



**HARLEY OWNERS GROUP
CONCORD NH CHAPTER 2756
June/July 2017 VOLUME 28, EDITION 4**



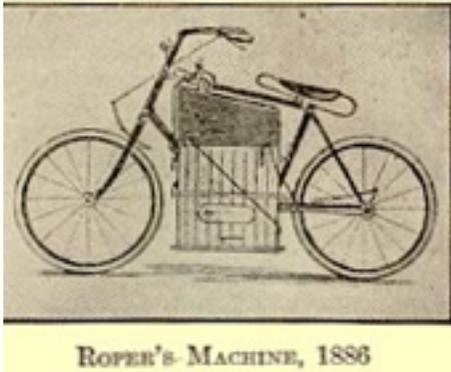
**Next HOG Meeting September 3rd at the Dealership (Building 2)
@ 9:00 AM - Ride to Pit Stop Smoke House, Westmoreland, NH**

Let the Truth be Told

Keith DeSantis – Director



The motorcycle as we all know it to be all started in the early 19th century, if my memory serves me correctly Indian started in 1901 and Harley Davidson started in 1903. By all means let's not forget many other American Motorcycles Companies attempted to break into the scene ,Excelsior ,Thor ,Marsh ,Pierce ,Reading Standard ,Ace ,Flying Merkel to name a few all attempted to gain power on the top two Harley and Indian. Even a department store that we all know (Sears) with their brand called the Sears Deluxe in 1914. (Continued page 2)



Let the Truth be Told Continued

But as always the question remains who invented the first Motorcycle some give credit to the German car builder Gottlieb Daimler who in 1885 built a motor powered bicycle but also added side wheel similar to the trikes of today for stabilization. Most called this an embryonic automobile

By 1885 the modern bicycle was about twenty years old -- the machine with two equal wheels and a chain-sprocket drive. By the time Daimler made his pseudo-motorcycle, bicycle people had realized how unnecessary his extra side wheels were.

So it should be no surprise that the idea of a motor drive arose right on the wheels of the first modern bicycle, seventeen years before Daimler. What is surprising is that the idea didn't catch on. So you ask who built the first motorcycle well his name was Sylvester Roper during the Civil War, Roper worked in the Springfield Armory (Springfield Mass) their his interest turned to steam power. In 1868, Mr. Roper built a steam-powered two wheel motorcycle.

Roper's machine looked a lot like a bicycle not remarkable by any standard, with a small vertical steam boiler under the seat which also contained a small water tank. The boiler supplied super-heated steam to two small pistons that powered a crank drive to the back wheel. The speed was controlled with a twisting handle bar, this later was called the Twist-grip control that was later invented by the early pilot Glen Curtiss. It was invented yet again by the Indian Motorcycle Company.

Roper continued to build more motorcycles and several steam-powered automobiles, he was far ahead of his time with his inventions. The Stanley Brothers who built the famous Stanley Steamers Automobile said they learned about steam-power from Roper.

Sylvester Roper born in 1823 in the beautiful state of NEW HAMPSHIRE reached the age of 73 in 1896. That June he showed up at a bicycle track near Harvard Mass with a modified motorcycle. They clocked him at a remarkable forty miles an hour. Then the machine wobbled, and Roper fell off. He was dead when they found him. The autopsy showed he'd died, not from the fall, but of a heart attack.

It took another decade before Indian Motorcycle Company began making commercial motorcycles. Roper gets very little credit for his inventions but that how it works ,driven inventor's like Mr Roper of this world always proceed the product-success stories. (Continued page 3)

Enough of the history lesson, back to chapter business...

Please remember the next meeting (July) which was to take place at North Pole Resort did not happen as planned due to the fact a forum could not be reached, also the August meeting due to many officers would not be present (on Vacation) was also voted at the July Meeting to be canceled so our next scheduled meeting is September 3rd.

- After our last meeting the ride was scheduled to Curtis's BBQ but the weather man had other ideas so Dave Dickey guided us to Parkers Maple Barn I had a great time hope all others had the same Thanks Dave!
- An ice cream ride was held on June 21st to Pete's Scoop's – thanks Blake Hermis.
- June 25th saw the Chapter's Photographer, Dr. Ron Coutu, lead to the Throwback Pub in North Hampton - another nice ride but what was up with the TURTLE XING SIGNS!
- I think those who participated on the July 4th get away to the North Pole Resort had a great time. Would like to give a little special attention to all the female riders (I said a little attention) - we road through some pretty nasty weather and all the woman did a fantastic job. Thanks to Len Lytle and his guided tour there and all weekend the events for a huge success WAY TO GO Peter Duford!!!!
- Many rides still to come through August so keep your eye on the schedule.
- One ride not on the schedule is to the IRON ADVENTURE RUN RALLY which is on Saturday July 29th I will be leading a ride to Loon Mountain KSU at 8:00 AM from HHD.
- On another note there is still a ride scheduled on the day we were supposed to have our August meeting on the 6th still going to happen to the Clam Bake Restaurant lead by Artie!
- We receive the Patriot Tour Flag on the 24th of August this is a Thursday, would like to see all the chapter veterans present! And then on Friday the 25th we deliver the flag to its next destination. Looking forward to having a large number of members for this event!!

Looking forward to seeing all of you at our next scheduled meeting September 3rd, prepare to discuss our options for the anniversary party dinner, Peter Duford will be putting information on the Discussion Board prior to the meeting! Be prepared you may have to pay for the dinner at the meeting!!! We also have designed a Anniversary shirt at this time we are waiting for some prices to create them hope to have more detail information before the meeting keep your eyes on the discussion board as this develops.

Alright let's get right into this month Brain Teaser!!

Two years ago, a man was offered a motorcycle for \$1024, but he declined to buy it. A year later, he was offered the same motorcycle for \$640, but again decided not to buy it. A little while after that, he was again offered the motorcycle, this time at \$400. Again, he refused to buy it. Last week, he turned the motorcycle down even though the price had now fallen to \$250. If the owner offers it for sale yet again, and he makes a consistent reduction, how much will it be for sale for the next time?

Ride it like you stole it!! Keith D.



My First Harley Davidson Motorcycle

By Patty Couto

As a new motorcycle rider, I have taken my first big step into the HOG experience. It may not be an earth shattering moment for some, but for me it is quite significant.



I had my first connection with a motorcycle in the late '80s. It started with much optimism as I was slowly making my way down the street and ended with an embarrassing crash. Thankfully there was minimal injury resulting in a leg burn. I unfortunately accepted motorcycles were not for me. Years would pass and as the saying goes "Time heals all wounds." I decided to give it another go.

In 2011, I took a motorcycle class determined to master the skill. It was unbelievable one could complete a 2 ½ day motorcycle course, pass a driving test, and be legal to operate on the road. Once I was "legal", intimidation set in. I began driving on a 2 lane road with pedestrians, countless distractions, and my own insecurities. Question: What could be more intimidating than learning to ride a motorcycle? Answer: Joining a group of experienced riders who make it look easy.

My first bike purchase was the net step and would determine if riding was for me. The bike was not going to turn heads and it seemed hard to start. But that was mostly my fault; I often forgot to pull out the choke to get it running. I always looked at the bigger, heavier bikes, but that would have to wait until I could master the basics. I began to take the occasional ride with one or two other bikers, but still found myself spending a lot of time on the passenger seat. I was intimidated by the bigger bikes and felt like I had not learned enough or did not have the endurance for longer rides. What if I couldn't acquire the skill? Would I always be a passenger on group rides?

Eventually, I gained enough confidence to ride alone. It was liberating to know I could do it and feel the freedom everyone talks about. I was told a bigger bike would give a better ride. Maybe it was time for a new bike. (Continued Page 5)

I would imagine many bike purchases start with the phrase “I was only at the dealer to look around.” My purchase would be no different. I was Heritage H-D taking advantage of a sales event when I looked at a bigger, heavier, bike. All the same thoughts came back. Could I handle this bike? I see other women do it. Surely, I could learn and become comfortable. Before I knew it I was walking out the door as a proud owner of a 2016 Street Glide. It was delivered in December and quickly found a spot in my garage. For months I would look at it, sit on it, and imagine the ride.

Journal Entry Sunday, April 9th

Today was so amazing. I was quite tired from driving through the night from attending HOT training in Buffalo, NY. After breakfast, Ron asked if I wanted to take the new bike out. Nervously I said “Yes.” It rides like nothing I could have imagined. It’s well balanced, hugs the road, and even has music. I am hooked!



Mid-Season Safety Thoughts

We got another Bike Week under our belts last month and the good weather was different and very welcome than the usual "Rainconia" were normally deal with. Unfortunately, as you might have heard, Mark Ott had a mishap but I’m glad to report he is doing well and we wish him a speedy recovery.

We all have had our close calls with both cagers & our four-legged friends. We need to try to anticipate there next move. We all have experienced someone pulling out our almost pulling out in front of us, even after making eye contact with them. Perhaps it can be contributed to the fact that it is difficult for our speed to be determined and yes, even though we are doing the posted speed limit.

I remember a stat that if you hold a pencil out at arms length, that pencil will completely block out the motorcycle at something like 25 yards. Along with having my running lights on, I will also put my high beams on when approaching a car that just might do something expected, and sometimes that's enough.

So along with enjoying the ride, we also need to be vigilant, continue to practice good driving skills, and always watch our for the other guy.

Bob



Concord HOG Celebrates Independence Weekend





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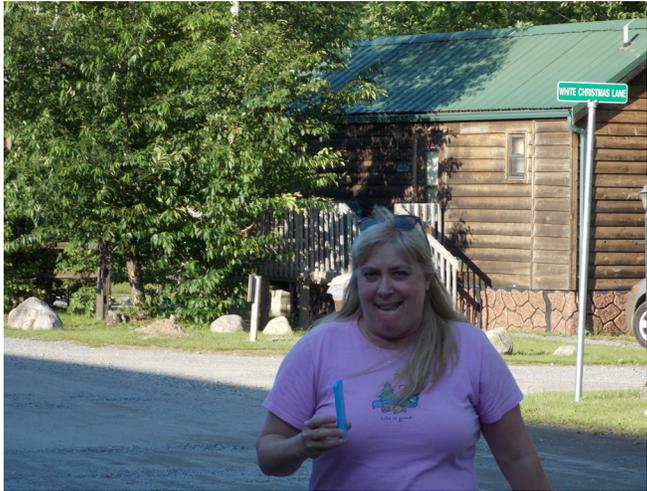




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Throwback Brewery Ride





Activities

HELP WANTED



Peter Duford
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Hello All, I hope that the summer is treating you well. We will be at the Heritage Harley Davidson on Saturday, August 12th, for their Hot Rod and bike show and will be serving up eats for the participants and the attendees.

I am in need of volunteers to help with this event. We will be selling tickets for a 50/50 raffle as well as for a custom cribbage board made by Joe Labretto. If you are available to lend a hand please contact me.

The anniversary weekend is right around the corner and there are still rooms available however they will be releasing any unclaimed rooms in our block on August 22nd.



The dates are Friday September 8th, 9th and 10th and we will be staying at the Town and Country Inn in Gorham, NH. To make your reservation call 1-800-325-4386 and tell them that you are with the Concord HOG chapter.

I also need a head count as to who is going so that we can decide on Saturday evenings dinner so please email to let me know as soon as possible.

Ladies of Harley Notes: Confident Backing

I would guess that a lot of the trepidation for women who think about graduating to a big bike is backing it up. I would even bet that many women never go to a big bike just because of that worry. And to be sure, that is the issue that I have heard discussed recently. Sure, backing up a 900+ pound bike can be challenging, but there are ways to mitigate that:

- Make sure you can flat foot – and the more knee flex you have while being flat-footed, the better. That makes it much easier backing up a bike and gives you more confidence. Whether you put shorter shocks on it, install a thinner seat and/or wear thick-soled boots is up to you. Although technically flat-footed on a Street Glide, I have elected to lower the back end by an inch and had my seat “shaved” to give me a confidence building reach and flex in the knees.

- High-backed seats and back rests are your friends. They keep your butt from sliding back on the seat which helps give you leverage while backing the bike. Added bonus – they help keep you from sliding back while on the highway or during fast starts.

- Don't push your butt “down” in the seat while backing. Push back and a bit upward on the seat back or back rest. If you push down, you are adding your weight to the bike's while trying to back up. Plus, pushing up a little gets your stronger leg muscles more into the action instead of trying to use your arms/shoulders and back.

- Practice. Huh? What? Practice? Yes, the more you practice in a controlled situation (home, parking lot), the more comfortable it becomes and the more you understand how your muscles have to work. It is not a natural muscle act to be sitting/squatting and walking backwards at the same time, so practice makes for muscle memory on how to perform the act. Hmm, where have I heard about that muscle memory before? And, the more challenging you make that practice – slightly uphill, uneven surfaces, dirt/grass – the more confident you will become. And, practice also builds the muscles so it is actually easier over time.

- And of course, if there is a slope where you are parking, back in if it is a downhill slope (so you are facing toward the hill once parked) and pull straight in on an uphill slope as the hill will help you back out when it is time to leave.

- Even on flats, when possible, look for ways to park where you won't have to back up. Pull thru a parking space so you are headed out. This is more so you don't have to worry about the parking lot traffic, pedestrians and vehicles, while also concentrating on backing out.

Seriously, backing up the bike is one of the most vulnerable times for dropping it. Your foot hits wet grass, sand, a dip in the ground etc., and your heart gives a giant leap. But practicing techniques, using the proper gear and/or equipping the bike so it is easier to handle can boost your confidence and give you the ability to choose what bike you want ride. And if what you choose to ride is not a big bike – these tips can still be put into good use.

No Boundaries – Let's Ride!

Cheryl Schneider – LOH Officer



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