



Northshore HOG News

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Nov. 19, Christmas Decoration ride to 435 Live Oak, NSHD @ 9:00 am.
- Dec. 3, Chapter Meeting & Ride, NSHD @ 9:30 am
- Dec. 10, Christmas Party, Slidell Yacht Club @ 7:00 pm.
- Jan. 1, 2012, Cold Butt Ride, NSHD @ 9:30 am.
- Jan. 7, Chapter Meeting & Ride, NSHD @ 9:30 am
- See the web site for a complete listing of events

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ISSUE 87

DECEMBER, 2011

BOURBON & CIGARS II

By Dan Schewe

Ever wonder why we ride?? If it's just a short ride of 100 miles or a longer ride of, say 1600 miles, it's for the pure enjoyment of the open road! The last Bourbon and Cigar ride was cut short due to weather so, it's only fitting that the ride continues! After all, there are MORE distilleries to visit!

The return to the Bourbon mecca of Bardstown Kentucky was planned and reservations were made. Chris Engelbracht, Dave Authement, Greg Peterman and I all met at the truck stop in Slidell to begin our trek and the return to the Bourbon capitol of the world on September 11th. As we departed Slidell we headed north to Meridian MS and then onto Tupelo MS. Leaving Tupelo we picked up the Natchez trace to Florence AL for our first night. The second day we continued northeast through Tennessee and Kentucky and into Bardstown. The days were sunny and reasonably cool and the roads were beautiful. On arrival in Bardstown it was time for some Bourbon and cigars and then off on a walking tour of downtown and a visit to the Oscar Getz museum to learn more about prohibition and moonshine. Planning our next day was done at the hotel and we all agreed to start out early so we could get in a full day of tours and tastings!

If you are wondering, it really is the Bourbon capitol because, you see, the water in the area is the key to the best Bourbon. Did you know that 98% of all Bourbon distilleries are in the central Kentucky region? Bourbon is a type of distilled spirit made primarily from corn. Bourbon was named after its place of origin, Bourbon County, in the bluegrass region of Kentucky. Each distillery has its own unique recipe; each bourbon-making process follows similar guidelines. It begins with the iron-free, calcium-rich limestone water. From there, yeast, corn, rye and barley are added. The different distilleries have their own "special" yeast and it is a guarded recipe. The head distiller would take the yeast home with him to protect it from other distillers in years gone by. The mixture, or sour mash, is cooked and fermented. This creates a clear liquid known as "White Dog" or moonshine.

After the whiskey making process, the liquid is placed in new, white oak charred barrels and are only used once. The barrels are then sold to Scotland for scotch whiskey. The barrels are stored in rick houses that are all over the country side of Bardstown area.

As the season change, the white oak barrels expand and contract. The whiskey traps caramelized sugars, flavor and color from the barrel. Then the whiskey matures (ages) for anywhere from four (4) to twenty seven (27) years!

For whiskey to be labeled bourbon it MUST:

- Be produced in the United States,
- Contain natural grains in which 51% is corn,
- Be distilled at less than 160 proof from fermented grain mash, or 80% alcohol,
- Be matured in NEW charred white oak barrels at no more than 125 proof,

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From the Editor

Random Thoughts and Road Hazards

CHRISTMAS TIME AGAIN!

Our Chapter's annual **Christmas party** will take place on Saturday, December 10th, at 7:00 pm. The venue for this event will be the Tammany Yacht Club, 1196 Harbor Dr., Slidell, LA 70458. Please contact Mike Werda, Dwight Bradbury, or John Clifford @ 985-847-0966 to sign up for the party as we need a body count. The deadline for signing up is Monday, November 28. The cost will be \$25.00 for members or \$45.00 for non-members. You can pay in advance or at the door at the time of the party.

One of the highlights of this evening will be the "Mad Santa" gift exchange. To participate in this event, bring a wrapped gift appropriate for your sex. You will be issued a numbered ticket. Once all of the gifts have been collected, numbers will be drawn for ticket holders to pick out a gift, unwrap it, and display it for all to see. Successively drawn ticket holders will have the option of choosing a new unwrapped gift or taking one that has already been retrieved. The third possessor of the gift gets to keep it.

The theme for this year's party will be Hawaiian. So attendees are encouraged to dress the part.

Free food, refreshments and entertainment will be in ample supply.

Another tradition is our annual **Marquette Family Decoration Ride**, which will happen on Saturday, November 19th. Meet at NSHD @ 9:00 am. This event involves riding to the Marquette home in Slidell and decorating it for Christmas.

Bryan Marquette is a former Slidell Police Officer who contracted two rare diseases which forced him to retire. He is currently on disability and suffers from Scleroderma and

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If you are not a current member of the Northshore HOG Chapter, or you forgot to renew your membership in January, simply fill out an enrollment form (available at the dealership or on the website, see "Downloads").

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- Be aged at least two years to be considered straight bourbon whiskey,
- Not have anything added to the final product to alter the flavor or the color from the time it is distilled through the bottling except water, and
- Be bottled at 80 proof or higher.

Now that you have an idea of how it's all done, you need to know that there are 11 distilleries within riding distance of Bardstown. They also have a Bourbon festival every year. This year was just after our visit to the area.



Our Arrival At Jim Beam Distillery



Barrel-Shaped Tasting Room at Heaven Hill

Our tour began on Tuesday, September 11 in the AM, as we traveled to the Jim Beam distillery. We left early to get started on a full day of tours. The Beam distillery was very informative. Did you know that the recipe for beam has been handed down from 7 generations? In 2005, Frederick Booker Noe III, the great grandson of Jim Beam, filled the 10 millionth barrel of Jim Beam bourbon! Now I know who made that bottle of "BOOKER" I have in my bar and why it's named Booker. Today, the Jim Beam Co. is the second largest distilled spirits company in the US. After a tour and a "taste" of Jim Beam it was off to Heaven Hill but before our departure we encountered some tourists from Germany that wanted to take our pictures on our Harleys.

At the Heaven Hill distillery as we parked in the parking area, a guide from inside came out to greet us and see if we wanted to hurry in and join the tour group just starting. "Of course" we all responded and off to the theater we went. After watching a movie and with some instruction from our tour guide, we started out on the tour. The tour guide explained that the Heaven Hill distillery is the nation's largest, family-owned, independent producer and marketer of distilled spirit products. It was begun in December of 1935. In their warehouses they have more than 1,000,000 charred white oak barrels of aging bourbon. It was amazing to see how many different brands that the Heaven Hill distilleries put out. After the tour they put us into the heritage center and in the center of it there is a barrel shaped tasting room that can seat 20 people. Ever heard of Evan Williams or Elijah Craig? They are all products of Heaven Hill.



Saddle up and off to the Makers Mark distillery. Makers Mark holds a fond place in my heart because I am an Ambassador and have a barrel of whiskey, with my name on it, in one of their storage houses that will be ready next year! Makers Mark started in 1780 and today makes and distributes more than 1,000,000 cases each year. During the tour we got to see vats of fermenting whiskey in their still house. These are giant cypress vats that each holds 9600 gallons of sour mash. We were allowed to put our finger in and taste the mash! From there we toured the bottling facility and watched the bottles being filled with that golden colored liquid. From there we got to watch the dipping process

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Last Month's Minutes By PAT SCHAEFER

November 12, 2011

The November social get together/meeting began at 10:00 AM with a prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mike Werda briefed the Chapter on the Best Western hotel chain perks for H.O.G. members.

John Clifford delivered the Treasurer's report. The Chapter has \$2882.96 in its bank account. Ray Gregg has had to step down from the Treasurer's position due to future travel requirements. The Chapter wishes to thank Ray for his past service and thank John for stepping up.

Dwight advised that there is a new e-mail "protection" coming for consumers potentially blocking any e-mails with a distribution list of more than 20 addressees. We will watch this closely to ensure Chapter members receive Chapter news in a timely manner.

Susan Parrish briefed on the State H.O.G. Rally in Lafayette, LA and reminded everyone about the blocked rooms for our Chapter at the Scott, LA Howard Johnson. The rooms were booking up rapidly.

Next Saturday, November 19, Chapter volunteers are invited to meet at Mike Bruno's at 9:00 AM to ride over to 435 Live Oak in Slidell to assist decorating a family's house for Christmas.

Mike Werda reminded everyone planning to attend the Chapter Christmas party on December 10, to try to get their money to him or to John Clifford ASAP. Members pay \$25.00, guests \$45.00. We will again play "Crazy Santa" for those members desiring to participate.

The official voting for Chapter Officers occurred. Pending Mike's approval; next year's Chapter Officers will be:

Director:	Dwight Bradbury	Assist. Director:	Mike Werda	Secretary:	Pat Schaefer
Treasurer:	John Clifford	Editor:	Dan Wehr	LOH Officer:	Susan Parrish
Historian:	Terry Forrette	Activities:	Sonia Fox	Photographer:	Karl Fox
Membership Officer:	Karl Fox	Road Capt.:	Ralph Preveau	Safety Officer:	Dave Perez
Webmaster:	Vacant				

Mike Bruno has given the Chapter permission to add a telephone extension at the store to serve as a Chapter "hotline" regarding Chapter ride changes weather updates etc. Technical issues are being explored.

There being no further business, the Chapter meeting was adjourned; in order to get ready for the Chapter scenic round about ride over to Jandy Imports.

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where they dip the bottles in that famed red wax. Some of the workers can dip 23 bottles per minute! After that we were escorted to the dipping room where we got to taste the Makers Mark and their new "46" brand, and if you wanted to, you could even dip your own bottle.

Now it was time to return to Bardstown and our hotel.

At the hotel it was time for a cigar and then plan for the evening's dinner. Did I mention that there is a great place to eat in Bardstown? It is the Old Talbot Tavern. Greg and I had a chicken fried steak that you could cut with a fork! Lots of history at the Old Talbot Inn besides being one of the best whiskey bars in the world! They also have a beer that is made in the whiskey barrels and boy is it good! Famous people such as Jesse James, General George S. Patton, King Louis Phillipe of France and Abraham

Lincoln's family were just some of the famous people that have stayed and eaten here.

The return trip was cut short because of some impending rain and inclement weather approaching. We left Bardstown and proceeded to Florence Al with a short stop at the Harley dealer in Bowling Green Kentucky for some souvenirs. At the holiday inn we watched the weather, experienced some light rain and decided to plan a route home and not attempt to go to Guntersville as originally planned. We ended up returning on September 15th.

Did we get to all of the distilleries and our favorite hotel on Lake Guntersville?? The answer is NO. We still have 4 more to see and that's the reason to plan another trip to the beautiful country side of Kentucky. Who knows, they may have more open up between now and the return trip.

Ride and have fun. There is a whole world of exciting things to see and experience out there. This was just one of those trips that you need to plan with friends and get on your bike and ride!

Here's looking at you!



Update Your Profile

Many of us have had a change in address, telephone number or email. Please go to the website www.northshorehog.com and update your profile. Don't forget to do the same thing when renewing your 2009 membership.

CHAPTER RIDE TO JANDY IMPORTS WELL ATTENDED

BY KARL FOX

After the November 12th Chapter meeting, Chief Road Captain Ralph Preveau let the members on a short circular ride from Slidell, to Pearl River through Mandeville via La 1088 and back to Slidell by way of Highway 190. The destination was Jandy Imports which was celebrating one of its anniversaries with free food and entertainment.

Below are some snapshots of the event.



Buddy Newman, Ralph, and Chip Newman



Susan, Carol Minica, Ralph, Judy & Bill Anderson



Ward, The Chapter's Story Teller

NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING RATES

One Quarter Page - \$20.00
Business Card - \$10.00

**Buy 6 issues of advertising and
receive a 20% discount**

Contact Dwight Bradbury if you are interested in placing an ad or have questions.

Open space

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Raynauds Diseases. Scleroderma is a rare autoimmune disorder that attacks healthy body tissue (skin, vessels, connective tissue & muscles). There is no known cure. Raynauds is a neurological disease causing loss of feeling in the body's extremities (fingers, toes, nose, lips, etc.). While it is treatable, there is no cure for this ailment either.

As bad luck would have it, Bryan's wife, Nicole suffers from Still's Disease — a rare and incurable inflammatory condition. Symptoms include fever, rashes, joint and muscle pain. This disorder could also precipitate premature onset of arthritis.

Neither Nicole or Bryan are able to work.

Please try to make it to this event. It is a good cause.