



## Director's Message

Wow, what a great 2023 ride season we have had! There have been many Chapter rides and member rides this year. It was great to watch all your riding though posts on Facebook. I can't wait to see all those miles racked up in Ride 365 Chapter. I would have loved to have been able to add miles to participate, but due to my health challenges I was held back. Looking forward to next year and being able to ride with all of you and make up for lost miles!

We will have by the end of November over forty plus rides and 4 of those rides were overnights. Zero incidents this year. So, in summary we had an awesome year of riding and having fun. Angela and I did manage to ride over 4,000 miles which included a trip to Banff, Alberta Canada with fellow Chapter members. Many of you also road with other members to Milwaukee, Sturgis, Canada and more and racked up the miles. I loved seeing members that have not been very active in their riding in the past few years and seeing them riding like crazy this year. So please keep up the riding and post your adventures on the chapter Facebook page.

Earlier this year I dropped the goal of a million miles down for the Ride 365 Chapter Challenge to 800,000 miles. I believe if we meet or beat this goal, we will win the challenge for the West Region for the second time. Also, if we reach this goal, the chapter will provide a pizza party for all of you that participated. There are 27 members that have started their Ride 365 miles but have never turned in a second reading. For all of you that started your miles and have not turned in a second reading please do it soon as the end of the year is coming up fast. There are still over two and a half months remaining before the end of the year so ride as much as possible and rack up those miles.

I would like to personally thank all of you for your support and all your prayers during my challenging heart attack and surgery. I did have several heart tests done a year and a half ago and was given a clean bill of health, so all of this was a shock to me. I ended up with a double bypass. I am healing up fine and feeling good. I should be able to start riding again in December. My heart issues were due to cholesterol not stress. So, for all of you that are worried about me being stressed out, don't worry. Being your director and serving all of you for the last two years has been a pleasure and honor. I hope to be your director for another year.

Let's finish out this year with a bang by riding more with fellow chapter members, friends or solo to rack up the miles and show the other Chapters in our region that we are the best Chapter. When the sun is shining, get out and ride. If you are stressed or down, ride to get wind therapy and put a smile on your face. Sunset Chapters' priority is to make sure that you all are riding and having fun. So please continue to end this year by riding and having fun. Let your chapter officers know what we can do to help.

# Ride 365 Top 20 as of Oct 7<sup>th</sup>

- 1) Raymond M – 17,045
- 2) Debra M – 17,045
- 3) Jack G – 16,439
- 4) Michael M – 15,632
- 5) Mike W – 14,219
- 6) Gina G – 13,724
- 7) Jennifer W – 13,196
- 8) James B – 12,840
- 9) Gregory J – 12,281
- 10) Mike C - 12
- 11) Dale – 11,729
- 12) Scott M – 11,079
- 13) William H – 9,823
- 14) Roosevelt – 9,796
- 15) Trenton F – 9,305
- 16) Steven S. – 8,792
- 17) Thomas D – 8,790
- 18) Phil S – 8,514
- 19) Gerardo A – 8,199
- 20) Liz A – 8,147

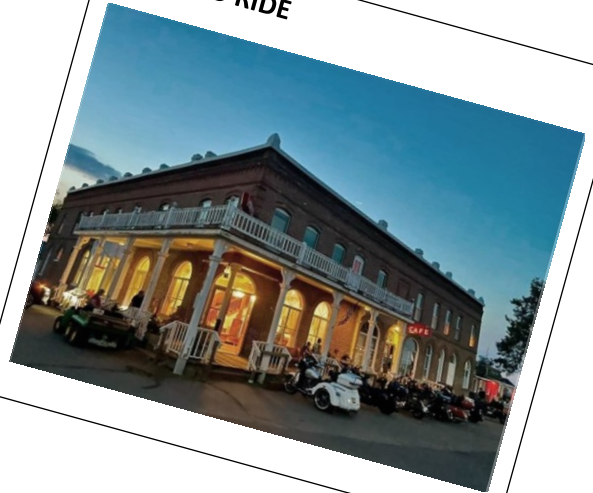
## 2023 OVERNIGHT RIDES

LEAVENWORTH RIDE



EASTERN OREGON RIDE

SHANIKO RIDE



LOLO PASS RIDE



# Last Rides of the Season

## **October**

14<sup>th</sup> – Donuts & Cider Ride

28<sup>th</sup> – Halloween Ride

## **November**

10<sup>th</sup> Veterans Day Ride / Parade

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **October**

16<sup>TH</sup> – Meet & Mingle @ Rock Creek Tavern - 5:30pm

22<sup>nd</sup> – Chapter Potluck Brunch - @ Paradise H-D 11:00am

### **November**

14<sup>th</sup> – Chapter Meeting @ Beaverton Elks – Dinner 6:00pm  
- Meeting 7:00pm

19<sup>th</sup> - Chapter Brunch @ Paradise H-D - 11:00am

23<sup>rd</sup> – Meet & Mingle @ Claim Jumpers - 5:30pm

### **December**

12<sup>th</sup> Chapter Meeting @ Paradise H-D – Dinner 6:00pm  
- Meeting 7:00pm

17<sup>th</sup> – Biscuits & Gravy Contest Brunch @ Paradise H-D 11:00am

28<sup>th</sup> – Meet & Mingle @ Thirsty Lion – 5:30pm

**Please check the website calendar often for more information and added events @ [sunesthog.com](http://sunesthog.com)**

# Road Captain Review 2023

BY PHIL SHELENY, Senior Road Captain

As the riding season is winding down, I wanted to review what the Road Captain group did this year. We've had a very successful riding season so far, with no major mishaps. In November we had our road captain election meeting and I accepted the Road Captain position for 1 more year (my last). The other officers are (5 minute Mike) Mike Cuciti, Assistant Senior Road Captain, Dale Scobert our Safety Director, and Martin Hehman as our Road Captain Scribe. We also elected 5 CORE members Dan Boss, Gary Sutherlin, Buck Worthy, Dave Mann, and Richard Dobson. The Core position members discuss and set policy for the Road Captain group. Not much changed this year since we had made several policy changes in 2021 and 2022.

In December, the CORE met to discuss any changes in the Road Captain policy and orientation documents or procedures. A few minor wording changes were made.

Our January meeting was a Road Captain review of the Road Captain orientation and policy documents. Also to take an evaluation to verify everyone understood the safety procedures and rules when leading a group ride. Martin, our Scribe maintains and updates our Road Captain and Event calendars. This is the lifeline of our Chapter. This year he also reviewed the Harley App planner, which Road Captains use to plan their rides. Any person who has the Harley App can use the ride planner. Each time you use the planner it becomes easier to use and follow.

In February and March, the CORE group conducted the Road Captain evaluation ride. All Road Captain positions are required to qualify. March was the annual ride planning meeting. All Captains chose a ride to lead. The goal this year was on new rides, routes, and destinations. We accomplished that goal with our Captains thinking "outside the box" and leading 11 new rides this year.

In July, the Road Captains hosted the 3rd Annual Sunset Chapter Rodeo at Banks High School. It was a successful event highlighted by the WSCO Deputies. They gave us tips on how to slow ride more effectively and safely, and demonstrated the techniques on the course they set up. Everyone rode the 9 courses including 2 for trikes, which were set up by the Captains. The event included a free BBQ. Plan to attend next year, as it is informative and fun.

Dale Scobert, our Safety Director conducts 6 GRO's (Group Riding Orientations) during the riding season. He reviews how we ride including hand signals, formations and safety do's and don'ts of riding in a group. The class lasts an hour and is held before the Paradise Mystery Rides.

## **2023 Highlights**

- Successful Season, No major mishaps
- 52 total rides (including those listed below)
- 6 PHD Mystery Rides
- 4 overnight rides
- 11 new rides
- 9 rides led by our 7 new Road Captains
- 4 rides rescheduled due to weather

**A big thank you to all the Road Captains  
for another successful riding season**

# SUNSET HOG SUMMER FUN

NOT-MT ST HELENS RIDE



HOT DOG SATURDAY COOKING



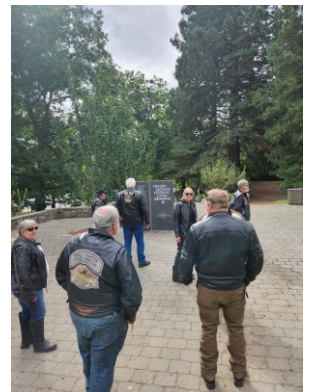
GARABALDI LUNCH RIDE



FERRY RIDE



WATTS VETERANS RIDE



SEPTEMBER MEET & MINGLE



ZILLAH TEAPOT RIDE



NEWPORT CHOWDER RIDE



LONG BEACH RIDE



## ***Sgt. Steve Watts Veterans Foundation***

As the “dog days of summer” draw to an end, and our wonderful riding weather begins to take that much expected turn for the worse, I am pleased to report the **1st Annual Steve Watts Veterans Memorial Ride** took place on Saturday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>. We had a total of seventeen riders who joined us on this inaugural event, led by our very own Army SGT First Class, Mike Cuciti. The ride was a short 75-mile round trip to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Portland and back to Paradise Harley Davidson, where the riders were met with a tasty hot dog lunch, and a 50/50 raffle. We raised money for a great cause, had an excellent ride and everyone had an awesome time.

The Steve Watts Veterans Memorial ride follows on the heels of our **2023 Motorcycle Raffle**, where most of you know the Foundation raffled a new 2022 Harley Davidson FLTRX Road Glide from Paradise Harley Davidson, 1 – 65 inch TV, one -\$500 PHD gift card and six-\$100 gift cards. The annual motorcycle raffle is really growing in notoriety with ticket sales originating from California, Florida, Idaho, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, and Washington. I’m quite certain Steve would be very proud and pleased to see the engagement from across the country.

You might find this interesting to know, Steve Watts started riding to the Oregon Veterans Home in The Dalles about 10 years ago to visit a Vietnam Veteran buddy of his. He discovered while visiting the veteran’s home that many of the veterans, while well taken care of medically, had very limited spendable resources. If they needed a new razor, toothbrush, wish to have a cookie, or another munchy, many veterans simply did not have the available funds to purchase these items, so they would just go without. Steve encouraged other chapter members to help and each year the chapter would schedule a ride to bring the Veterans these much needed items. When Steve became ill, I offered to help continue this tradition.

Now with the financial help of two very avid Harley Motorcycle enthusiasts, chapter members and friends of Mike Durbin, we are doing much more. They observed the chapter organizing items for the veterans, contacted me and asked, “if I make a donation to the chapter would you promise that all of the money raised will go to Veterans.” Needless to say, we accepted the offer, formed a Non-Profit 501 (c) 3 charity, and named it after Steve Watts.

The Board of Directors and all of you many volunteers have worked so hard to make this foundation a success. It has been an honor and privilege to be a part of this outstanding organization. To be a part of this experience from the very beginning is a highlight of my life, and one I will cherish forever. It was a difficult decision; however, I must step down as President of the SGT Watts Veterans Foundation. I have some issues in my personal life that require my full attention.

I thank the Board of Directors for their tireless and on-going commitment to this foundation. A huge expression of gratitude to Terry & Dorothy, to Mike Durbin and the great staff at Paradise Harley Davidson for all their contributions. Of course, to all of you members who contributed so selflessly to the foundation, making it the success that it is today.

Thank you,  
Ron Gibson  
President