



Zylstra HOG Newsletter

Chapter #2222

Proudly Sponsored by
Zylstra Harley-Davidson

Elk River, MN



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Connect with us!



WHAT TO WATCH OUT FOR ON YOUR FIRST SPRING MOTORCYCLE RIDE

As we start to emerge from the disturbance of winter, it's nearing the time to put your bike back on the road. But, when you do, that first ride of the year can be one of the most dangerous. This is what to watch out for on your first spring motorcycle ride:

Sand/Gravel/Salt

Over the winter, the roads will have been covered in traction-aiding substances like these. They tend to stick around for the first few weeks after the snow melts and gather in corners and intersections. We all know what the consequences of hitting this stuff in a corner or while braking is, so keep any eye out for it.

Potholes

These are formed as water expands and contracts with freezing; they're created over the winter. There'll be more of these in the spring than there were last fall. Small ones aren't a huge concern so long as you don't hit one while cornering or braking.

Subsidence

With snowmelt and rains, erosion can occur, undermining the footing of roads, especially out in the boonies where there's little road maintenance. Pay special attention to the edges of the asphalt where previously firm ground can crumble away.

Animals

Spring means babies and animals migrating in search of food. Pay particular attention near bodies of water during dawn and dusk hours. You

Flowing Water

Snowmelt or broken water pipes can create streams of water running across roads in unexpected places. Even if water is not currently present, its previous flow could have swept sand and other debris across the road.

Cold Temperatures

You're eager to start riding again, but doing so in just-above-freezing temps requires a little extra caution. Even if all other hazards are nonexistent, you'll need to account for the cold's effect on your body and dress accordingly.

Other Riders

It's not just you who's skills may be a little rusty, other riders can be a hazard on the best of days, but on their first ride back in the spring, be particularly cautious on popular riding roads.

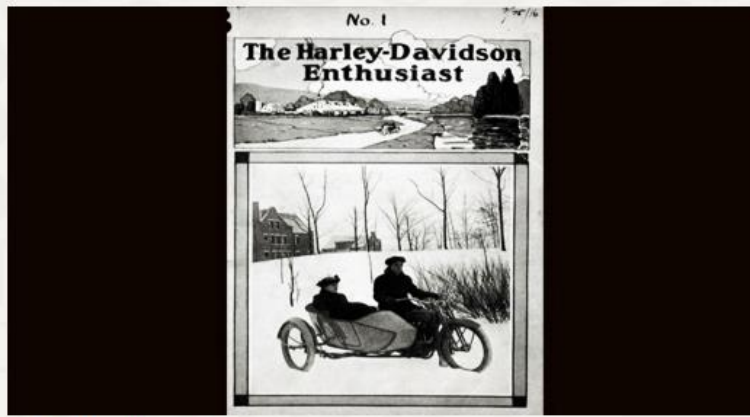
What You Can Do About It

In town and on the highway, leave extra following distance behind other vehicles; they can obscure potholes, gravel and other hazards until it's too late.

Ride with extra caution, leaving more room than usual to slow down, change line or avoid hazards. Your skills will be rusty too, so chill out on the throttle to account for that too.

Even if the day starts warm, the sun still sets early. Make sure you pack clear glasses and warm weather gear (balaclava, neck gaiter, glove liners) in case temperatures drop unexpectedly.

1916



*First issue of The Enthusiast**

The Enthusiast begins its reign as the longest continuously published motorcycle magazine in the world.

APRIL 6, 1931

On April 6, 1931, Harley-Davidson announced that it would begin offering a built-in reverse gear on all 74" Big Twins. This gear allowed the motorcycle to run backwards, something that wasn't possible on previous motorcycles. Motorcycles at the time had three-speed gear boxes and the addition of this fourth gear required a design change in the gear box and cover. This meant that anyone wanting the reverse gear had to purchase a new motorcycle, as it could not be added to older machines. Furthermore, the reverse gear was only available on 74" Big Twin VL models.



Harley-Davidson begins offering a reverse gear on the VL models.

APRIL 19, 1943

Harley-Davidson began offering oil for sale to its customers beginning in 1909 and continues to do so today. Over the years, oil has come in a variety of containers and shipping configurations. During World War II, Harley-Davidson responded to the steel shortage by shipping oil in glass containers. This was one of many methods Harley-Davidson employed to aid in the war effort. After the war, Harley returned to using metal containers for its oil.



Due to war-time restrictions in steel, Harley-Davidson begins shipping oil in glass containers.

APRIL 1, 1983

During the 1970's, overseas motorcycle manufacturers flooded the US motorcycle market with machines sold below market value, decreasing Harley-Davidson's share of the motorcycle market. In 1982, Harley-Davidson sought protection from the International Trade Commission and requested a tariff on all overseas heavyweight motorcycles. A tariff would allow Harley-Davidson to improve their quality and become a thriving business once again. President Reagan signed the tariff into effect on April 1, 1983. While the act was supposed to last for five years, then CEO Vaughn Beals asked that it be lifted a year early in 1987. Harley-Davidson had grown strong enough to deal with overseas competition without the aid of a tariff. This was the first and only time such a request was made to the ITC and it impressed the US government so much that Ronald Reagan toured the York plant in May of that year.



President Ronald Reagan signs tariff into effect.

UPCOMING EVENTS 2016

Visit <http://www.elkriverzylstrahd.com/> for the most updated list of upcoming events

APRIL

- April 1, 4-7pm Smokin' Summer Nights - Zylstra
Zs Smokin Bonez food truck will be serving BBQ in the parking lot!
- Apr 7, 6:30pm Road Captain's meeting, Denny's Otsego
- Apr 9, 11am-2pm Workshop Saturday - Zylstra
- Apr 9, 12-5pm Pottery Creations at Lady Bug Pottery - LOH*
Lunch at noon Thomas Reese Olive Oil Company, Champlin – contact Lisa O.
- Apr 12, 7pm Monthly HOG chapter meeting, Rockwood's Grill Otsego
- Apr 18, 6:30pm LLBCAR ride meeting – Denny's Otsego
- Apr 20, 6:30pm Drive & Dine – HOG*
Sign-up sheet will be at HOG chapter meeting.
- April 22, 5-7pm Riding Academy Reunion - Zylstra
- Apr 23, 11am-1pm Hogs & Dogs - Zylstra
- Apr 23, 8am-5pm Accident Scene Management - advanced course – HOG
\$75.00 per class. Contact Brenda (bmwaletzki@yahoo.com) if interested or have questions.
- Apr 28, 5-7pm First Responders & Military Appreciation - Zylstra



MAY

- May 3, 6:30pm Road Captain's meeting, Denny's Otsego
- May 5 HOG Rally registration deadline ([link below](#))
- May 6, 4-7pm Smokin' Summer Nights - Zylstra
Zs Smokin Bonez food truck will be serving BBQ in the parking lot!
- May 10, 7pm Monthly HOG chapter meeting, Rockwood's Grill Otsego
- May 16, 6:30pm LLBCAR ride meeting – Denny's Otsego
- May 21, 11am-12:30pm Demo Days - come out and ride the Harley of your dreams! - Zylstra
- May 21, 9:30am Cave Tours & Lunch – Luna Rosa Trattoria Wine Bar, Stillwater – LOH*
- May 28, 11am-2pm Spring HOG Roast – Zylstra
Join us for our 15th Annual Spring Hog Roast, food provide by Zs Smokin Bonez!



JUNE

- Jun 3, 4-7pm Smokin' Summer Nights - Zylstra
Zs Smokin Bonez food truck will be serving BBQ in the parking lot!
- Jun 4 HOG Picnic/Potluck – HOG*
Volunteers needed, contact Judy.
- Jun 5, 11am Brunch ride Mad Hatter, Anoka – LOH*
- Jun 9, 6:30pm Road Captain's meeting, Denny's Otsego
- Jun 9 - 11 South Dakota H.O.G. Rally, Watertown, SD
- Jun 10-11 Fire on the Rum Concert, Isanti Fairgrounds
- Jun 14, 7pm Monthly HOG chapter meeting, Rockwood's Grill Otsego
- Jun 17-19 [Mike's Run to the Bay Ride](#) - Zylstra
- Jun 20, 6:30pm LLBCAR ride meeting – Denny's Otsego
- Jun 23 - 25 Minnesota H.O.G. Rally – Rumble on the Range, Eveleth, MN



Ladies of Harley 2016
Meets the 3rd Saturday of each month.



* HOG rides & LOH events are exclusive, Members may bring one guest.

2016 HOG CHAPTER RIDES*

Subject to change, check the several resources for updates - if anything changes, this list will get updated and sent again.

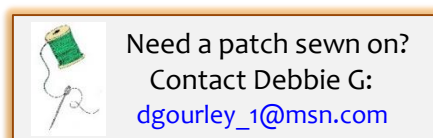
*HOG & LOH rides are exclusive, members may bring one guest.

Date	Ride Event	Ovrnt	Day Ride	Ride Leader & Sweep
May 7 th	Apol's H-D Ride		X	Tim L (lead) Steve P (sweep)
May 21 st - LOH	Stillwater: Caves, Winery		X	Brian & Lisa (lead)
May 28 - 30	Lake Pepin & American Pickers	X	X	Brian O (day) James V (weekend)
May 30 th	Rochester Area & VFW Military Memorabilia		X	
June 11 th	BBQ Ride, Hayward WI		X	Rob M (lead) DK (sweep)
June 17 - 19	North Dakota Peace Gardens	X		Mike H (lead) James V (sweep)
June 17 - 19	Mike's Cannonball Run - Door County	X		Store sponsored Tom W (lead)
June 23 - 26	MN State HOG Rally, Eveleth	X		Various
July 9 - 16	Week-long Chapter ride Northern WI & UP Michigan	X		Various, Brian, Jerry, Ron
July 9 - 17	Week-long Chapter ride Colorado	X		Gary & Judy
July 22 - 24	Grand Marais/North Shore	X		
July 23	Chapter Mystery Ride	X		Rob (lead) Brian (sweep)
July 30 th	Folds of Honor		X	Store sponsored Lead Tom W; Sweep Rob M.
Aug 8 - 14	Sturgis			Various
Aug 13 th	Cloquet Lunch @ Gordy's & Jay Cook State Park		X	Tom W (lead)
Aug 14 th	LLBCAR Pre-Ride		X	
Aug 20 th	Linda Laubach Breast Cancer Awareness Ride		X	
Aug 21 st	Duluth Tall Ships		X	Brenda W (lead) Curt O (sweep)
Aug 27 - 28	Ottertail	X		Ron D (lead), Jerry K (sweep)
Sept 1 - 4	WI State HOG Rally & Bike Night @ Harley Museum	X		
Sept 9 - 10	Mike's Cannonball Run #2 (tbd)	X		Store sponsored
Sept 16 - 18	Chippewa Falls Oktoberfest	X		
Sept 24 - 25	Fall Colors Ride	X		Steve & Denise P
Sept 24 th	Brainerd Int'l Raceway	X		Scott L (lead)
Oct 1 - 2	Walnut Grove & Jackpot Junction	X		Jim V (lead?)
Oct 8 th or 9 th	Fall Colors Day Ride		X	Dave O (lead)



HOG Participation and Volunteer Point Definitions

- 5 – Participation points for participating on a HOG or LOH sponsored ride.
 - 2 – Participation points for attending a monthly HOG meeting or a LOH non-riding event.
 - 1 – Participation point for attending an officer's meeting or a Road Captain's meeting.
 - 3 – Volunteer points for volunteering to work at a volunteer event.
- To earn a participation star patch, members must earn 40% of the total participation points available for that year.
 - To earn a volunteer patch or year rocker, members must volunteer to work at 3 volunteer events and therefore earn 9 Volunteer points.



Riders leave Zylstra Harley-Davidson at 6:30 p.m.*Schedule subject to change*

May 4	The Hideout	16496 149th St. SE, Big Lake, MN	Website
May 11	Cowboy Jack's	9010 Quantrelle Ave NE., Otsego, MN	Website
May 18	D Micheal B's	6550 Lamplight Dr, Albertville, MN	Website
May 25	Frontier Steak House	905 S Rum River Dr, Princeton, MN	
June 1	Hidden Haven	20520 Polk St NE, Cedar, MN	Website
June 8	Liberty Restaurant and Bar & American Legion Post 567	25 Central Ave E, Saint Michael, MN	Website
June 15	Dehn's Country Manor	11281 Fernbrook Lane, Maple Grove, MN	Website
June 22	Mill Creek Inn	891 County Road 35 W, Buffalo, MN	Website
June 29	Waterfront Lakeside Grille	13195 Bayview Rd, South Haven, MN	Website
July 6	The Lookout Bar & Grill	8672 Pineview Ln N, Maple Grove, MN	Website
July 13	Jack & Jim's	11025 Duelm Rd NE, Foley, MN	Website
July 20	Z's Smokin Bonz	16362 County Rd 30, Maple Grove, MN	Website
July 27	Friendly Buffalo	16722 198th Ave, Big Lake, MN	Website
Aug 3	Culver's	11025 61st St NE, Albertville, MN	Website
Aug 10	Space Aliens	11166 CR-37, Albertville, MN	Website
Aug 17	Mansetti's Pizza	23042 St Francis Blvd NW, St Francis, MN	Website
Aug 24	Serum's	213 Jackson St., Anoka, MN	Website
Aug 31	Nelson Bros. Bakery, Restaurant & Pub	950 State Highway 24, Clearwater, MN	Website
Sept 7	Billy's Bar & Grill	214 Jackson St, Anoka, MN	Website
Sept 14	The Bourbon Room	19735 Iguana St NW, Nowthen, MN	Website
Sept 21	Trail's Grill	726 Martin Ave. Suite 116, Big Lake, MN	Website
Sept 28	The Hideout	16496 149th St. SE, Big Lake, MN	Website

HELPFUL LINKS

Zylstra Harley-Davidson: <http://www.elkriverzylstrahd.com/>

Get your ride ready for the season! Request service and/or order parts online from Zylstra Harley-Davidson®

- Click [here](#) for Parts request
- Click [here](#) for Service appointment

Learn to Ride! [Harley-Davidson's Riding Academy offered by Zylstra Harley-Davidson](#)

[American heroes ride free!](#) All current & former U.S. military and first responders can learn to ride for free with Harley-Davidson® riding academy.

2016 MN State HOG Rally - "Rumble on the Range": <http://mnstatehogrally.com>

Check back often for updates – registration deadline is May 5, 2016!

“Like” the new Facebook page – click to follow: [ZylstraHarleyDavidsonHOGChapter](#)



Zylstra Road to Rewards: <https://www.the-car-club.com/roadtorewards/home.asp>

Harley-Davidson HOG National: http://www.harley-davidson.com/content/h-d/en_US/home/owners/hog.html

BW Rider: <http://www.bestwestern.com/rewards/benefits/ride-rewards.asp>

Wrenching Corner

YOU DON'T *have to have the mechanical know-how of a Harley technician to perform simple home-servicing tasks; some decent tools and a little common sense are all you need to keep your bike in tip-top shape.*

Ideally, get hold of a workshop manual for your machine for a better understanding of how each task should be carried out. Most will give pictures detailing each part of the process; a good manual will also list the tools you'll need to complete the job

Like a chef's knives, using quality tools are half the battle to a successful job, so avoid using the underseat toolkit if you can. Like your Dad said, "The right tool for the job". We couldn't even have a crescent wrench in the garage because it wasn't "the proper tool" (except if you needed a hammer!!)

Obviously, if you're not 100 per cent comfortable working on your own bike then ask a knowledgeable friend to watch over you.

Tires - Pressures

When was the last time you checked your bike's tire pressure? It should be done on a weekly basis, and before any ride, but many of us forget to keep an eye on one of the most vital parts of our bike's set-up.

Underinflated tires tend to affect handling and braking as the lack of pressure means the tire wall isn't firm enough to properly cope with the forces exerted on it. Over inflation can also result in a deterioration in handling, as well as a reduced contact tread with the road. This can result in a lack of grip under braking.

Use a quality pressure gauge to accurately check your bike's tire pressures. Consult the owner's manual for the correct pressure. Remember, your tires may need more pressure if you regularly ride with a passenger. Always check your pressures when they're cold.

It's also worth checking the condition and tread depth of the tires while you're at it. Use a penny to check.

We've had our good rains to wash the salt off the roads. Street sweepers are out getting the sand off the roads also... I do believe riding season is here!!

Stay safe!

Mike Hangaard
HOG 2222 Asst Head Ride Captain