



# SUNSET CHAPTER HOG #1814

# SWINELINE

Winter 2025

[www.sunsethog.com](http://www.sunsethog.com)



## Director's Message

By Mike C.

I am honored to be the new Chapter Director for this year. I have met the best people in this Sunset H.O.G Chapter. We are truly lucky to have such a fine group of people that love to ride and have fun. We are also extremely lucky, as a group, to have Road Captains that take safety and organization very seriously. I have been with the Sunset H.O.G. Chapter for the past five years. In that time, I have been the Assistant Road Captain, Senior Road Captain, Road Captain, and now Director.

I want to thank the Road Captains for their time, and for putting up with me as their Senior RC from last year. Last year we did 28 rides, and some of them included new rides that hadn't been done before. These volunteer Road Captains are no less than AWESOME! If any of you are at least a little interested in volunteering to be a Road Captain: talk to one. I am sure you will not be disappointed. It's a great way to improve your riding skills. Just remember, if you're not the lead dog the scenery never changes!

One of my favorite functions is the H.O.G. Night Out. This is a great way to meet Chapter members and to get to know each other over meals and your preferred beverage. We also have other off-site functions, too, like bowling, baseball games, and shooting range. Also, the social hour prior to the monthly Chapter meetings is another great way to meet members. If you happen to run into a new Harley-Davidson owner, or even a current owner, invite them to a meeting. We would love to have them join us. If you see a new face at the Chapter meeting, introduce yourself and give them a warm welcome. Talk us up- it is a great Chapter! We need new blood and new ideas.

With the start of the New Year, Ride 365 also starts. Ride 365 is the official mileage recognition program for H.O.G. It is to encourage us to ride and enjoy the motorcycles we all love. So, get down to Paradise Harley-Davidson and turn in your starting miles. Ride 365 can be started anytime during the year, and by any Chapter member. For more information, check out the Harley-Davidson website.

### Continued- Director's Message

About me: I am originally from San Pedro, California, outside of Los Angeles. I joined the United States Army right out of high school and spent the next 20 years, 2 months, and 1 day travelling the world. Along the way I met my wife, Jan; we have been married 48 years. We have three children: Chris, Casey, Jessica. Chris and Casey both live in Europe, as do our 4 grandchildren. Jessica lives in Portland with her husband and our grand puppy.

I have been riding motorcycles since I was 16 years old. My first real motorcycle was a 1972 H2 750 Kawasaki. My next bike was a 1976 Z900 Kawasaki and then a 1999 Honda Valkyrie Interstate. I sold the Valkyrie and purchased my first Harley-Davidson, a 2002 Ultra Limited. In 2016, my wife and I planned a Route 66 solo trip. Needing a newer bike, I purchased a 2014 Ultra Limited. I shipped it to the Chicago area and rode the entire Route 66 (or what is left of it) in 2018. Awesome trip! Everyone should do that trip before it is gone. I recommend using Route 66: EZ Guide for Traveler, by Jerry McClanahan.

It took me a long time to join the Sunset Chapter, but Raymond M., Dave B., and Gary S, beat me into submission. My wife gave me the final push and said I needed to do something to fill my time during retirement. I'm glad they did. I have made many good friends since joining this Chapter.

My hope is to get to know more of you personally. I look forward to expanding the Chapter membership, and to continue to have a fun safe riding season while adding on many more miles in 2025.

Thank you for allowing me to be your Director of the Sunset H.O.G. Chapter. Thanks to all who have come before me. I have some large boots to fill, and I am grateful that they have left me a great Chapter.

See you all on the road or at a function. Be strong, be well, and ride safely! – Mike C.



January End of Season Chapter Party and Buffet

## Sunset Chapter Ride 365 Challenge

### End of Year Results 2024

**We Ranked 4<sup>th</sup> in the Northwest Region: 573,819 miles!**  
(The NW Region includes section of the US that extends to Minnesota)

**Winners will Receive Paradise Gift Cards-**

**Top 3 riders with total highest mileage within our Chapter:**

**1<sup>st</sup> Place \$100: Josh Welk – 22,312 miles**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place \$75: Michael Sietz- 19,850 miles**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place \$50: Raymond / Deb Mott 18,770 miles**

**Top 3 Riders with ‘Highest Mileage Increase’ compared to their last year’s total:**

**1<sup>st</sup> Place \$100: Rich Dobson- increased 4,973 miles**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place \$75: Bob Senseman- increased 4,586 miles**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place \$50: Lance Kretlow- increased 4,563 miles**

### Upcoming Events and Rides

See the Sunset Chapter Calendar for more information / additions.

#### February:

**11<sup>th</sup> – Chapter Meeting- 36<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

**15<sup>th</sup> – Paradise Ride into 2025 Event**

**20<sup>th</sup> – HOG Night Out- The Dullahan Irish Pub**

#### March:

**11<sup>th</sup> - Chapter Meeting and Social Hour**

**15<sup>th</sup> 22<sup>nd</sup> 29<sup>th</sup> – Sizzlin’ Saturdays at Paradise Harley-Davidson**



## The New Assistant Director

### Who is Jim C.?

Jim is a seasoned leader with over 30 years of executive experience in the healthcare industry, bringing strategic vision, integrity, and strong leadership to every endeavor. In addition to his corporate background, Jim dedicated eight years as a reserve law enforcement officer on Arizona, demonstrating his commitment to service, discipline, and community safety.

Beyond his professional accomplishments, Jim is a devoted husband, celebrating 30 years of marriage to a wonderful wife, a father of three, and a proud papa to three grandchildren. Family, loyalty, and brotherhood are the cornerstones of his life- values that also fuel his passion for motorcycles. On and off since 1998, he has embraced the freedom, camaraderie, and tradition of the open road on a Harley.

As a dedicated club leader, Jim applies the same principles and qualities fostering a strong sense of unity among fellow riders.



# Sgt Watts Veterans Foundation

## It's 'Ride and Roll' Time Again!

The Sergeant Watts Veterans Foundation is pleased to announce the start of this year's fundraising event once again. You can register on the day of the event, or you will soon be able to register in advance at the Foundation website, [sgtwattsveteransfoundation.org/events](http://sgtwattsveteransfoundation.org/events). The starting point will be at Dub's Tavern and registration is only \$20.

This year's second annual Ride and Roll will be held on June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Those who attended last year's event could tell you what a fun time was had by all and that there were many, many great prizes awarded. This year's event is shaping up to be head and shoulders above last year's with more sponsors, donors, prizes, and many more participants, like yourself having a great time. For more information, please email us at [info@sgtwattsfoundation.org](mailto:info@sgtwattsfoundation.org).



## Rider's Waypoint:

### 'The Old Biker's Road Trip from Mexico'

chopperexchange.com

**Definition:** "A biker bell, also known as a Guardian bell, Spirit bell, or Gremlin bell, is a decorative bell that is attached to a motorcycle to ward off evil spirits."

Perhaps the most circulated origin theory of guardian bells involves the old biker on his trip back from Mexico. Legend has it that the man was enjoying a nice ride back into the states on a cold winter night. Then chaos struck.

As the old biker rounded a curve in the road, he wiped out. His bike crashed and he laid on the ground completely immobilized. Suddenly, these gremlins started to surround him with seemingly no way out.

The old biker was far from where the bike landed, but he ended up near one of his saddlebags. The insides of the bag contained toys that the biker was delivering to an orphanage. The biker began throwing whatever toys he could grab ahold of at the gremlins.

As the contents of the saddlebag began to run thin, the biker found a shiny bell. Attempting to scare the gremlins away, he rang it vigorously. Two other bikers who were camping out nearby heard the bell ring. They began to follow the sound of the bell and rushed over once they saw what was happening.

The campers fought off the nasty gremlins and helped the old biker regain stability. As a token of appreciation, the old biker gifted the campers a bell each. He cut two straps from his saddlebag and tied the bells beneath each of their motorcycles.

The old biker told the campers that if they were ever in trouble on their bike, they should ring the bell. Fellow riders nearby that hear the bell will help out in these situations.

## Guardian Bell- Continued:

### Guardian Bell Rules

While guardian bells are positive indicators of safety and fellowship among the motorcycle community, they do come with a few rules that must be followed.

**Rule 1:** Do NOT buy your own bell – Most discourse out there tells us that these bells are far more effective when bought and given as a gift. The bell's supernatural aura is unlocked and activated by the kindness shown from the rider's friend or loved one. Some argue that the bell gains even more power when gifted by a fellow rider.

**Rule 2:** Do NOT hang your own bell – Similar to rule 1, the bell will carry more power to protect if hung on the motorcycle from the person who gifted it to you.

**Rule 3:** Do NOT leave the bell behind – If you decide to sell your motorcycle, you should take the guardian bell with you. Even if you decide to give the bell to the new owner of your previously owned bike, you should still remove it and directly hand it over to them.

**Rule 4:** Install it to the lowest part of the frame – The longstanding belief with road gremlins is that they always lay low to the ground. If the bell is attached at the lowest point, this ensures it's the first thing they'll grab when attempting to attack. The gremlins are instantly captured this way, helping the bell achieve maximum potential.

**Rule 5:** Stolen bells lose all power.

**Rule 6:** Clean and polish the bell regularly – The easiest way is to clean and polish the bell every time you wash your ride. It's also a good opportunity to reflect on the fallen riders that came before you.



# Fun Photos:

December:

Dinner and Chapter Meeting



*Sunset Chapter Appreciation for Paradise Employees*

## Fun Photos:

### December:

#### Biscuits and Gravy Contest:



#### Volunteers' Party:



# Fun Photos:

## December:

### Pancakes and Bacon



## Fun Photos:

### December:

#### Gun Range Day



### January: Polar Bear Ride



# Fun Photos:

## January:

### Paradise Biker's Breakfast



### End of Season Chapter Party



# January: End of Season Chapter Party



# January:

## Chapter Meeting and Social Hour



## Hog Night Out



# January:

## Ride 365 Kick-Off Potluck Breakfast

