



September 2019

Harley Owners Group, Decatur, Illinois Chapter



**Red Boiling Springs group ride**

## From the Director:



**Martha Kendall**  
**Director**

### DIRECTOR'S THOUGHTS

Fall is fast approaching and hopefully the HOT summer weather is behind us. Don't we all look forward to those great fall rides with the crisp morning air and the warm sunny afternoons and the changing of the fall color of the leaves? I always just wish we had room to stop at one of those roadside fruit and vegetable stands to buy fresh peaches or apples, but we tried it once and the peaches didn't look so good by the time we got home! LOL! We know now with every ride it won't be long before we will be putting our bikes away for the winter. So, we need to make the most of every ride and soak in all the sunshine we can for the next couple of months. They say 'Time Flies When You Are Having Fun', so I guess that is what happened to the summer. Check out our Activities Schedule and...

Come Join Us and Let's Ride, **Martha - Director**

### RUMBLINGS FROM THE ROAD CAPTAIN

It has been brought to my attention that there have been some issues with spacing between bikes on the group rides as I have witnessed myself. It is important for us to remember the one and two second rule for spacing. Not only for staying together but also for the effect it has on the riders in the back creating the rubber band. The large space between bikes also invites cars trying to pass to cut into an open space sometimes too quickly in front of a bike. The space also causes a problem for hand and foot communications for hazards on the road which I have also witnessed. We want everyone to have a safe ride and enjoy group riding, which is different than solo or two or three bikes just out for a ride.

Anyone that received a Road Captain Manual this year, please return it to me to be put back on file.

Enjoy the cooler fall weather for some great riding time.

Be Safe.

Let's Rumble!

Head Road Captain

**Dean Kendall**

# Cozi's Corner..... by Debbie Coziahr

Welcome to Pipelines and Cozi's Corner. As we move into a new season, our thoughts go to H.O.G., our relationship as your Sponsoring Dealer and other organizations that are volunteer based that we work with. We are set apart from most of them in that H.O.G. is first, an exclusive to Harley-Davidson owners as a riding group and a byproduct of that, often a volunteer group that just happens to include the fun and joy of riding. As with many organizations, diversity is abundant in its members. What we have found is that there are many people who join H.O.G. (while stepping out of their comfort zone) and with open minds, find friends who turn into lifelong treasures that they most likely wouldn't have had the opportunity to meet. CHD works on the team concept because it is the only way we feel we can accomplish our goals which is to "provide optimal customer



**Debbie Coziahr**  
**Owner**

service in a unique atmosphere to promote the Harley-Davidson lifestyle in a friendly, ethical and professional way". This is our actual Mission Statement and our staff is required to know it and to live it while they are employed with us. Our HOG Chapter is much on that same parallel as far as working together - to ride and have fun (with some community involvement at

times..think food drive, Blessing of the Bikes, Warrior Run plus your own dinner rides, weekend trips, and monthly socials). As with our dealership inner workings, we have our fantastically fun times and we also have our pow wows to iron out issues or differing opinions- and that's what we do. We talk them out, we communicate our thoughts and feelings & iron them out and then we move on. This quote is the one that comes to me "Peace isn't when everyone agrees. Peace is when we respect our disagreements and still play in the same sand-box".

As always, Ride safe..Have fun

**Tim and Debbie**



**“Petie”**  
**R. I. P.**



Erin Valentine  
Secretary

This has been an odd riding season for us, because we haven't been riding.

Due to some discomfort and a little surgery for Bill, our bike has been much like that chair on our deck that I see rocking in the breeze....unmanned!

We have caged it to a few socials and a breakfast but compared to our first years of riding, we have really been inactive. Hopefully soon we will be back out there for a little riding before the snow falls.

He misses riding more than I do, but when I think back and talk about some of the trips we took, I guess I miss it a little too.

I got to thinking with the Airbnb craze, maybe we missed out on not Airbnb'ing our bike this summer. I have a feeling Bill would not approve, and maybe our insurer wouldn't either. It isn't the only thing sitting idle...it shares the packed garage with five bicycles, a red wagon, a child's cupboard that I never chalk painted...you get the picture. Oh, and my pickleball paddle that with every day I don't play, I am more afraid to pull it out again after well, probably two years.

So maybe soon, we will meet again on two wheels and share the road with our HOG friends. Until we do, safe riding to all!

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September has several events that our Decatur HOG Chapter can participate in:

Sept 10 – September Social – 6:30 at CHD -Potluck of Sandwiches, Salads, and Sweets.

Sept 11—CHD is sponsoring a 9-11 Memorial Ride from CHD to the 9-11 Memorial site in Nelson Park. Everyone is welcome to join in this ride. They plan to leave CHD at 6 PM.

Sept 17 – Is packing day for the 'Freedom Soldier Boxes' so don't forget to bring your items for the boxes to CHD prior to that date.

There are some items they still need: cereal bars, Welch's fruit chews, 3 or 4 oz. toothpaste, hard candy, miniature Christmas trees for the November shipment. Thank you for dropping those items off at CHD in the 'Freedom Soldier Box'.

OCTOBER :

October 5<sup>th</sup>–6<sup>th</sup> – Overnight Ride to Newport, IN Hill Climb, led by Mike and Jolene Graning

October 5<sup>th</sup> – 8:00 AM - Breakfast Ride – Red Wheel, Monticello

October 8<sup>th</sup> – Social – 6:30 PM – Halloween Night AND Rib Night, Costumes Optional

October 16<sup>th</sup> – Dinner Ride – 6:00 PM – Famous Dave's, Bloomington

October 22<sup>nd</sup> – 6:30 PM – Officers' Meeting



## HOG BALLED

Tom and Sheila Dial were initiated with the age-old HOG Ball discovery when on the Red Boiling Springs ride. Several years ago, the HOG Balls started making the rounds, showing up when they are least expected on the bikes of Chapter members.

After a long hiatus, the balls have been recommissioned and are back in service. It will be up to Tom and Sheila to pass the balls on, so gifts and bribes are in order, or your turn may be coming next!

### NOVEMBER

- November 2<sup>nd</sup> – Breakfast Ride – 8:00 AM – Merv's, Blue Mound
- November 12<sup>th</sup> – Social – 6:30 PM – Thanksgiving Dinner/Veterans' Recognition
- November 20<sup>th</sup> – Dinner Ride – 6:00 PM – Tuscany, Decatur
- November 26<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 PM – Officers' Meeting

### DECEMBER

- December 7<sup>th</sup> – Breakfast Ride – 8:00 AM -- Coney McKane's
- December 13<sup>th</sup> (Friday) – 6:00 PM – H.O.G. Christmas Dinner – Everyone's East End Grill, Ugly Sweater Optional
- December 28<sup>th</sup> – 9:00 AM – Officers' Meeting/2020 Planning Meeting

## Decatur HOG Chapter honored with tree plantings



**Jan Martinie and Tim Coziahr**

Thanks to the generosity of a charter member, Decatur HOG Chapter is being honored with the plantings of two trees.

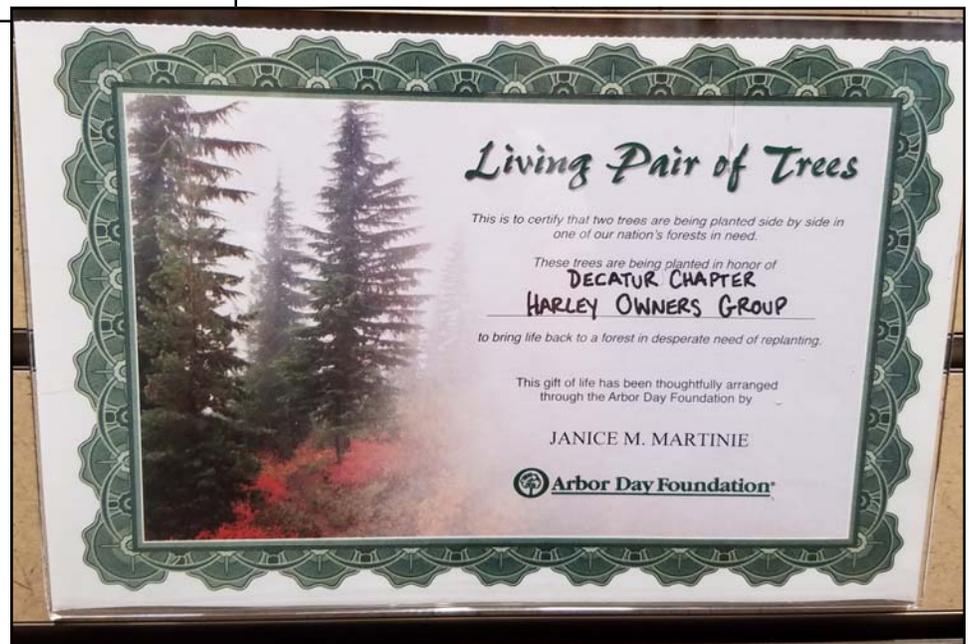
Jan and Louie Martinie, lifetime HOG members, were part of the original Decatur Chapter and have been riding since the mid '60s. Jan has also been a member of the Arbor Day Foundation for more than 30 years, and she attended the HOG Social recently to present a certificate for the two trees that have been planted side by side in a national forest in need.

“I have been helping plant trees in our national forests. Since there have been so many major forest fires, I have increased my donations for planting,” Martinie said. “If anyone has ever ridden their motorcycle through a forest, there is nothing like it.”

Martinie said the Decatur Chapter trees are numbers 27 and 28 of trees she has had planted. The 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> were for the congregation of her church, Wesley United Methodist; others have been planted in memory of family members.

“Hopefully, with some prayers, some rain along with some sunshine, these trees will grow to be

very big to represent this HOG Chapter,” said Martinie.





Julie Murphy  
Ladies of Harley

## Ladies of Harley

Wow, can you believe it, summer of 2019 is just about over???? I hope your riding season is still in full swing!!!

LOH has been very quiet this year.

We had a ride scheduled for June, but that didn't work out.

An October ride is in the making so we can go see the beautiful countryside with lots of color, before the white stuff starts falling and we have to put our rides away for the winter. More to come on that..... So keep an eye on your emails with the upcoming information. If anyone has a destination that they would like to go to and see, please send me an email so we can talk about it, I would be happy to put something together.

Safe riding to you all. **Julie Murphy**

## *Keep the grass off the road!*

Grass on the street may look innocent enough, but it can cause huge problems for riders.

Have you ever had any bad grass??!?!?

You've heard people talk about getting bad grass...well, at least if you are old enough maybe...well, this is bad grass when it ends up under our wheels!

While Illinois already had state law prohibiting property owners from putting grass in the roadway, the Village of Forsyth now also has a local ordinance.

HOG Membership Director David Swartz spoke with Forsyth Trustee and Decatur HOG Chapter member Jim Peck, who brought the issue to his fellow council members. The law will now be enforced, with first offenders receiving a warning.

Remember when mowing to shoot the grass toward the yard, not the street!



Cheryl and Wade Pantermeuhl from the Gruene TX HOG Chapter visited Martha and Dean recently and enjoyed seeing CHD and the 9/11 Memorial at Lake Decatur. HOG friendships are made all across the country, and offer new experiences and journeys to riders.



**Paul Gorden**  
**Safety**

## Safety Director

Is it September already?

Of course we all know that the calendar shows us that it's early fall... schools are in session, the Labor Day weekend cookouts are a memory, and summer vacations exist only in our smartphone photo albums and credit card statements.

There's something missing in that short list, though.

Yes, we know that cooler morning temperatures and lingering humidity are leaving everything, including the road surfaces, covered in morning dew. So, be careful on those early morning rides.

And, yes, whether we like it or not, it is time to begin thinking about winter storage of the pride-and-joy two wheeler.

What's missing in the opening list above is fall harvest being in full swing. Living in the Illinois version of "God's country", we would typically be seeing trucks brimming with gold. But, this year's agriculture season has been different from the beginning.

For the most part, crops around here were planted approximately three to five weeks late. In like fashion, harvest activities will begin later this year by about the same number of weeks... roughly October 1<sup>st</sup>. A late start also means that harvest will extend further into the calendar year than what is typical.

Many farm operations practice fall tillage as well, further extending the farm season.

Keep in mind these two thoughts before and during your rides:

-harvest activities don't usually begin until mid to late morning:

-dusk occurs earlier every day. With harvest potentially extending into November, the time change on Nov. 3 (remember... "Fall back"?) will bring twilight considerably earlier into your riding day.

Be kind...give farm equipment plenty of space to go around you. Keep your eyes sharp at all times, especially late in the day.

Be safe out there!

**Paul Gorden**  
Safety Director