

Northshore HOG News

ISSUE 115

AUGUST 2014

"The St Jude Memphis Ride - 2014"

By Ray Gregg

Inside This Issue

The St. Jude Mem-	
phis Ride-2014	2
(Continues)	

2014 Officers 3

From Your Director

August Birthdays 3

Northshore HOG
Meeting Minutes
5

Additional St. Jude Ride Photos

The New Grand Isle 7

July Northshore HOG Chapter Ride Photo

Upcoming Events 7

On 20 June, Bill, Judy, Karl, Simon, Frank and I rode up to Memphis, TN to participate in presenting St. Jude's with a check for the funds raised by the "Talimena Rally."

We met in Hattiesburg for breakfast and then headed for Memphis. Since it was a fairly significant ride, we decided to take US 49 to Jackson, MS and then take I-55 to Memphis. With fuel stops and a lunch stop along the way we reached Memphis by mid-afternoon. Once there, we met with Neil Jones to discuss the next day's agenda, and then set out to find the best places to visit that evening. BB Kings was one of the top five on our list, and as fate would have it, one of the first places we found upon entering Beale Street. So, BB King's it was. It also helped that the hotel had given us special tickets to get into BB King's for only a buck vice the usual five dollars. Before going in, we decided to stroll down Beale Street to watch the street entertainers, young men doing gymnastics, another doing pantomime, and to check out the other shops and restaurants. During our stroll we bumped into Texarkana HOG Chapter members and also came across Shriners raffling a 2013 Boss Hog Trike (a huge thing... the size of a small car), so it was only natural for some of us to take a chance......who knows?

At BB King's, there were plenty of people and music. Three bands played while we were there, and they were all first class. Unfortu-

nately, the food service was anything but. It was early in the evening and they had already run out of some foods shown on the menu and after reordering we had trouble getting the appetizers on time. As a result, some were only slightly warm when received. Karl never received his order, even after the waitress told him five times it was coming. With contributions from the rest of us, and the fact that we had five appetizers to munch on (and a few beers), Karl left full and satisfied.

Coming out of BB King's we found we had timed it just right. Crowds had gathered on Beale Street and the police were *scanning every single person* coming into the street. The lines were backed up for half a block.

It had been a long day for us so back to the hotel we went where Karl and I enjoyed a few more drinks and conversation with foreigners visiting the United States. One couple was touring "the music cities" and had been to Chicago, was enjoying Memphis, and then planned on heading to New Orleans. They "picked our brains," and we made sure they knew where all the "must see" places are on Bourbon Street and throughout the city. Another German couple remarked at how nice our motorcycles sounded when we arrived that day.

See The St Jude Memphis Ride - 2014 (Continued) on Page 2

⁶⁶The St_Jude Memphis Ride - 2014" (Continues)

Without sounding uppity, I told them the sound cost a lot of people a lot of money to make the motorcycles to sound like that!

The next morning we had breakfast and then headed to the hospital. Between thirty-five and forty bikes made the short ride to St Jude's. When we arrived, we were greeted by the St Jude representative, the check was presented, and a group picture was taken.



Some of the group had previously toured the hospital, so they decided to head for the Harley Davidson dealership while the rest of us toured the facilities. It would take more than this newsletter to describe the hospital and what we saw on the tour. The walls were painted by local artists and reflected children playing and having a happy time.



It was both inspiring and sad. We were asked not to take pictures of the kids, parents or hospital staff, but then one father came to us and asked if we would come see his son when we were finished with the tour. Of course we said we would. Our tour guide said that was very rare, so when the tour was over we immediately went to see the father. Upon entering the room he was in, we saw this tiny little boy, no hair, with tubes and wires attached to him.

Extremely.....extremely sad.

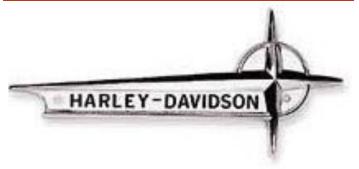
Some of the women started to cry and it brought a tear to my eye too. On a happier note, the hospital has had great success in treating some of the diseases that only a few years ago were untreatable. This hospital is a fantastic place!!! Thank you Danny Thomas!!!!!

After the hospital tour, we all headed for Southern Thunder Harley Davidson where we were treated to a lunch of burgers and hotdogs, cookies, chips and sodas.

After lunch I decided to head back to the house since I had left my four-legged children on their own for the past two days.

Although I was set for the long ride back, I was not ready for the road construction just outside Southhaven, MS. Forty-five minutes to go four miles; really!!! With the temperature in the nineties, I had a difficult time keeping the Trike cool. I had to turn the engine off from time to time, and even then the engine light came on. It was touch and go, and I contemplated pulling off all together, or riding the shoulder and getting a ticket if caught. As it was, I made it through the construction with no damage to the Trike and made it home before dark.

Although our \$21,000 plus contribution is only a dent in the million dollar-a-day cost to operate St Jude's, it helps. I urge everyone to consider participating in the Talimena Rally and St. Jude's ride next year.



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From Your Director

It is an honor for me to be writing this article for our Northshore 2147 – Harley Owners Group Chapter – especially as your new Director.

I first want to thank Ward Blakeman for stepping forward and standing in as our interim director for the last three months. Thank you, Ward for answering the call of service/duty for our Chapter.

Let me share some information with you about Judy and me. We were both born in the Midwest – Judy in Texas and I was born in lowa. We met each other at Redmond High School in Redmond, Washington (home of Microsoft) in 1967. Judy was a junior and I transferred into Redmond High my senior year from Omaha, Nebraska. I graduated in 1968 and joined the Navy via the Naval Reserve on the 15th of August 1968. Judy graduated in 1969 and we were married on 15 August 1969. I de-



parted in December to be placed on active duty for a two-year period, and was ordered to River Division 553, Republic of Vietnam. The River Division was located in South Vietnam very near the Gulf of Thailand, between the Cambodian border and the U-minh Forest. The closet city was Rach Gia.

After 9-months of canal running, we turned the division over to the Vietnamese, and I was sent to River Patrol Flotilla FIVE Staff in **Continued on Page 4**



From Your Director (Continued)

Bien Thuy. After 4 months, I was sent back to the states and released from active duty. Once home I couldn't find a job, so we went to Amarillo where I worked with Judy's uncle as a plumber's apprentice. After six months, we went back to Seattle, and I went to work for Seattle Door Company. In 1974, I volunteered for active duty in the Training and Administration of Reserves (TAR) Program. I remained on active duty until July 1999 and my highest position held was as the Command Master Chief for Commander, Naval Reserve Force in New Orleans. I also acted as the Force Master Chief when the Force was on leave or on special assignment.

Following retirement I worked as a Navy Contractor on the Navy Manpower and Personnel Program (NSIPS), and then on the Defense Manpower and Personnel Program (DIMHRS). I accepted a civil service position with SPAWAR New Orleans, and then with Commander, Naval Oceanography and Meteorology Command at Stennis Space Center.

In 2011 we decided to get back into motorcycle riding after 35-years. We purchased a 1996 Harley Screaming Eagle Sportster and immediately traded in on a 2009 Ultra for a more comfortable ride. Shortly after getting the Ultra, I was diagnosed with a hernia and was told that I shouldn't ride until it was repaired. We traded the Ultra in on a 2012 Tri-Glide (Trike). We joined the chapter in November 2011, and rode to Blue Ridge in June 2012 with the Ladies of Harley ride to the Smokey's. What a thrill to ride the Dragon and all the other beautiful roads in that part of the country.

Judy and I decided in early 2013 that it was time to retire and get out do things that we both enjoyed and that was to RIDE! In 2013, Judy and I rode:

48 Days – 30 Jun to 16 Aug
9,157 miles & 20 States
45 Harley Davidson Dealerships
Attended 2 HOG State Rallies (Washington and Oregon) 7 total HOG Rallies in 2013
Road ours to the 73rd Black Hills Rally - Sturgis
2 HD Factory's (Milwaukee & Kansas City, Mo)
The Harley Davidson Museum

Plus all the Chapter rides that we could do, and rides with chapter members that were not actual chapter rides. We also turned in 70 points each for the Harley ABC's. We

19 National Parks/Monuments/Forests

could have gotten more points, but pulling off to get the picture is sometimes very dangerous, and not worth the point(s).

We all have a reason, or many reasons why we are here. Whether it is just the independence and solitude that motorcycle riding brings us, the sound, the power, the smell of the countryside, the friendship of the group, or the total journey. Whatever it is, we are all here and we ride the best motorcycle produced – bar none!

The more we ride, the more experience we have. The more we cover safety issues, whether formally or as a quick touching base will help each of us to get on the same page as we ride (i.e., hand signals, stopping as a group, accelerating as a group, staggered riding, etc.). One of the great things about group riding is that everybody is looking out for everyone else. In the end, however, you are responsible for your own safety, so if something is happening that outside your comfort zone or is making you feel unsafe — speak up and let the Road Captain or any of the officers know!

It is my goal to give you a reason to get that motorcycle out of the garage and RIDE. Whether it be with the chapter following the monthly chapter meeting, or on a Sunday ride, Thursday Gone Loco ride, the Ladies of Harley ride, or one of the many upcoming rides that will include longer distances and over-night stays. I also know that you can't attend every ride. However, I want to give you several opportunities to choose from and request that you ride with us when you can. Do you have an idea for a ride? Let me know!

I ask for your support during the monthly Meet and Greet sponsored by Mike Bruno's Northshore Harley Davidson, usually held on the third Thursday. This is our opportunity to meet with the new Harley Davidson owners and tell them what we do. This is a GREAT opportunity to increase our membership numbers. We also need to start forming a committee for our Christmas party, and other activities such as Halloween? Thanksgiving?

Thank you for your trust and support. I am ready to answer your call to service!

NO POLITICS! NO DRAMA! JUST RIDE!



Northshore #2147 HOG Meeting Minutes

July 5, 2014

Northshore 2147 HOG® Meeting

Location: Mike Bruno's Northshore Harley Davidson

Dealership, Slidell, LA

In attendance were the following 2014 officers:

Interim Director Ward Blakeman

Asst. Director Chip Newman

Treasurer Buddy Newman

Secretary Judy Anderson

Web Master Karl Fox

Activities Officer Bill Anderson

Ladies of Harley Sonja Fox (absent)

Head Road Captain Simon Gonzales

Safety Officer Russ Davis (absent)

Membership Officer Frank Lay

Photographer Karl Fox

Chaplain Russ Davis (absent)

Editor Richard Dillon

Historian Dwight Bradbury (absent)

Meeting called to order: 9:35 AM

Pledge of Allegiance: Ray Gregg

Prayer led by: Joe Seoane

First from all of us, our hearts and prayers go out to Joe and Paul Saenz's for the passing of their nephew.

Ward Blakeman, Interim Director: Opened the meeting with a greeting to all members and recognized new members. Goal for today is to keep this meeting short and sweet.

Every officer will have 5 minutes, really more if needed maybe 1 or 2 minutes. WE WANT TO SADDLE UP AND RIDF!

LisaMarie Hambeton, Parts & Accessories: Thanks to everyone that attended the first MEET AND GREET EVENT. The HOG members that showed up was out-

standing, the new members' turnout wasn't as good as we had wished. The next one will be on July 17th, and we (all sales people) know about it, and are talking it up to the new bike owners. Invite cards are going out the week before, and hopefully will be on our web site. We have a new person to handle out web site which is exciting news for all of us.

All HOG officers and members are invited to attend and take advantage of this time to inform the new bike owners of who we are and what we have to offer. Would like to include a small group ride. **NOTE:** The new 500 is here come by and experience it.

Karl Fox, Web Master and Photographer: Please send photos. Our HOG web page needs some updating and work done on it. I will be looking into the problems with the web site.

Karl also covered the Ladies of Harley for Sonia: Mark your calendar, we are riding to Armonds in Chalmette on Friday 18th with kick stands up at 6pm and until?

Chip Newman, Asst. Director: Would like everyone to try and come to the upcoming Meet & Greet on the 17th of July.

Frank Lay, Membership: I'll be heading up the Meet and Greet here at the dealership, if anyone would like to help just give me a call or e-mail me. I want to thank everyone for your help and just being there means a lot.

BIRTHDAYS

Carol Dussel Anna Rinaldo
Wayne Garitty Ramon Spann St
John Loomis Lloyd Songy
Juan Price

Buddy Newman, Treasurer: Presented the treasury report for June.

Simon Gonzales, Head Road Captain: Covered the ride to the Shed. We are in need of men and women to come forward and be part of the Road Captain crew. We will work with you and train you in Group Riding. You will not be asked to do anything you are not ready to do. Please call or E-mail me if you have any questions and defiantly if you want to volunteer.

See July Meeting Minutes (Continued) on Page 6

July Meeting Minutes (Continued)

Anyone group riding, we will be using channel 2 on the CB's.

Bill Anderson, Activities Officer: The attached document was handed out to member's present and it covers the rides that were offered during the month of June and those on 3 and 4 July - "The Patriot Tour". Bill introduced our new member *Rodger Clark* who carried the Flag from Mississippi to Baton Rouge HD, and then we were police escorted to the ex-USS KIDD Memorial on the Mississippi River for the flag transfer to the Lafayette Chapter. Be sure to check our web-site calendar, and our Facebook sight for our upcoming events and any changes to the calendar. Richard Dillon, Editor: Thanks for the articles everyone sent in. Newsletter deadline is July 15th, send me any information, write-ups on rides, pictures, etc.

New Members:

Joe Stags, rides an 883 Iron

The 50/50 was won by Keith Ross \$50.00.

Frank Lay and Mike Chatellier won a shirt.

Judy Anderson, Secretary: Minutes for the month of June 2014 were approved as presented. We held nominations for Director during our last meeting, and Bill Anderson was nominated and seconded. We stated during that meeting that we would accept additional nominations during this meeting. A call for additional nominations was placed, and no nominations were offered. Bill Anderson was again nominated, and seconded. With Bill accepting the Director position, this would leave the Activities Officer open. Asked for nominations again for the Activities Officer position. No nominations or volunteers were received. Richard Dillon said he would help till the end of 2014. Therefore, Bill will accept both positions until our annual Chapter Officer elections (nominations in October, voting in November, and transfer of responsibilities in December).

Unfinished business:

We are in need of updating our Quick Books Program. We were given a computer by the Dealership to down load the new program, which then can be passed if and when we have a change in Treasurers. Dwight Bradbury, is going to get with Buddy and Judy regarding the download and updating.

Additional St. Jude's Ride Photos



Bill & Judy At St. Jude's



Ray & Frank At St. Jude's

Remember

"Four Wheels Move The Body." **BUT**"Two Wheels Move the Soul"

The New Grand Isle

It has probably been ten years since I travel to Grand Isle, and earlier this year several of us talked about visiting this summer. Finding that Susan Parish would be on Grand Isle with her family during a certain week caused me to think it would be fun to ride and see Susan at the same time. While on our Lafitte ride, plans were made to go that same week to the island.

Rain was forecast, but as you know, you can't always rely on the weatherman to be accurate in south Louisiana. We met at the Covington IHOP, and although there was a hint of rain the morning of the ride, I was committed. I was the first to arrive, so I ordered breakfast while waiting for the others to arrive. It wasn't long until Bob arrived, and sadly the other riders decided not to battle the prospective rain. As I saddle up I noticed Bob was headed for a brand new Honda with temp plates. He said he bought the bike the evening before and just had to try it out that day. As we crossed the causeway, Bob had a little trouble with the wind, as his new bike was really his kick-around-town toy and not a cruiser. But with determination he made it to the south shore without any real problems. We took Interstate 10 to I-310 and then onto US 90. At Raceland we turned onto Hwy 308 to bypass Lockport, Larose, Cutoff, and others. I was pleasantly surprised with the bypass west of LA Hwy 1 from Larose south to Golden Meadow. It is a new (to me) four-lane divided highway which eliminates the stop and go traffic of the towns along Bayou Lafourche. It reconnects to Hwy 1 south of Golden Meadow, and from there we headed for Leeville where the new elevated expressway takes you to Port Fourchon. There is a charge of three dollars to take the expressway, but you have no choice as the old Hwy 1 in that area is gone. From Port Fourchon, it is back to old Hwy 1 and on to Grand Isle. Susan's camp was on the very east end of the island; the last camp before the state park. It took a while to reach her camp since the speed limit is 25 MPH for most of the island. We had no problem finding the camp, as Susan had made a sign that read Ray and Bob with an arrow pointing to the camp. After meeting four generations of her family, we were invited to have lunch while we talked to Susan's grandkids and great grandkids.

Checking the weather, we saw a large thunderstorm was moving in from the southwest, so we decided to make a fast exit. Heading home was basically a backtrack of our route to Grand Isle except that when we got to New

Orleans, Bob took I-10 north while I took the causeway route. All in all it was a great ride. I chalked up over 335 miles and not bit of rain. The trip down took a little over three and a half hours but that included snack and fuel stops. For those of you that have not been to Grand Isle in a while, I recommend the trip. The roads are exceptional and island restoration has come a long way. Although we did not stop at any of the eating establishments, I noticed that there are now several to choose from.

July Northshore HOG Chapter Ride



4 July Ride to DA Kitchen

UPCOMING EVENTS

02 Aug - 09:45 am - Membership Mtg & Ride

11:15 am - Depart Bruno's For Chimes

29 Aug - 6:00 pm - LOH Ride—Shaggy's

6:00 pm - Depart Bruno's 120 Hiern Ave

Pass Christian, MS (228) 452-9939

27 Sep - 6:00 pm - LOH BONCO Pot Luck
MORE RIDES & ACTIVITIES ARE COMING UP
IF YOU HAVE A RECOMMENDATION

LET US KNOW
YOUR IDEAS COUNT!