



West Chester HOG Tales

Volume 1 Issue 4

August 2026

Participation is the key by Alan R.

It's hard to believe that the peak of our riding season is almost over. Our rides and activities are more than just adventures; they're an opportunity to build lasting friendships and unforgettable memories. As we enter the late part of the riding season, let's remember the importance of safety. Wear your gear, follow the rules of the road, and always look out for each other.

I wanted to take a moment to thank everyone who volunteered their support at recent events at West Chester HD. Your enthusiasm and participation made those events a huge success! We are reaching out to encourage those who haven't yet had the opportunity to assist with our events and rides to consider offering their support in the future. Volunteering is a fantastic way to meet, and more importantly, get to know your fellow HOG members. Plus, with many hands, the work becomes lighter and more enjoyable for everyone. One recent project is our chapter wall at the dealership. Members have worked together to get our name up and more additions will be coming in the days ahead.

As you can see on the chapter calendar, we've got rides scheduled for the next month or so. If the rain holds off be sure to join as many of the planned activities as your schedule permits. September 19th is the Ride to Honor Veterans which is an escorted ride from the Maryland rest area on I-95 to Saints Simon and Jude Church in West Chester. KSU is 4:00 pm at the rest stop. KSU is at 11:30 am.

Participation (cont.)

Also, feel free to come out on the last Sunday of the month to meet and support new riders as we take them on what might be their first group ride. KSU is at 11:30 am.

Chrome Chapter status for 2026 is coming along. We have had good attendance at rallies, monthly meetings, as well as dealership events. However, Ride 365 is an area we can work on. We have 124 members and need 50% of our membership to be registered and get at least two mileage readings during the riding season, start and end of year. There are benefits to participating in Ride 365 for you personally and for the chapter. Consider signing up if you haven't already done so and registered members should try get their second mileage reading at the dealership soon. Your second reading is when you hopefully see your personal benefits and it also updates the chapter standings.

Finally, I want to welcome all new members to West Chester HD. Thank you for being a part of our riding community and for considering lending a hand at upcoming chapter events. Your participation makes a significant difference.

Ride safe, ride proud, and ride together!






What the chapter is up to!

Clockwise from top left.

Harper's Ferry, Honor Flight Veteran's Ride, Hawk Mountain, Indian Echo Caverns, Stampede Barbecue, Ride for new owners, Gina's at the Bridge

2026 West Chester HOG Motorcycle Chapter Picture Scavenger Hunt

This is a photo scavenger hunt for all active members to participate in, giving another excuse to ride and also a chance to win a prize. Both the driver and passenger are eligible to enter.

In order to participate in the Scavenger Hunt you have to be a current member, must have attended at least one-chapter meeting or a chapter ride before submitting photos for the 2026 contest.

There will be two challenges for 2026, each will be for a two-month period. The first will be May & June and then September & October.

Each challenge will have 20 subjects consisting of locations, places or objects to find. There will be 10 general locations and 10 specific locations for each two-month period. For example, a fire house whose name starts with a Z, a type of building or designated view. Approximate miles listed with the specific locations are one way from the West Chester Harley-Davidson location.

Change in rules for September and October;

If you are riding solo the subject and your bike must be in the photo. Drivers do not have to be in the picture.

If you are riding two-up (the driver and passenger are together) only the passenger needs to be in the photo along with the bike and the subject. You can submit just the one picture but make sure to include both full names with the email.

For each photo submitted you get one entry for a drawing for one of three prizes. There will be one drawing for each period. You can submit one or all, the more you submit the greater the chance you have to win.

Prizes 1st prize \$50 Brandywine Dealership Gift Card

2nd prize \$35 Wawa Gift Card

3rd prize \$20 Wawa Gift Card

Winners will be picked at the Chapter meeting following the month after the challenge. You do not have to be present to win. Only one prize per participant. The photo scavenger hunt list will be sent out by last day of the month prior to the challenge period.

Entries need to be emailed to dgunlefinger@gmail.com Make sure to put "Scavenger Photo Challenge" in the subject line and include your full name.

Any questions contact David G at 484-609-0951 or by email at dgunlefinger@gmail.com

Specific destinations for September and October 2026

- | | |
|---|----------|
| 1. Eureka Volunteer Fire & Ambulance Company
82 N Main St Stewartstown PA 17363 | 70 miles |
| 2. Freedom Valley Harley-Davidson
3255 State Rd, Sellersville PA 18960 | 50 miles |
| 3. The Tank at V.F.W. Post 8185
520 Susquehanna River Rd, Port Deposit, MD 21904 | 45 Miles |
| 4. Drumore Township Municipal Building
1675 Furniss Rd, Drumore, PA 17518 | 45 Miles |
| 5. Huffs Union Church
540 Conrad Road Alburtis PA 18011 | 40 Miles |
| 6. Lawn Pa Fire Company
5596 Elizabethtown Rd, Lawn, PA 17041 | 70 Miles |
| 7. Little Creek DE Fire Company
311 Main Street, Little Creek DE 19961 | 65 Miles |
| 8. Red Dog Farm Market / Wooden Nickel Sign
1503 Ridge Rd, Pottstown PA 19465 | 30 Miles |
| 9. Robert Treate Hogg Cabinet Maker Shop
5650 Homeville Rd, Oxford, PA | 30 Miles |
| 10. Windsor Township Municipal Building
131 Haas Rd, Hamburg, PA 19526 | 65 Miles |

General locations list for September & October

1. Red Barn
2. Large commercial grain storage silos
3. Sunrise or Sunset
4. Water tower with town or business name on it
5. Ocean, Bay or Lake
6. Diner Sign
7. Coffee shop {no Duncan Donuts}
8. Race Track or Fair Grounds
9. Candy Store
10. Arby's



4th of July in Canada and Beyond by Deb G.

Four West Chester, PA, HOG chapter members, the Gunn's and McGinty's, took advantage of the summer holiday weekend and departed July 3rd for a nine-day, 4,800 mile road trip.

Some quick stats:

- ✓ Traveled 12 states and Canada 🍁
- ✓ Visited 11 Harley-Davidson Ride 365 challenge sites; 6 50 Rides, One Nation sites and 5 of the 15 for '26 sites
- ✓ Checked in at 30 Harley-Davidson dealerships including Thunder Bay, Ontario

Gems of the trip:

- Crossed the Mackinac Bridge, which connects the Lower and Upper Peninsulas of Michigan. Spans 5 miles, 200 feet above the Straits of Mackinac, the body of water which connects Lake Michigan to Lake Huron.
- Visited Old Mackinac Point Lighthouse, MI
- Visited the Giant Wawa Goose, Wawa Ontario
- Visited Kakabeka Falls, Ontario. The "Niagara of the North," a 130 foot waterfall.
- Rode the whole north shore of Lake Superior. Stunning wilderness.
- Enjoyed ice cream overlooking the Mississippi River in MN
- Crossed through the HOG crossroads in WI
- Toured the H-D Museum in Milwaukee, WI
- Iowa 🌽 for miles
- Wind turbines for miles in IL 💡
- Rode down Broadway in Nashville, TN 🎵🎸

Made amazing memories while running on adrenaline, caffeine, and warm cinnamon buns from Holiday Inn Express.

Let's ride!

Bernie, Debbie, Mike & Lisa





Upcoming rides and events

September

- 5th** - Bill's Bike Barn, KSU at 8:00 am
- 9th** - Bike Show at Pocopson Home, KSU at 10:30 am
- 12th** - Closed ride for members only
- 19th** - Chapter meeting at West Chester Harley-Davidson at 8:00 am
- 19th** - Hanover, PA with lunch at Lucky Spot Family Restaurant, KSU at 9:30 am
- 20th** - Historic Round Barn, KSU at 9:00 am
- 26th** - Outlaw's Burger Barn & Creamery, KSU at 10:00 am

October

- 3rd** - Lucy the Elephant in Margate, NJ, KSU at 9:00 am
- 17th** - Chapter meeting at West Chester Harley-Davidson at 8:00 am
- 24th** - Sleepy Hollow, KSU at 7:00 am

All rides depart from West Chester Harley-Davidson unless noted otherwise. Check the chapter's website or Facebook group for any changes or cancellations.

Safety when you ride by Curt B.

Do you have a pre-ride ritual that you follow whenever you head out on the road? How often do you actually look over your ride to be sure the lights, horn, and turn signals work? Tire pressure? Haha! For some riders a check of their bike is a rare occurrence. If you think about it though, a large part of your safety on the road depends upon the condition and functioning of your bike. It would be better to take a few minutes and check things out while you are close to home rather than find out you have a problem when you are a hundred miles away. The link below takes you to a video from moto.jitsu.com with some ideas for a basic pre-ride ritual to help ensure your safety on the road.

Disclaimer: "Fast Eddie", the author of the video, is a BMW guy, but his ideas are still good! He is a former riding instructor in the San Diego, CA area. If you're interested, he has quite a few online tutorials on developing better riding skills and other topics at www.moto.jitsu.com. He also has a link on his website to an app about riding skills.

Link to the short video on "warming up";

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1KeeAAPqR7c>



Greg aka Fast Eddie

Greg is a motorcycle enthusiast with more than 500,000 miles of riding experience. He has been a certified MSF RiderCoach and an instructor for Total Control's Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced Riding Clinics. He's attended 28 motorcycle courses since 2013.

Greg was in the Marines for 11 years and earned a bachelor's degree in Psychology in 2015, a master's degree in Human Behavior in 2017 and a master's degree in Forensic Science in 2018.

He currently lives in San Diego, CA.

Planning the Perfect Motorcycle Vacation Together by Maria Rees

Making Memories Both People Enjoy

Introduction

There is something exciting about planning a motorcycle vacation.

The maps come out. Destinations get searched. Scenic roads get pinned. Weather gets checked a hundred times. Saddlebags slowly begin filling up while both people count down the days until it is finally time to roll out.

For many couples in the Harley Owners Group community, motorcycle trips become some of the most memorable moments of a relationship.

The Vacation Starts Before the Engine Does

One of the most overlooked parts of a motorcycle vacation is the planning itself.

Sitting together talking about places you want to visit, scenic routes you want to explore, restaurants you want to try, or little towns you want to stop in becomes part of the fun.

Sometimes the anticipation is almost as exciting as the trip itself.

Balance Makes the Trip Better

Not every moment of a motorcycle vacation has to revolve around riding.

Sometimes the best trips happen when there is a healthy balance between miles on the road and moments off the bike.

Compromise matters. When both people feel heard and valued, the vacation becomes less stressful and far more enjoyable.

Staying Organized Reduces Stress

Anyone who rides knows space is limited.

Planning ahead can make a huge difference once the trip begins.

A few essentials many riders learn to keep close include rain gear, chargers, cooling towels, sunscreen, snacks, and lightweight layers for changing weather.

Packing Healthy on the Road

Motorcycle trips do not have to mean eating unhealthy every day.

Healthy wraps, protein snacks, fruit, trail mix, jerky, nuts, and mason jar meals can all make excellent ride-day options.

Balance matters on vacation too.

The Little Moments Become the Big Memories

Years from now, most of us probably will not remember every road we traveled.

But we will remember the laughter, scenic overlooks, quiet moments, roadside diners, photos, stories, and freedom shared together.

Final Thoughts

The goal is not perfection.

The goal is making memories together.

And in the end, it is not really about the destination.

It is about the life happening between the miles.

By the Numbers, David G. traveling with Debi J. by David G.

I got to do another wonderful trip out west this summer. Had a great journey and adventure traveling with a fellow chapter member and friend, Debi J. Lots of new and great roads, sites and places neither of us had been to before.

We traveled for 23 days, covered 6,288 miles, and counting our start point in DE, we rode through 15 states. In the order we traveled, PA, OH, IN, IL, IA, SD, WY, MT, ID, CO, MO, KY, WV, MD and PA.

Harley has various riding programs for members to participate in offering something for everyone. Debi likes to do the dealership check in challenge, so we stopped at 9 dealerships along the way. So far Debi has 26 for the year. We both do the 50 Rides, One Nation challenge and picked up five on the trip. We visited the Van Buren County Courthouse in Iowa, the South Dakota Bad Lands, Wyoming's Beartooth Pass, the Bagnell Dam in Missouri, and the Super Man Statue in Metropolis, Illinois.



Superman Square in southern Illinois.

Most days on the road we travelled on secondary roads though we took to the highways when necessary, but both of us prefer the slower pace back roads offer. Secondary roads offer a much greater chance to see the ever changing landscapes and the tapestry of farms and towns. Google maps linked to the bike for this trip made navigation a lot easier than on previous trips.

On the way we stopped in Illinois to visit with one of my sons and his family. Then as we headed through Iowa the back roads took us through endless corn fields. We also saw lots of sunflower fields cruising through South Dakota. One highlight on this leg of the trek was a visit to my first Buc-ee's. What a show they are! Needles Highway, and Iron Mountain. Iron

Mountain is a great road with fascinating pig tails.

We took our time at the start of the trip taking five days to get to Deadwood, WY. We spent a few days there checking out Sturgis, Mount Rushmore, The road goes over or under wooden trestles then twists again so you drive on the trestles and then through tunnels that are cut into the mountain.

Our next destination was Cody, WY to stay for a few days. We traveled over Medicine Wheel Passage on our way, our first high elevation road of the trip with a peak at 9,474 feet. Great views from the top of mostly open fields and some trees. We took a day off from the bikes to ride horses up a mountain pass. While it was an interesting change of pace I decided I should leave that to younger folks!



Scenic view along Route 160 in Colorado.

By the Numbers (cont.)

We moved on to Jackson, WY and spent a few days exploring Yellowstone National Park, took a wildlife tour, watched Old Faithful, and rode around the park loops. After Yellowstone we rode past the Tetons and through the Teton Pass into Idaho. Debi had arranged to meet up with some people she had met on one of her previous trips. They live in MT and took us on a tour of Beartooth Pass and Chief Joseph Highway. Chief Joseph at times had herds of free range cattle on road so we had to slow down and avoid the cows.

Heading south through Utah we got to see long horn sheep on the road and a moose along the side of the road. We stopped at Dinosaur National Monument and visited a very interesting preserved dig site to see dinosaur bones still imbedded in the hill just as they had been discovered.

We rode lots of great mountain highways, passes, and known and unknown highways. Each with their own unique landscapes, views, and challenges; Route 139, Dinosaur Prehistoric Highway, runs through UT and CO, (what a name), Million Dollar Highway, and Route 160 in CO for a few. We spent one night in Silverton, CO in a 1880s era hotel right down town. Friday night's entertainment was an arm wrestling competition held outside a bar next door, open to all.

We turned the bikes towards home and were happy to get out of the higher elevations. We both had a lot of issues with the engines knocking and ping. Adding octane booster a few times did help some. The intense heat was the biggest issue for us both. We endured a few days over 100 degrees, drank lots of fluids, made numerous cooling stops, and we used cooling towels as we travelled. Through western MO the back roads were a wonderful surprise. Lots of roller coaster hills, long sweeping curves, some fun twists, and mostly tree lined roads brought a pleasant change. We



Fossil bones at Dinosaur National Park in Utah.



Flaming Gorge in Wyoming.

stayed in MO for one of the 15 for 26 Harley locations, the Town Square at Uranus Fudge Factory. Why not?

A few more days riding after MO and we were home safe and sound. In the 23 days traveling we experienced one morning of light rain and one morning dealing with a nasty storm. We were forced to stop and wait for it to pass. Over all the days were mostly HOT with a few days of wildfire smoke mixed in. All in all it was a great trip. This was my third trip out west and was not really planning on a big trip this year, but the opportunity to travel with Debi came up and I'm really glad I went. It's just what the doctor ordered. Next year?

Items for sale

The items listed on the next three pages are available from member John Welsh. Contact him for availability, pricing, and fitment on items you may be interested in buying. You can reach him at (302) 593-1429 or SantaJohnofLewes@outlook.com

- #1 Mens FMC Chaps - XL
- #2 Ladies FMC Chaps - LG
- #3 Lined Helmut Cover.
- #4 Nylon Helmut Cover.
- #5 HD Helmet Cover.
- #6 Mens HD Long Gloves.
- #7 Mens HD Short Gloves.
- #8 Ladies Frogg Toggs Rain gear Large with Carry Bag.
- #9 Mens Ladies Frogg Toggs Rain gear Extra Large with Carry Bag.
- #10 Rain Boot Covers.
- #11. Leather Travel Backpack. Slides Over Rear Backrest. - XL
- #12. Leather Roll Bag that attaches to backpack above.



Items for sale (cont.)

- #1. Original HD Handlebars 2003.
- #2,#3,#4 Rumbling Pride Flags. Irish, Vietnam Wall, Breast Cancer
- #5. HD Screaming Eagle Super Tuner Pro.
- #6. 2 Pack Vance & Hines Fiberglass Replacements, in original bags.
- #7. HD Passenger FloorBoard Bolts.
- #8. Oil Filter Wrench
- #9. Smoked Tail Light Lens.
- #10. Original HD Shifter Linkage.
- #11. Original HD W/S Mounting Hardware PT- 58221-04
- #12. Original HD Chrome Gas Gauge.
- #13. Original HD Chrome Gas Cap.
- #14. Original HD Chrome Adjustable Passenger Footrests. Left & Right.
- #15. Original HD Exhaust From the Heads to the Slip Ons with the Chrome Covers. Only on bike 2 years.
- #16&17. Original HD Behind the Seat Brackets.
- #18. HD Willie G Chrome Tail Light Cover.
- #19. Original HD Grip End Covers.
- #20. Original HD Brake Pedel Pad.
- #21. 2 Original Hd Turn Lenses with Amber Bulbs.
- #22. Original HD Shifter Pads.
- #23. Original HD Timer Cover.
- #24. Original HD Turn Lenses with Bulbs.
- #25. Original HD Air Filter / Willie G Skull Cover / Filter.
- #26. Skulls License Plate Holder.
- #27. Original HD Headlight Trim Ring.
- #28. Original HD Brake & Clutch Levers.
- #29. Original HD Cables.
- #30&31. Oil Dipsticks.
- #32. Original HD Derby Cover.
- #33. Original HD Speedometer.
- #34. Original HD Front Axle Spacer.
- #35. Original HD Dash Insert.
- #36. Original HD Headlight Assembly.
- #37. Original HD Transmission Dipstick.
- #38. Skull Ignition Cover.
- #39. Single Cable Clamp.
- #40. Original HD Left Side Passenger Foot Bracket.



Items for sale (cont.)

- #1. New Hard Bags - New Paint,Seals,Latches and Carpet
- #2,#3,#4. Mustang 2 UP Seat. Rider, Passenger seats and Rider Backrest, all with storage bags.
- #5. Original HD Front Fork Sliders.
- #6. "It's Not Just A Bike " Cover with Storage Bag.
- #7. HD Work Covers for the Gas Tank
- #8. HD Work Covers for the Front Fender
- #9. HD Handlebar Tie Down Straps with Storage Bag.
- #10. Original HD Chrome Rear Turn Signal Bar
- #11. Original HD Chrome Horn Cover.
- #12. Original HD Brake Pedal.
- #13. Original HD Chrome Mirrors Left and Right.
- #14. Original HD Floorboards Left and Right.
- #15. Original HD Oil Change Drain - Part# 62700199.
- #16. Original HD Front Brake Pads, 2 sets Part # 44082-08.
- #17. Original HD Oners Manual
- #18. Original HD Shop Manual. Part# 99483-04A.
- #19. Original HD Rear Suspension Air Pump With Gauge.
- #20. Pa. or Md. Chrome Registration Sticker Display Plate.
- #21. Rear Fender Bib. Stamped "My Therapy"



2026 Leadership team

The group that follows are your officers for the remainder of 2026. If you are new to the chapter, please take a moment to say hello and introduce yourself to them at an upcoming meeting or ride. They are all here to serve the chapter and talk with any member about concerns or to answer questions you may have.



HOG Manager

Saunde B.
610 558-3331
saunde@hannumshd.com



Director

Alan R.
302 331-3576,
arod19810@outlook.com



Assistant Director

Jim R.
302-463-7489
kingdomsoundde@gmail.



Secretary

Curt B.
610 416-6868
crbarr55@gmail.com



Treasurer

Mike F.
10-613-5487
mikefordham1@aol.com



Head Road Captain

Mike McG.
484 678-0896
mikemcginty1542@gmail.com



Membership

Flora R.
302 983-7055
brandywinemembership@outlook.com



Photographer

Maria R.
302 463-7488
reescreativemedia@gmail.com



Web mistress

Erin McQ.
610 662-0436
brandywinehog@gmail.com



West Chester Harley-Davidson

Contact us

897 S. Matlack Street
West Chester, PA 19382

 (610)566-5562

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Dealership hours

Monday	Closed
Tuesday - Friday	10:00 AM - 7:00 PM
Saturday	9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Sunday	11:00 AM - 3:00 PM