

# H.O.G. Trails

Screw it, Lets ride!

## Members only Upcoming Events:

Sept. 29, 4 - 8 p.m.

DCHOG Family Picnic.  
Check our FB page for  
what to bring according to  
your last name. Or contact  
Kathy Jordan  
[dchogactivities@gmail.com](mailto:dchogactivities@gmail.com)

## Christmas Party

Dec. 14, 5:30 - 9 p.m.

Get your details from  
Kathy Jordan! Fun, food  
and fabulous presents!

## Kickstart Party

Feb. 22, 6:30 - 10:30 p.m.

Don't miss this annual  
event filled with friends,  
food, laughs, & dancing!  
See Kathy Jordan for info.



## Blast from the Past: Family Picnic 2015

By: Historian, Leslie Brauer

Sept. 27, 2015

The 2015 Chapter picnic was an outstanding  
success. Organized by Lynn & Steve Carlisle.  
Had a fantastic turnout, good food and everyone  
stated they had a great time.



Photos courtesy of DC HOG archives



Photo courtesy of Tami Stevenson

### Fall Riding

#### Safety tips:

By: Gilbert Rogerson,  
Safety Officer

The first tip would be the usual TCLOC inspection. Give your bike a good look, making sure everything is working correctly. Most importantly, air pressure and brakes.

Riding through leaves can be tricky. They can be hiding another hazard underneath and be slick if wet from heavy dew or frost.

Cooler temperatures affect tires. Cooler road surfaces cause less grip on the road. So adjust your speed (especially in curves) and ride a little less aggressively.

Keep these details your number one priority, especially when riding in the Fall.

1. Always keep your TIRES in peak condition. Proper tire pressure is essential!
2. Test your lights. Make sure you are visible in the lower light conditions, as well as can clearly see ahead.
3. Inspect your brakes for effective responsiveness and optimal performance.
4. Wear the right gloves and gear. Good grip and protection from the rain and cooler temps. Rain suit, chaps, etc..
5. Protect your neck and face. Prolong exposure to cool air can lead to frostbite.
6. Awareness of road conditions. Fallen leaves, potential frost and wet surfaces. Knowing how to navigate them is crucial. Fall weather can change rapidly, so keep an eye on the forecast before and during your ride.
7. Be prepared, RIDE SAFE and Enjoy the ride!



Photo courtesy of Lynn Carlisle, chapter ride

**Feature Article: “Miles of Wind”****By: Editor, Tami Stevenson**

- 1,459 miles
- 6 states
- 5 Harley-Davidson stores
- 4 Overnight stays
- 3 stunning National Forrests/Parks
- 2 delicious Mexican restaurants
- 1 unforgettable first time long distance adventure.

The details are in the numbers, yet, there are no numbers that can accurately represent how many sights and experiences we really encountered !

September, 2023. Our journey began its planning stage after I read about the “50 Rides, One Nation” program created by Harley-Davidson Motor Company, Inc. For H.O.G. members only, it was a very enticing activity to add to our “poker chip” collecting, and to receive a special coin. Then I checked the 10-day forecast of the 6 states I elected to route. Within 3 days, the route was scheduled.

Being retired, we can be spontaneous. However, you can research, google and plan a reasonable route when you schedule your vacation from work as well. My husband has been on long distance rides when he was younger, but neither of us had done it together. He was elated to say the least, as I was because of my new bike I had purchased in the Spring. Loving this bike so much, I knew I’d be extremely comfortable. So we added our Bushtec trailer to his Ultra Classic and off we set into the morning dew.

I did plan our overnight stays, due to budget and personal sanity. Especially for the first time in this kind of adventure. A lot more research for this. I wanted to complete our travel day by 4 p.m., and have an onsite/nearby restaurant. Google maps, hotel memberships, reviews, proximity to the

Challenge locations, it was all a factor. I did pretty well, I must say.

However, I had two huge concerns that we encountered.

1. Technology. Each piece of electronics needed specific charging cords/adapters even a de-scrambler for safe charging. Phones, Sena, watches, iPad. We did not, which it had happened, want to be in a remote area and lose GPS capability in the middle of riding. This DID happen between WV and VA and if it wasn’t for a helpful gas station attendant, we may have ended up way off-course.
2. Fuel. My first concern, yet almost my more difficult issue. We always started out at 3/4, depending on if we were traveling through mountains or rural areas or to populated cities. One problem that arose was the fact that my husbands bike was consuming fuel at a faster rate than mine. My bike being newer and his also pulling a trailer. So this was an adjustment in distances and awareness of my gauges.

Believe it or not, there were major highways that had no stations for extremely long distances. We always started out with a good breakfast, fuel stops were for fruits, granola bars and electrolytes and we’d finish the day with a wonderful dinner.

September travel is great. Cool mornings, warm afternoons. Bright clear blue skies, foliage still green with some peeks of reds and yellows. Sunday thru Thursday is less crowded and less expensive.

Here’s to our next travel adventure!



Photo courtesy of Tami Stevenson, Flight 93 Memorial, Pennsylvania, 2023