



CHAPTER H

VOLUME 16, ISSUE 3

“H”appenings



Keep Up To Date
christmasinjuly.org



JANUARY 29, 2009
CHAPTER “H” ONCHOS

HISTORY OF MOTORCYCLES

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motorhelmets.com

Motorcycles have come along way from when they were first created by doing nothing more than adding an engine to a bicycle. Now motorcycles are some of the most technical machines out there. Here we have gathered some information and put it together to give you a brief history on the motorcycle.

How It Started

Not long after the first bicycle was introduced at the end of the nineteenth century, a few inspired individuals felt it was just not fast enough and strapped on an

engine and started the motorcycle craze. Experiments by two individuals would set the tone for what motorcycle building was all about. These two men went by the names of William S. Harley and Arthur Davidson. Unless you have been stuck in a cage for the last century, I am sure you know who I am talking about. In 1903, they started what back then was nothing but an up and coming company known as The Harley-Davidson Motor Company. Now Harley-Davidson is world renowned for their line of motorcycles. You will not find a more

respected motorcycle than the Harley-Davidson.

But back then Harley-Davidson were not the only ones meddling around with motorcycles. In 1902, a year before The Motor Company (what Harley-Davidson is known as), Triumph Cycle, Co.Ltd. of England started producing bikes of their own.

During the early 1900's, many other companies started appearing offering a motorcycle of their own design. People were now becoming more and more attracted to the motor-

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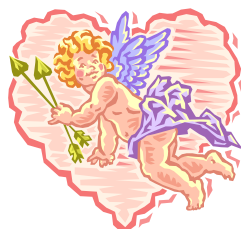
Special “H”appenings

Happy Birthday!!

Lorri Berthelot	29-Jan
Ken Kaya	29-Jan
Matthew Levin	2-Feb
Jose Delvalle	6-Feb
Pat Ciston	28-Feb



Happy Valentine's Day!



Happy Anniversary!!

None Reported



A FEW WORDS FROM YOUR CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVE

by Les Chapman

Happy New Year! Hi folks, this newsletter will contain December 2008 and January 2009. With the holidays and the busy work load that I had, I was not able to put out a newsletter for December. I am sorry.

January and February are slow month's for our newsletter. We need articles and items to print. I hope you can help.

First let me thank all the people that helped with our Christmas breakfast. Nancy Greco was the chairperson for the party, and she did a great job. Larry Greco helped with the food for the pantry. Dawn was Nancy's assistant and helped with the tables and setup. Mike Hanus was our photographer. Bruce Hirsch and Chris Irvin per-

forms the holiday carols. I had the day off. Thank you all.

I am looking forward to this years Christmas party.

The turn out on Sundays has been very steady. Around 5 or 6 people each week. We tried to keep the runs close to our home base of McDonalds in Carol Stream. We did Carol's Garden , IHOP, Bentley's and Savorys in Bartlett near Jim and Linda Bayert's home. If this weather keeps up, February will be close to home too. Because of Christmas and everyone's busy lifestyle, we didn't have a dinner run in December. For January we went to Moretti's at the Cadillac Ranch in Bartlett. We had 15 members and guests that enjoyed a great dinner of pizza and Italian dishes. Five of our

members were celebrating birthdays, so we sang Happy Birthday and wished them a good year. Because our February dinner run falls near Valentine Day, I would like to do something special. I am open for Ideas, but remember the price needs to be under \$20.00 per person.

As we look ahead to February and the motorcycle show, please remember that Ron Schmitt has booked the room at Tiffany for this year on Sunday the 8th at 8 am. This is one of the rare occasions that all the chapters will meet. We hope to see you come out and spend some time with you fellow chapter friends! The cold is a good time to socialize!

Ride safe and smile! :)

Les Chapman



**Les Chapman
Chapter-H
Representative**



Get your Willie to Woodstock for this year's "Groundhog Days" 1/25-2/02 Visit the movie sites and even see a free screening of *Groundhog Day* starring Bill Murray. woodstockilchamber.com for more information



In Memoriam
On November 22nd, 2008 Our Brother and fellow Chapter Member Lloyd Ernie Tatman lost his nearly year long battle with cancer. On January 3rd, Leona hosted a wonderful celebration of Lloyd's life where family and representatives of the several organizations that Lloyd belonged to, shared tales and Lloyd's infectious smile. Lloyd will be truly missed.



**Lloyd and Leona Tatman's
1947 Chrysler Windsor**

MEETING STARTS AT 7:00 PM

THE NEST CAFÉ, BARTLETT, IL.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 2009



Meeting Agenda

1. Meeting Called to Order
2. Reading of the Minutes from the 12/14/2008 Meeting
3. Introduction of guests:
4. Birthdays and Anniversaries
 - 02/02 Matt Levin
 - 02/06 Jose Delvalle
 - 02/28 Pat Ciston.....no anniversaries reported
5. National Business:
 - **6/22-6/25** 2008 AGWA Gold Classic Rally XXVI, Ramada Inn-940 Fall River Ave, Seekonk, Ma. Sixty rooms on hold. (508) 336-7300 Code CG9615 or mention AGWA. \$75+tax per night. Event contact: George or Judi Quinlan (401) 467-2614 or Goldwing93@cox.net www.ramadaprovidence.com for booking online. See your WOTR or AGWA.com for more details.
6. State Business:
 - Monthly State Director/Chapter Representative Meetings to resume
7. Old Chapter Business:
 - Treasury Report
 - Breakfast Rides-Dinner Run
 - 8. Break-50/50 Sales-Who knows a good joke?
 - 9. New Chapter Business:
 - 2009 Suggested Ride Destinations
 - **02/01** Breakfast Ride
 - **02/08** Breakfast and Motorcycle Show-AGWA Members will be meeting for breakfast at 8:00am @ Tiffany's Restaurant-2179 E. Touhy (S.W. corner of Touhy & River Rd.) Des Plaines 847-298-7733. **Chapter-H** will meeting at 8:00am @ Tiffany's and not at McDonald's on this day.
 - **02/15** Breakfast Ride
 - **02/21** Chapter H Dinner Run-TBA (see web page)
 - **02/22** Breakfast Ride
 - **02/26** Chapter H General Meeting of the Membership 7pm @ The Nest Café Bartlett, Il
10. SPEAK UP! Open Discussion.
11. 50/50 Drawing

Minutes of the 12-14-08 Meeting

Minutes of the 12/14/08 meeting.

Meeting Place – The Nest Café

Number of members in attendance – 22—

Meeting called to order at 10:10am

No minutes from 10/30/08 meeting.

Quick mention of Birthdays and Anniversaries.

Played our 1st Holiday game – winners were Carol G. Chris I. & Joel G.

We welcome visitor Wayne Aten (AGWA membership director) to our meeting.

Chapter Business- Joel spoke about the Toys-for-Tots ride. He and Lewis did the ride.

Only 700 – 800 bikes attended this year. Donations are way down, they desperately need help.

They have over 600,000 children to help for the holidays. Many will go without. Nancy purchased 5 - \$20 Jewel gift certificates to give to needy families this year. Les wanted to recognize 2 members – Jim Garner, Les's "Man of the Year". Always does the News letter and a lot of behind the scenes work for Les. Lewis – As most active new member. Came to almost every ride this year.

12/21 – Winter Solstice – Swap meet at Kane County Fairgrounds.
1/1/09 – Chapter meeting for breakfast at the Colonial Café in Geneva 9am.
No accidents in 2008 a good safe year for the chapter.

Les took brief moment to remember our Friends and Loved ones that have passed away this year. Bruce lost his mother Stinja Hirsch, Jim lost his brother John and we lost one of our own Chapter H members, Lloyd. A memorial service to be held on 1/3/09 at Chandlers in Schaumburg for Lloyd. Carol Goins made a motion to donate \$100 from the chapter toward Lloyd's Memorial service. Bruce 2nd the motion...all were in favor. Les spoke of many good memories we've all had with Lloyd. Collages of Lloyd were being made for the service. If Anyone had any pictures they'd like to donate, to give them to Les or contact Leona. 50/50 drawing winner was Fritz Goins. Meeting adjourned 10:25am Turned back over to Nancy to continue Holiday Party.

Minutes taken & transcribed by Dawn Garner



*SIGN UP 7 NEW MEMBERS IN A YEAR AND RECEIVE A **FREE** 1-YEAR MEMBERSHIP!!*

**The Next Meeting of the Membership will be 7pm Thursday
February 26th, 2009 @ The Nest Café 800 N. Route 59, Bartlett, IL**

History: *Continued from Page 1*

cycle as transportation due to its relatively low cost. Cars were still too expensive for the general public to own so naturally they bought the motorcycles.

However, with just like every other craze, it all comes to the survival of the fittest. Many companies came out to try to compete with each other but after the invention of the affordable car, many companies went bankrupt. It was more convenient to carry the whole family in an affordable Ford Model T than a motorcycle. Then after the Great Depression, most of the companies that survived the last crisis came to the same fate as their competition.

Imports

During the 1950's American and British motorcycles were in control of the motorcycle market. The only downside to this was that in order to drive a motorcycle during this time, you had to know how a motorcycle worked inside and out. It was very difficult to own a motorcycle during this time if you were not mechanically inclined. Just starting a motorcycle was a mission on its own. Advancements in designs of motorcycles were at a near stand still because there was really no competition to force new technology. Then came the Japanese.

Japan had been suffering like every other country that was involved in the war. The only difference with Japan is that their completely manufacturing infrastructure had been destroyed. Therefore, instead of rebuilding how it was before, they decided to look into the future and build towards that. Like most other countries building motorcycles after the war, they were primarily concerned with providing cheap transportation for their citizens. Japanese motorcycles were not popular in the US since no one here had the need for a bicycle with an engine in it.

As the late 1950's rolled around, Japanese motorcycles started evolving into bigger and better motorcycles. They started slowly making their way to Europe and soon enough they were in the US. They had come from small slow mopeds to reliable, attractive, fast, and most importantly affordable motorcycles. The Japanese made several advancements that were lacking from American companies. One of the most noticed advancements was the introduction of the electric start system. A kick-start was no longer needed to start your bike.

Since the Japanese were mostly concerned with making small motorcycles, none of the other major motorcycle manufacturers considered them a threat. They were in a different league and were not considered competition. This proved to be a fatal mistake. As the 1960's progressed, Japanese bikes were getting bigger and faster but no one paid attention until Honda introduced their CD450. This bike was nothing anyone had ever seen before. This bike was good looking, affordable and could outrun any stock Harley-Davidson with more than twice the engine size time and time again without breaking down like the Harley tended to do.

Finally other motorcycle companies took notice to Japan and started creating ways to compete with the Japanese bikes. Several companies incorporated new technology to their classic line of bikes but this proved to be too little too late. When Honda introduced its new four cylinder CB750, there was no doubt Japanese motorcycles were here to stay. There is nothing that can be said about this bike to overstate it; this bike's introduction was incomparable to any other in the world. It was like a new car company making a car that could perform as well as the top of the line Mercedes-Benz for the price of a Hyundai. Now people could have the fastest most reliable motorcycle and pay only a fraction of the price.

See Fallout:

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Fallout

As is with all good things, they all must end. During the baby-boomers period, everyone had purchased a motorcycle. It was the generation that wanted speed and reliability and they found it in the Japanese motorcycles. But during the late 70's when baby-boomers were concentrating on starting families and getting jobs that required most of their times, motorcycles started losing their appeal. American distributors found themselves with a surplus of Japanese motorcycles that no one wanted to buy. They were forced to sell their left over stock at half of what their cost was. This drove many companies out of business.

Rise Again

After this latest disaster to hit the motorcycle industry, they were in need of something to bring them back from the dead. This time it was up to the most unlikely company to revive the old hogs. Harley-Davidson had the reputation of not being reliable largely because they simply were not. You had to be a mechanic to own one so it was not for the public. In 1981, Harley-Davidson was able to separate itself from its parent company AMF (American Machine and Foundry) and start working on a new engine. The introduction of the Evolution engine brought a completely new market to Harley-Davidson.

With the new Evo engine, Harley's now became the reliable motorcycles that people had been looking for. Now anyone was able to own a classic Harley and not have to be a worried about it breaking down in the middle of the night. Nowadays Harley-Davidson is at top of sales in the United States. Every bike Harley makes is already sold before it leaves the factory. Their dedication to motorcycles is why they are at the top once again. Now there are several big companies that make good motorcycles. You can find a motorcycle for just about anyone. Whether you like them big or small, there is someone out there that makes the bike for you.

Ride Safe

-Team Motorhelmets

www.motorhelmets.com

HOW WILL THE ECONOMY EFFECT CHAPTER H?

By Les Chaman

This is only my opinion, so you can disagree if you like. I see a very high rate of members that are not renewing there membership's. I am not sure if it is the economy being down or that they are getting burned out? This club does cost money!

Now what do I mean?

I am not talking about the little figure of \$30.00 for your membership to AGWA. Chapter H gets no money from the national fund. The state gets \$2.50 for each member in the state. I am talking about the cost for breakfast, gas, lunch and of course ice cream as well as the upkeep on your bike. If

you make payments on your bike for the 4 or 5 month's it sits in the garage, that has to hurt your pocket. With me, my insurance is \$325.00 before I can even ride.

This is how I look at it! My Sundays with the group is a way of getting away from my daily life, and I don't

mind paying for the gas and etc. It is entertainment; plain and simple. You have to forget the cost and go for it. What do you think? I'd like to hear from you. Les



HEADIN' EAST TO WEST VIRGINIE

By Steve Roberson

with curves and switchbacks wide enough for semi trucks.

Cheryl and I went to West Virginia in September, 2008 with two motorcycles in tow. We stayed at the Super 8 in Elkins for a week. Elkins is at the foot of the Appalachian Mountains and just outside the Monongahela National Forest. Each morning we would leave our dog at the kennel down the street and ride our motorcycles for over a hundred miles in the surrounding hills and mountains. There were curvy and scenic roads in every direction from town. State Route 50 for example was mostly an easy rolling high road with scenic vistas but also a well tended highway thru the wooded mountains



On the other hand State Route 72 went down to one lane in places not much travelled. The few roads that went north and south along the National Forest were very beautiful. There were plenty of restaurants and other services in town. We had a great time and good food on the old Tagart Flyer train ride into the mountains.

We have motorcycled in places from Vermont to Arkansas but West Virginia was the best experience we've ever had!



Where

Donald E. Stephens Convention Center
5555 North River Road
Rosemont, IL 60018
www.rosemont.com

When

- Friday February 6 3:00pm-9:00pm
- Saturday February 7 9:00am-9:00pm
- Sunday February 8 9:00am-5:00pm

AGWA Members will be meeting for breakfast at 8:00am @ Tiffany's Restaurant-2179 E. Touhy (S.W. corner of Touhy & River Rd.) Des Plaines 847-298-7733. **Chapter-H** who plan to attend will be meeting at 8:00am @ Tiffany's and not at McDonald's

Admission

Adult: 1-day \$13 (save \$1 online!) • 2-day \$20 (box office only) • 3-day commemorative pass \$25 (online only) | **Children 6-11:** 1-day \$6 • 2-day \$10 (box office only) • 3-day commemorative pass \$10 (online only) Children 5 & under free

"H"OLIDAY CELEBRATIONS CHAPTER H STYLE PHOTOS COURTESY LARRY GRECO





THIS MONTH'S CHAPTER “H”appenings



FEBRUARY 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Breakfast Run	2  Matt Levin	3	4	5	6  Jose Delvalle	7
8 Bike Show Breakfast Run	9	10	11	12  Lincoln	13	14 
15 Breakfast Run	16 	17	18	19	20	21 Dinner Run
22  Washington Breakfast Run	23	24	25	26	27	28  Pat Ciston

May peace break into your house and may thieves come to steal your debts.
 May the pockets of your jeans become magnets for \$100.00 bills.
 May love stick to your face like Vaseline and may laughter assault your lips!
 May your clothes smell of success.

May happiness slap you across the face.
 May your tears be that of joy.
 May the problems you had forget your home address!
 In simple words... May 2009 be the best year of your life!!!!

Do you plan on attending the Little Angels Pledge Run this Year? If so, fill out the following registration form and mail it in before this Sunday, February 1st, for the best pre-registration discount. Use the money you save to buy 50/50 tickets, food, or any other creative way you can to help the kids at the Little Angels Home the day of the run!



Registration Form

Separate registration form and fee required for each rider and passenger. Please copy this form if more than one person is registering. Please print.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Email Address: _____

Please check the appropriate box(es) below:

- Registering Before February 1, 2009.....\$15
- February 2 – April 30.....\$20
- May 1 – May 10.....\$30
- May 11 – May 16 (Before 5 pm)
Online or walk-in registration only.....\$30
- May 17 (Day of the event).....\$35
- Bike Show entry fee.....\$10
- I would like to order _____ raffle ticket(s) at \$10 each
- I would like to donate \$ _____ to Little Angels

Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Please make check payable and mail to:

Little Angels Pledge Run
1435 Summit St
Elgin, IL 60120

Credit card payments. please complete the information below:

Credit Card: VISA MC DISCOVER AMEX

Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Name on card (please print): _____

Signature: _____

- You may also register and pay:**
- Online at www.littleangels.org (credit card payment only)
 - By Faxing this registration form to 847-622-5523 (credit card payment only)
 - In person at Woodstock Harley-Davidson, 2050 Eastwood Dr. (Routes 47 & 14) in Woodstock, IL



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE
AMERICAN GOLD WING ASSOCIATION,
ILLINOIS CHAPTER-H

“H”appenings

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VISIT US ON THE WEB
WWW.CHRISTMASINJULY.ORG

Since 1983, the American Gold Wing Association has shared the common desire of fun, fellowship, and safety. AGWA is a family orientated, family membership social organization of Gold Wing owners and other brands of touring motorcycles who share the love for the open road and participating in exciting activities, recreation and educational programs, events, and fellowship. AGWA is an AMA chartered organization. All Directors and Officers are volunteers serving without financial compensation. All positions are obtained through a completely democratic process.



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CHAPTER-H

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