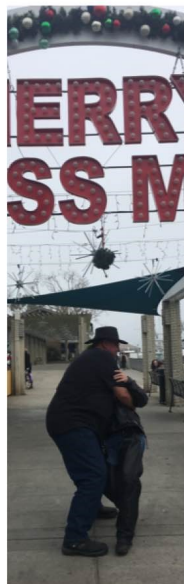


# THE HANDLEBAR STAR

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE INLAND EMPIRE HARLEY OWNERS GROUP #3448

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2018





## Inside this edition

Director .....	3
Assistant Director .....	4
Road Captain .....	5
LOH Officer .....	6
Treasurer.....	6
Secretary.....	7
Membership.....	8
I Am HOG.....	9
HD Chapter Manager.....	10
West Coast Thunder.....	11
What I Buy.....	12
From the Editor's Desk.....	13
Activities and Birthdays.....	14
Sponsors .....	15
Officers.....	16

### Who we are:

The Inland Empire Chapter is a family oriented group of road riding enthusiasts who enjoy riding their Harley-Davidson motorcycles together. The members would like to share this enjoyment with you and encourage you to join in the activities we have during the year. You are welcome to participate in many of the rides and events whether or not you join the chapter.

### Chapter Meeting & Social

Second Thursday of  
each month at 7:00



**RIVERSIDE**  
**HARLEY-DAVIDSON**





## **ASSISTANT DIRECTOR**

### **Mick Hammer**



Hello I. E. HOG,

Boy it's been a busy couple of months. Between the job, the holidays, family visits, activity meeting, kitchen remodel, Patsy's new Harley and HOT Training, I have had to run to keep up. Hopefully things will slow down a little. I for one am looking forward to our Death Valley overnighter that will be here soon. I know I need some seat therapy.

I want to begin by thanking everyone who came out for the first of two activities meetings of 2018. The turnout was amazing. Patsy put on a great meeting and did a pretty good job keeping Dan A. and myself focused on the job at hand. I don't know if you noticed but Dan and I can get sidetracked pretty easy. Patsy kept us on course, and the chapter was able to book six months' worth of Day, GAR and Dinner rides as well as a full year's worth of Overnights. Thanks again to all that showed up and contributed. A special thank you to all who brought fixings for Tom and Sheri's Spuds. The ride suggestions were flowing and to those who stepped up to lead rides, you're the best.

As you know your primary officers just returned from the annual HOT Training classes. Hot Training is put on every year by the Motor Company as a means of educating chapter primary officers on best practices for running a Hog Chapter. It really is a fun and exciting way to get to know HOG. There is so much that is discussed, from chapter finance to keeping rides fresh and everything in between. My main take away from this year's training was communication, and within communication was my need to just shut up and listen. You know the old saying, one mouth and two ears. So with that please feel free to share with me your needs and desires for your HOG Chapter. I volunteered for the position of Assistant Director to help make Inland Empire Hog the best it can be for the membership, so I need to focus more on what that means to the members of our great chapter.

HOG is a one of a kind group of people that share their passion for the greatest motorcycles in the world. I am looking forward to the upcoming year that is going to be filled with great people, having great adventures together riding those great motorcycles.

So as always let's keep RIDING AND HAVING FUN.

# HEAD ROAD CAPTAIN

## Dan Alexander

It was good to see longtime friends and make new ones at this year's Harley Officers Training. On our way there, we got a close-up look at the new LS 500 by Lexus, at least 25 of them, as they drove by us doing over 100 MPH! This is not really the way I would like to see a new model of car. The point I am going to make here is that as we are on rides where we may be on freeways going out of town, be mindful that there are people out there that are not looking out for our safety. If we encounter people like this, be sure to give them plenty of space to merge into the lane we are traveling so we can avoid any mishaps that might occur.



Another topic that came up at HOT, was riding seasons, winterizing your bike. What are they? We are lucky to be able to ride all year long when other parts of the country do not have the same opportunity. We all bought our Harley-Davidson motorcycles to ride and that is what we are doing. It is great to see lots of people on the rides and especially on the overnight rides. Let's keep it up!



Have you registered for the Harley Owners Group Mileage program?

Be safe and have fun doing it!

Screw it! Let's ride!

## **Ladies of Harley**

### **Maria Schaeffer**

We are off to an awesome start of 2018!! We just celebrated the Valentine Sweetheart Dinner, and I must say "Thank you" to everyone that participated. It was a huge success, and I look forward to many more functions put together by our LOH team in the future. The Officers did "HOT" in Henderson and what an experience. It was my first time being part of this training. There was so much information to grasp, my head is still spinning. It has made me realize that we are all riding with the largest motorcycle riding group.

Harley-Davidson is making the statement "LET'S RIDE" It's all about the ride and less paperwork. Of course, we have the standard required paperwork for a ride and that's ok, but the thought is "LET'S RIDE".

It was by far the best weekend of learning, as well as spending time with some great people from our Chapter and other dealerships. Let's continue to make the LOH in our Chapter grow and see where this journey takes us. Again, we are who we are because of all the teamwork that goes into it. We have a few new and returning lady riders in our group and I am super excited as your LOH Officer to share the journey with them all.

Be sure to watch for the email blast and keep up on what's coming up and any reminders we put out there. \*\*Reminder: The LOH meeting is going back to the first Tuesday of the month. As always you can call me for info.



## **Treasurer**

### **Monika Staub**

We just returned from 3 Days in Las Vegas for the H.O.T. Training. It was very informative and we also had a lot of fun. We met so many cool people from other HOG Chapters and we learned a lot. One of the questions that kept coming up was "Why did you become a HOG member?" I think becoming a member was the easy part, but what kept me staying with our Chapter was the sense of Family that developed. Once you share rides, overnights, meals and so much time with your fellow members they become more than just friends, they're family.

I also realized how lucky we are with our Chapter. We have fun, we meet and most importantly we ride. Many times I've heard that others don't have the participation in rides or any other activity that involves the chapter. I think a vast majority of our members participate at meetings, planning activities, LOH dinners and so much more. For that I want to thank each and every one of you. So LETS RIDE!





**Secretary**  
**Laura Maw**



Hello Everyone:

What a whirlwind of a new year it has been for me! I'm sorry I haven't been at the meetings lately and I have missed you all. In January I had my gallbladder removed and it has taken a toll out of me. But thankfully I am healing and feeling much better. I am hoping to ride my bike on the Death Valley ride next month.

Enough of that!!! I did go to HOT (Harley Officer Training) in February and I want to thank the membership and Riverside Harley Davidson Dealership for allowing me to attend this valuable training. For those of you who have not heard of this training, it comprises of intensive two day classes. We attended classes on Friday and Saturday that included topics, such as: "Create and Maintain Excitement", "Forging the Dealer/Chapter Relationship", "Effective Communicatio and others. We all received valuable information on how to run a great HOG Chapter. One thing I learned was how our Chapter is doing everything right. We have the BEST Chapter around.

The main thread that went through the entire weekend was to "Ride and Have Fun". We shouldn't add any other rules or regulations, other than the 2 1/2 rules, which includes, 1.) " Have all non-member riders sign a release form before the ride", 2.) " No alcohol during the ride", and 2 1/2.) if there is a problem on the ride, "Call the HOG lawyer—Thor".

"RIDE AND HAVE FUN." We need to enjoy each others company and to enjoy the ride. So, let's get out there and have a great time riding with new and great friends on the best motorcycle developed...Harley-Davidson Motorcycles. I know I LOVE my bike and it needs to be ridden. I hope to see you on the Death Valley Ride. It will be a lot of fun!!!

We also said at the training..."Accept The Challenge"..."Let's RIDE".

See you soon!!!

# MEMBERSHIP

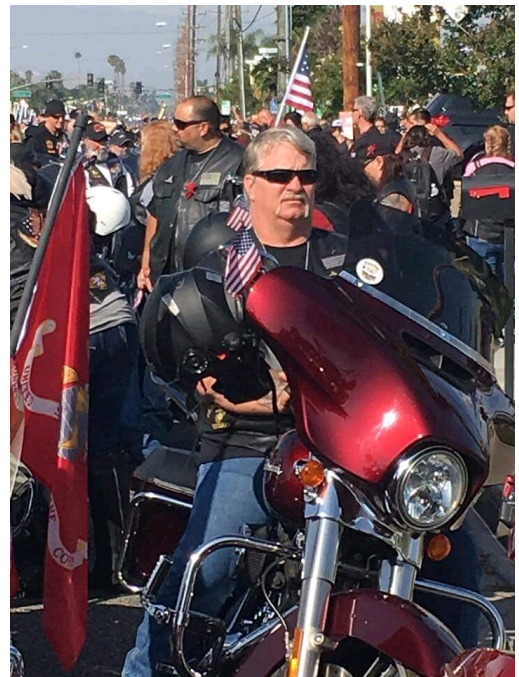
**Scott Schaeffer and  
Jeff Staub**

I just want to thank everyone that has renewed their membership, so thank you for that, but we are not 100% renewed yet. We still have quite a few members that have not renewed their I E Hog membership. If you can please do this as soon as possible, we can get our roster updated, and get an accurate number of current members. If you are not going to be able to attend a meeting, you can always drop it off or mail it to Riverside Harley, care of Jim Bridges. OR you can always bring them to the Black Sheep breakfast as I am usually there.

We will be setting up a membership booth once a month at the Riverside-Harley bike nights. Refer to the dates on the website calendar. I will be taking membership dues at that time as well. We have a lot of great rides coming up and want everybody to get their butt miles. If you are not an up-to-date member you will not be eligible for any butt miles. Please don't forget to renew your National memberships when they are up for renewal because they have to be current in order for you to be an I E Hog member.

If you have any friends or family that like to ride their Harley, talk to them about sitting in on a meeting or two and see what we are all about. If you know of anyone that bought a new bike from Riverside Harley, let them know their IE Hog and National memberships are paid for by the Dealership for the first year.

So, Let's Ride!





## **I am HOG: Lorena Coulter**

**by Jodi Rizzotto**

We ordered our pizzas at Blaze and found a table. I was excited to interview a passenger rather than a rider for a change. One of the amazing qualities of our HOG chapter is the respect they have for passengers. When Frank and I joined the chapter, I didn't know whether I could be part of Ladies of Harley since I didn't ride my own bike. My hesitation proved unfounded, as I discovered a welcoming and supportive group of women that share my love of riding. For this article, I decided to talk with Lorena Coulter, who rides with her husband, Chuck.



I asked Lorena if she had ever ridden her own motorcycle, and I was surprised to find out that she had past experience. She started riding dirt bikes when she was fourteen. Then she bought a street bike, a Suzuki, when she was nineteen. When she got pregnant, she stopped riding for a while. Years later, her husband, Chuck, wanted to get a Harley, after they had owned a V Star, which Lorena had ridden. At first, they considered buying two Harleys, but finances dictated the purchase of one.

Sometimes riders, or potential passengers, might wonder if there's anything hard about being a Harley passenger. Lorena couldn't think of anything negative. Harley riding has brought her closer to her husband, whether they talk on the coms during the ride or not. Whenever she's riding on the back, it is an enjoyable time spent together. However, it can be stressful when traveling mountain roads on the curves. It's not about Chuck's skill, but only about being able to look over the edge as they ride, instead of having to watch the road.

When I asked her whether she's still planning on purchasing her own Harley, she thinks she might do it next year. Unlike some women passengers who want to ride their own bike to be in control, Lorena was more interested in creating her own adventures with the Ladies of Harley. She still wants to ride with Chuck, but also go on her own rides.

Then I asked her if she had any advice for new passengers. She said, "Enjoy the ride. With all the electronics today, it's the one time when you can be in the moment, enjoying the scenery along the way. As a passenger, you don't have to be responsible. From Point A to Point B, you just are there to enjoy it." I agreed with her, noting that having a planned ride with a ride captain leading the pack releases you from having to plan the route and dining.

Lorena's favorite ride so far was an overnighter to Solvang. She enjoyed the back roads where they could see the ocean as well as riding past Lake Cachuma. Least favorite rides are in the desert, especially in hot temperature and high winds. Her dream ride would be across the whole United States, camping along the way. She's taken a road trip like that in a car, but it would be more fun on a Harley.

I asked her if she had any final words, and she said, "passengers need to be confident in whom you ride with. Let them know you trust in their riding skills. That's important to their own confidence and makes the ride safer and more enjoyable."

## **HD Chapter Manager Jim Bridges**



What is "IT"?

HOG Officer Training has come and gone again. Mitch's team of officers have recently returned from a busy weekend in Las Vegas and because Sharon and I had family business to attend that weekend, I just returned from Ft Worth, Texas. Although it was the same format as Vegas, it had a different flavor than what I am used to. It was definitely smaller. When HOT rolls through Vegas, it is not unusual to have 500-600 Harley-Davidson enthusiasts. My guess is that we had only 300 in Ft Worth.

That made a big difference when it came to getting a chance to talk to some of the HOG leaders. Tim Budzein, the HOG Manager for Harley-Davidson was readily available. I had several conversations with him along with our Regional HOG Manager, JT Hasley. If you haven't had the opportunity to share a Coors Light with JT, you are missing out on one of life's simple pleasures. To call him a character would be an understatement. It also is an opportunity to meet HOG members from all over the country. I had breakfast or lunch with Cajun's from Southern Louisiana, hillbilly's from the Appalachian Mountains, flatlanders from Oklahoma and of course, Texans. Each bring a different perspective to riding their Harley-Davidson's but that is the one thing we all have in common.....We love Riding our Harleys.

But what is it about riding our Harley's that we love so much? They are not the fastest. Or the most modern. Is it the sound? The feel? What is it? What brings out the emotion in us that drives us to ride these beautiful machines? After HOT was over on Saturday night, I found myself having a beer with JT and his middle of the country counterpart, Paul Rapp. Talk about passion for Harley-Davidson! Here are two guys who spend over 200 days a year on the road, mostly riding from one Chapter to the next. You would think after years of this they would be tired of the road. Instead, the fire just burns hotter. JT stepped away to "check his make-up" (You have to know JT to understand that comment) and I found myself in a very deep conversation with Paul. In all of my years going to HOT (this was my 10th time), I hadn't had much in the way of conversations with him. We talked for a good 30 minutes about "It." It is the passion and the emotion that comes from riding our Harleys. In the end, neither of us could say what "It" is. But we both knew that we each had it, whatever it is.

I now will bring that back to you. Do you have it? That deep passion for riding your Harley-Davidson? Is getting on that awesome machine each weekend what pushes you to get through the week? Yes, those of us that have it, know that we are addicted. It's about getting out in the wind and feeling the passion and freedom of the open road. It's ok. Go ahead and admit that you have it. And the only way to feed it, is to ride.

Jim Bridges  
Riding Academy Manager  
Riverside Harley-Davidson

## WEST COAST THUNDER XIX

West Coast Thunder XIX is moving along steadily in plans as Memorial Day, May 28, 2018 will sneak up on us before we know it. Please be sure to watch the website, [westcoastthunder.com](http://westcoastthunder.com) for updated information and go online NOW to register. It makes all of our jobs easier if people register early.

Also, be sure to watch the IE HOG website for requests for volunteers. As many of you who have supported this event year after year know that by mid-April we will be announcing the WCT Registration packet stuffing party at the dealership and we need all hands on deck to make this job a one day event, if possible. We have been very lucky in the past couple of years by finishing most of the 5,000 packets we need in one morning/early afternoon. The more helpers that show up, the faster we get this done ..... and don't forget that there is pizza too!

We announced in our last newsletter article that **Granger Smith** will be our headliner at the tribute concert this year. Please check him out on the internet and *YouTube*. Granger is doing great things for our military and was invited to open for super star, Luke Bryan recently. And did you know, that we have contracted a local favorite band to open the show at the Southern California Fair and Event Center this year?

**Retro Blast.** They will provide an alternative for those of you who are not country music fans as they do tributes to Classic Rock combining amazing sound-alike renditions with reimagined versions of Classic songs by bands such as The Beatles, Led Zeppelin, The Rolling Stones, Pink Floyd, The Who, The Allman Brothers, The Doors, Elton John, Tom Petty, Queen and Fleetwood Mac, to name just a few! Comprised of four seasoned industry veterans, **Retro Blast** has performed at wineries, casinos, concerts, clubs and special events throughout the Inland Empire and beyond since 2013! You will be both amazed and delighted at their extensive and eclectic song catalog, and their formidable stage presence.



WCT Board of Directors has just signed off on the art work image for our 2018 event T-shirts and it is beautiful. The shirts will be black this year. We will be putting the order in for all shirts by **March 15<sup>th</sup>**. If you want to purchase a long-sleeved, special order shirt, please contact me before that date. The long-sleeved WCT XIX shirts will be \$25 each and must be paid in advance.

Looking forward to another amazing year for West Coast Thunder, and hope to see you ALL there,



*Sharon Shannon Bridges,*  
Executive Director

**Phone: 951-237-0593**

**[Sharon.bridges@westcoastthunder.com](mailto:Sharon.bridges@westcoastthunder.com)**



# What I Buy

## by Jim Hoyt

In this article, I will continue to share my opinions and experience with the **good, the bad and the ugly** of the accessories I have purchased for our motorcycle.

In August of last year, Diane and I traded in our 2014 Tri Glide and our 2014 XL1200T Sportster for a new 2017 Ultra Limited.

We enjoy the new bike as we have enjoyed the ones before it.

We added a number of accessories at the dealership before we rode it home. Many of the items installed at the dealership came at the recommendation of fellow chapter members. I separate my accessory purchases into four categories: Safety, Comfort, Storage, and Just Got To Have It.

This month's accessory falls into the Comfort category and is a carry over from the Tri Glide. One of the first items I purchased for the trike was Floorboard Extensions from DK Custom Products. The Floorboard Extensions move the floorboards out an additional inch from the frame. A mere inch doesn't sound like very much until the end of a long ride on a summer day when your right foot is nice and cool. The extra inch provides me more foot position options whether or not I'm using the highway pegs. During the colder riding weather there is still the option of tucking your legs and feet in toward the engine to take advantage of the heat being produced.

**The Good:** The extensions are well made of 6061 aluminum, powder coated to match the HD frame, and come complete with all the necessary grade 8 mounting hardware. All I needed to complete the installation was a tube of blue thread lock. After opening the package and inventorying the contents, it was on to the install. The kit was easy to install and was completed in less than 30 minutes following the included directions. While I was at it, I removed the heel shifter and added Harley's chrome Heel/Toe Shifter Shaft Cover, (p/n 35471-05, \$18.95) on the left, and Harley's chrome Rider Footboard Heel Guard, (p/n 50500225, \$69.95) on the right. Both the shaft cover and the heel guard are fine HD products

**The Bad:** The only thing I can say here is that I had to pay \$13.70 for shipping. DK did make it up to me by providing me a DK T-shirt free of charge.

**The Ugly:** With the everyday retail price of \$56.90 there's no ugly to report. This purchase has returned a lot of comfort for very little cash outlay.



All in all, I'm happy with the Floorboard Extensions from DK Custom Products, just as happy as I was with them on the Tri Glide. I think that once you ride with the extensions you will be surprised to realize how cramped your riding position had been.

*The Floorboard Extensions and many other HD products are available from DK Custom Products online at [dkcustomproducts.com](http://dkcustomproducts.com).*



# From the Editor's Desk

Jodi Rizzotto

## Fender Fluff Files Part One

Since Lorena was my choice for "I Am HOG" this month, I decided I would also address the topic of passengers. We do have the best view on the ride and much less responsibility. However, there were still a few things for me to learn when Frank and I started riding our Harley.

The first thing Frank told me when I jumped on our Road King was that **communication** was key to safety. Before he took off, he always checked to see if I was ready. When we stopped, I always checked with him before dismounting the bike. After clunking helmets together a few times, I realized that I needed to plant my feet on the floorboards and brace myself against his back when we stopped suddenly, or shifted gears. **Therefore, I needed to be alert and aware of what was happening on the road so I could be prepared.** Also I needed to be still, sit behind Frank's profile, and not influence the balance of the bike.

Passengers realize these basics as they get more miles on their Harley. As we rode, I started wondering about other riding situations. Jim Bridges, our chapter manager, helped me with some questions I had about passengers. Riders take riding safety courses, but passengers don't have the opportunity. The first question I had was about **curves**. Many riders use body English, or lean deeply into tight curves. Jim told me that riders should not use aggressive movements like that with a passenger. Instead, they should both ride neutral with the bike, meaning your body centerline is equal to the bike's centerline. However, the passenger should look over the rider's inside shoulder as they go through the curves.

When they get ready to **park the bike**, I wanted to know whether it was better for the passenger to get down before the rider backs the bike into a parking space. Jim told me it depended on the situation. It is safer and easier to park a bike without a passenger, but if it is safe and more expedient for the passenger to remain seated, the passenger should wait. If there is a long line of bikes waiting to park, the passenger should get off.

On long rides, I had always thought that **passengers got colder** than the rider because they weren't actively doing anything. Jim didn't have any confirmation on that, but encouraged both the rider and passenger to wear heated gear as it keeps them both more comfortable and alert.

Passengers play an important part in the safety of a motorcycle ride. We need to pay attention to what is happening, and be prepared to react with the rider. When the rider and the passenger work together, their synergy makes them more relaxed and confident when challenging the open road.



# ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

*Also look for weekly email blasts for updates and changes*

DATE	TIME	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION
March 3	9:00 a.m.	Black Sheep breakfast and ride to follow	The Original Pancake House Norco
March 8	7:00 p.m. (Tacos 5:30)	Chapter Meeting	Riverside Elks Lodge
March 9-11	7:00 a.m.	Death Valley Overnighter	Mr. Blues Donut Shop
March 17	8:00 a.m.	Training Day at the Perris Fairgrounds	RHD
March 18	8:00 a.m.	San Pedro Fish Market	RHD
March 21	6:00 p.m.	Dinner ride- Royal Cut	RHD
March 24	9:00 a.m.	GAR Antelope Valley Poppy Fields	RHD

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

### February

**Jim Spicer** 2/4  
**Glen Waggoner** 2/13  
**Charles Ripley** 2/14  
**Linda Angle** 2/16  
**Scott Schaeffer** 2/20  
**Bob Traugher** 2/23  
**Jerry Birchfield** 2/26



### March

**Pete LeClair** 3/5  
**Terrill Strait** 3/13  
**Michael Smith** 3/14  
**Gina Ripley** 3/17  
**Bill Taylor** 3/21  
**Tom Carter** 3/23  
**Jim Hoyt** 3/29  
**Darrell Warwick** 3/31





## A Word from our Sponsors

*If you want to have your business card included in The Handlebar Star, contact Monika Staub for more details.*



# 2018 IE HOG OFFICERS

## ELECTED OFFICERS:

Director	MITCH LAVINE
Assistant Director	MICK HAMMER
Secretary	LAURA MAW
Treasurer	MONIKA STAUB
Ladies of Harley	MARIA SCHAEFFER
Head Road Captain	DAN ALEXANDER
Immediate Past Director	DAVE RUSK

## APPOINTED OFFICERS

Activities	PATSY MATA-HAMMER
Blood Drive	KATHY BRADFORD
Chapter Historian	JIM SPICER
Chapter Photographer	MARINA SPICER AND DEBI TUIOLOSEGA
Media Officer	SEAN SCHOEPPNER
Membership	SCOTT SCHAEFFER AND JEFF STAUB
Newsletter Editor	JODI RIZZOTTO
Safety Officer	JEFF STAUB
Sergeant-at-Arms	BILL GRILJALBA
Riverside H-D Chapter Manager	JIM BRIDGES