

Worcester H.O.G.
Grants & Squeals
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SHELDON'S
HARLEY-DAVIDSON
Sheldon's Harley-Davidson
sheldons.com

Harley Owners Group

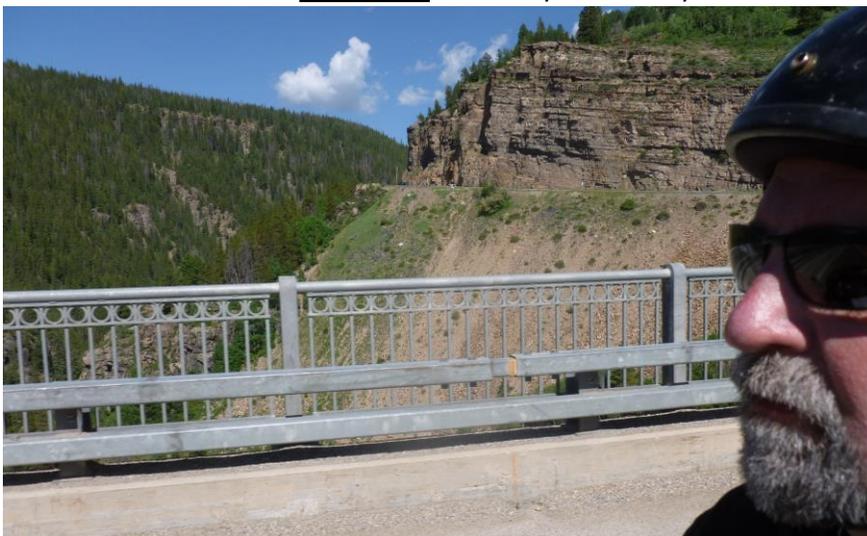
Chapter 3811

August 2016

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A man on a mission... read about Ken Karey's Hoka Hey adventure...



This wall of bears and school supplies are going to make some youngsters at the [Guild of St. Agnes](#) VERY HAPPY! Nice work Tammy Lee and LOH!!

Chapter Meeting Information

Worcester H.O.G. Chapter meetings are held on the *first Tuesday* of the month at 7:30pm at the [Auburn Elks Lodge](#).

Come early and socialize! The typical agenda includes Officer reports, door prizes, 50-50 drawing, info on upcoming events, rides, guest speakers, and new member acknowledgments. **Please join us** and see why we have such a great following and have so much fun!

Be a part of our newsletter!

Email your stories and pictures to:
editor@worcesterhog.com

All submissions become the property of Worcester H.O.G. We reserve the right to edit submissions for length and content.





From your Director

Hello to all Members,

Here it is August 2016 already and the July weather was great... Mother Nature thought of us again. We've had excellent riding weather and I took full advantage of it, leading rides and attending rides lead by other Road Captains.

August, September and November riding slows down or stops for some of us. We have several annual events coming up in the next few months; the *Apple pie Run*, the *Tim Jackson Ride*, and the *Polar Bear Ride*. Not to mention rides by other Chapters such as [Ocean State's Gold Medal Poker Run](#) Saturday August 20th 2016.

In-between those rides we need to have other rides on the calendar. Hopefully our Road Captains will take care of our need to ride and schedule rides for Wednesdays, Fridays, and weekends.

You do not need to be a Road Captain to lead a ride. All you have to do is pick a date, a time, and a destination. Send it to us via the *Contact Us* form on our website and we will add it to our calendar.

Contact me if you would like a hand setting up a ride, I am always available to help.

Let's Ride and have Fun!

Chet McDonald

Worcester H.O.G Officers

Director	<i>Chet McDonald</i>
Assistant Director	<i>Ken Karey</i>
Treasurer	<i>Scott Johnson, Sr.</i>
Secretary/Membership	<i>Mark Zibel</i>
Activities Officer	<i>Richie Smith</i>
Ladies of Harley Officer	<i>Tammy Lee</i>
Head Road Captain	<i>Roy Mikkelsen</i>
Editor	<i>Andy Foster</i>
Safety Officer	<i>Ken Corey</i>
Photographer	<i>Jay George</i>
Historian	<i>Paul Gunnerson</i>
Events Coordinator	<i>Kevin Colbath</i>

Yankee Run Committee

George Gilligan, Ray Remillard, Jan Fiske, & Sue DiPilato

Worcester H.O.G Road Captains

Head Road Captain: *Roy Mikkelsen*

<i>Alan Berthiaume</i>	<i>Ken Karey</i>
<i>Alan Froslic</i>	<i>Kevin Colbath</i>
<i>Alan Shea</i>	<i>Mark Zibel</i>
<i>Arthur Pond</i>	<i>Mike Brown</i>
<i>Bill Zambarano</i>	<i>Mike Morency</i>
<i>Chet Chludenski</i>	<i>Paul Gunnerson</i>
<i>Chet McDonald</i>	<i>Peter Bogren</i>
<i>Dave Eaton</i>	<i>Ray Robidoux</i>
<i>Ed McDonald</i>	<i>Richie Smith</i>
<i>Gary Wickman</i>	<i>Ronald Johnson</i>
<i>Henry James</i>	<i>Sadiyah Derawi</i>
<i>Jack Grzyb</i>	<i>Tammy Lee</i>
<i>Ken Corey</i>	



Greetings from [Sheldon's Harley-Davidson!](#)

It is that time of the year where *Harley-Davidson* will soon be releasing the 2017 Model Year motorcycles. It's a very exciting time for us, especially since the *World Wide Dealer Show* will be held in Boston. Unfortunately, the public cannot attend as it is for dealership personnel only. But we'll be there in full force and will keep everyone updated. Just follow us on social media and we'll be posting like crazy all of the new products. We promise that our customers will be the first to see them.

Right about now the rumors start flying around about what is going to be new. Rarely does Harley-Davidson release official information regarding new products prior to the first day of the dealer show. The cool thing is that we expect to start seeing 2017 motorcycles almost immediately after they are presented on stage. So come to the dealership and see them fresh off of the truck.

Lastly, we have a few tricks left up our sleeves that will make it easier to buy a Harley-Davidson. So, tell your friends, relatives and acquaintances to come on down and you can easily pick up some referral money when they mention your name.

Chad & Bryan

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Assistant Director

August already? How can that be?? Our riding season here in New England seems far too short and “prime time” is generally considered the summer months – June, July & August. But should this be the case?

Yes, there’s a lot to be said for a beautiful and warm summer day riding in a t-shirt along the ocean on Cape Cod or in the White Mountains of Vermont. But we also know that sitting on an air-cooled Harley in 90+ degrees can be uncomfortable at times. As I write this, today’s high is expected to be 95°F and I know my thighs will be roasting on the ride home from work. While this is a small price to pay for the pleasure of a 2-wheeled commute, it’s not ideal.

I believe that late-summer and fall (and even early winter) offer some of the very best riding opportunities here in New England. Crisp mornings, reduced vacationer traffic, colorful foliage, the smell of apples, and availability of fresh cider and warm cider donuts will all add new dimensions to and create new opportunities for our rides. I, for one, would ride almost anywhere for a warm cider donut... just sayin’!

As with most things, preparation is key to making this seasonal change as pleasant and as fun as possible, and now is the time to do it! Are your chaps in good shape? Do your leathers still fit (after all the summer ice cream and BBQ stops)? What about getting a helmet with more face protection or a neck gator? Do you need/want heated gear? Does your heated gear still work? What about your passenger’s needs and gear so their experience is fun and comfortable too? No one wants a cranky passenger! Speaking from experience, seeking repairs or replacements for heated gear in the fall when EVERYONE else is doing the same thing is a bad idea. Do it NOW so you can extend your riding season well beyond the summer and enjoy the many riding opportunities with your Worcester H.O.G. friends.

I would encourage you to read [part 2 of my 2-part article](#) which reflects on my participation in the [2016 Hoka Hey Motorcycle Challenge](#) in the [Tail Pipes](#) section.

Ken Karey



Secretary

Say it isn't so... it's August already?! If you’re the pessimist then the 2016 riding season is half over. But if you are the optimist, then there are still plenty of roads to explore, events to attend, miles to log, good times to be had, and memories to be made.

Speaking of which, how about all the events and rides we have had and that are currently planned? There are so many that, without the use of the website calendar, I for one would be unable to keep track of them! We’ve had the MDA ride, countless Yankee Run rides, the ABCs, the “show and go”, and what a superior presence the Chapter represented at the Officer Tarentino Memorial Ride. While such a sad and unfortunate incident, it was nice to be part of such a close knit community and be able to support and thank those who provide the very freedom that allows us to live our lives each and every day.

Looking forward, we have the “[Heart to Heart Ride](#)”, the *Teddy Bear Ride* (I so cannot wait to do that one, I’m still looking for a 5 or 6 ft. bear to put in my passenger seat) and let’s not forget the second annual Mini Golf ride. There is no doubt that the diversity of Worcester H.O.G. has something for everyone!

On a separate note, thanks to all of the new and current Road Captains that continue to step up and lead rides. Remember, if you have a special ride or idea in mind, submit it and the Officers will help you get it executed.

As I've said in the past, the *Worcester H.O.G. Chapter #3811* is truly something special. We continue to grow our membership monthly, and as of this writing we have 198 true and confirmed members. Participation on our *Facebook* page also continues to grow, where we now have 119 members who are sharing and discussing all things Harley, H.O.G. and motorcycle related.

And let’s not forget our sponsoring dealer who, without them, we simply do not exist. Chad, Bryan and the Sheldon’s Team continue to be there for us at every turn... even if there's a miss-direction, in the end we get it done!

“RIDE SAFE & ARRIVE ALIVE”

Mark Zibel

Worcester H.O.G. Chapter #3811

Secretary/Membership Officer/Road Captain

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From the Editor

You see them approaching. Sometimes it's a fleeting glimpse as they pass, other times it's a long draw where you engage in *the stare down* for several seconds. They never, ever, wave.

Then there are those awkward times when you pull up next to each other and you're both trying to figure out the communication protocol. Sometimes you make eye contact and all is understood. Other times they bark out something that doesn't make sense, and then *you* accommodate with a reply that means absolutely nothing to them. The traffic light changes, the moment is gone, and you're left wondering.

And what about those times when you're cruising down a road and they come darting out after you with *killer intent*? I guess I will never understand what dogs are thinking, but at times I have felt in tune with that silent gaze as they pass by me. I just know they are enjoying their *wind therapy* as much as I am enjoying mine. And some of the [really lucky dogs](#) have bike owners!

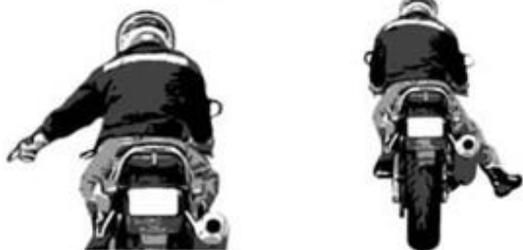
Quote of the month, from Ken Corey: "*Email always comes to YOU, Facebook doesn't*". Sign up for the Worcester H.O.G. Facebook page to catch any last minute rides that may miss the email channel.

Andy



Safety Officer

These two hand signals warn the riders behind you that there is a hazard on the left or right side of the road:



Additionally, there is a third hand signal that we use to

alert for right-side road situations such as bicycles, pedestrians, vehicles, etc, that are in or could enter into our roadway space. This signal is done by pointing repeatedly over your head with your left hand towards the object on the right side of the road.

In reality, it is much more than this. It makes you aware of something as simple as a pothole or sand/grass/leaves in the road, and as complicated as a car on the side of the road that may open a door or possibly pull out into the group.

You should also be aware that it means the bike in front of you may make a maneuver that could impact your lane as they may be forced to move to the left to avoid it. This all happens very quickly, so please stay alert when these signals are used.

It is also time to remind everyone that *clearly passing signals back* is important for the safety of everyone on the ride. We seem to do real well with this at the beginning of the year but it diminishes as the season progresses.

Ken



Historian's Article

Greetings fellow H.O.G. members,

We are now getting to enjoy those days we all longed for during our winter down time. If nothing else, the weather here is always unpredictable. We had a snowy April which was kind of unusual for us. We are now into the heart of the riding season and July is certainly giving us some very hot weather to ride in. That's OK, as long as we remember that hot weather can be dangerous and we need to take all necessary precautions to deal with it.

Many of us are riding away to exciting places and sharing pictures and stories. Because we are now ½ way through our 30th year as a chapter, this is a *big difference* from what our founding members were doing 30 years ago. They had no computers, no cell phones, no GPS devices, etc. What they did have was the same desire we have; "To Ride And Have Fun". That will never change!

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Yankee Run Stop

We all know that time goes by very quickly and our riding season can be a short one, so get out and ride as much as you can. Attend our chapter rides and events, make new friends, and get reacquainted with fellow H.O.G. members who you haven't seen in a while. That is what local chapters are all about.

I have had the pleasure of leading several nice rides thus far with our members, and I intend to do more of them. If you receive a notice about a ride and can make it, please go. Your Road Captains put forth a lot of effort to lead you on some good rides, please support them and your chapter, be an active part of it – Ride!

We continue to have new members join our chapter, please welcome them and get to know them! This is what has sustained our chapter for 30+ years and is what will keep our chapter going. Support our sponsoring dealer, *Sheldon's Harley-Davidson*. Our chapter exists because of them. Please think about this.

Some chapters have been lost over the years because their sponsoring dealers went out of business. We have picked up some of those people, but for many, it was the end of their chapter experience which we all enjoy so much. These are the "Dog Days" of summer, enjoy them. I find that even on a very hot day you can get both physical and mental relief by riding your Harley.

Life is short, so don't waste a single day of it. We are a diverse group of people, but we all have one single important thing in common; we love to ride our Harley's. It is our passion, it's what we do. It can be more fun if we do it together! That, my friends, is why this chapter started in January of 1986 and why it still exists today.

I hope to see both old and new friends on a ride as we continue through the best part of our riding season this year.

Paul Gunnerson
Chapter Historian



August is here, summer is flying by, and the *Yankee Run* books are in full use with plenty of rides going to YR stops. A *big thank you* to the *Road Captains* who are helping support the sponsored stops, they really appreciate your patronage.

The winners of gift certificates from the monthly drawings:

70	Arnold	D	Ocean State	Café Manzi's	June	15
290	Stephen	G	No Chapter	Janine's Frostee	June	15
271	Chris	V	Ocean State	Janine's Frostee	July	15
79	Dennis	T	Worcester	Gran-Val Scoop	July	10

During the June meeting we were discussing the *Hay-Wagon Restaurant (YR 32)*. They recently moved to 5 Depot Street in Hopedale MA. We (Jim & Terry) went there recently and here is an update for our members: Depot St is right off of Rt 16 in Hopedale. The new name for stop 32 is [Hay-Wagon On the Go](#) and their new hours are **7am- 9pm every day** serving breakfast, lunch, and dinner, and of course ice cream... no soft serve, but a great selection! The building is small with outdoor seating only and parking is limited, but city hall parking is available across the street. This stop is worth the ride.

The Committee is working on new stops for next year and we have several interested parties already, great job in getting an early start. After a slow start the book sales have taken off! We're currently at 186 and trying to beat last year's 195... only 9 to go. I want to thank all those who put an effort into selling books, the great thing is it sells itself.

If you haven't purchased your book yet it is available at the following places:

- Sheldon's Parts counter (and if you purchase an item at Sheldon's you can get a stamp this year)
- Mobile H.O.G. Officer's (Chet, Ken, Mark, Scott & Tammy have them in their saddle bags)
- Any committee member (Ray, Sue, Janice and George)

The *FUN BOOK* is a fantastic deal! For \$20 you get to go riding to a different place every time you get on the bike. At monthly meetings you get a chance to win a gift certificate from one of the stops. And finally, *THE BOOK ITSELF* is your ticket to the October party where you can win cash prizes, enjoy a great meal, do some fancy dancing and hang out with great people.

George for the Yankee Run Committee

Tail Pipes

2016 Hoka Hey Motorcycle Challenge, Part 2 – Ken Karey

So the [2016 Hoka Hey Motorcycle Challenge](#) is behind me and I'm here to tell you about it. How to summarize what I experienced in a few paragraphs is daunting, but I will try.

Most importantly, I'm very appreciative of all the support I received and the donations I was able to forward (\$5,500 in total) to the [Pine Ridge Area Chamber of Commerce](#) to improve conditions and create opportunities in Native American Indian communities. Last I heard, my collective donation was ~10% of the \$57,000 which had been collected by the 75 participants in the Hoka Hey. My supporters and I did VERY well.

It all began in the pre-dawn hours on June 14th as we (Arthur Pond, Scott Johnson and I) set out for southern California. This ~3,000mile pre-event trek was challenged by a lost wallet, major engine problems, a flat tire, an oppressively hot & humid Midwest, and culminated with an eye-blinding sunset as we navigated twisty mountain roads on our final approach into the Pala Resort and Casino in California. To my pleasant surprise, I arrived in good spirits, not particularly road-weary, and eager to take-on the Hoka Hey itself.

The next 4 days of waiting for that start was torture! Too hot to ride comfortably (>100°F each day) and lots of sitting... though sometimes with an adult beverage in-hand. About 50% of the participants were veterans of the Hoka Hey, the rest newbies. Men and women riders were from the US, Canada, South Africa, and the Netherlands. Chit-chat among the riders was frequently about prior crashes, injuries, various mishaps and even deaths... a bit disturbing.

With the first set of printed directions in-hand, the group set-off at 6AM on June 21st. Hoka Hey!! Our destination was [Beartooth Harley-Davidson](#) in Billings, MT, where we'd receive our next set of directions. That first day took us through >120°F in Death Valley and ended in Bly, OR at 39°F where we spent the night in a gas station parking lot.

This would be my first time sleeping on the ground next to my bike. Despite dogs barking & fighting on the other side of a stockade fence, we were able to fall asleep given how tired we were. Fortunately (NOT!) a local rooster helped us wake-up at dawn! We gassed-up and were on the road again. The next few days exposed me to some of the most beautiful scenery I had ever experienced as we passed through Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana. Snow-

capped mountains, deep gorges, 100ft pines, dense forests still holding snow, rivers, waterfalls, roads cut into the shoulders of the most rugged terrain imaginable, along with deer, elk, ram, desert jackrabbits and "free range cattle". I came around a corner only to be greeted by a roadside bull so close I could've slapped it as I passed by!

Just when you thought it couldn't get more beautiful, it did! Over and over again!! Idaho was my greatest surprise. It's farmland where potatoes come from, right? Perhaps, but we rode on Rt12 along the Clearwater River in a deep gorge that was nothing shy of spectacular!

Arriving in Billings gave us the opportunity for a shower, a change of clothes (our first since leaving CA!), some service on the bikes, a place to sleep (still outside & on the ground) and our next set of directions. Destination: [Coziahr Harley-Davidson](#) in Decatur, IL. We were off again going through Wyoming, Utah, Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma and into Missouri. The only significant navigational error was in Colorado where a missed turn led us ~100 miles out of our way and necessitated ~100 miles of backtracking to where the mistake occurred. And honestly, Wyoming left me with no particularly fond memories, as I was faced with a relentless 50+ mph crosswind over a mountain pass and received a paper "souvenir" from the WY State Police. Much more memorable was when "*I Feel Good*" (James Brown) came-up on my playlist as I rode through the Colorado Rockies under a clear blue sky surrounded by snow-capped 14,000ft peaks! At that very moment, things were just perfect.

For me, this perfection faded as we entered the Midwest. The scenery became more familiar, the heat & humidity increased, and the twisty nature of the roads challenged my ability to cover >850miles/day... the average needed to get to the finish line in NY by July 2nd. After >200 non-stop miles of relentlessly twisty roads in the blazing sun and upper 90's on June 26th my odometer told me I had covered only 446 miles. It was early evening and I had covered only about half of what was needed that day. I was exhausted and it became clear that it would be almost impossible for me to reach the NY finish line via the Hoka Hey route in the time allotted. We (me and Joe Finck, a fellow from the Chicago area I was riding with at the time) conceded. The Hoka Hey had beaten us.

We opted to get on the highway (off the prescribed route) and go directly to the Decatur IL checkpoint for an oil change

Tail Pipes

and a comfy hotel prior to heading home. Another ~1,000 miles brought me home and in the end I racked-up 9,610 miles during my 15-day adventure.

So what happened? Why did the Hoka Hey beat me?

Everyone rides a bit differently, has different priorities, risk levels, expectations, and ambitions. For me (and in my personal opinion), the Hoka Hey sets expectations which mandates a level of risk-taking which I was not comfortable with. Given the distance and time allowed, excessive speed, risk-taking, and/or lack of sleep were truly necessary to get to the finish line on-time. The simple fact that only a handful of riders did so supports my belief. The fact that several experienced riders went down during this 12-day event and the pre-event crash-focused chit-chat supports this as well. One participant landed in a Virginia hospital with substantial road-rash & needing reconstructive surgery on his leg. Most riders never made it to the finish line via the prescribed route and others got there days or weeks after the event-ending celebration.

It was one hell of an adventure and I'm glad I gave it my best shot. I saw amazing things, things I may have never seen otherwise. I met some wonderful people. I raised money for a good cause. I also learned you don't try to sleep in a public park without checking for a sprinkler system first!

However, I was not willing to take the levels of risk I felt were needed to do better or display a level of recklessness which is unfortunately all too common and misrepresentative of motorcyclists in the public eye. I made a choice for me, I own it, and I have no regrets.

And now I'm back eager to ride and share stories with my Worcester H.O.G. family. Let's ride and have fun!

Ken



Editor's note: In riding with such consciousness, you were not 'beaten'. The mastering of one's self and one's situation far outweighs any contest. Nicely done Ken!

Okay, what is Jasmine thinking about right now??!!



Jim & Terry on a VT/NY trip this past July...



This is one of those feel good pics of folks having fun!



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