



Northshore HOG News

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **November 2**
Chapter Meeting,
Ride NSHD @
9:30 am.
- **See the web site**
for a complete
listing of events



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ISSUE 107

NOVEMBER, 2013

FIRST OF MANY – RIDES OF A LIFETIME

Bill and Judy Anderson

It all started with the hype of the 110th Harley Davidson Anniversary and the 30th Anniversary of the Harley Owners Group. We decided that we would attend every State HOG Rally on the Gulf Coast (Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida) to get the patches for our vests, and as our tribute to the Anniversaries.

We decided to bring our working careers to an end and retire at the end of March. From that point on our short rides started to multiply. April took us to Houma for the Louisiana Rally, and to Dothan for the Alabama HOG Rally. We also started to pre-ride the trips the Northshore HOGs were riding the following weekend.

We were planning a trip to Seattle to see our relatives in July. As we were mapping that trip we received the HOG Magazine and it had a special section on upcoming State HOG Rallies. We found that the Washington and Oregon Rallies were only a week apart and would fit perfectly with our vacation plans. And, we found that the Black Hills Rally in Sturgis was the week after that. Alright! That will work – where to from there? How about Milwaukee for the 110th Anniversary? The dates really didn't line up but we would be there a couple of weeks early and we could still see the factory, museum, etc.. We could do that! That is when we decided to we had to ride STLPNY on this trip in order to be part of the Rallies, and make them count. We went on-line and registered for the Washington and Oregon Rallies, and for the Mississippi and Florida Rallies. In May we attended the Texas State Rally in San Antonio.

Still looking forward to our "long" trip, we purchased our National Parks and Monuments Passport (only \$10 for senior citizens – good for a lifetime) and the Passport Book that allows you to document your visit with a stamp and date. We wondered how many parks and monuments we would see along our trip.

Then we decided that we were going to stay off of the main highways as much as we could. The back roads would add so much to the trip, especially since time was not a issue, and we were still getting acclimated to retirement. Using the Harley Davidson Ride Planner, we mapped our way from Slidell to Seattle. We would plan the rest of the trip later. STLPNY maintenance stops were loosely calculated to ensure she was kept in tip-top condition.

Our initial departure date was planned for Monday, 1 July. That would give us 17 days before the Washington State Rally started. But, as the date got closer, we decided to leave on Sunday, 30 June to hopefully have less traffic to deal with on our first day out.

Excited, anxious, as a couple of newly-weds, we packed STLPNY with the upmost of care and wondering if we were going to have enough clothes and equipment for the road ahead.

30 June arrived and we were ready. We pulled STLPNY out of the garage at 0700, and noticed that our GPS wasn't working correctly. We had some work done under the front fairing earlier that week, and wondered if it might be a wire or fuse or who knows what. Only one Harley dealer open that we knew of – Hammond. So, instead of following our initial and planned route, we diverted directly to Hammond.

Arriving in Hammond a little early, we took our picture of the dealership, STLPNY, with each of us holding the 2013 HOG Touring front cover for the ABC's of Touring competition and points. We would be stopping for our ABC points throughout this trip. How many points could we get?

The dealership opened right at 0900, and the service department started checking into our problem. After a complete check, we found that the GPS battery just needed to be removed and then put back! Let's hit the road!



GRAB YOUR ATLAS AND FOLLOW ALONG

(Continued on page 3,8,9)

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From the Director

A word from your Director, Dan "Byucop" Schewe

Your Primary Officer nominations and elections were held at the October meeting. As there were no other nominations, we held over the Director, Assistant Director, Sectary, and Finance officers. We all appreciated the member's confidence in the direction the chapter is going.

Now it is the time if you have interest in a specific officer's position.

2 – Support your sponsoring dealer

3 – Support the Harley Davidson brand

4 – Be an ambassador for Northshore HOG.

Where do you start??

Share your interest and questions with the Director or Assistant Director. We will get you started.

Candidates will be selected during the November officer elections and will be announced at the annual December Christmas party.

HOG makes it easy to volunteer! This is a great way to make new friends and meet new people. There is so much more out there

for you to be involved with. Go ahead, take the next step and get involved with your chapter!

Get out and Ride! And stay safe. Dan



Get More For Your Membership... by your Assistant Director: Chip Newman,

Last year the Chapter started participating in a little game called "Northshore HOG ABC Touring Louisiana Challenge". Which was suggested to us by our current Director, Dan Schewe. We chose 10 different locations within Louisiana to complete this challenge. This game is what you might call the little brother of what HOG does on a National level.

The ABC's of Touring! is an alphabetical "scavenger hunt" for you and your Harley Davidson Motorcycle! Earn points and win prizes by collecting photos of yourself, your motorcycle, and "official signs" from A-Z! Each location will award you a point(s), based on what the specified point value is for that location. You can / will visit Cities & Towns starting with A-Z, Countries starting with A-Z, U.S. States, Canadian Provinces, National Parks, Harley Dealership, Harley Locations, and more. Each type of the above location will have a maximum value of points, for instance; the Cities & Towns starting with A-Z you can earn a maximum of 26 points for that group. HOG offers First, Second, & Third place prizes to the winner. There is also different point increments where you can win different prizes. First place being a Harley Davidson GPS Navigator. For more in depth details, you can check out the ABC's Official Rules at: https://members.hog.com/website/downloads/membership/benefits/HOG13_ABCs_Rules.pdf

I also want to take this time to inform you that the deadline for our Chapter Northshore HOG ABC Touring Louisiana Challenge is fast approaching. You have until November 2nd (our next meeting) to get your photo's into Karl Fox, our Chapter Photographer. You can email him the photos or bring to the meeting, whatever works best for you.

Keep the shiny side up!

Running later than expected, we headed for I-55 North. We stopped at the Mississippi State line, the Jackson Harley Davidson dealership, the Vicksburg Battle Field to take our pictures. Back into Louisiana and North on Hwy 65 to Arkansas, stopping at the state line to get that picture. We stopped in Pine Bluff for the night. Lightning and rain all around us, but the road always seemed to turn and take us away from it. Up early, and heading to Hot Springs on Hwy 270. Stopped at Hot Springs and Hot Springs National Park to get our stamp in the Passport Book. Stayed on Hwy 270 through the Ouachita Mountains to the Oklahoma border and our picture at the state line.

We stayed on Hwy 270 to Norman, OK., where we spent the night. While looking for a place to eat in Norman, we were riding up this street and a young man stepped off the curb and into the middle of our lane – I swerved to the left to miss him and he kicked his foot at us as we went by. We looked in our mirror to see him still standing in the middle of the road, stopping the cars behind us. We stopped at the stop light and continued to watch him in our mirror as he finally returned to the side walk and back the way he had come.

It was time for our STLPNY maintenance stop (15,000 mile warranty), so we rode to Fort Thunder Harley in Moore, OK. Moore had recently been hit by a very large tornado, and the tornado's track was just blocks from the dealership. When STLPNY was ready to roll, we rode I-40 to the Texas state line and Amarillo.

A picture at the state line and then to the Big Texan for dinner (home of the 72-ounce steak dinner and a Route 66 landmark legend). Stopped for the night. Interestingly, we stayed at the same motel that Judy had stayed in when she helped move her father and his wife into assisted living many years earlier.

Staying on I-40 we stopped at the New Mexico border for our state line picture. Left I-40 after Santa Rosa on Hwy 84. After a short ride on Hwy 84, the temperature dropped and there appeared to be snow or something white caught at the base of the bushes along the road. Judy told me that she was about to have me stop so she could get heavier clothing on. After traveling a little further the temperature did rise. We then turned onto I-25 toward Santa Fe. Stopped at the Santa Fe Harley dealership for our picture and poker chip, then on to Albuquerque for the night. As we were watching TV in the motel, we saw that Santa Rosa had been hit by a storm that dumped 3 to 6 inches of nickel to golf ball sized hail that accumulated to feet in depth in some places. **BLESSED TO HAVE MISSED THAT!**

Staying on I-40, we stopped in Gallup, New Mexico for lunch at the El Rancho Hotel/Motel. Formally opened in 1937, and built by the brother of the movie magnate, D. W. Griffith. It became the gathering place of the famous mainly because of the many films made in that area between 1940 and 1964. Gallup is also the site of the Inter-Tribal Indian Ceremonial held in August and the Red Rock Balloon Rally in December.

From Gallup it was a short ride into Arizona. We stopped at the Painted Desert and Petrified National Forest. They also had a little monument to Route 66, at which you could see the telephone poles and the Route 66 roadway (for some reason they had removed the blacktop, but left the road bed). Storms brewing all around us. The roadway was our friend yet again, as it turned away from the storm areas. When we were starting to get hit by the rain drops, we pulled under an overpass until the worst of it past. Flagstaff for the night.

Stayed on I-40 till we arrived at Seligman – this is where you can ride the original Route 66 from Seligman to Kingman, Arizona. We rode Route 66, stopping in Peach Springs for lunch. Found out that we were only 70 or so miles away from the **West Grand Canyon Skywalk**, so we headed in that directions. We hit 50 miles of BAD road of dirt and sand before we hit blacktop again. Road was so rough that we lost a light cover on the tour pack! We hit another stretch of about 10 miles of road under construction before we reached the Skywalk, and unfortunately, we would have to travel that 10 miles again just to get out of there! On to Las Vegas, Nevada for a couple of nights.

The next morning, we took STLPNY into Red Rock Harley Davidson in Las Vegas for light repair, new air cleaner, and a good washing. After a 8-hour wait, we headed back to the hotel. Then we hit the town, stopping at the Minus 5 Bar (where everything is made of ice, including your drinking "cup"), then a great meal at a Mexican Restaurant, and back to our hotel. Leaving Las Vegas, we hit Hwy 95 North. We stopped just outside of town to have breakfast and good thing we did, because it started to rain just minutes after we entered the building. Hwy 95 to Hwy 6 to 376 through the Big Smoke Valley, and Hwy 305 through the Shoshone Mountains. Stopping at Battle Mountain, Nevada for the night.

Onto I-80 to Winnemucca and Hwy 95. Our initial plan was to cut over to Hwy 140 to Denio Junction and then Oregon. However, when we stopped for gas, a fellow motorcycle rider told us that was the route he was going to take but the Denio Junction gas station was under repair and it was over 200 miles between gas stations. So, we stayed on Hwy 95 into Oregon.

We stayed on Hwy 95 until Burns Junction and then turned onto Hwy 78. At Burns we hit Hwy 395 to John Day, Oregon. What beautiful country! John Day for the night. We could have traveled further but we were advised that the deer and other animals start coming out at that time and it was best to stop – especially on a motorcycle.

We headed down Hwy 26 to Hwy 19. Stopping at the John Day Fossil Beds National Monument. Wow, the visitor center actually has a laboratory that you can actually watch the scientists find the fossil's in the rocks that have been brought in. Rolling over to Hwy 207 for some real country riding to I-84 just West of Hermiston, Oregon. I-84 to I-82 and crossing over the Columbia River into Washington State. We made a brief stop in the Tri-Cities (Kennewick, Pasco and Richland, WA), and continued on I-82 to Yakima. Yakima for the night.

Time for some rest, so the next morning we rode I-82 to I-90, and then I-90 to Issaquah. We stopped at BMC West to see Bill's Sister Maggie and took her to lunch. Following lunch, we headed through Redmond and to Bill's parents home in Kirkland. Arriving on Thursday, 11th of July.

We have traveled in 10 states and over 3,415 miles thus far!

Stayed in Kirkland until Sunday and shipped two boxes of clothes and stuff home that we haven't or wouldn't need. Then headed for Camano Island. Staying with Judy's Brother and family until Thursday morning when we rode to Oak Harbor, Washington and checked in for the Washington State HOG Rally. About 300 attended. Great weather and great rides offered - shortest about 50 miles (Lunch ride) and others up over 135 miles. Chilly in the morning (for us) with fog, but once it burnt off, it was truly beautiful. Proud to be flying our Northshore HOG Chapter Flag amongst the other attendees! If you ever come up here, make sure you ride Chuckanut Drive.

We made one last visit day with relatives in Kirkland and then another at Camano Island before Wednesday, the 24th. Heading over the North Cascade Hwy (Hwy 20) to Eastern Washington and spending the night in Spokane. Departing Spokane, we went down HWY 195 to Hwy 26, to 127 and then to Hwy 12 to Walla Walla. Hwy 125 and 11 to Pendleton. Checking into the Rally, we were told that we were the furthest traveled at that time. About 300 to 400 people attended. The rides were totally awesome. Lots of vertical climbing with switchbacks on the side of the mountains leaving town. Beautiful scenery along the rivers and on top of the mountain looking down the valleys. Wonderful group of people and a fantastic rally. And, yes we did win the furthest traveled and received \$75 from the Oregon Rally and a \$100 gift certificate from Mike Bruno's Northshore Harley Davidson. Continued on pages 8 and 9



Last Month's Minutes

By Judy Anderson

October 5, 2013 Northshore 2147 HOG® Meeting
 Location: Mike Bruno's North Shore Harley Davidson Dealership, Slidell, LA
 In attendance were the following 2013 officers:
 Director – Dan Schewe
 Web Master - - Karl Fox
 Asst. Director – Chip Newman
 Ladies of Harley – Sonja Fox
 Treasurer – Buddy Newman
 Membership Officer – Not Present
 Secretary – Judy Anderson
 Photographer – Karl Fox
 Activities Officer – Chip Newman
 Head Road Captain – Richard Dillon
 Editor – Greg Peterman
 Historian – Dwight Bradbury
 Safety Officer – Russ Davis
 Meeting brought to order: 9:40am
 Pledge of Allegiance led by Richard Dillon
 Prayer delivered by John Minica
Dan Schewe-Director, brought the meeting to order: with an overview of what's happening.

- Explanation of officer duties.
 - Director: shall uphold this Charter, conduct Chapter meetings and coordinate Chapter officer responsibilities.
 - Assistant Director: shall be responsible for promoting membership orientation, membership retention and keep the Chapter members informed of HOG® programs.
 - Treasurer: shall be responsible for collecting and disbursing Chapter funds, reporting financial transactions to sponsoring Dealer/Retailer/Chapter Manager on a monthly basis, compliance with all revenue recording and reporting requirements.
 - Secretary: shall be responsible for administering and maintaining meeting minutes, annual reports, membership report on members.hog.com, insurance and legal documentation, event releases, and enrollment releases. These permanent records shall be kept at the sponsoring Dealership/Retail Store.
 - Opened the floor for Nominations for primary officers: Dan Schewe for Director, Greg Peterman 2nd the motion, all were unanimously in favor. Chip Newman for Assistant Director, Kay Schewe 2nd the motion, all were unanimously in favor. Buddy Newman for Treasurer, John Pons 2nd the motion, all were unanimously in favor. Judy Anderson for Secretary, Sonja Fox 2nd the motion, all were unanimously in favor. The four mentioned above are all previous officers of the same position, and they all graciously accepted another term.
 - Discretionary Officers: These officer positions are optional and at the discretion of the sponsoring Dealership and the primary officers. Nominations will be taken at the next chapter meeting November 5, 2013. The duties and responsibilities of the discretionary Chapter officers may include the following, this is only a summary of their duties..
 - Activities Officer: assisting in planning and administering Chapter events.
 - Ladies of Harley Officer: encouraging women members to take an active part in Chapter activities.
 - Road Captain: assisting in the planning of routes for Chapter rides, educates Chapter members about group riding techniques
 - Editor: assembling and organizing all forms of Chapter communications. Ensures all forms of Chapter communications are approved by the sponsoring Dealer/Director.
 - Safety Officer: providing Chapter members with information relation to the availability of rider training.
 - Photographer: obtaining and organizing Chapter images for use in the Chapter communications and Chapter history.
 - Historian: preparing and maintaining an account of the

history of the Chapter.

8. Membership Officer: Ensures that Chapter members have current national HOG® memberships. Enrolls new members into Chapter.

9. Webmaster: assembling and organizing material for the Chapter web site, social media sites (if applicable), and obtaining approval from the sponsoring Dealer/Director before publications. Chapter web site and social media sites must comply with the HOG® Chapter Internet Guidelines.

- 2014 Harley Officer Training (HOT) will be held:
 - February 21,22, in Kansas City, MO
 - February 28, March 1, in Las Vegas, NV
 - April 4,5, in York, PA
 - April 11,12, Milwaukee, WI

Will discuss this at a later date after all officers are in place.

e. Veterans build Habitat for Humanity dedication will be November 11th, more details to come, this is the first home to be given to a veteran. Volunteers are needed to demolish the existing home, if interested talk to Dan.

Chip Newman- Assist. Director/Activities Officer, covered upcoming events. Please check calendar for current events, just go to the following web site (www.northshoreharley.com) and click on the HOG® symbol on the left hand side then click on enter and then on the left hand side" TABLE of contents" click on calendar and you are there
Buddy Newman-Treasurer, presented the profit and loss statement for September.

- We are starting to collect 2014 dues now to avoid last minute rush, you may pay Buddy any time between now and December 31, 2013
- Christmas party date, December 7th, Saturday around 6:00/6:30pm. Theme is "War World II". Tickets are on sell now, \$15.00 for member, \$25.00 for a couple, and \$20.00 for a guest, see Buddy.
- For the month of September we have 39 new members, welcome to all of you. We hope you will give us the chance to get to know you.
- Membership, welcomed the new members for August. Would like some volunteers to help call the new members and just welcome them on board.

e. Birthdays for October are as follows:

Herman Vicknair	2	Patrice Leo	24
Bruce Bryant	5	Raymond Leach	28
Charlene Gonzales	11	Raymond Gregg	29
Chris Engelbracht	13		

Karl Fox - Web Master/Photographer. Anyone that has completed the NORTHSHORE CHALLENGE, please send your photo's to me, I am keeping track of all of them. Still needing volunteers for the Christmas party, you may do as much or as little as you chose. It's going to be a lot of fun.

Sonia Fox - LOH ride is to Mi Mamacita 2345 Florida St., Mandeville, KSU @ 5:00pm.

Richard Dillon - Head Road Captain, Any new members wanting to review our group riding video, please see me after the meeting. Judy Anderson-Secretary – nothing at this time.

Dwight Bradbury-Historian: gave a quick over view of the LOH ride to Arkansas.

Greg Peterman-Editor. Wanting material for the news letter, just get what you have to him and he'll take care of the rest. Do check out the redesigned hog.online.

Daniel Couvillion-Northshore Harley Davidson Floor Manager, spoke to us regarding the 2013 blowout sale, would like to get them off the floor and make more room for the 2014's. Fright Night at the Dealership is Oct 25, from 5ish on there will be people in costumes and food and door prizes, so come one, come all and let's have a great time. (Daniel also provide four T-shirts to be raffled off with the 50/50 tickets at the meeting). Thanks Dan.

LisaMarie Hambeton - Chrome Consultant: Please come see our new parts, we have lots of new items including affordable wheels, an up graded charging system and a new product line. She's waiting!!!!!!

LOH Trip to Arkansas - Bikes, Blues and BBQ 16-22SEP2013



Northshore HOG Chapter #2147

What's Happening!:

November:

2nd— 9:30am General Membership Chapter Meeting
 2nd— Chapter Lunch Ride, following the meeting, to The Shed in Gulfport (Details to follow-up in the Email)
 16th— 10am LOH Ride to Panera Bread in Covington, LA

December:

7th—9:30am General Membership Chapter Meeting
 7th—Chapter Christmas Party @ the Yacht Club

**** All Chapter Rides start at Mike Bruno's Northshore Harley Davidson, unless otherwise specified.**

November 2013						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				Halloween!	1	2 9:30a Chapter Meeting & Ride
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11 Veteran's Day	12	13	14	15	16 10am LOH Ride
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28 Thanks Giving!	29	30

SKID MARKS

HOG SAFETY TIPS

Greetings North Shore HOGs:

I just ran across this article written by Trooper First Class Jeff Jalbert of the Connecticut State Police Motor Patrol. These are some great tips to help us stay safe. It is a short but concise list.

- **Be extra vigilant of texting drivers**, or those occupied with other distractions. "I don't even pass a car if they're on the phone," Jalbert said. "You have to be aware of what they're doing."
- **Constantly keep your eyes moving**, scanning for danger all around you. Don't just focus on the car ahead. Instead, use your higher seating position to watch for danger two or three cars ahead to give you maximum time to react.
- **Don't take chances** or try to jockey for position with other vehicles. You're more vulnerable on a motorcycle, and it's always safer to yield to other traffic. Don't rush to get through a yellow light.
- **Slow down for curves** ahead of time, rather than braking in a turn. It's much safer, and it helps a rider to maintain balance and avoid a skid. Roll the throttle back on as you exit the turn.
- **When leaning into turns, keep your head upright**. That makes it easier to maintain balance. Leaning your head with the bike can increase the likelihood of falling over in a turn.

Ride Safe

Russ

Mark That Calendar!!!!

The HOG Christmas party is December 7.

The theme will be WW2. Costumes are recommended so start planning yours!. We are starting to take sign ups for our Chapter Christmas Party. This year our Christmas Party is will be on December 7th at the Yacht Club out by Eden Isles. The cost will be \$15 per person or \$25 per couple. We really can't wait til the last min because we need a headcount for food & drinks. Don't forget we'll be doing a Mad Santa, if you would like to participate then please bring an exchange gift of \$10-%15. Male bring a male gift, and female bring a female gift. I'll have more info after our next officer's meeting in which I'll include in the next email.

If you would like to attend, you can make your check payable to "Northshore HOG Chapter" with "Christmas Party" in the memo line and mail your check to the follow address:

Harold Newman II
1011 Rue Corton
Slidell, LA 70458



Just a quick heads up about the home that Habitat for Humanity is going to build for a veteran. The person has not yet been chosen nor has the location but the dedication will be on November 11, 2013. That's a Monday and Veterans day. Mark this date as we would like all our members to attend the dedication since we are a supporter of this project.

Mark That Calendar!!!!

Ride Suggestion Form: (Tell us about your favorite place to ride and we will add it our schedule!! Fill this out, Tear off this part of the page and bring to meeting or drop off at the Dealer in our box.

Describe the ride: Roads, sights to see etc. Attach a map?

Possible meal stop location: Lunch, Breakfast etc.

Name: _____ Phone# _____

RIDES OF A LIFETIME continued

Time to hit the road again. We doubled back the same way we came in, but this time we stayed on Hwy 12 to Clarkston, WA and Lewiston, Idaho. We stayed on Hwy 12 through Idaho, over the Clearwater Mountains and Bitterroot Range to Missoula, Montana. Spending the night in Missoula.

Up and ready to ride. Heading East on I-90 to Butte, and then South on Hwy 287 to the West Yellowstone Park entrance. Spending the night here so we can get a full day in Yellowstone. We cruised through Yellowstone for 6 hours. Probably one of the most beautiful places in the world. Saw Old Faithful, along with about 5,000 other people. They have made sooooo many changes to the park since we were last there - over 30 years ago! Saw the evidence of the forest fire of 1988 when over 379,000 acres burned (about 1/3rd of the park). Left the park through the East gate and drove to Cody, Wyoming for the night.

Rode out of Cody on Hwy 14/16 - 20 to Graybull and then Hwy 14 to I-90 just North of Sheridan, WY. While on Hwy 14, we passed over Granite Pass (Elevation 9,033 feet), our highest point on this trip! Once on I-90 we rode all the way to Rapid City, South Dakota. Arriving Thursday, 1 August.

Friday, we took STLPNY to the largest dealership in the Nation for its 20,000 mile warranty work. Yes, this was our 2nd oil change on this trip. Right after we checked STLPNY into the service area, we walked around the building to the vendors area. Hundred or so vendors taking up the entire front parking area of the dealership. Actually, if the company had something to do with motorcycles, it probably had a space in that parking lot. Just as we entered the dealership, the sky opened up and it rained very hard with high winds. Vendors were struggling to get their tents closed and their goods protected. The rain finally stopped, people started to arrive, and the vendors were open for business.

As we walked through the vendors, we noticed an individual that did pin-stripping and air brush painting. We watched in amazement! This guy, that called himself "the Wizard" was working miracles with a paint brush - no rulers or measurements of any kind - just his steady hand and the paint brush. BEAUTIFUL! We watched as he worked on different motorcycles. Then we spoke to him about what we could have done to STLPNY when her maintenance work was completed. He told us and he quoted a price that we couldn't believe. Shortly after that, we received a call from the service department stating that our pony was ready for pickup. We picked her up and brought her straight to the WIZARD for painting. We were the last to be painted that day, and it took him about 1½ hours to complete. STLPNY had made the transition from being just another Harley Davidson to Bill and Judy's Harley Davidson - no other TRI-GLIDE looks like STLPNY - and that makes her truly OURS!

The next morning we made our way down to the Mount Rushmore National Monument, and then up Hwy 16 to Hill City for lunch, and a tour of one of their local wineries. From there we rode to Deadwood, and then to Sturgis. Sturgis was a busy place even if it was 3 days before the rally actually started. Businesses and vendors were from one end of town to the other, and just outside of town about 7 miles was the famous Full Throttle Saloon and just down from it was the Buffalo Chip. It took us a little over 2 hours to make it from downtown Sturgis to the Buffalo Chip. Motorcycles everywhere and more coming in every minute!

Spending the night in Spearfish, South Dakota, we decided to ride the Devil's Tower loop. Taking I-90 back into Wyoming, to Hwy 14 to Hwy 24 and the Devil's Tower. We didn't see any UFO's while we were there, but they could have been on top of the Tower and we would have never known it! From the Tower, we Hwy 24 back into South Dakota and back to Sturgis to see what was going on. Main street traffic was terrible, so we decided to turn and take one of the side streets back to I-90 and then back to Spearfish for the night.

Sunday morning, the 4th of August. Local news was reporting that there had already been 7 people killed in motorcycle accidents, and the Black Hills Rally didn't start until the next day! Weather forecasters were saying that a front was coming in and rain was coming with it. So, we packed up and started our trip - heading East to the Bad Lands. We rode I-90 to Wall, South Dakota and visited the world famous Wall Drug and Bad Lands Harley Davidson. From Wall we rode South on Hwy 240 through the Bad Lands National Park, and Buffalo Gap National Grasslands Park. Breath taking scenery!

We also stopped at a visitor's center that covered the IBM Ballistic Missile Silo's that were buried in that area, and in North Dakota, Wyoming and Montana.

When I was a child, living in Sioux Falls, we knew about the Missile Silo's, and prayed that we would never see them actually launched, because we all knew that once they were gone the target would be us! Better known at that time as the "Cold War".

This is the only part of the trip that we ran into gas stations with low octane fuel. At one station, each pump had 3 choices and each of the 3 choices had 83 octane. Not quite high enough for our Harley! Good thing there was a Shell station not far down the road that had the octane we needed. First chance we had, we purchased a couple bottles of octane booster - just in case! We stopped in Murdo for the night.

Next stop, Mitchell, South Dakota. Ever been there? Not much to speak of really, but they do have one interesting sight. The Mitchell Corn Palace! It has been around for many, many years. A small town's auditorium inside, but outside it is decorated using all things CORN (i.e., ears of corn, stalks, etc.). The designs are really amazing and change each year.

After lunch, we headed on to Sioux Falls. Stopping to visit the Sioux Falls Harley Dealership, getting our picture and poker chips. Then it was on to Minnesota - our 15th State!

The rain was still pushing our way, but it continued to drop south of our location on I-90. We wanted to cover some ground so we remained on I-90 all the way through Minnesota. We stopped in Fairmont, Minnesota for the night. We heard the thunder and saw the lightning through the window that night, but woke to a beautiful morning.

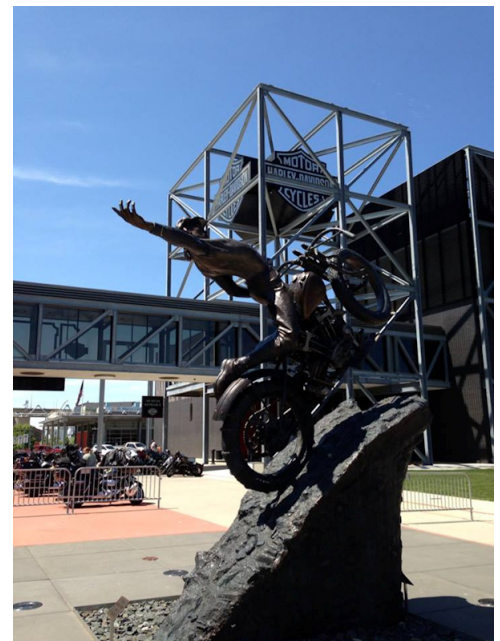
We crossed into Wisconsin at LaCrosse. Stopped in Winona, Minnesota; LaCrosse and Onalaska to visit the local Harley Dealerships. Then on to Mauston, Wisconsin where we visited Reel Brothers Harley. While we were in the dealership, we called the Harley Davidson Museum to get our tickets for the steel toed tour of the Powertrain Operations Center on Pilgrim Road and our membership to the Museum. We decided to stop in Madison for the night after visiting the Badger Harley Davidson. The receptionist at Badger gave us maps and directions for a great ride into Milwaukee without getting on I-90 or I-94.

Heading out of Madison we followed Hwy 12 South and East to Hwy 18 which took us all the way into Milwaukee. It was a great trip - much better than just freeway driving.

We stayed at the Comfort Inn on 6th Street, just about a mile from the Harley Davidson Museum. Up early, we headed for the Museum. We pulled into the motorcycle only parking area between the museum and the gift shop. Nothing was open yet, so we took our pictures of the museum for our ABC touring points. One of the volunteers pulled in and talked to us for quite a while. He told us that it was Bike Night at the Museum that night, so ensure we park so that more motorcycles can fit in later. His name was Gino, and we'll talk more about him later.

The Museum opened and we went in and picked up our membership package and our steel toe tour tickets for the 0900 tour. On the bus for our tour. That was a great tour. Every powertrain for every Harley Davidson is made in that factory except for the V-Rod (that motor and motorcycle is made in the Kansas City, MO factor).

Returning to the Museum, we visited the gift shop and then had lunch at the restaurant. We then toured the Museum. Gino was at the beginning of the tour and he walked us through the various sections, giving us great additional information about each section. He then let us tour on our own. When we finished, he took us to the balcony and told us what it would be like for the 110th Anniversary. I asked him if Willie G was around because I would like to have him sign my vest. He said that he worked with Willie G for six years prior to Willie's retirement, and that Willie had an office at the museum to work on his water color paintings. However, Willie was not in the building at this time. Gino asked us about our next destination, and we said



RIDES OF A LIFETIME continued

Kansas City, Missouri. He graciously gave us a map with a wonderful highlighted route to take out of town and away from the traffic misery's of Chicago. We said our goodbye's, and headed out. The time was 4:30 PM, and Bike Night didn't start until 7:00. We decided to head back to the motel, stopping at the El Fuego Mexican Restaurant for dinner (our 2nd time eating at this great restaurant).

Up and out early. Following Gino's recommended route, we breezed out of Milwaukee and south to Rockford, Illinois. Interestingly, I didn't check my GPS for the next Harley dealer, but we saw KEGEL Harley Davidson from the road. Pulling off, we found that this dealership is the OLDEST FAMILY OWNED HARLEY DAVIDSON DEALERSHIP IN THE WORLD, opened in 1912. This is one dealership that just a picture and poker chip would do – had to have the T-shirt! When we were paying for our items, the dealership gave us pens, pencils, stickers and other items as mementos. A great experience and we are very glad that we did see it from the road!

Leaving Rockford we took Hwy 2 heading southwest to Rock Falls, Hwy 1 to Hwy 78 South to Annawan where we stopped for the night.

Continuing south on Hwy 78 to Kewanee, home of Reiman's Harley Davidson. The dealership had a English Bull Dog as it's mascot and he met you at the door. I have added a picture of Mr. Roger Reiman's accomplishments and a picture of his mural in downtown Kewanee. From Kewanee, we decided to head towards Iowa. We stayed on Hwy 34 to Galesburg, and on to Burlington, Iowa. From Burlington to Hwy 61 along the Mississippi River into Missouri. We remained on Hwy 61 until we came to Hwy 24 which took us back across the river into Illinois at Quincy to visit TNT Action Sports and Harley Davidson Dealership. TNT was already closed for the day, so we took our ABC picture and headed back across the bridge. Once back in Missouri, we headed south on Hwy 24/61 to Hwy 24/36 West. We stopped in Macon, Missouri for the night.

On Sunday morning, the 11th of August, we departed Macon on Hwy 36 to Hwy 69 South. At a gas stop I entered the address to the Harley Davidson Vehicle and Powertrain Operations Center in Kansas City. From that point on we just followed the GPS to our destination. We went to the factory first, and then headed to our hotel which was only a very short distance away. After checking in to the hotel, we asked if there was a movie theater in the area. They gave us directions and we headed to the theater. We found the theater with no problem and then saw that we were between showings, so we went the Mexican restaurant at the other end of the mall for dinner.

Up early to get over to the factory for the tour. We didn't have reservations for this one, so we figured it would be first come first serve. Parked right in front of the building in the motorcycle parking, and had no problem with being part of the tour.

Judy and I met a Harley Executive from the Kansas City Plant while we were at the Washington State HOG Rally. We told him that we were working our way to his workplace and were planning on taking the tour while we were there. He gave us his office phone number and told us to give him a call when we arrived. We called his work number from the parking lot and left a message. After we completed the tour, we called him again to leave a message that we were sorry we missed him – well, this time he answered. He had been in meetings all morning, and he would come down to see us. We waited in the front of the building and here he came two huge factory logo coffee cups, filled with pens, stickers, etc.. We visited with him for several minutes, invited him to New Orleans and the Gulf Coast, thanked him for the gifts, and headed out to visit the different Harley Dealers in the area and see some of the Kansas City sights.

The following morning was cool. We packed and headed south to Branson. As we were leaving town we noticed that the Kansas State border was just a few miles to the West. So, we turned and crossed the border, took our state picture, and hit the next exit to turn around and head back across. South on Hwy 71 and then Hwy 7 at Harrisonville.

Hwy 7 to Clinton and then South on Hwy 13 to Springfield. After Springfield we hit Hwy 65 to Branson. Some really beautiful riding in these roads.

Branson for 2 nights. The first night we purchased tickets to see "THE LEGENDS" at the Dick Clark Theater. Impersonators that dressed, acted and sang like the Star they were representing – Johnny Cash, Celine Deon, Michael Jackson, and a couple more. Good fun. The next day we road all around and went to a adventure park called Silver City (a couple at the hotel gave us their tickets because they had changed their mind on going – a cost of \$72.00 a ticket). It was fun, but lots of up and down hill walking. Not really used to that living down here! That night we attended a show with a band that played about every song the EAGLES ever recorded. Great fun!

We discussed what direction we were going to take now – south or east – the whole time we were in Branson. We were leaning on taking HWY 160 East to Kentucky and then dropping down into Tennessee, continuing east until we hit South Carolina and then heading towards home.

The next morning as we were packing up, we were watching the Weather Channel. They would showing a disturbance in the Gulf that was showing signs of heading directly for New Orleans. And, the forecast included a few days of rain as it approached. Not really wanting to get caught in a few days of rain, and knowing that if it did head for New Orleans the intensity could grow. Better head south and get home, just in case!

So we headed South on Hwy 65 into Arkansas. We stayed on Hwy 65 to Conway. Stopping in Conway at the famous TOAD SUCK Harley Davidson. T-shirts and a poker chip was a MUST from this dealership. Once we had this dealerships T-shirt, we have one other that we want really want to get, and that one is the HORNY TOAD in Texas.

Some things you just gotta have, you know?

We continued south into Louisiana and stopped in Vicksburg, Mississippi for the night. Watching the weather we say that the gulf depression was moving into Mexico, however, there would be rain in the New Orleans area. Really happy that the possibility of a storm was heading another direction. Only a few hours from home now, so we had a wonderful dinner on this our 44th Wedding Anniversary!

August 16th, our 48th day on the road. We headed East on I-20 to Jackson and then hit Hwy 49 South. We continued through Hattiesburg on 49 to Gulfport, why you ask? Because, Bill had planned a returning home celebration at Shaggy's in the Pass, and that is where he was going!

We had a wonderful meal. The clouds were turning darker as we started down the coast road. As we rolled into Bay St. Louis the rain came. We stopped in a gas station under cover until it passed. Once it stopped, we continued on Hwy 90, thinking we were going to be home safe. NOPE! 48 days on the road and we get hampered by rain in the last 20 miles! We stopped at the little gas station in Pearlinton because Bill couldn't see the road and water was setting in the road. After a 45 minute wait, the rain stopped. On the road again, and finally home in the garage. Safe and Sound!

So what did we actually do on this trip? Here's a summary:

48 Days – 30 Jun to 16 Aug
9,157 miles from garage to garage
20 States
45 Harley Davidson Dealerships
2 HOG State Rallies (5 so far in 2013)
Road ours to the 73rd Black Hills Rally - Sturgis
2 Harley Davidson Factory's
The Harley Davidson Museum
19 National Parks/Monuments/Forests



Since we returned we have attended the Mississippi State HOG Rally in Biloxi, and will be going to Thunder on the Beach in Panama City, Florida the first week of October. The 2nd week of October we are going to Daytona, and the 3rd week of October we will be attending the Florida State HOG Rally at Okaloosa Island-Destin, Florida. This will be our first trip to Thunder on the Beach and Daytona, and we are looking forward to it! What's next? Everything is in the planning stages now, but Key West sounds wonderful, and a great way to start 2014. Judy and STLPNY are both ready to GO on our next RIDE OF A LIFETIME!