

# Oh My! Look at the Time!!!

## 2020 is almost over! (Do I hear cheering out there???)

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Yes, you have my apologies – this is the **FINAL 2020 HOG NEWSLETTER!**

If you missed the others, it's because – they didn't get written...



just

It's been such a strange year that my big plan for writing a bunch of newsletters didn't get off the ground. That said, **WE DID GET A FAIR AMOUNT OF RIDING IN!!!**

Day rides, overnights, dinners – even an End Of Year ride with a picnic destination instead of the Holiday Party!! Ride was excellent, food was catered and yummy, good

times were had by all 😊!!

We managed to pack some rides into every rideable month! If you missed riding with us, you missed a really good time!

**Better plan on hanging with us in 2021** 😊



We hope you are all staying safe and being healthy and we all wish you a healthy and happy 2021!

We'll get in touch in the spring – so keep checking your emails,

Our HOG Facebook page (3195 Missoula Chapter HOG), and

Our website

[www.MissoulaChapterHog.com](http://www.MissoulaChapterHog.com)



## Til we meet again – live free and Ride free!

**Diane – your newsletter writing person... or whatever.**



## Hog Newsletter – From Your Secretary

So, this has been a really weird year. I don't have to tell any of you how Covid has screwed with our lives. Amazingly, thanks in part to HOG, we were able to leave all that crap behind us while on the bikes. We started out the year back in February, planning a bunch of great rides, and believe it or not most of those rides actually took place! Seems Harley riders have a lot of gumption...or maybe we are just stubborn.

May started off with a couple local loops; to Plains and then the Swan. In June there was a great overnight ride to the Sip-n-Dip in Great Falls. There were Day rides around the Lake and down to the Bighorn. We had several overnight rides. Over the 4th, there was the Yak and on to Orofino, over 1000 miles that weekend. Then, through Thompson Pass, and on Labor Day weekend over to Sandpoint and Orofino, another 1000 mile ride, compliments of your Director. We checked out the Virginia City ghosts. And, as always, the annual ride to the Candy Store in P-burg. We fit in multiple day rides & HOG feeds. All in all a busy riding season!

We culminated the season with a ride to Hot Springs and the Lake and an overnight Bash at the Gould's, complete with great food and fun games, and of course plenty of beverages.

Despite a nasty pandemic, we managed to have another awesome year of riding. Let's hope 2021 will be a bit more forgiving, but regardless, we will get out and RIDE!!

Mady

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## Ride Summary

### MAY

- Plains and Swan (brrrr!!)
- Memorial Day 5/25 - Flathead Lake Loop

### June

- June 13 - Sip N Dip - via Fletcher Pass to Helena, to Townsend over Kings Hill to White Sulphur Springs through the Little Belt Mountains into Great Falls. The home route was through Choteau to Browning to Kalispell to Missoula.
- June 28th - Lochsa Breakfast Ride
- Big Fork and East side HWY

### July –

- July 25th - Virginia City - to Darby through Wisdom down to Wise River - Pioneer Mountain bypass route to Dillon over to Virginia City. And Home was to Ennis, took Old Pipestone pass into Butte, then to Anaconda and the Pintler Scenic Route to Philipsburg and home.
- Yak, Orofino, Swan Loop, Virginia City

### August

- August 2 - Thompson Pass



## September -

- September 5th & 6th - Labor Day ride - Saturday, headed to Kalispell, over to Libby - stopped at Kootenai Falls - down Bull Lake Road over to Sandpoint.  
Sunday to Coeur d'Alene and around the east side of the lake, down to St Mary's over to Plummer, then into Washington down through Colfax along the snake river into Lewiston Id to Orofino.  
Monday N out of Orofino on loop into Pierce then to Highway 12 to Lochsa Lodge and home.
- September 12th – End Of the Year ride - went to Plains and then over to Elmo around Flathead Lake via Big Fork to St. Ignatius.
- September 27th – Phillipsburg Candy Ride - COLD.



## **A message to us from our President!**

HOG -

Our Montana Riding season is coming to a close for one of the most unusual years yet!! We still had a lot of GREAT rides in 2020 and I hope you all got to participate in at least a few!! Some of the ones I got to go on were Thompson Pass, Virginia City and our Labor Day Weekend Ride which didn't have as many twisty roads as 2019 but think we all had fun other than Lolo Pass at 35 Degrees - BBRRRR!!! Might be looking for some heated gear for 2021!! Want to say thanks for to ALL the road captains for 2020, our rides would not be what they are without your participation!!!

I also want to say a HUGE **- THANK YOU!!! -** to a few board members who are moving on. Rich, Deb and Susan - Thanks for all the time and effort you have put in over the years!!!

2021 - **HERE WE COME!!!** First off we have Rebecca, Sherry and Rachel coming onto the Board. We always have an empty chair on the board needing filled so if you want to have an input on what our HOG Chapter is doing, the best way is to step up!!!! Most board positions take only take 10 to 20 hours a year. Who doesn't have that much free time???

We also have in the works some fun rides!!! Yes, we are already planning. Brantly will be leading us on our annual Memorial Day ride at the start of summer, and who knows where he will be leading us??? Greg and Rachel Gould are working on plans for a trip over Going To The Sun Rd in Glacier Park that sounds amazing!! Yes, I will be leading the willing over Labor Day 2021, which will have some amazing scenery as well as some good twisty roads!! Most importantly is sharing those roads with our HOG Family, so I am already looking forward to seeing everyone in 2021 for another GREAT riding year with you all!!

Mike





## **Safety Officers – Newsletter article**

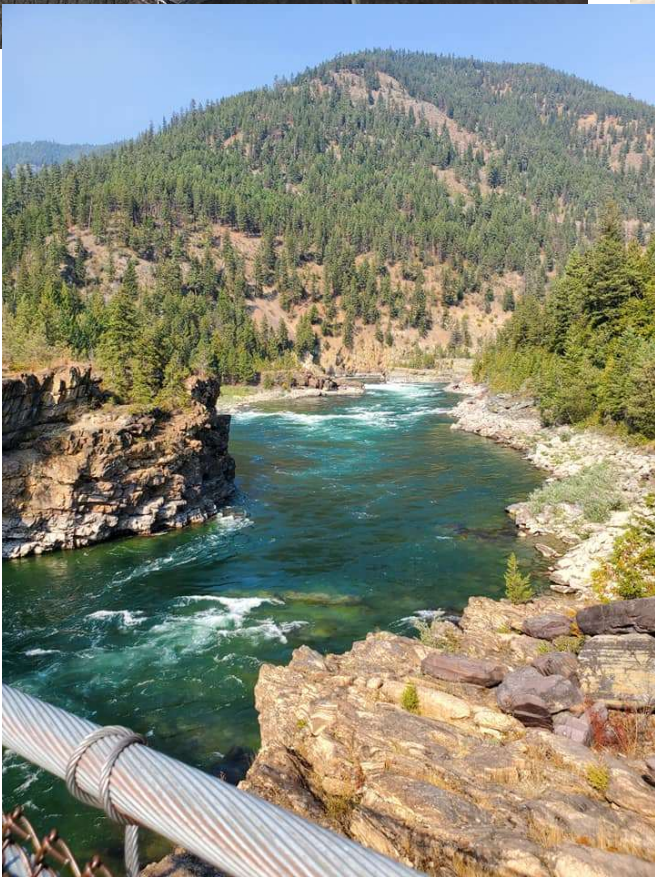
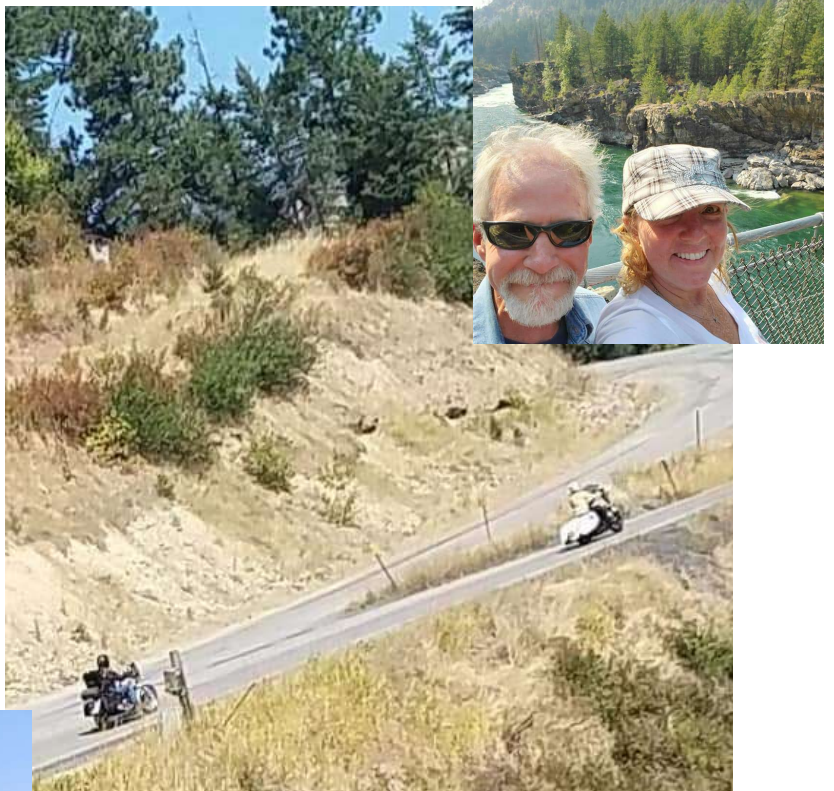
Wow, based on the foot of snow I shoveled this morning, it's another riding season done! It's been a crazy year for sure with Covid-19 being in our lives and the need to adjust to the new norm for social distancing and personal hygiene. Covid-19 has taught us a lot about the similarities with the risks we take riding safely are the same risks we take in just living life safely. We all have to look out for each other. As motorcyclist and a member of the HOG group, we know the benefits of being part of something bigger than us individually.

The Grizzly Harley-Davidson Riding Academy was the only motorcycle safety program available for the state of Montana this year. Thanks to Grizzly H-D for being a leader in motorcycle safety and keeping our sport alive and well with training opportunities. Students are seeking to learn to ride and embrace the motorcycle culture of freedom and social networking. Most of us that been riding for a long time might take that for granted. But the freedom of the open road is that constant that keeps us from going crazy with our day to day challenges we face. Montana is a great place to live and ride. As motorcycle coaches we remind the students that riding safely is all about making the right choices. The freedom to make safety related choices is the same freedom we get to experience when we decide which road, we are going to take for that days ride. Some choices we make are related to proper safety gear. Coach Ken took this photo of a motorcyclist recently riding here in Missoula. You will notice a perfectly good helmet on the back of the bike, a rider with no gloves, wearing tennis shoes and no eye protection. However, the rider is wearing a mask to protect others and himself against Covid -19. I'm sure you can see the irony of his choice and what that "safety voice" inside his head had told him about what is the most important safety gear to have on prior to hitting that start button on the bike that day. The mask does nothing when we are not engaged with others within close distances. We all have a safety voice in our heads and what we choose to prioritize is what allows us to reduce the risks in riding. Pay attention to your own "safety voice" in your head!

Vince and Ken









### Notes from Vice President Brian:

**Our HOG ride to Virginia City 2020 was a blast this year!!!**

**Great weather, lots of bikes, and fabulously friendly people!! And no one got sick 😊!**

**I spent a lot of time with friends I've met through our club this summer, riding, golfing, dining, partying, and just hanging out. Never is there nothing to do! I am looking forward to 2021, and what it brings, and seeing everyone, and of course, hitting the wind!**

**Brian**

### Note from Vice President Mark:



**(He's a man of few words... )**



## **A note from our Membership Director**

Greetings Fellow HOG members! Another year has gone by and what a year it has been. I hope all of you had a chance to get out and ride - great way to get out of the house but still social distance.

Membership will be \$25.00 again for 2021. I will start taking membership forms at the beginning of January. We are still planning on having the membership drive in January at the dealership, but due to COVID, this could get cancelled. We'll let you know! If you sign up before January 31<sup>st</sup>, you'll receive a **\$5.00 dollar gift certificate** for our dealership. You can either stop by the dealership, fill out a form and leave your payment OR download and mail your form with your dues to the dealership- Attention HOG Membership. The most important rule to remember is you must be a current National HOG member to join our local chapter. If you bought a new bike at Grizzly Harley-Davidson, you get a free year at the national level. If you purchased a previously-loved bike, you get a free Local HOG membership but must still be a current National member. Non-riders (calling all frequent passengers and fun lovers!) can join in too by buying an Associate membership on another's National membership to use for local affiliation. Costs less and you can have all the same benefits at the Grizzly HOG chapter!! So much fun you will have riding with other folks with Harleys! It is a great experience!

Let me know if you are not getting your emails from Mike our Director, and I will get that corrected A.S.A.P., so that you can get the latest news of rides, events, or meetings! Also, if you want a HOG chapter name patch on your vest, just see the great folks in motor clothes at the dealership.

Ride safe, Ride often!

Guy

HOG membership





