



Grunts & Squeals

worcesterhog.com



Harley Owners Group

Chapter 3811

Spring 2018

Under the Cover...

2. From your Director
Officers & Road Captains
3. Assistant Director
From the Editor
4. Safety Officer
5. Historian's Article
Yankee Run Stop
Sheldon's Corner
6. Head Road Captain Report
7. Tail Pipes

Kevin Colbath is the master of the FNDs (Friday Night Dinners). He has taken the Activities Officer position to a whole new level... nicely done Kevin! Kevin is on the right in this Post Office Pub FND with the Worcester HOGs:



FND candid pic from A&D Pizza:



Birthday Ed on a FND at Casa Vallarta



Kevin knows it's all in the details...



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

I hope you're getting in all your winter activities, bike upgrades/repairs accomplished. Kevin Colbath's *Friday Night Dinners* have been a huge success as usual. If you haven't had a chance to attend one you still have time. I'm pretty sure they will go through the end of March, so keep an eye out for an email, Facebook, and calendar entries for the when and where. Always a good time just give it a try!

I thought this would be a good opportunity to provide a glimpse of some of the upcoming special events to round out the Off Season. So here goes...

By the time this gets published, Sheldon's will have hung the two Worcester HOG posters that Bruce Smyth created. They should be at the hallway entrance to the used bike area and in the vending area above the shop window. This is something we've been hoping to do for some time and the thought is to generate some excitement in our club. There will also be some flyers with enrollment forms nearby. So, if you run into someone at the dealership that wants to join, just direct them to the flyers or to Shannon, who will be happy to get them signed up. If you have any more suggestions please let me know.

We have our 1st pancake "brunch" of the New Year on Saturday, March 17 from 10am - 1pm. That is *St. Patrick's Day*, so you can guess what color the pancakes are going to be! That's right, blue! Kidding - green of course! At this point, there will be at least one more pancake brunch in mid-April then we'll probably change over to burgers and dogs on at least one Saturday per month.

Easter Baskets and Safety Saturday will be held on March 24 from 10am till around 3:00pm. LOH and our Safety Officer Ray Robidoux are teaming up to make this another great event, and *Sheldon's* is offering triple points for HOG members on safety equipment during the event!

Then, the BIG day! Sunday, April 8 **ICE BREAKER RIDE!!** The "official" start of the riding season. Registration is **\$20.00** from **10:00 - 11:00** with the ride leaving at **11:15am**. After an hour plus ride there will be an all you can eat chicken dinner at [The Village Haven Restaurant](#) in Forestdale, RI. Remember, you must register at Sheldon's to get a wrist band for entrance to the restaurant. This is also the 2018

Worcester H.O.G Officers

Director.....	Jim Evans
Assistant Director.....	Dave Fiske
Treasurer.....	Scott Johnson, Sr.
Secretary.....	Arthur Pond
Activities Officer.....	Kevin Colbath
Ladies of Harley Officer.....	Karin Karey
Head Road Captain.....	Richie Smith
Assistant Head R/C.....	Ray Robidoux
Editor.....	Andy Foster
Safety Officer.....	Ray Robidoux
Photographer.....	Bruce Smyth
Assistant Photographer.....	Cathie Barilla
Historian.....	Paul Gunnerson
Membership Officer.....	Bruce Smyth
Webmaster.....	Andy Foster

Worcester H.O.G. Road Captains

Alan Berthiaume	Ken Corey
Alan Froslie	Ken Karey
Alan Shea	Kevin Colbath
Arthur Pond	Mark Zibel
Bruce Smyth	Paul Gunnerson
Chet Chludenski	Peter Bogren
Chet McDonald	Ray Robidoux
Ed McDonald	Richie Smith
Jim Evans	Roy Mikkelsen
Jim Perry	Tammy Lee

Yankee Run Committee

George Gilligan, Janice Fiske, & Sue DiPilato

kickoff for the **Yankee Run Book**. You will automatically get an Ice Breaker stamp for *The Village Haven* and while at Sheldon's get their stamp with any purchase.

Ride 365 - A new HOG mileage program that will track your and the chapter's mileage from January 1 through December 31. The only catch is that you DO have to have your mileage read by the dealership (Sheldon's, or other) for the beginning and ending mileage. Shannon said she'd handle this for us, so as soon as you pull your bike out, be sure to get to Sheldon's and have her read your mileage. Check out [members.hog.com](#) under the *Live to Ride* tab for more details. There are individual, chapter and regional awards given out by "Mother HOG" with this program. Don't confuse this with *Sheldon's Loyalty Reward Miles* that are just for Worcester HOG members.

[Return to main page](#)

I know some of you are already riding, and every time I see no snow and temps in the 40's and 50's in the long range forecast I think about waking up the bike. Then I look at the roads and hope for a good rain to get the rest of the salt and sand off the roads. With spring coming up on March 20 and the *Ice Breaker Run* on April 8, I am really hoping to get a few miles in before then. If the weather cooperates there may even be a Chapter ride or two before the Ice Breaker! I can always hope, right?

Ride safe and stay positive!

Jim



Assistant Director

As your new Assistant Director, I am looking forward to a fun-filled year of riding, socializing and of course, ice cream.

We have finally put the better part of winter behind us as there are only 12 days till spring and 31 until the *Ice Breaker* as of this writing. Cross your fingers and hope that Mother Nature will be cooperative and provide us with a spectacular day to officially kick off our riding season on Sunday April 8th.

I, like the rest of you, am anxious to get in lots of wind therapy this season. We have [Americade](#), [Laconia](#), [The Iron Adventure Run](#) and [The Ride for Kids](#) (to name a few) to look forward to, as well as our brainstorming to come up with some awesome rides of our own so that we can continue to create lasting memories and have loads of fun. Jim, myself, and the Road Captains look forward to your suggestions and input.

Thank you,

David Fiske

Editor's insert: Photo of Dave DJ'ing at March Madness 2017...



From the Editor

This is the first year since I've been the editor (June 2015) where our chapter has not attended HOT (*Harley Officer Training*). Storms and flooding in the Cincinnati area led us to avoid traveling the area this year.

I've been to one HOT (2016) and still reference my handbook & notes from that session at times. The officers are here to help channel ideas and suggestions to keep the group 'in the loop' so to speak. You, our chapter *members*, are who make things click. Surely you've noticed all the officers seeking your input, they genuinely mean it.

The one HOT session that has always stood out for me was called "*The WOW Factor*" which the point of was 'to make it fun'. Director Jim sent an email before the March meeting asking everyone to think about rides they've always wanted to do but hadn't had the opportunity. He also suggested coming up with names for these new rides, such as *Summer Fling*, *Tin Butt Summer Adventure*, etc. Brilliant!! They came up with 13 rides, mostly on Saturdays, and decided to call it "*3811 Summer Tour*". If you attend at least 7 of these rides you will earn a patch that we're making up. Special thanks to Karin Karey for putting this together and Ken Karey for the foresight of making up the forms we used.

Mixing things up obviously starts with new ideas. If you get an idea, write it down immediately or talk it into your phone recorder, text or email it to yourself, use whatever you have at hand to record it *then and there* so you don't forget it. Once you have the subject matter down you can go back and expand on it later. New ideas are always welcome and appreciated, so please share them!

Andy

Congratulations Sheldon's Harley-Davidson!



[Return to main page](#)



Safety Officer

Don't forget - *Safety Saturday* is coming up on March 24.

More often than not we take it for granted that everyone knows the hand signals that are used while group riding. Sometimes we neglect to pass them back. Hand signals are our best communication means for the safety of all the riders. They give warning of hazards on the road, extra time to stop, upcoming turns, etc. Even with all the signaling, it is still important to use your turn signals when in a group ride - always for that matter.

So here are a number of the hand signals our group most commonly use:

HAZARD IN ROAD



Point to hazard with
left hand or right foot

POLICE



Tap top of helmet

FUEL STOP



Point to tank

HAZARD AHEAD



Wave hand to right
over head

SINGLE FILE



One finger

DOUBLE FILE



Two fingers

PULL OFF ROAD



Wave to right

SPEED UP



Move hand up
to level

YOU PASS ME



Move hand forward
from side

LEFT TURN



RIGHT TURN



STOP



Hand down

TURN OFF SIGNAL



Open & close hand

SLOW DOWN



Move hand down

"Honk it Forward" **HORN SIGNAL**

Horn honking is the signal for the Road Captain to pull over.

Horn honking is the signal that, for some reason, the group should pull over. If you hear someone behind you honk their horn due to someone needing to pull over, or getting stuck at a light, etc, honk your horn to "pass it forward" to the ride leader."



Historian's Article

Greetings fellow Worcester HOG members,

As we enter March the end of winter is now in sight, to our delight. A new year brings about new adventures, both as a chapter and individually for our riding. There will be many great times ahead for us this year. Many of you have already thought about and started making your plans.

June 9th thru the 17th will bring the 95th annual Bike Week at Laconia. View all the planned events at:

<http://laconiamcweek.com/>

There are a lot of searchable HOG events to be found at:

<https://www.harley-davidson.com/us/en/owners/hog/member-events.html>

But it's not always the destination "It's The Ride", so be it local or afar your riding adventures are many.

We also have the gala Harley-Davidson 115th Anniversary Celebration in Milwaukee from August 29th to September 2nd. I'm sure some of you will be attending that one. Check out the calendar of events at:

<https://www.harley-davidson.com/us/en/milwaukee-115th.html>

We'll soon be back on the road again. The *Ice Breaker Ride* in April officially kicks off our riding season, even though some of you have been out riding already taking advantage of some summer type weather in February. No matter where your travels may take you this year, ride and have fun... and "*Keep the Shiny Side Up*"!

Be safe and happy travels wherever they may be. I'll see you on down the road.

Paul

Yankee Run Stop

I think we've put together a really good [Yankee Run Book](#) this year. We have 12 new stops that look great along with 3 previous stops that we missed last year. Hopefully I can do as good a job as Ray Remillard did in organizing the book. Thanks to all that suggested stops, we won a few and lost a

few. All-in-all we ended up with 98 stops for your riding pleasure.

I'd like to remind everyone this book is for you to use as a destination guide. The stops depend on you purchasing something in return for the stamp they paid for to get your business. Please refrain from presenting multiple books to be signed if the book owner is not with you, this is not a contest to see who gets the most stamps but rather an aid to ride and enjoy the day.

The books will go on sale April 8th at the *Ice Breaker Ride* and will remain \$20.00 each. It's a great deal since it is your ticket to a fantastic party with CASH prizes, dinner, dancing, and as always some fun games for everybody to enjoy.

A big THANK YOU to Doug Desroches, Janice Fisk, and Sue DiPilato for all the work they do in getting the book ready!

The party will be **November 17th @ 6:30pm**. Mark it on your calendar and to-do list so you don't miss it.

See you out riding and be safe.

George



Sheldon's Corner

Happy Spring to everyone!

Winter is over and the riding season is right in front of us. I'd like to share with everyone that we have earned the prestigious *Bronze Bar & Shield Circle of Recognition Award for 2017*. Presented by [Harley-Davidson Motor Company](#), this award is given to H-D dealers based on motorcycle and related product sales performance, customer service and satisfaction, and operational measures. Only the top 20% of the H-D dealers in the United States are recognized for their top performance. This is our 2nd award since taking ownership in 2013.

"We're proud to present this high honor to Chad Clark & Bryan Castor in recognition of the outstanding work being done at Sheldon's Harley-Davidson," said Dave Cotteleer, Vice President and Managing Director for the United States. "Dealers like Sheldon's Harley-Davidson are a big reason why Harley-Davidson is one of the most respected brands in the world and why we enjoy having the loyalty and the

[Return to main page](#)

commitment of our riders."

Additionally, we were recognized as a Best of the Best Motorcycle Dealership in Central Massachusetts for the 2nd year in a row.

We are committed to excellence and providing a world-class Harley-Davidson experience to all of our customers every day.

As we look forward to 2018, we are committed to having more events at the dealership and encourage everyone to continually watch social media and emails for our upcoming events.

Chad & Bryan



Head Road Captain Report

Happy 2018 everyone!!

I've noticed that some of us have had surgeries and a few of us are retiring. I hope that, myself included, we'll have healed and will be ready for the upcoming riding season. Kevin Colbath has been doing the FND's to keep us together during the cold winter and he has done another great job.

If you are new to the group riding scene, we as RCs (Road Captains) are here to help you feel more at ease and more confident with riding in a group. If you would like us to explain what is expected or especially, how you can enjoy riding with the company of other riders, *please please ask!*

There is not a lot that you need to do or know, just a lot of common sense. If you would like for one of us to take you out with one or two riders we can do that too. All we want is everyone to be safe, *feel safe*, ride, meet new people, and have lots of fun.

So until we meet again I hope you have healed up and are ready for the 2018 riding season that is upon us.

R.S.H.F. A.L.T. (*Ride Safe Have Fun - Always Look Twice*)

Rich

The first ten people to email Jim at director@worcesterhog.com and tell him your thoughts on how we can make the newsletters and meetings better AND come to the next meeting will win a Sheldon's gift card. Note, if you can't make it to the meeting, just say what can be done to make it easier for you to attend.

Tail Pipes

Follow-up from Worcester HOG's tree & gift card donation last December to the [Boys and Girls club of Worcester](#).

Hi Karin,

I hope this email finds you well. The incredible tree you and your friends decorated and donated to our Club went to the Rivera family, a single-parent household with two children. Mom gave us permission to send you two photos. Please see attached. The kids loved the tree - said it was the prettiest one they had ever seen, and Mom appreciated the gift cards that were attached to the tree. The cards helped her provide presents and food for the holidays.

We are so grateful for you and the Harley Owners Group Chapter 3811 for your wonderful generosity.

Thanks again, and I hope to hear from you soon.

Best,

Liz

*Liz Hamilton, MSW
Executive Director
Boys & Girls Club of Worcester
65 Tainter Street
Worcester, MA 01610
<http://www.bgcworcester.org/>*



[Return to main page](#)

Tail Pipes

Resolutions...

The holidays are over and the stress has passed. Bellies are fuller, pants are a little tighter, and many of us make the same resolution every year; "I want to get in shape, I need to go on a diet." But some do not make it through January.

Now I know no one says "Gee, how fat can I get this year?" But it's not easy, especially being in a motorcycle club where many of the rides involve restaurants, ice cream parlors, etc.

With diabetes on the rise it seems, more and more people have developed type 2. It is not the end of the world if you are affected by it, you just have to deal with it and like the New Year's resolutions, you have to stick with it in order to achieve your goal. Lifestyle changes are never easy, but it can begin with simply giving up one thing; one ice cream, one piece of cake, etc. You do not have to do much to make a difference. Don't overload yourself by trying to do too much in the beginning, start by making small lifestyle adjustments. Who knows, it just might give you an extra year of riding, and we all love to ride!!

Michael Shimkus

Let's get some motorcycle pics in here. So we didn't ride in the snow, but we did ride in the rain at the [2017 Apple Pie Run...](#)



From LOH's "Sip & Sparkle" party on 2/18/2018:



Editor's note: I asked George for a close-up pic for YR section and he sent this... nice ride George & Marsha!



Can you feel the weather warming up already?!



[Return to main page](#)