulder surgery. Any bumped/bruised/good news? Annette not here this evening. 		
Director	 Short break New Member Picture, Birthday recognition, see HRC/LOH/Activities for more info on rides/events 		
Break (10-mins)	New Member Picture		
Safety Doc Truesdale	 What year was the first V-Twin engine introduced? Answer: 1909 How many different V-Twin engines have been built by and installed in Harley Davidson Bikes? Answer: 10 (Flat Head, Knucklehead, Pan Head, Shovelhead, Evolution, Twin Cam (Block head), Revolution, Milwaukee Eight, Revolution Max and Helix What year did the Harley Davidson Museum open? Answer: 2008, 105th anniversary See full safety discussion below. 		
Merchandise Drew Stirling	Nothing this month.		
Treasurer Christina Stirling	January 2024 Starting Balance \$10,367.41 Income \$3404.33 Expenses \$1802.58 Deposit for Holiday Hall, Memorial brick, caterer deposit Net Loss/Gain \$1601.75 Ending Balance \$11969.16		



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H.O.G Tags Gary Davis	Nothing this month.			
Webmaster Gigi Habiby	Nothing this month.			
Memorial Curator Phyllis Warman Rob Stirling	 Memorial update - Bricks have arrived. April 14th is the unveiling ceremony. Bricks seemed to have traveled around the country to get here. Maybe we should visit the people in Virginia that have the same address as Phylis. 			
Editor Jane Tyson Rob Stirling	 Please send any articles you have to editor@allamericanhog.com for the next edition. Winter Newsletter is available on the website or on the Eblast. How many have read newsletter on line? Several hands raised. You can easily read it online. Articles are due by 15 March. Publish by April 1st. 			

50/25/25 Doug Swaim \$48, John Alwine \$48

Door Prizes:

<u>rize:</u> Won By:

John and Cindy Alwine	Shot glass	Doc Truesdale
John and Cindy Alwine	Pant clips	George Rizor
Brian and Alexia McIntyre	Shot glass and poker chip	Ken Roccapkioke
Frank Nuhfer	50/25/25 strip	Jim Filyac
Nick and Gigi	HD Knucklehead book	Keith Brooks
Safety - Doc	HD cup	Gigi

Rob Notes:

Chapter Challenge books are available.

Meeting adjourned 19:29.

Additional Safety Notes Feb 2024 meeting

Too Long, Too Short...Where is Just Right?

When on tour I often get this question from my pillion partner at the beginning of each day's ride: How many miles are we riding today? Sometimes, if we're just letting the road be our guide, I don't really know. But usually, I've planned the route and know the answer, not counting any side trips that may strike our fancy along the way. This exchange, however, often makes me wonder what the ideal touring mileage is for a day in the saddle. In deciding that number, though, there are obviously a number of factors to consider:



Riding Environment

Weather: Because of the more exposed nature of motorcycle touring (versus a car), checking the weather forecast each morning is a regimen followed by most experienced riders. For example, the expectation of thunderstorms may dictate altering the day's route to avoid them. But much of the weather experienced on tour can't be avoided in advance. For instance, I've had to ride out unexpected thunderstorms in a café or some other protected structure. And even riding in a non-threatening steady rain usually means reduced visibility and a slower average speed.

Besides storms, very hot or cold weather may dictate more stops than originally planned for hydration or warming up in a café with a hot drink. High winds can also affect travel mileage. I recall exceptionally strong, steady cross winds once on the Kansas prairie, which required riding slower than normal highway speeds and keeping my bike leaned over to counteract nature's strong embrace. Weather is always a wild card on any motorcycle trip, which can slow the rider's rate of progress.

Terrain: Mountainous terrain usually means more curves—and more rider smiles—than flat prairie, but lots of curves invariably results in a slower average speed (or at least it should). A two-hundred-mile ride in the mountains will take noticeably longer than a comparable distance with few curves, and it usually will be more tiring for both riders and passengers. Also, mountainous terrain is often more scenic, inviting more stops to enjoy and photograph it.

And then there's the situation when riders want to get to the most desirable riding area as quickly as possible. To maximize their riding time, motorcyclists crossing desert or prairie often want to cover a lot of miles in the shortest amount of time. Because that can't be done on backroads, the super slab is probably their best bet. Long story short, riding terrain is an important consideration in planning the day's distance.

Type/Condition of Roads: Paved versus unpaved roads will make a large difference in mileage each day. A 100-mile day astride an adventure bike on challenging, unpaved roads takes much longer and more energy than riding several hundred miles on pavement. Also, I've noticed in locations like New England, where roadways are often in poor condition after severe winters, my average speed on this rough pavement is always slower than on smooth tarmac.

Traffic/Construction Delays: Although my planned tours usually avoid metropolitan areas, construction delays on rural two-lane roads and bridges during the warmer months can put a big dent in a rider's rate of progress. Although there are websites that can alert travelers to construction projects, my experience on backroads is that many of those construction zones appear with little warning. I recall being stopped on a two-lane road on the expansive plains of North Dakota, where our flagman was many miles distant, and out of sight, from the other end of the construction zone. We waited quite a while for the pilot truck to arrive and guide us at low speed along the single lane of asphalt. And there are vehicular accidents, which can stop all traffic (particularly on rural two-lane roads) for an extended period of time. Also, riders should expect heavy traffic around resort areas, particularly on weekends.

Touring & Travel Goals

Reservations: Reserved lodging can be an advantage or a disadvantage. The main advantage is that riders know they have a place to bed down regardless of their arrival time. This is comforting when unexpected delays cause the ride to take longer than planned at the day's outset. Occasionally on tour, because of unforeseen circumstances, I've not wanted to ride the full distance to the reserved room. This may be caused by severe weather or an interesting place I've discovered that I want to spend more time exploring. Reservations can be cancelled, unless it's too late to do so, and then I'm compelled to curtail the stop and push on to the reservation.

The same thing can happen with tickets purchased in advance for, say, a ride on a historic steam-powered train or some other entertainment. When traveling without room reservations, I usually find it necessary to start looking for a hotel by no later than around 4:00 p.m., or even earlier, before the "No Vacancy" signs start lighting up.

Planned and Unplanned Stops: On motorcycle tours, I usually plan one or two interesting stops each day, which typically include museums, battlefields, national or state parks, historical sites, etc. And then there are those unplanned, surprise stops, which make motorcycle touring such a spontaneous and enjoyable way to see the world.



It's not always places or things that prolong an unplanned stop, but the interesting people you meet along the way. Riding a motorcycle cross-country frequently triggers conversations with curious strangers, which driving an automobile does not. Oftentimes, the combination of reserved lodging and too many miles planned for the day means I can't spend as much time at some locations as I would otherwise prefer. So, the solution may be fewer miles or reservations.

Preferences of Other Riders and Passengers: Riding with others means that their preferences have to be considered in planning the day's route and distance. Some riders only want to hit the curves for as long and intensely as possible each day. Other riders want a more relaxed ride, stopping to smell the roses, so to speak. Rather than frustrating one or both sets of folks, a good idea may be to split into two riding groups, taking different routes to the same destination.

By now, you've probably reached the unavoidable conclusion that, in reality, there is no one *ideal* number of miles to cover each day on tour. It's highly idiosyncratic and *it just depends*....