

THE  
**HANDLEBAR STAR**  
THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE INLAND EMPIRE HARLEY OWNERS GROUP #3448



**JUNE/JULY 2019**



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### **Chapter Meeting & Social**

**Second Thursday of  
each month at 7:00**

#### **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.



# HEAD ROAD CAPTAIN

## Tom Willison

Well another great set of rides accomplished by this group. We had great participation in the Laughlin Run this year and covered 600 miles of fun. Several groups had rides which included the local dealership, Oatman, a ghost town, the dam, London bridge and lots of pass riding. I think many of us, despite the heat, had a great time. This was best evidenced by a couple of pool parties and lots of casino time. Easy to find something fun to do and great friendships developed. Thanks to Dennis, Bill, Ted and all who led rides and creatively caused a fun time.

Then we moved on to another smashing success at the 20th annual West Coast Thunder. These events are a success because of the great volunteer spirit and active participation of the best HOG chapter in the country. Our involvement in all of the different events like the poker run, route flyer delivery, the awesome barbeque, bag stuffing, traffic control, staging 6000+bikes selling tickets and whatever else we can do to help shows the unique spirit of this HOG family and makes it a joy to be a part of. Thank you to all who participated.

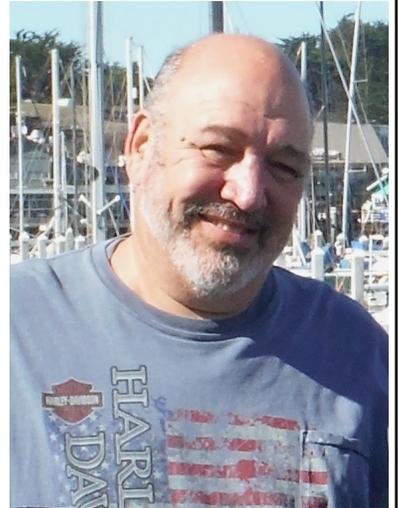
A special thanks goes out to all the volunteer Road Captains that have made successful rides even with a busy agenda. Thank you to Mick and Mitch for handling the Grand Canyon ride. From the pictures and stories shared it sounds like it was another great ride. Of course, our fearless leaders stepping up to lead the ride allowed Sherri and I take a bucket list cruise vacation to Alaska with our kids. It is awesome when people volunteer to lead rides. Thank you.

Lots of great rides coming up on the schedule including a dinner ride to Medieval Times, don't miss out.

Your participation makes the rides great.



## **Asst. Director Mitch Lavine**



When talking to members I hear over and over that they love I.E. H.O.G. because H.O.G. took them places they may not otherwise have gone, and they also make lifelong friends with people they would not otherwise have met.

One of I.E. H.O.G.'s biggest strengths is that we create more great rides to kick-ass destinations than any other HOG club around. And another great strength is the connection to and camaraderie with other people who share a passion for adventure and riding our Harley-Davidson.

We have great strengths. We also know we can reach higher to make H.O.G. better. Even with all the great rides we plan, we know some people are looking for something different or we just might need to break out of a routine and try something new. Do we have rides that accommodate and excite riders at different skill levels? And what about people who want to ride at different times of the day or night? We have members posting on Facebook that they are going on a ride and put the details up there. Keep that going. Come to the next activities meeting and help us plan out the rest of the year.

And although we are great at welcoming new members, and we can always be better, some say they tried out other local chapters and just did not feel as welcome as with the I.E. HOG chapter. Keep it up. Get out of your box and go up to the new people and make them feel welcome at the meetings and on the rides. Thank you Scott for heading up the membership group at bike nights.

As we continue into the summer months, I thank you for the dedication you all have for I.E. HOG and the hard work that the officers and volunteers do to create awesome rides for you, the members. And I thank all of you for all you do to welcome new members into our family.

Check out the calendar for the next few months as we have some great rides coming up. We have some great overnight trips coming up that will be on the calendar soon. Check them out. If you have never been on an overnight ride get out of your box and join us. During our recent overnighter to the Grand Canyon, we had the best weather we have had in years.

Now lets get out there and RIDE AND HAVE FUN!

## **Membership Scott Schaeffer**



I just wanted to start off by welcoming all of our new members to the chapter.

They are:

Keith and Lorna Barney

Deb Sands

Brian and Sondra Callahan

Randy Warriner

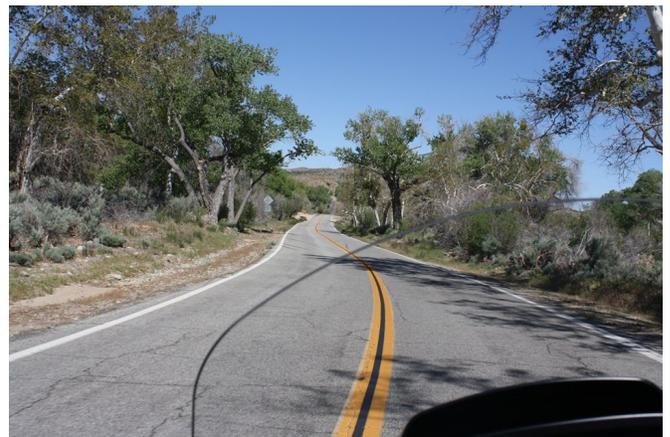
Martin Colintres

And welcome back to the chapter to Al and Val Navarro.

We have had a lot of great rides since the last newsletter came out and hope everyone enjoyed them. I also hope everyone had as much fun on the Laughlin River run overnighter that we did. We have a lot of great day rides that were led by our Head Road Captain T-Rex. They were a lot of fun.

I also want to say how great this year's ride and venue was for WCT. I hope it continues to go there. Also to Sharon Bridges, you have done a great job for WCT and it won't be the same without you and Jim there. Good luck in your new home and state. You will truly be missed by all.

I will keep this short and sweet and hope to see all of you on the rides that are coming in the next few months.



## **Safety Officer Sean Schoeppner**

Air Conditioning for your ride!

It's finally summer and we still want to ride! It doesn't matter if we are headed to the beach or the mountains to stay cool, we still must get back home. That means riding through the heat. We've all been there. The sun beats down, your eyes squint, and beads of sweat roll down your face. No matter how fast you go, you just can't seem to ride cool and if you stop, heaven forbid, you'll melt down entirely. Your clothes are drenched, and every stop sign or light is torture. This oppressive heat would send normal folks scurrying indoors where the A/C is cold and refreshing beverages reside in the fridge. But not you; you're a motorcyclist, a HOG.

About the year 2000, the first mesh clothing was hitting the market. Good stuff if it's 80 degrees outside, but what about getting hit with 96-degree air at 60 miles an hour? Dry heat like that on your dry skin means any moisture on the surface of your skin is going to be pulled out right away and you're going to be about as hot, or hotter, than if you were sweating away inside a full coverage jacket. Dehydration and heat stroke are two of the most critical dangers in warm weather riding.

Then someone came up with the cool tie, a neck device you hydrated with water and put around your neck. That did okay for reducing your carotid artery from sending over heated blood to your brain lessening your chances of heat stroke, but what about your overheated core? Still overheated.

So, what can you do for just a little relief? Well if you've got some water to spare, a cooling vest can help immensely. Several years ago, mankind stumbled upon the water retaining properties of certain polymers and began to develop vests that you could hydrate with water in about three minutes and ride for a few hours before having to re-hydrate them. Evaporative Cooling Vests are all the rage. These work by the principle of evaporative cooling, which is also how your body regulates its temperature by sweating. The hot air causes the water stored in the vests to evaporate, thereby drawing heat away from the body. For these personal coolers to work with maximum effectiveness, you need lots of airflow through your outer layer, so a mesh jacket or good venting is a must. What you wear underneath the vest is also important. Synthetic base layers will enhance the cooling effect while a normal cotton T-shirt will hinder it. Also, the more humidity there is in the air, the less effective these products will be.

The vests now are available with optional collars and a zip on/off sleeve option. I'm very happy with the simple standard vest, but if you're going somewhere really hot, like Death Valley, the sleeved versions will add a lot more cooling to your adventure.

With all the great events happening this summer, you can bet I'll be doing a lot of warm weather riding, as I'm sure you will too.

Ride Safe, Ride Often, Ride Cool



## West Coast Thunder XX – Another Successful Event!

It's so hard to believe that our 20th Anniversary, West Coast Thunder XX event is now at a close. It was another fantastic year made possible by so many dedicated IE HOG members, volunteers, Riverside Harley-Davidson employees and an amazingly talented WCT Board of Directors.

Moving our closing venue two years in a row was a challenge for all of us, getting new permits, partnering with new cities and engaging more and more assistance from the Riverside Police, Riverside County Sheriff's Dept., Lake Elsinore Police and the CHP again in supporting our new parade route. Not to mention the exorbitant costs of permits, patrolman and additional traffic equipment to close so many more streets. Lake Elsinore Storm Stadium was a spectacular venue, and the seating and Suite options enhanced the experience for many people.

Overall the reviews have been outstanding. There is always things to learn each year and ways to improve. It took us a few years even at Soboba's Outdoor Arena to fine tune details, but for a first time venue change, it was a first class concert, and we thank everyone of you who helped to make that happen.

Naturally, we were concerned about traveling through so many new neighborhoods that were not familiar with WCT, but thanks to some of our great volunteers, we were able to drop of 100's of notification fliers in those areas. However, as we anticipated, we could not reach everyone. But make no mistake, when the roar of thousands of bikes came through on Memorial Day morning, the residents took notice. Most of them were thrilled and excited, wanting to know if we will be back again next year. So we now know that if we return to that parade route again next time, the spectators will increase, as they do in Riverside each year.

Segueing on the being back next year, on a less than happy note, my reign as West Coast Thunder's Executive Director will soon be over. It is bitter sweet to leave and say goodbye to something that I have lived and breathed for many years. I love West Coast Thunder and it has been my heart and soul for a very long time. As you all know, I am very emotional about WCT and rarely can talk about it without tearing up. I look forward to WCT growing in sponsorships, volunteers, and partnerships each year and this special event just getting better and better.

All said and done, I am excited about moving to Greeneville, Tennessee with Jim and the pups and looking forward to finally retiring and doing some things in the art and creative field that I have put aside for the past many years to be a real estate broker and executive director for WCT. It is time for me to use the gifts God gave me to enjoy the next chapter of my life.

Thank you to all our motorcycle and IE HOG friends, WCT supporters, and the Riverside Harley-Davidson owners and employees for being supportive and such a valued part of our lives. You are the best chosen family for us. We will be forever grateful for your friendships and please remember that our door is always open if you find your travels bring you to Tennessee.



## **Blood Drive Kathy Bradford**



**Next Blood Drive – 07-13-19**

As I reported at the Chapter meeting, the last blood drive we had a 100% turnout for those who met for breakfast and those that donated!! I want to thank Brian, Jay and myself for your time and donation. Ok, so there was just three of us, but that is still 100%)

Next donation date: 07-13-19. We meet at 8:30 for Breakfast at Denny's, 3530 Madison Street, Rvsd, then head to LifeStream, 4006 Van Buren Blvd., Rvsd. We usually get to LifeStream about 10:00ish; if you would like to make an appointment for yourself and others that are going to donate – please call them directly at 951-687-2530 or 800-879-4484 and remember the group name when you donate is: MHOG.

FYI:

The following is taken from LifeStream –

“A blood donor has the power to make the greatest IMPACT of all – to provide life. By the simple act of donating blood they become heroes to those in need, and a symbol of hope and prosperity to their love ones. A blood donor's gift is selfless, kind and uniquely theirs.”

Find out, if you are; Type B - or B +

B - NEGATIVE – Percentage of population with B - : 2%.

Best procedure: Whole blood, red cells, platelets or plasma.

Your IMPACT: YOU are rare and needed for all types of patient care. No matter what donation type you do, you are helping the most patients in our community.

Red Cell Fact: If you need a transfusion, “negatives need negatives”. You can only receive red cells from fellow B-negs or O-negs, so please donate as often as you can.

B + POS - Percentage of population with B + : 9%.

Best procedure: Platelets, Plasma, whole blood or red cells.

Your IMPACT: YOU can be a hero to our frontline firefighters! Platelet and plasma are crucial to stop bleeding and treat burns that may be needed to assist our first responders.

Remember your one pint of whole blood can help at the very least three in need.

# From the Editor's Desk

Jodi Rizzotto



## Before the Thunder

It's actually colder at dawn than in the waning night hours. And your Harley can get soaking wet sitting outside without rain falling on it. Two things I learned at this year's West Coast Thunder.

Frank and I joined crazy HOG members that met at 3:30 a.m. the morning of the parade. After setting up behind the barricades (already at least 50 bikes ahead of us), some hiked over to Denny's a few blocks away. Monika, Jeff, Frank, and I opted for the pancake breakfast at the dealership. (The bacon was surprisingly perfect.)

All was quiet, except the golf carts rushing around. (Watch out for Mitch!) As the sky grew light, the rain-threatening clouds pulled back, and it got colder that when we first arrived. Monika and I shivered in our leather jackets, chaps, and gloves. Frank, as usual, was barely cold. After what seemed a very long time, riders started to walk up to the dealership.

Sitting at the First Aid booth inside Riverside Harley-Davidson's parking lot gave me a front row seat to observe the variety of riders that participate in West Coast Thunder. Ladies dressed alike in white and purple. Grey-haired men in patch-covered vests. Grandfathers with their excited granddaughters. Young men sucking down their cans of Monster. Couples dressed in leather, holding hands.

Riders stopped by to visit. I met the director of the Pomona HOG chapter. One of my relatives rides with them. He reminded me that they came to one of our activity meetings to see how our chapter got so many rides on the calendar. So many things about IE HOG I take for granted, and yet other groups aspire to our success. Which wouldn't even happen if not for our great members who love to ride and hang out.

And just in case you wondered, Monika and Steve (the only member of our team who was qualified) gave out two band aids, so we earned our positions. Frank and I passed out small water bottles.

Hours passed, and I grew drowsy at the edge of the crowd's hum. Then the speakers came on, and it was time for the opening speeches and flag ceremony. The people surrounding the color guard were ten deep so I knew I would not catch a glimpse from our booth. Last year, Frank and I had staked ourselves a spot watching it. The solemn pageantry was unforgettable.

To wake myself up, I walked out to our bike to grab snacks. Imagine my surprise when I discovered our bike soaking wet from the morning dew. Some more intelligent riders had covers, but I stood there looking at yesterday's wash and polish literally drip away. Oh well, two hours of my life I'll never get back. (Add it to that one time I had to go into the DMV.)

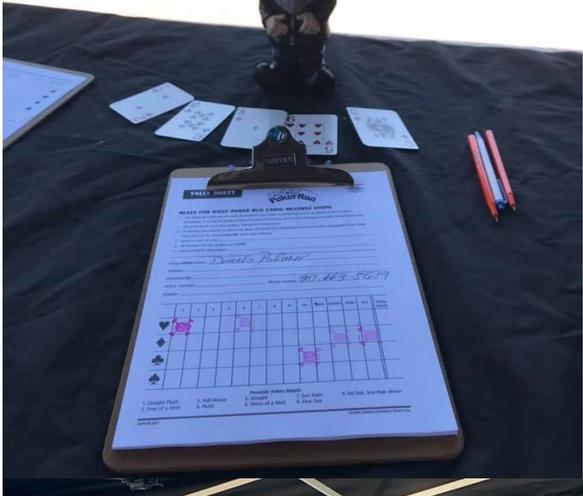
Finally, finally, it was time for Kick Stands Up. Our fellow HOGs and I strapped on our helmets and got ready to go. The beginning of the line, with the color guard, leaves at 9:11 a.m. We sat on our bikes and waited, looking for movement in the line ahead of us. Then suddenly, we were off and riding under the huge flag that swung over the middle of the street.

West Coast Thunder was on.

# From the Road-Grand Canyon



# West Coast Thunder Weekend



# West Coast Thunder Weekend cont.



# ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

*Also look for weekly email blasts for updates and*

DATE	TIME	DESCRIPTION	MEETING PLACE
June 29	8:00 a.m.	Angeles Crest	RHD
July 6	9:00 a.m.	Black Sheep Breakfast- after go bowling	Moreno Valley Elks Lodge
July 11	7:00 p.m. (Tacos at 6:00)	I.E. HOG Chapter Meeting	Riverside Elks Lodge
July 14	8:00 a.m.	GAR/LOH Ride- Annies for breakfast	RHD
July 20	TBD- evening	Dinner Ride- Medieval Times	RHD
July 23	6:00 p.m.	Dinner Ride to Felix's	RHD
July 27	9:00 a.m.	Progressive Ride	RHD

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

### June

**TRex Willison 6/1**  
**Lorena Coulter 6/2**  
**Debbie Lavine 6/3**  
**Jay Michaels 6/13**  
**Chuck Baugh 6/24**



### July

**Diana Hall 7/1**  
**Les Hitchcock 7/2**  
**Dawn Clem 7/4**  
**Bob Kirk 7/8**  
**Maria Schaeffer 7/9**  
**Dave Maw 7/23**  
**Susan Fischetti 7/25**

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# 2019 IE HOG OFFICERS

## ELECTED OFFICERS:

Director	MICK HAMMER
Assistant Director	MITCH LAVINE
Secretary	JENNIFER CARTER
Treasurer	MONIKA STAUB
Ladies of Harley	MARIA SCHAEFFER
Head Road Captain	TOM WILLISON
Immediate Past Director	MITCH LAVINE

## APPOINTED OFFICERS

Activities	SHERRI WILLISON
Blood Drive	KATHY BRADFORD
Chapter Photographer	DEBI TUIOLOSEGA
Media Officer	OPEN
Membership	SCOTT SCHAEFFER AND JEFF STAUB
Newsletter Editor	JODI RIZZOTTO
Safety Officer	SEAN SCHOEPPNER
Sergeant-at-Arms	ROBERT BROWN
Riverside H-D Chapter Manager	JIM BRIDGES
WEBMASTER	PETE LECLAIR