



DHD Omaha HOG Chapter Nebraska Newsletter

April 2021

Chapter Officers



Spring is here and our riding season has begun! We hope that you find roads just as beautiful as these to ride on.

Have you turned in your Ride 365 mileage and joined the chapter's mileage challenge yet?

If not, please reach out to any of your chapter officers. We'd be happy to help you out.



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Road Captains

John F., Tom S., and Gary S.

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www.dhdhog.com

TEXT MESSAGE ALERTS ARE BACK



It's always good to have a reminder of upcoming events. It's even more important to know when events are cancelled for various reasons. We had used this text messaging service in the past up until they started to charge for their service. We cancelled the service and started to explore other services that may still be free.

There weren't any. And, as we found out, RainedOut is the least cost service that is available that meets our needs. So, based on input from our members we are reinstating the use of text messaging.

Our plans are to send reminder messages for Chapter events as well as when rides are cancelled due to bad weather or other factors. Members have full control over whether they should receive messages. This service works the same as most other text messaging services. You can "opt out" at any time.

To sign up for text messages simply send **DHDMEMBERS** to **84483** and you'll start to get messages.

RIDING SEASON IS FINALLY, HERE!

Yay! We are getting some nicer days and the opportunities for getting out for a ride are increasing. We want to get you just as excited about this riding season as we are.

This newsletter's topic: **Spring is here - let's get out and ride!**

Your officers want to share some tips and tell you how they are getting ready for riding season.

~ from your Director, Dave...

Hi everybody! I'm ready to get this season started. I just had a stage 4 kit installed on my bike. So, I have been spending the last couple of weeks breaking in my motor. I got about 400 miles on it now. I can't wait to open it up and check out the torque.

Also made another purchase for this season. Shirley suggested we buy some headsets to talk to each other. Not for long conversations like she thinks, it's really to let her know where we're going, and it will help if she has any questions along the way.

I've been checking out our calendar and I am looking forward to our rides. Shirley and I don't have any plans for a big ride yet, but we'll be out and about. I'm looking forward to seeing all of you soon. Ride safe!

~ from your Head Road Captain, Robert...

I've gone through my bike using T-CLOCKS as my guide. I've cleaned and waxed it. Ran out the old gas and filled with fresh.

I finished putting LED's all the way around my bike to provide for better visibility for me and the other drivers. Lastly, I've been able to get about 100 miles so far.

Michelle and I have a trip planned up the Great River Road from Iowa to Wisconsin then off to Wisconsin Dells. Going with some old Navy friends and their spouses, who we ride with to a new destination every year.

Also looking forward to many other day trips and planning a ride to Weston Missouri then off to KC for the weekend this summer.

~ from your Membership Officer, Deb P...

I've added a few things to my bike to get ready for this riding season. I've purchased a new seat, sissy bar and luggage rack, along with a tuner step 1. Before each ride, I also check my tire pressure.

I am really looking forward to my road trip for Sturgis 2021!!!!

Just a reminder:

Please remember to turn in your new waiver form and \$20 for your 2021 membership!

~ from your Treasurer & Activities Officer, Michelle R...

My bike is still in storage at the moment and I'm picking it up next Saturday. I am looking forward to riding this season. I will be focusing on learning how to ride on the interstate, group riding, and of course hope to enjoy several local rides.

We will be venturing out to WI this year doing the Great River ride with a few couples from out of state this summer. Ride Safe and have fun!!

~ from your WebMaster, Timm...

I haven't made any changes to my bike to prepare for riding season. I did the "TCLOCK check" and have started riding already.

I am looking forward to a road trip to Estes Park for vacation.

Not much to report on the website. So, I'd like to share some of my late winter / early spring riding experiences as a reminder of how to ride safely.

I had to go several months without riding due to eye surgery and streets that were too slippery to safely ride. So as soon as the weather permitted, I did a thorough pre-ride check of the bike. The tires were down about 10 pounds. That could have led to different handling characteristics, so it was time to drag out the air compressor and get the tires up to their proper pressure.

LESSON: Always do a thorough pre-check before riding if your bike has been idle for a while.

I live on a rather steep hill. My first ride this year came right after the ice cleared from the streets. The thing that I didn't consider was the mud that was left at the bottom of the hill where I had to first stop, then turn either left or right. I started into the intersection slowly, but between the mud that stuck on the tire and the mud left in the street I felt my back tire break loose for a second. Fortunately, I kept things upright.

LESSON: Turns at intersections will be more challenging if there's still salt, sand and mud in the intersections.

Driving down Madison Avenue in the Bluffs was a bit of a slalom course if I wanted to avoid potholes. I noticed that with the winter melt still going on several of the potholes were covered with water. Later, when the water drained away, I could see that several of the potholes were real axle busters.

LESSON: Be very careful when riding on wet streets to ensure that you don't find a submerged pothole. That includes at intersections too! I stopped at one intersection where I just about put my foot down into a pothole. If I hadn't caught myself in time, I would have been demonstrating how to pick up a 900+ pound cruiser to a group of strangers in the middle of a busy intersection.

You can't ride without getting dirt on you. And in the late winter you're going to get dirt as well as road salt and gravel on your clothes as well as your bike.

LESSON: Salt eats steel. Be sure to clean all road salt off your bike as soon as you can.

Fortunately, I didn't have any more close calls with 4+ wheeled vehicles compared to summer riding. But that doesn't mean that other drivers are expecting to see you on the road in February.

LESSON: Be extra wary of 4+ wheeled vehicles when riding. Also, do everything you can to make yourself noticeable on the road. Lights, light covered clothing, hand signals and horns are all extra valuable to ensure that you aren't a victim of the "... but I didn't see him/her..." accident report.

~ from your Hospitality officer, Debbie J...

I am preparing for the riding season by taking the Harley-Davidson riding class the first week of May. This is my second attempt at the class. The first time, I had never been on a bike, except on the back. This time, I have some hands-on experience and I'm confident I will pass.

I am looking forward to learning to ride my bike better and going on short rides with the group and build up to longer rides.

Also, this summer, Timm and I are planning a vacation with my son, daughter, and their significant others to Rocky Mountain National Park. We will be taking two bikes and two cars. Looking forward to some great riding in the mountains and sight-seeing.

I'm happy to know most people are staying healthy and well. Since I have only sent out four get well cards in the last three months, everyone must be taking good care of themselves. Keep up the good work.

If you, or anyone in our chapter, is ill or, unfortunately, loses someone in their family, please let me know by e-mailing me through the Hospitality link on our website. I will gladly send a card on behalf of our chapter.

~ from your Photographer, Dixie...

I haven't made any changes to my bike for this riding season, but I have been out doing a bit of riding. I am looking forward to joining in on our chapter rides and am planning a few trips of my own.

Don't forget to take forward your pictures for the photo challenge to me. They can be sent to photographer@dhdhcg.com. This year you'll be taking pictures of Post Offices. It's pretty easy. Swing by and take a picture of your bike in front of the Post Office.

~ from your Secretary & Editor, Shirley...

Thanks to my sweet husband, a few changes have been made to my bike. New handlebars were installed at the dealership. Plus, Dave installed new floorboards, which should make my riding experience a lot more comfortable. I have been out a few times already. My plan this year is to follow Dave, do the speed limit and get comfortable enough to join in some group rides.

We did buy headsets too. I was excited about having long conversations during our ride, but then realized that I have to let go of the handlebars to turn it on. Yikes! So, Dave might be off the hook for a little bit. Another goal for this year...relaxing during the ride 😊.

~ from one of your Road Captains, John...

John and Sarah's 1024 Miles in 20 Hours



On August 1, 2020, we started our first Iron Butt challenge.

Sarah and I got to the gas station at 5 a.m. in the morning. It took 20 minutes to find someone we could trust to fill out the eyewitness form.

The witness needs to give their name, phone number, ID, and address. You need to make sure to choose wisely who your eyewitness is to make the phone call and verify you were there. Make sure to keep track of all your receipts, taking a picture of each one with your miles recorded at each stop to fill up.

We headed up to Grand Forks, North Dakota. The Harley dealership was 500 miles. That's where we made our POS and turned around and headed back. We hit 80 miles of road construction which brought us down to 55 miles per hour in 5 different areas. Along the way, we stopped at 3 Harley dealerships, had one lunch break which was around 20 minutes, and used 8 tanks of gas

due to a malfunction on my electrical system. We had 2 restroom stops. We got back to Omaha and rode 30 more miles to Sapp Brothers and did a fill up there to add more miles. We ended up stopping at the same gas station we started at and saw the same eyewitness who signed our form. We had 1047 miles on our odometer. She was jumping up and down when she saw us pull in and ask if she could take our picture!!!

We feel like we could have shaved off 2 hours had it not been for the road construction and our poker chip addiction. LOL. When the Iron Butt did their check on our POS, we went from 1047 miles to 1024 miles. Keep that in mind.

Here are a couple of things you should **not** do when you are on an Iron Butt challenge:

1. First thing, don't tell anyone you are on a challenge besides your witness. Just because they are on a Harley and have a vest loaded with patches, you might think they know what an Iron Butt is, but most people don't.
2. You don't want to start any conversations with people. Save your 10 minutes of time chatting with the people you are with.
3. Only eat food that you are used to eating. Don't eat at Bob's Road Kill Café or something that someone recommends.
4. If you're speeding between filling up your tanks, you will be disqualified.

Don't forget to bring extra clothes in case you need to crash at a hotel if you can't finish the ride. Remember, you can always try this challenge again if you get too tired to continue. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask us. Ride Safe!



**CHECK OUT SOME OF
THE FUN WE'VE HAD**



Dave at the 1st Beef Game Ride In



Tom B. at the 1st Beef Game Ride In



Tom S. at the 1st Beef Game Ride In



Timm at the 1st Beef Game Ride In



Lunch Ride to Don's in Memphis

Chapter activities are conducted primarily for the benefit of H.O.G. chapter members. There are three categories of activities. All activities are identified as follows: **Closed events** are for chapter members and one guest per member. **Member events** are reserved for H.O.G. members only. **Open events** are chapter events open to chapter members, national H.O.G. members and other guests.

Watch for the weekly email for current events!

ALL DHD Omaha Chapter activities are "Closed Events", unless stated otherwise.

April 2021 DHD HOG Events Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6 Officers' Meeting	7	8	9	10 Monthly Chapter Meeting
11	12	13	14 Shoot the Hog	15	16	17 DHD Appreciation Breakfast
18	19	20	21 Activity Planning Meeting	22	23	24
25	26	27 Roma's Dinner	28	29	30	

May 2021 DHD HOG Events Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Take your meat for a ride	3	4 Officers' Meeting	5	6	7	8 Monthly Chapter Gathering
9	10	11	12	13	14	15 Rendezvous Ride to Bob's in LeMars
16	17	18	19	20	21	22 "Free Parking" – Do not pass go, do not go to jail...
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

June 2021 DHD HOG Events Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5 Prepare to Center Yourself
6	7	8 Officers' Meeting	9	10	11	12 Monthly Chapter Gathering & Game Night
13	14	15 The Classic Ride	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23 Ride to the Border	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Thanks to our Sponsoring Dealership

Defiance Harley-Davidson
4940 S. 72nd Street
Omaha, NE 68127
Phone: (402) 331-0022

Store Hours:

Monday.....10am - 6pm
Tuesday.....10am - 6pm
Wednesday.....10am - 6pm
Thursday.....10am - 6pm
Friday.....10am - 6pm
Saturday.....9am - 5pm

Sunday...Closed for Riding!!

www.defiancehd.com

We're on the Web!

www.dhdhog.com



Newsletter article deadline
June 25th



DHD Omaha Chapter #4411
C/O Defiance Harley-Davidson
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