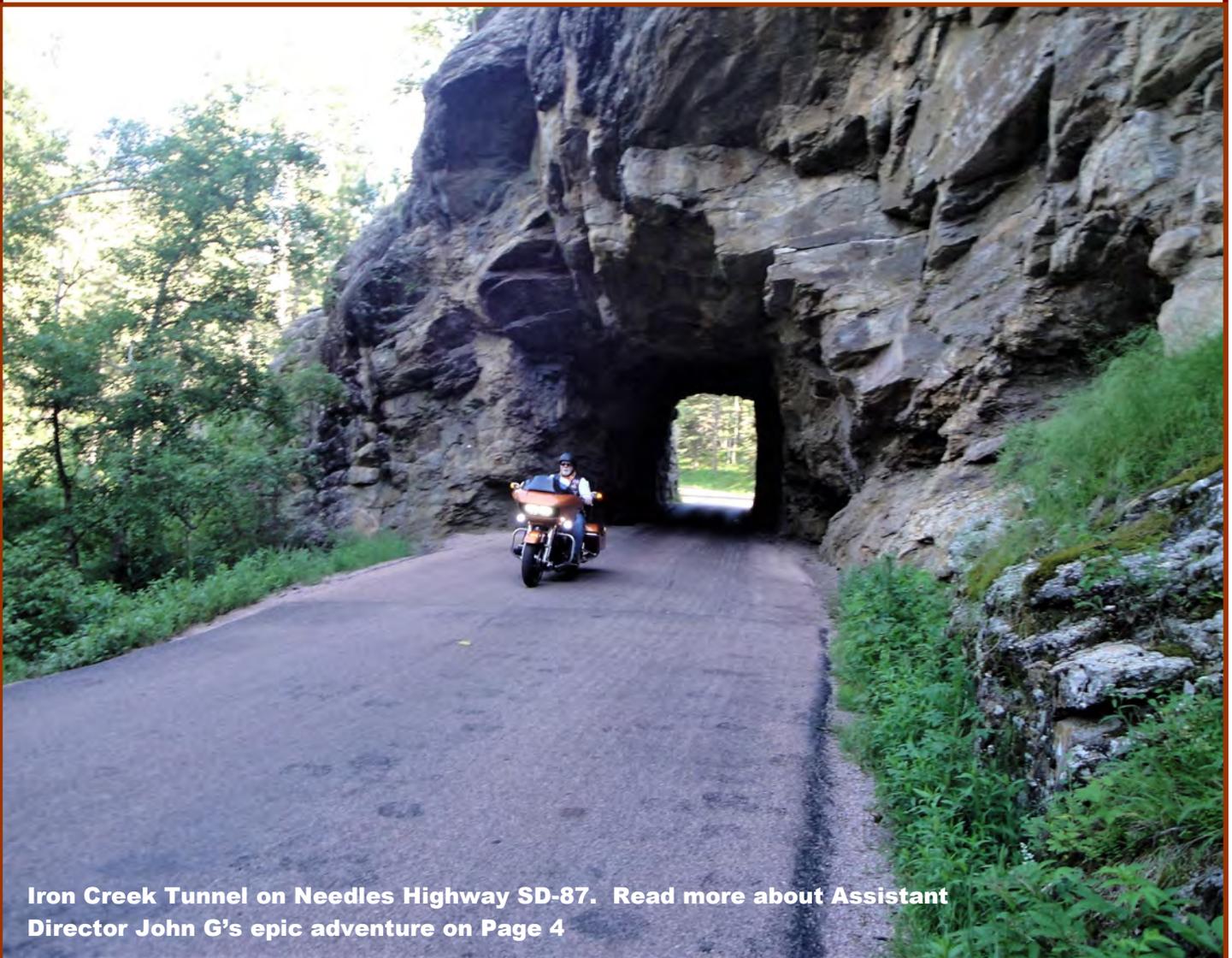


NORTH CASCADE HARLEY OWNERS GROUP

CHAPTER #476701



Iron Creek Tunnel on Needles Highway SD-87. Read more about Assistant Director John G's epic adventure on Page 4

APRIL 2021

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DIRECTOR



Hello all and welcome to spring!

I'm very excited to be entering some of the best riding weather in this region. With the winter months behind us and the sun giving us a little more joy each day I'm finding more opportunities to ride.

Oh?! we need milk? Let me run to the store for that, I'll just be a minute! When actually we all know once we're on that bike, just a minute

becomes something of a lark! Returning several hours later with the milk, having logged 50 or so miles on the bike! Thankfully my guy understands as he gives me a knowing look when the weather is cooperating. He just goes out to the garage, opens the door, comes back in the house saying, "I think you should go for a ride." What a doll!

With our first Chapter meeting in a year I'd like to thank all who came and all who participated via Facebook. We will get better at this as a group. If you need help finding it online please let me know and we'll try and work something out.

I'd like to give a shout out to our Officers. They all did great presenting the latest updates to our members. I appreciate the hard work and commitment put forth on behalf of our Chapter.

It was very exciting to see everyone and I'm looking forward to the coming months filled with more Chapter meetings, rides and general tom foolery! We have plans and are moving forward! Turning the page of the last year putting it behind us, cautiously stepping out into our communities and enjoying one another again.

Sincerely, Donna Mae
Director, North Cascade HOG

Editors Disclaimer: This quote is not a reflection on any one person individually. The fact that it coincidentally appears on our Director's page is simply a fluke.....
(Tee hee hee.....)

**SOMETIMES THE THOUGHTS
IN MY HEAD GET SO BORED
THEY GO OUT FOR A STROLL
THROUGH MY MOUTH.**

**THIS IS RARELY A GOOD
THING.**

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Part Two of a two-part missive from Assistant Director John G relating an EPIC twelve day ride...We rejoin him on Day 6!

We started day #6 from our motel in Spearfish, SD by walking next door to the Green Bean Coffee House for a cup and some breakfast. We reviewed the planned route for the day while slurping down our tasty brew and breakfast food. Today would be jam packed with stuff to see and amazing roads to get us there.



The first road out of town was Alt #14, also known as Spearfish Canyon Road. The asphalt pavement was super smooth and the seemingly endless S turns were complimented by the high canyon walls of sandstone rock formations on each side with plenty of pine trees sprinkled in. Along the way we passed Bridal Veil Falls. You could see it from the road as we went by. There was already a large group there who stopped for photos. We waved back to them as we motored by. We continued on through Central City,

Deadwood and ended in Sturgis. The motorcycle rally was not for another 2 weeks so the town was busy, but not jam packed. All of the event vendors were there with their merchandise. We stopped for fuel and a comfort stop right across from the Iron Horse Saloon. Next we road over to the Welcome to Sturgis sign for some photos with us, our bikes and the sign. Everyone was all smiles.



We left Sturgis and headed off on an amazingly twisty section of roads. The names were unfamiliar, but the pavement was smooth and the curves came with smiles. They were names like Vanocker Canyon Road, Nemo Road, Norris Peak Road, SD-44, US-385, Hill City-Keystone Road, Old Hill City Road and Iron Mountain Road. We ended at the entrance to the Mount Rushmore National Monument. If you have never been, it is a must-see destination. We all had US National Park passes, so our admission was covered. However, there was still a small fee for parking. The kiosk workers told us to follow the ramps to a certain level of the parking garage. When we arrived at our level, we realized that this was the motorcycle level. The kiosk workers told us to each take our own parking space, so we did. Our parking level was at the same elevation as the monument entrance, so we did not need to do any stairs or elevators. We walked out of the parking garage and there it was. Mount Rushmore was gleaming in the sunshine with the sculpted faces of Washington, Jefferson, Teddy Roosevelt and Lincoln. Wow, it's huge. We got a few quick photos, but by now it was approaching lunchtime. The Carver's Café at Mount Rushmore is like a food court with a large variety of options. We purchased our lunch items and found a table with an amazing view. All of the tables have a view of the monument. After lunch we wandered through the passageway with all of the state flags and then on to the closest photo spots. The size of the monument must be experienced in person, it's huge. We got a patch of Mount Rushmore for our vests and headed back to the parking garage. By now it was getting warm and it was nice that we were parked in the shade. We made our glove and jacket selections before heading down and out of the garage. *(Continued on next page...)*

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(Continued from Page Four....)

As we exited Keystone we entered the 2nd half of Iron Mountain Road that includes “The Pig Trails” where the road loops back over itself in a very tight curve. Then it was the Doane Roninson Tunnel, the Gideon Tunnel and the Norbeck Overlook. We followed 16A until SD-87. Ultimately, we came out onto US-385 for a stop at the Crazy Horse Memorial. The admission fee was not covered by our National Parks Pass. I think it was \$12. The Crazy Horse Memorial was still incomplete at the time, so you had to imagine how it might look one day. Still, you could see how it was taking shape.

We rode on to Newcastle for a late afternoon break of pie and ice cream at Bobkat’s Old Fashioned Purple Pie Place. The pie and ice cream options were amazing. I got peanut butter pie with dark chocolate ice cream; amazing. We shared some memories of the day and headed back to our motel in Spearfish. Our road into town was Spearfish Canyon coming from the west. A great way to end the day.

For Day #7 we had planned to visit Badlands National Park and Wind Cave National Park. The elevators at Wind Cave were down for maintenance, so we replaced it with Custer State Park and Needles Highway. We opted to take I-90 from Spearfish to Wall then a short section of SD-240 would take us to the entrance. It was a bright sunny morning as we headed east for our destination. We flashed our National Park passes and we were in. There are many prairie dog towns throughout the park plus many windswept sand and rock formations. We picked a scenic overlook for our first stop. The scenery was colorful in its own way. There were many shades of yellow, tan and pink with some green grass and very perfumed yellow flowers. We got some peanuts at the Badlands Ranch Store to share with the prairie dogs. Next it was on to our lunch stop in Rapid City at a pizza place called Inferno. It was mighty hot today. After lunch and a cool down we topped our fuel and headed off to Custer State Park. We heard that we could see many buffalo there. We did see a small herd of wild donkeys, but the buffalo were hiding today. The park exited onto Needles Highway, SD-87. This is one of those legendary stretches of pavement that must be experienced. There are tunnels, tight turns and narrow canyons. The tall thin spires of sandstone represent the needles. There were smiles all around when we stopped for shots of each other riding out of one of the tunnels. There were mountain goats in the next tunnel trying to lick the walls for salt. They held their position as we rode very close to them. The tunnels are quite narrow. After needles Highway it was getting close to dinner time, so we found a spot in Hill City. After dinner, it was close to dark and we knew the critters would be out. We had to ride just about an hour to get back to Spearfish. We saw a few deer on the sides of the road and that’s where they stayed.



For day #8 Steve and I would say good-bye to John C and head off on our own adventure. John C would text us his progress throughout the day as he began his 3 day journey back to Chicago. Steve and I left Spearfish, SD and traveled along WY-85 through Lusk, WY and then on to our lunch stop in Gering, NE. The Mixing Bowl is one of those mom and grandma type cafes where they make some amazing comfort food and baked goods. I enjoyed a sandwich of local ham on fresh baked bread and a peanut butter cookie for dessert. Good stuff. Today was one of those sweltering hot days. We brought in our cooling vests to put on after lunch. We soaked them with cool water in the restroom, put on some ice-soaked neck bandannas and headed out into the heat. Steve noticed that the Scott’s Bluff rock formation was nearby so we rode over to the entrance for a quick photo. Today was all about getting to our motel in Golden, CO in preparation for a long day tomorrow. *(Continued on Page Ten...)*



Greetings Road Warriors!

Well, we held our First Sunday meeting on March 7 which as most know was our first First Sunday meeting in a whole year! All things considered we had a great turnout with 37 bikers! Alas, only one bike as the weatherman was not optimistic with his forecasting. As it turned out Doni and I could have ridden from Monroe and only got a little wet on the way and the pummeling by hail would have only impacted the last 20 minutes of the trip home! Good thing we opted for the cage though we were really hoping to get on the bike. I have to tell you that

it felt so good to get back to having our meeting and it was great to see everyone. I honestly felt such a positive energy in the room!

Minutes of our meeting are as follows:

Director Donna starts the meeting a few minutes early to explain that we are going to attempt to share our meeting via virtual social media with those unable to attend. This of course was to be a first for our chapter and for those of us attempting to do it. Anyway, the meeting was called to order promptly at 10am and we had about 14 members log on to sit in on the meeting via their home computers.

Pretty cool indeed. Chaplain Mark is introduced and thanks officers past and present for their work toward making and maintaining our chapter as a viable entity. Mark also welcomed the viewers at home and our members in Canada. A short prayer and the meeting is underway.

Donna Mae names our new officers and notes that Chrissy has volunteered to take on Membership duties along with her LOH responsibilities. The ladies that prepare and serve our breakfast from the American Legion are thanked and members are reminded that tipping the ladies is certainly okay and very much appreciated. Our chapter is extremely grateful to the Legion folks for making their facility available to our group for our meetings.

We have 2 new members to introduce; Joe “Maverick” and Chris Peach. Both tell the group what they ride and the news that their Harleys are black brings raucous applause!

Secretary Jerry has no “secretary” news but reaches out to those in attendance noting that we do not currently have a Safety or Activities Officer. In the interim other officers have agreed to take turns with safety topics and the planning of group activities and HOG Trough Dinners.

Assistant Director John G. says we have 103 members on our list with about 89 returning from last year.

Treasurer Mike notes that the chapter has money. (Good news huh?) Also, Mike is working on setting up a Rider Course through Cascade Motor Safety sometime in the near future. Cost is expected to be in the \$110 range. However, upon successfully completed the course participants will receive a \$50 gift card directly from Harley-Davidson. These types of safety classes often can result in a discount on motorcycle insurance.

Our patch officer Rick, let’s everyone know that he can handle any and all our needs for patches and he graciously credits his wife Donna for the nice display they bring to our meetings.

Road Captain Dwane says there are lots of plans in the works for rides and like everyone else is frustrated by the weather and anxious to get out on the roads doing what he loves. (Cont Pg 7...)

(Continued from Page 6...)

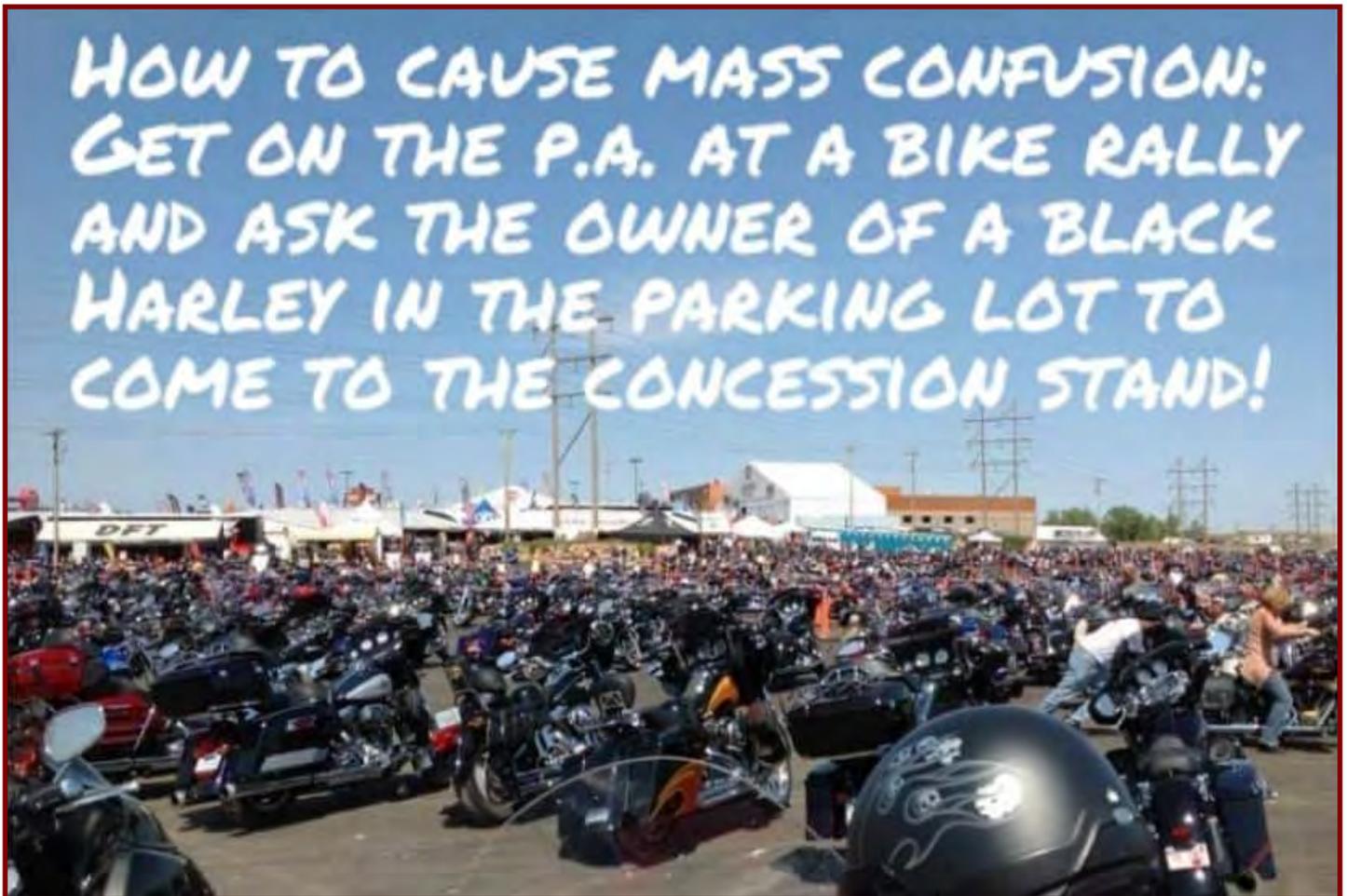
7

Editor Doni thanks members and officers that contributed to the creation of this months newsletter. Some of the things being considered for our newsletter are perhaps having some advertising for things that might be of interest to our members. Advertising also would provide some money to help fund some of the goals of our chapter. Also, we are exploring the possibility of placing color copies of our newsletter in the dealership instead of the current black and white. Doni also gives a preview heads up for a ride that is being planned for late July. This ride would start up north around Ferndale and head south with the end destination at Doni and Jerry's house just north of Monroe for a midday barbeque. The hope is that the ride will pick up additional bikes and riders along the way. There is no route just yet but this should be a good one, a full day, with plenty of friends, comaderie and food. Keep an eye out for more details. Finally, Doni tells the group about her recent purchase of her first Harley-Davidson! A brand new 2020 Softail Standard! And guess what? It is black! The time for our monthly drawings has arrived. Howard wins the door prize and selects a Harley lunch bag from our box of goodies. Kiwi is the lucky recipient of the 50/50 with a haul of \$52.50!

Lastly, after the meeting Stan Bryant volunteers to be our chapter Safety Officer for the year. BIG THANK YOU TO STAN!

That's all Folks!

Jerry





NCHOG TREASURER REPORT APRIL 2021

I am happy to report that the chapter does have money. That said the income path for March appears to be getting a little help from the 50/50 drawing.

At the March general membership meeting \$ 53.00 was deposited into the general fund. As for the 2021 new membership dues: 2 new members joined accounting for a \$40.00 deposit.

All current members from 2020 have had the 2021 dues waived to make up for the series of unfortunate incidents of last year.

For the Commander,
~~~*Michael Gilbert*

NCHOG Treasurer

Instructor, Cascade Motorcycle safety

[IMAEngineer@comcast.net](mailto:IMAEngineer@comcast.net)



# !!IMPORTANT REMINDER!!

**EASTER IS SUNDAY, APRIL 4TH THIS YEAR  
THEREFORE NCHOG APRIL MEMBERSHIP  
MEETING WILL BE ON SUNDAY,  
APRIL 11TH—SAME TIME SAME PLACE**

# MEMBERSHIP

Remember, our chapter is looking for new members so let's put the word in the street! Fun times. Great rides. Awesome comaderie and fellowship at those "AWESOME" First Sunday Meetings with the fabulous breakfast!



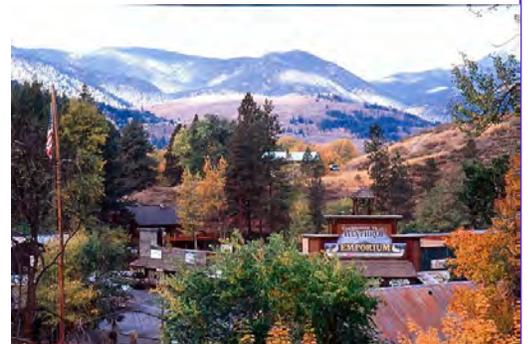
## \*\*Winthrop Ride\*\*

This August we will be returning to Winthrop! The target dates are 13th-15th or 19th-22nd. People can come on all or one of the dates. We need to book the cabins at The Virginian soon, so let's hear from folks with tentative plans of going. Two planned events will be a day in Chelan and a group barbeque. Here are some highlights of last years trip:

Making a run in August of 2020 one would think the weather would be amazing. WRONG! We had rain from Ferndale to Winthrop. However as we pulled into our cabin at the Virginian the sun decided to come out and shine on us for the entire weekend!

After Thursday's ride over we had a great time with dinner in downtown Winthrop. The cabin was within walking distance so we enjoyed adult beverages with a perfect walk back to an early night. Friday was spent doing light shopping and taking some time on our own and riding.

Saturday we had a fairly early start with breakfast in Twisp at the outdoor market and some shopping with purchases from local artists. One of our group headed home while two of us headed to Lake Chelan for the day. Lunch, shopping, and a nice long dip in the lake making friends along the way. Headed back to our cabin in Winthrop late afternoon. Sunday morning pack up with a nice ride home stopping along the way for coffee and treats.



(John G. Continued from page 5....)

had to be going 85-mph or more. Other vehicles were darting in and out of their lanes to get a 10 second advantage on other drivers. This was very far from relaxing. As we exited I-70 in Idaho Day #9, following a relaxing breakfast at our motel we began our journey to the Mt Evans



summit. The freeway traffic in the area between Golden and Idaho Springs on I-70 was amazingly dense while moving mostly above the 70-mph speed limit. The interstate snaked along through numerous curves while ascending and descending steep grades of elevation changes. At one point while going 75 mph on a steep uphill, we were passed by a pickup towing a 4-horse trailer. They Springs we picked up the Mt Evans Scenic Byway and begin our ascent to the summit at 14,130 feet. This is the highest elevation paved highway in

North America. As we rode through the town of Idaho Springs, we saw banners of the Summit to Springs bicycle event. Yes, bicycles would be riding the highway with us and other vehicles all the way to the summit and then back down. Our bikes had fuel injection and computerized ignition so we had no issues. However, we did pass many carbureted vehicles along the way that were running very rich while blowing clouds of unburned fuel smoke. The pavement had many undulations from the road freezing and thawing in the winters. You have to pick your line carefully to avoid bottoming out on parts of the road that were pushed upward and split. The whole way upward in elevation there were no guardrails and endless 180-degree switchbacks combined with the poor road surface. Once you reached the summit the reward is very clear. The 360-degree view is spectacular. Wow! Due to the high elevation we needed to limit our stay to 40 minutes or less to avoid altitude sickness symptoms of nausea and dizziness. We got our photos and began the descent. On the way down the outside lane of the 2-lane road was right on the edge of the drop-off. It's an amazing view, but many cage drivers from flatland states were hugging the wall in the left lane until they had to be in their own right lane. This behavior made it tricky to pass them, but not impossible.



Next up we rode to Estes Park, CO for the entrance of Rocky Mountain National Park and the legendary Trail Ridge Road. After a quick lunch and fuel stop, we headed into the park. Sadly, this was a Saturday so we were part of an endless parade to go up and over Trail Ridge Road. Once out of the park and into Grand Lake and Granby we were able to get back to the speed limit. We were headed due west through Steamboat Springs for an overnight stay in Craig, CO.

Day #10 was rather uneventful as we rode from Craig, CO to Vernal, UT, Tremonton, UT and Burley, ID for our overnight spot.

Day #11 was also rather uneventful too as we rode from Burley, ID to Mountain Home, ID, La Grande, OR and Hermiston, OR for our overnight spot.

Day #12 would take us from Hermiston, OR to the potato-based donut bakery known as Spudnut in Richland, WA. Spudnuts are lighter than donuts and have their own unique flavor. Everyone should try one.

(Continued Next Page...)



(John G. Continued from page 10...)

Next, we went on to the Columbia River Gorge near Vantage, WA in search of an NCHD A-Z photo scavenger hunt item, GRANDFATHER CUTS LOOSE THE PONIES

They were perched high on a ridge above the gorge. It was an amazing vista of the Columbia River and the high walls of the gorge.

Next, we went on to Ellensburg to find another NCHD photo scavenger hunt item, Dick and Jane's

Spot. Someone has painted their home and fence with bright colors while attaching a collection of odd items to the walls, fence and trees in the yard. Bizarre does not begin to describe this place. We rode on from Ellensburg to Blewett Pass, Leavenworth and on to Monroe. We stopped at a wonderful Thai place for a late lunch, Benjarong.

After lunch we said our good byes and appreciation of such a wonderful journey. We road north to home in Bellingham and White Rock...



...We both honked as I took my I-5 exit in Bellingham.

*All and all, a ride worth sharing...  
 ~~John G, Assistant Director*

Camp Phoenix provides an opportunity for children recovering from burn injuries to meet other children who share similar feelings and experiences. The weeklong camp gives these children temporary freedom from the everyday frustrations of being burned, a chance to share their stories and to bond with each other. Campers and adult burn survivors share their stories and emotions, especially shame and fear, about their recovery. The shame will remain forever, however the fears can be turned into challenges with support of other survivors and by having a new outlook on life. They become a valuable member of the Phoenix family, which helps the children feel more comfortable and in control of their anxieties and panic when receiving negative reactions or when asked what has happened. Most of all, camp is a place to have fun, learn new things, find acceptance and build self esteem.

***NCHOG has always enjoyed the opportunity of attending the camp and giving the youngsters rides on our Harleys. It has always been a highlight for the kids as well as for us? Save the date and join us this year! Watch future Newsletters and our Facebook page for more information.***

**★ SAVE THE DATE ★**

The Burned Children Recovery Foundation's 31<sup>st</sup> Annual  
**Camp Phoenix for Young Burn Survivors**  
 August 6-14, 2021

**★ Please join us on ★**  
**Sunday, August 8th**

For our Opening Ceremonies  
**10:00 AM ~ 1:00 PM**

1185 Roy Rd ~ Bellingham, WA 98229

Bring your family and friends for a fun filled day! Have lunch with the kids and partake in firetruck & motorcycle rides, field games, etc.

Please RSVP to Kathleen at [bcrfdirector@gmail.com](mailto:bcrfdirector@gmail.com) by August 1, 2021

409 Wood Place Everett, WA 98203  
 1.800.799.BURN (2876) ★ [burnedchildrenrecovery.org](http://burnedchildrenrecovery.org)  
 Providing Hope and New Beginnings since 1989!

The Phoenix National Burned Children Recovery Foundation

## HELLO FELLOW NCHOG MEMBERS!!

Well, it's Thursday and another work day for me but at least it's a beautiful day here on the water as I barge my way to Lopez Island.

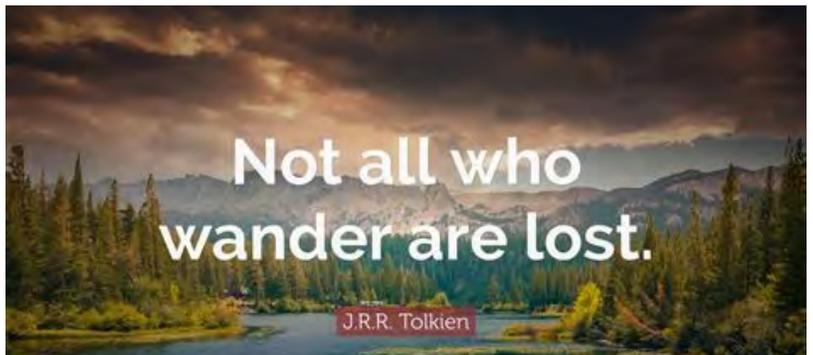
What a great first meeting last Sunday, the best of which was seeing the turnout! A lot of our old friends, and some new ones as well.

I had planned on riding even if there was a little rain, but after checking the weather radar in the morning it looked as if there was snow east of Sedro-Woolley, so I canceled that thought grudgingly. Upon coming out of the meeting to sunny skies I wished I had rode, but then again this is Washington and by the time Stephanie and I made a couple of stops on the way home, we were pounded by freezing rain and hail. Good call Dwane!!

Being out on Lopez Island today, I think I might like to lead a ride through the San Juan Islands, at least three of them, possibly San Juan, Orcas Island, and Lopez, then back to Anacortes. I will probably need to do a pre-ride, find some points of interest along the way, and get the timing down for the ferry system. Doing all three islands may require an overnight stay on one of the islands. Hmm, I will have to investigate that.

Does anyone else have any other ideas for rides? Bring your ideas to the next month's meeting and we can see if there would be an interest in them. This would include any of the rides from the past, FBR etc... Also, if anyone is heading out to Sturgis, Reno, or any HOG rallies and would like the company, put that out there as well.

Maybe even a personal ride going in a particular direction. Remember, there is strength in numbers... or that should be, more fun and brotherhood in numbers! That is it for now! Remember to keep the shiny side up, and watch out for the cages, as well as the wildlife.



# MEMBER FOCUS

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Each month we pick on an NCHOG member to write a little something about themselves for our Newsletter. We think it is a great way to get to know each other and we are often surprised how much more we have in common with each other than our love of riding.

This month we would like to thank Lynn R. for her contribution!

I have been riding two up with Steve since I met my cute Marine in 1968. We went on dates on his bike at the time, to the beach in California, and then went to Der Wienerschnitzel for the best Polish dog sandwich ever! Now my favorite beaches to go to are on Kauai.

We went to Kauai Oct. 31, 2014, best Halloween ever, and we spent 7 fantastic days, and our condo's view was wonderful.

We rented a Harley Ultra Classic just like ours, but it wasn't Green like ours. We rode the island the whole time and felt like a celebrity everywhere and every time we parked and took our helmets off. Steve would take his off and put on his Marine cap that he wears, and my white hair. People would walk by and tell Steve thank you for you service and then start talking to us about riding and did we bring the bike with us, and I know they were amazed we were riding at our age! I told Steve that until I stepped off the plane in Kauai I had never found a place I would rather live than Skagit Valley, but now I would, I love Kauai. Riding Kauai for 7 days and nights just was not enough! It is one of my topmost favorites, just Steve and me riding a Harley in paradise 53 years from the first time I road two up with him. It just does not get any better than that in my book!

We have only gone to two islands, Kauai and the Big Island. I would like to go to a couple of more before our days are over. Just to see but I have a feeling my favorite will still be Kauai.

The road to Waimea Canyon was fantastic on the bike, with its twist and turns. It is called "The Grand Canyon of the Pacific". I have never been to the Grand Canyon, but this one was wonderful to see and enjoy with my guy.



All of our road trips together have been wonderful, from showing up at our son Bills home in Colorado when he said "Most parents our age show up in a motor home, but not mine, they show up on a Harley" to our trip to our granddaughters high school graduation in Arizona, to the next one wherever it maybe. When I hear Steve start the bike up, I am ready to go!

*Let's Ride!*

~~Lynn R.



## *Easter Brings Hope...*

In regards to eternal life we have peace in the gospel of Jesus knowing that he died on the cross and was resurrected to pay for our sins so that we will have eternal life in heaven with God.

But while we are on earth we are able to have hope and peace in praying and trusting the *Lord*.



*Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the LORD for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.”*

~~~~Jeremiah 29:7

My friends,

It is acknowledged that we have many issues to disagree with in our country today, but might I suggest that a good way to find peace *and* fight for our country is to pray for our leaders to make wise decision and for “*Gods will to be done... ..on earth as it is in Heaven.*”

*May we be blessed with safe days ahead,
May we be blessed with safe riding ahead,
And may we be blessed with Wisdom always...
Love you all,
~~~Mark*





# SAFETY WITHOUT

## ***SAFETY!!***

*A little introduction though not much is really needed as Stan Bryant has been a fixture in our chapter for many years. Besides being a long-time member of NCHOG Stan has served previously as Safety Officer and Chaplain. Along the way he has been a frequent volunteer, often manning the HOG table at the dealership along with holding certifications to serve beer and food at dealer functions. We are very lucky and honored that he has volunteered to serve as Safety Officer as safety is our number 1 priority.*

### **Safety Guy Stan Bryant**

Greetings to all HOG people! After our March meeting I volunteered to be the safety officer. My name is Stan Bryant. WHO? You may ask. OK. So here is a little bit about me. I am not given to talk about myself so I will keep it short (you are welcome!).

I retired from the Bell System (US West) after a 29-year career. I have been a YMCA diving instructor and had a long second career as a certified flight instructor. And now I am the NCHOG chapter safety officer! All three have a common thread, that being SAFETY. I will be drawing on each of them from time to time in my presentations to you. Some of the topics I will be covering will be the environment and all the tricks Mother Nature can put in front of us; how the weather can affect our riding; and some facts on how the weather affects our bodies. I look forward to passing on some of the items I have learned from experience and to learn from you. Together we can make the rest of 2021 a safe and fun year.

~Stan~



*In the absence of a Safety Officer, members have been taking a turn at writing a newsletter article each month..(We now have a permanent Safety Guy! See Pg 15). Thank you to this month's volunteer John G. for the following first-person account of a safety message that applies to each and every one of us...*

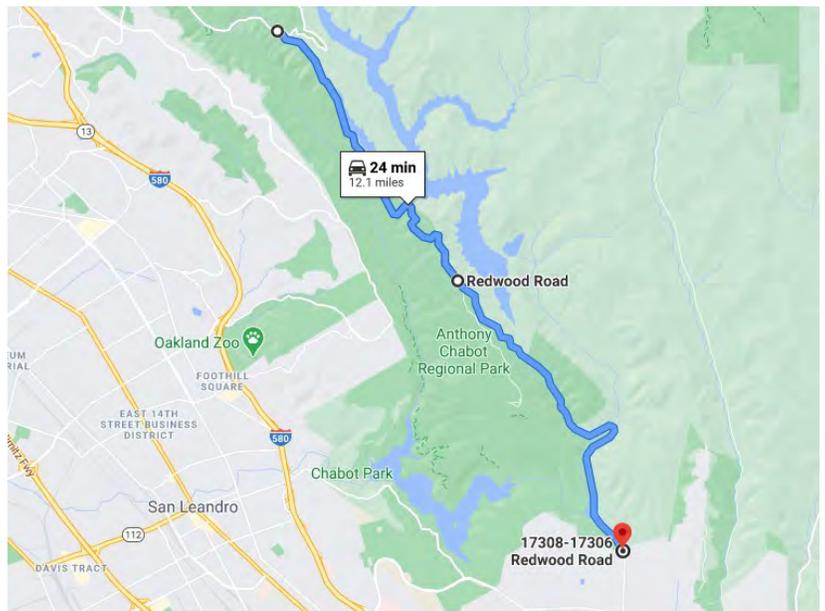
## My "Oh Shit" Story....

It was around 1977 in the San Francisco east bay area. I had a 1975 Honda CB 550 Four that was army green, much like the photo I found on the internet. I had just returned from Laguna Seca Raceway near Monterey, California where my buddies and I attended the US Motorcycle Grand Prix and Superbike Races. The excitement of watching the bikes circulate the track at speed was still fresh in my mind. I went out to ride my usual loop around the east bay hills that I had done many times before. I never really timed the ride, but it probably takes about 2 hours to do the loop. One of the segments was on Redwood Road which runs along the spine of the foothills above Oakland, Ca. Redwood Road is about 24 miles of "S" turns with nice banking and some gradual elevation changes. I started out pondering how the racers would go around the corners so smoothly while having only one ankle over the seat and their whole body hanging off on the inside of the corner. I tried it in slow motion and slow speed on a few corners. It felt good. Then I increased the speed a bit and continued to hang off. I focused on being smooth on the throttle delivery, gear changes and clutch work. I got through the next few corners very smoothly and quite fast. Soon the left-right rhythm of the "S" curves took over. My foot pegs began to spray sparks as I got lower and lower. My speed increased as I hung off more and more and the sparks continued. Turn after turn I went. This felt amazing I thought. I continued to be smooth while leaning right on the ragged edge of traction. Then I saw it; sand and water from some runoff going right across the apex of the next corner. As my rear tire reached the spot, I broke traction and began to spin. My instantaneous reflex was to pull in the clutch. I had spun about 180 degrees and was now rolling backwards across the roadway and onto the outside shoulder. I pulled on the front brake and came to a stop while sitting on the seat in an upright position. I exclaimed, "holy shit". To my surprise a voice from behind me said, "you're not kiddin'". There was a bicyclist just behind me on the shoulder who witnessed the event and thought I was going to slide right through him.



**So, what's the safety message?** Don't ride above your personal limitations or the safe speed for the road you are on. Be aware that there may be an obstacle in the road on any corner. Be prepared to adjust your line, slow down and navigate safely around the obstacle. Learn from your mistakes. I ride much more conservatively these days and have avoided countless obstacles and mistakes by other drivers and riders. Think ahead. Enjoy the ride so that you can enjoy many more.

**John G—**  
**Assistant Director and Guest Safety Guy**





North Cascade Harley Owners Group # 5369  
April 10th 2010



# COOL STUFF

## HOG TROUGH

### *RETURNING SOON!*

Once a month we get together at a local restaurant for a non-hosted dinner, libations, and good times!

Everyone is welcome to come...and bring your tall tales with you!



## NCHOG MEETING

First Sunday of every month. We meet at the American Legion Hall in Sedro-Woolley with a non-hosted breakfast served from 8:30-10.

For the low price of just \$8 you can have a made to order breakfast cooked and served by the Ladies of the American Legion. Meeting starts at promptly at 10:00, and typically lasts an hour. Kickstands up at 11:15 for The First Sunday Ride following the meeting.

## OFFICERS MEETING

Officers Meetings are held once a month at 5:00 pm the Thursday before the First Sunday Meeting. All members are welcome to attend upstairs at Sound Harley-Davidson in Marysville.



**Meets once a month at  
Bobs Burgers for dinner, girl  
time,  
and meetings**

*Next LOH gathering will be Tuesday,  
March 16th at 5:30  
We can't wait to see you there!  
No RSVP required*

**HEY!! Make sure you  
join NCHOG's  
Facebook group at**

***facebook.com/groups/nchog***

This is where you can stay in touch with group activities, member comments and see pictures that have been submitted. It's easy to log on to Facebook and so it's easy to stay up to date with chapter postings! Try it.....you'll like it!!

**and while you are clicking  
around and surfing  
around....visit our website:  
*www.northcascadeshog.com***



# APRIL 2021 CALENDAR



Please note that our General Meeting and First Sunday Ride has been changed to Sunday, April 11th. May you all have a Blessed 2021 Easter Sunday filled with friends and family.

**April 8th** — *Officers Meeting 5:00 pm* Sound Harley-Davidson, Marysville. Any member is welcome at Officer Meetings.

**April 12th** — *1st Sunday Meeting* Sedro-Woolley American Legion Hall. Breakfast served from 8:30-10:00 (\$8 per person). Meeting starts promptly at 10:00! All members and guests welcome.

**April 12th** — *1st Sunday Ride*. Leaves after Sunday meeting at 11:00(ish) from Sedro-Woolley American Legion Hall. Watch our Facebook page for more details as the time gets closer.

**April 17th**— *3rd Saturday Ride* leaves from the Holiday Market in Burlington at 9:00 a.m. with Road Captain Dwane, details will follow on Facebook.

**April 20th** — *Ladies of Harley*. LOH meets at Bobs Burgers and Brew in Burlington at 5:30. We would love to see all lady riders join us....whether you ride solo or two up, you are a wind sister. Keep an eye on the NCHOG Facebook page for updates on this event.

**April 29th**— *Officers Meeting 5:00 pm*. Sound Harley-Davidson, Marysville. Any member is welcome!

**May 2nd** — *1st Sunday Meeting* Sedro-Woolley American Legion Hall with breakfast starting at 8:30 am and meeting at 10 am. (*Bacon.....yum!*)

**May 2nd** — *First Sunday Ride* Leaves after Sunday meeting and Bike Blessing (maybe about noonish) from Sedro-Woolley American Legion Hall. Watch our Facebook page or check April newsletter for details.

## SAVE THE DATE:

**On Sunday, May 2nd** there will be a *Bike Blessing* event directly after the General Membership Meeting for all interested participants. Chaplain Mark and Pam, as well as Stan Bryant and Buzz Harrington will be on hand.





**DON'T FORGET TO STOP BY SOUND HARLEY-DAVIDSON WHEN YOU ARE OUT AND ABOUT AND SAY "HI" TO TY AND HIS STAFF. NEW CHANGES & INVENTORY ARRIVING DAILY!**

TRADE VALUE

# NEW HOURS. NEW SEASON.



**STARTING MARCH 1ST, 2021**

**MONDAY-FRIDAY: 10 AM - 7 PM**

**SATURDAY: 10 AM - 6 PM**

**SUNDAY: 10 AM - 5 PM**

GET PRE-APPROVED

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