

BULL SHOTS MAY 2024

OLD TOWN CHAPTER - # 5039 HARLEY OWNERS GROUP TAMPA. F

Director Dennis "Gomez" Adams

The first overnight ride is in the books. Keys West was a blast. Next up is Biloxi lead by Sr. Road Captain David Brown. There is something about doing overnight rides when you realize you are not just making a restaurant run, you are on a motorcycle trip. The excitement of getting ready and then after being on the bike for three or four hours, you realize you're off on an adventure, for the next three or four days. It really clears the mind. Be sure to check out the web page for additional overnight rides and plan on going on one to see what I am talking about.

As you have heard by now, we are taking the month of May to do Ron Rook rides. Head Road Captain Gary Stein set this up with the Road Captains. Many of Ron's restaurants and routes are being used. I will be leading a ride to visit The Colonel at his final resting place, amongst our heroes in Bushnell National Cemetery. I am also inviting the Defenders Tampa Bay Chapter to ride in with us. Keep an eye on the web page and Bull Shots for more details. The ride is planned for May 19th. KSU will be at Regency Mall across from the Red Lobster. Ron has used this KSU for his Memorial Day rides in the past.

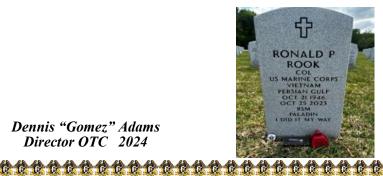
Our Bike Night on the last Friday of the month in March was a good success. The Tampa Bay Harley-Davidson (TBHD) team has picked that day for this year's Bike Nights. The Old Town HOG Chapter will be there to support them. I enjoy hanging out with our brothers and sisters that I do not see on the month's rides or Chapter Meeting. Be sure to watch for Communications Officer Pete Barack's reminders.

Our Spring Picnic is set for May 4th at E.G. Simmons Park. LOH Officer Renee Adkins and I are the Activities Officer planning this. I am still looking for a permanent Activities Officer, so please stop and see me if you are interested. We are also working on a Movie Night and Game Night at the TBHD Dealership.

Assistant Director Steve Byrnes is well on his way to planning our PAWS Charity Event. The 19th year patches are in and already on some of our Chapter members vest, for making at least a \$100 donation. Keep September 28th open for the Clay Shoot. Also, Steve will be looking for volunteers to help put on another great event. The first planning meeting is scheduled for July 24th at the TBHD upstairs training room.

We have another Recruit Road Captain - Joe "Just Joe" Hall is underway with his orientation. Be sure to thank Joe for stepping up and keep an eye out for his Inaugural Ride. Our very own Head Road Captain Gary Stein is his sponsor. Who will be the next Recruit to make it five in New Road Captains for 2024?

My vacations will not be on a motorcycle this year. I am headed to Scotland and a Cruise with Beck, but I would love to hear what you have planned for the summer. It is OK to miss a Chapter ride, so get out the map and plan yourself a motorcycle vacation.... I will not hold it against you.



Dennis "Gomez" Adams Director OTC 2024





AD Steve Byrnes Ramblings

The Raid on Key West was a Very Fun first overnight ride of the year! Our 381-mile trip included a visit to the smallest operating US Post Office on 41 near Everglades City. Lunch at Mrs. Mac's in Key Largo was a welcome break. We arrived in Key West, checked into our respective lodgings, had a nice dinner at Two Friends and headed to Mallory Square for a beautiful Sunset over Sunset Key with the sun setting into the Gulf. Friday was a short ride to Boondocks on Ramrod Key with a Miniature Golf tournament and dinner at the Conch Republic on the KW waterfront. Saturday was breakfast at Blue Heaven with their version of Key Lime Pie for dessert, then the Conch Train to get more of the sites and history of Key West and a beautiful Sunset sail on the Appledore Star Schooner. Sunday, we met for Sunrise at the other end of Key West over the Atlantic and headed to Martin Roland's Tiki Hut in Clewiston. Our New Recruit Road Captain, "Just" Joe Hall completed all required support positions on the KW ride.

May brings us rides that are a tribute to Past Director/Chapter Elder/Retired Colonel Ron Rook. Our memories of him will live forever. He was an Assistant Director in 2011 when Monica and I got involved with OTC. He gave me a taste of leading a ride on a return trip from one of his rides and I caught the bug to become a Road Captain.

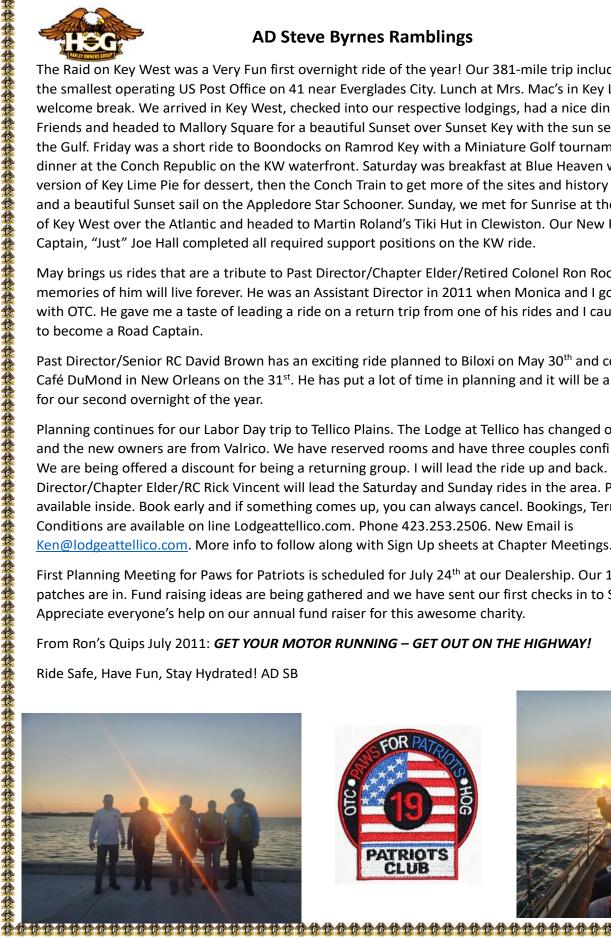
Past Director/Senior RC David Brown has an exciting ride planned to Biloxi on May 30th and continues to Café DuMond in New Orleans on the 31st. He has put a lot of time in planning and it will be a great Ride for our second overnight of the year.

Planning continues for our Labor Day trip to Tellico Plains. The Lodge at Tellico has changed ownership and the new owners are from Valrico. We have reserved rooms and have three couples confirmed so far. We are being offered a discount for being a returning group. I will lead the ride up and back. Past Director/Chapter Elder/RC Rick Vincent will lead the Saturday and Sunday rides in the area. Parking is available inside. Book early and if something comes up, you can always cancel. Bookings, Terms and Conditions are available on line Lodgeattellico.com. Phone 423.253.2506. New Email is Ken@lodgeattellico.com. More info to follow along with Sign Up sheets at Chapter Meetings.

First Planning Meeting for Paws for Patriots is scheduled for July 24th at our Dealership. Our 19th year patches are in. Fund raising ideas are being gathered and we have sent our first checks in to SEGD. Appreciate everyone's help on our annual fund raiser for this awesome charity.

From Ron's Quips July 2011: GET YOUR MOTOR RUNNING - GET OUT ON THE HIGHWAY!

Ride Safe, Have Fun, Stay Hydrated! AD SB









Head Road Captain

Gary Stein

813.382.2667 provider01@gmail.com



Senior Road Captains

David Brown 813.309.6565 dbconcarp@aol.com

Bob Backus 716.860.7394 backusrj@gmail.com Jack Hinton 813.629.1730 captjack8194@gmail.com

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Cal Reimann 813.760.4757 chapter_elder1@verizon.net



THE CHARLET DWINES GROUP

*RRC (Recruit Road Captain)















Old Town Chapter Board Members -2024

Primary Officers

Director	Dennis Adams	757.274.9933	dadams1000@aol.com
Asst. Director	Steve Byrnes	407.922.6275	sr_byrnes@msn.com
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Membership Officer	Robin Bacchus	813.415.5011	casybritt@aol.com
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Merchandise Officer	Pam Mangiaracina	708.921.4731	harleymama5962@aol.com
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Sr Road Captain	Bob Backus	716.860.7394	backusrj@gmail.com
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Member at Large	David Adkins	678.925.6746	rdadkins1@bellsouth.net
Member at Large	Lori Bacchus	813.624.5519	lobacch@aol.com

Past Directors

Past Director/Elder	David Brown	813.309.6565	dbconcarp@aol.com
Past Director/Elder	Rick Vincent	813.625.1969	vinnie62658@aol.com
Past Director/Elder	Robin Bacchus	813.415.5011	casybritt@aol.com
Past Director/Elder	Paul Fore	813.299.7510	pfore@verizon.net
Past Director/Elder	Marty Roland	813.244.9271	the.rolands@comcast.net
Past Director/Elder	Col. Ron Rook	Oct. 21, 1946	October 25, 2023
Past Director/Elder	Cal Reimann	813.760.4757	chapter_elder1@verizon.net
Past Director/Elder	Andre' Chiasson	Feb. 22, 1955	March 26, 2017
Past Director/Elder	John McKelvey	July 3, 1952	January 30, 2022

Drew's Views - When it rains, it pours...

We are approaching the time of year in the Great State of Florida when it rains. A lot.



Per the National Weather Service, the rainy season in West Central Florida runs from May 25 to October 10th, with August the rainiest month. So unless we put our bikes away from Memorial Day to Halloween, we will ride in the rain. And as the Best HOG Chapter in the southeast - keeping it modest – we should strive to be extremely competent wet-weather riders.

Since we live in the **lightning capital of the world**, I did not want to try to put just a few words of wisdom on lightning in this article; too important a topic for shortcuts. Instead, here's a link to a fairly comprehensive article on riding in lightning conditions: https://motorgearexpert.com/riding-a-motorcycle-in-a-thunderstorm-with-lightning/ In a word, "don't."

You know I like maxims; this one comes to mind when I think about riding in the rain: "Slow is smooth and smooth is fast." In other words, if you slow down your normal pace you will

probably get there, and though it will take more time, the alternative - not reaching the destination - is a heck of a lot slower. And expensive. And painful. Or worse. So let's cover a few bits of rain-riding wisdom I gathered from reliable sources which I could fit on one page.

Vision and Visibility. Rain-X helps on the outside of the face shield, and some sort of anti-fog may help on the inside. Eyewear with yellow or orange lenses may also help your visual acuity, especially for daytime rain riding.

Waterproof gear. Is great, but visible waterproof gear is better. [Comment: In my view, raingear is not so much about keeping dry, but keeping comfortable. Water will find a way in, especially in Florida! Cheap gear won't keep you comfortable.]

Puddles. What may look benign could be a foot-deep pothole, or who knows what else. If unavoidable, steady throttle steady, keep the bike upright, and don't touch the brakes.

Stay relaxed. No abrupt acceleration or braking due to limited traction. Make all moves smooth and gentle. If you have to brake hard slowly squeeze the lever to load the front tire & compress the suspension, then gradually increase force as needed.

Find a dry line. Ride in the tire tracks of vehicles in front of you if possible. A car's wheel can act like a plow, pushing water out of the way. Soak up that dry pavement while you can!

Loosen up. Clinging to the bars with a death grip will a) tire you out faster, b) exaggerate the effects of any movements you make. Be smooth. And slow.

"Life is not about waiting for the storms to pass; it's about learning how to ride in the rain."







May 5: Cinco de Mayo

May 12: Mother's Day

May 17: National Bike to Work Day (this could be a motorcycle!)

May 27: Memorial Day

The Origin of Mother's Day in the United States

Some countries have a multi-century history of a day to celebrate mothers. Anna Jarvis organized the first Mother's Day service of worship and celebration in 1908 and through her persistence, enabled it to become an official U.S. Holiday in 1914. Jarvis denounced the holiday's commercialization in 1920 and spent the final 28 years of her life (and most of her money) trying to remove it from the calendar. Be careful what you ask for!

Let me introduce you to our three more Ladies of Harley, Old Town Chapter:

Patty Kopcho is our Public Relations Officer who has been a member of HOG for 2.5 years. Patty volunteers about 12 hours per month selling ads in the Chapter Newsletter and getting the word out about how amazing this Chapter is. She also volunteers to help with the Chapter activities. Patty's favorite HOG events are the Chapter meetings and all Ladies of Harley Events.

Lori Bacchus is one of our Members at Large for the Chapter in 2024. She spends a few hours per month in this role and acts as the voice of the Chapter members, raising awareness to suggestions or issues that arise. She previously held the position of Ladies of Harley Officer and has been a HOG member for 13 years. Lori's favorite HOG events are the overnight rides, and she enjoys any of the Ladies of Harley events where we get together for fun and fellowship.

Becky Reimann is our Hugs Officer in 2024. For the last two years, Becky held the role of Secretary for the Chapter. In her Hugs Officer role, Becky spends a few hours a month reaching out to members who need a virtual hug, sending cards for occasions, both happy and sad, illness, surgery, and everything in between. Becky's favorite HOG events are the rides, and her favorite Ladies of Harley event is the Christmas Party and generally any event that brings the ladies together.

I hope you enjoy getting to know our Ladies of Harley! We have over 50 Ladies of Harley members, so Stay tuned for three more introductions in June.

Renee Adkins, Ladies of Harley Officer

Ladies of Harley is open to all women in the Chapter - - you do not need to be a rider to participate. You must however be an active full or associate member of HOG to be affiliated with Ladies of Harley. Although LOH is free of charge, membership is not automatic. If you would like to join, simply contact the national HOG office and request membership.

OLD TOWN HOG CHAPTER - BRANDON FL



CHAPTER MEETING

April 5, 2024

Chapter member/Head Road Captain Gary Stein introduced the 2024 officers: Secretary: Monica Byrnes, Treasurer: Kathy Reimann; Assistant Director: Steve Byrnes; and Director: Dennis Adams.

The meeting started at 7:30 pm with Director Dennis Adams.

The American Flag was presented by Gary Goff and the Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Steve discussed Ride 365 and the changes to the program this year. Points earned can be redeemed for gift certificates at participating dealerships. Dennis is working with Matt at Wesley Chapel to get the points entered. Tampa Bay Harley Davidson Dealership was present.

Dennis reminded everyone to visit our website, oldtownhog.com or Facebook page; Old Town Harley for information on rides, the newsletter, photos, ride calendar, Forum, and contact information. Answer the trivia question to win a prize.

No Guest(s) in attendance.

We had no new member(s) who stood up and introduced themselves.

The attendees recognized and sang Happy Birthday to all members with April birthdays.

Treasurer - Kathy Reimann gave her report.

Ladies of Harley Officer – Announced that the next LOH Meeting will be at Portillo's on April 9th. Bob Backus will lead the ride to Portillo's. Renee thanked the volunteers who helped with the Easter Egg Hunt at the Dealership. The Picnic Planning Meeting is at 7:00 p.m. on 4/11 at the Dealership. You can still sign up for the Picnic. The cost is \$15.00 per person which is refundable when you attend the picnic. Deadline for signing up is 4/19. There will be a Ladies Tea at 22 Moons at noon on 4/28. Chili Cook-Off will be held at April Bike Night on 4/26.

Merchandise Office – Richard "Mack" McElvenny & Pam Mangiaracina – There will be new merchandise arriving In May. Also, a check for \$100.00 donated to PAWs for Patriots.

All of April's rides were announced by the Road Captain Team.

- April 2 Hooters Rick Vincent
- April 6 Blackburn's BBQ Harry Werner
- April 7 Plaza Mexico Restaurant Bar & Grill Drew Moores
- April 9 Portillo's Bacchus
- April 13 Burger & Pancake House Don Amberg
- April 14 Fat Willie's Fish Camp David Brown
- April 16 Culver's Bob Monroe
- April 18 Raid on Key West Steve Byrnes
- April 19 Boondocks Grill Key West Steve Byrnes
- April 20 Lollygaggers Mark Rowley
- April 21 Roland Martin Tike Hut Steve Byrnes
- April 21 Mulligans Tavern Bob Backus
- April 23 Pomodoro Pizza Gary Stein
- April 27 Leesburg Bike Fest Pete Barack for Jack Hinton
- April 28 JB Boondocks Cal Reimann
- April 30 Mel's Hot Dogs Cal Reimann



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All of May's rides will be in Honor of our beloved Colonel Ron Rook.

Safety Officer – Drew Moores – Please read the Newsletter. It is full of important information.

Steve Byrnes stated that you can contact the Membership Officer, Robin Bacchus, to join the Chapter and/or go to the website for additional information and forms.

Dennis explained that a 777 patch is awarded to any member who rides 777 one-way miles in one months' time. This does not include overnight rides. You can only receive the 777 patch once. Each year following that you ride 777 miles in one month you will receive year patch.

There were no 777 Patch Winners for March. The next chance to get the 777 Patch will be in April.

Dennis explained that the Posse Rider Patch is awarded to any member who has received eighteen participation points in a calendar year. You can only receive the Tombstone patch one time, and a year patch will be given for each subsequent award.

There were 14 Posse Patch winners for March.

Dennis and Steve explained the Rider and Member of the Month awards: Member/Rider/Board Member/Road Captain of the Month awards are given to members having the most participation point/miles with a calendar month that have not previously been awarded within the calendar year.

March Rider of the Month		
General Membership		
James Schmitz	1st	471
Gary Golf	2nd	435
Axel Hollanda	3rd	398

March Rider of the Month		
Board/Road Captain		
David Brown	1st	716
Bob Backus	2nd	681
Gary Stein	3rd	624

March Member of the Month			
General Membership			
Gary Goff	1st	13	
Vince Loadwick	2nd	10	
James Schmitz	2nd	10	
Sheri Philhower	3rd	8	
Denise Schneider	3rd	8	

March Member of the Month		
Board/Road Captain		
David Brown	1st	16
Gary Stein	2nd	15
Becky		
Reimann	3rd	13

Member and Rider of the Year - As of 3/31/2024				
Rider of the Year - General Member- ship		Member of the Year - General Membership		
Name	Miles	Name		
Larry Snyder	1149	Larry Snyder		
James Schmitz	997	James Schmitz		
Gary Golf	742	Gary Golf		
Gina Werner	684	Vince Loadwick		
Barry Shapiro	682	Crafton Price		
Edi Shapiro	682	Denise Schneider		
Crafton Price	649	Robby Salvog		
Denise Schneider	636	Edi & Barry Shapiro		

Member of the Year - General Membership	
Name	Points
Larry Snyder	25
James Schmitz	23
Gary Golf	22
Vince Loadwick	20
Crafton Price	20
Denise Schneider	18
Robby Salvog	18
Edi & Barry Shapiro	14

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Rider of the Year - Board Member/ Road Captains		
Name	Miles	
Cal Reimann	1703	
David Brown	1526	
Steve Byrnes	1479	
Bob Backus	1453	
Gary Stein	1429	
Harry Werner	1290	
Don Amberg	1255	
Becky Reimann	954	

Member of the Year - Board Member/Road Captains		
Name	Points	
Cal Reimann	43	
Gary Stein	39	
Bob Backus	38	
David Brown	38	
Becky Reimann	31	
Dennis Adams	30	
Steve Byrnes	29	
Kathy Reimann	28	

Monthly challenge question won by Mark Rowley.

Newsletter Reader won by Leslie (Shoes) Monroe.

Name Tag drawing won by Elizabeth Arney.

Axle Hollanda won Ride Lotto.

T-shirt ride won by Debbie Speicher.

Secret Greeter was Pete Barack and won by Paul Keene

General Raffles: Mark Rowley, Pam Retter, and Mike P

50/50 and general prizes were drawn.

Our next meeting will be May 3rd, 2024.

The meeting concluded at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Monica Byrnes, Secretary



OTC Overnight Ride MAY 30th - JUNE 2nd



OLD TOWN HOG CHAPTER - BRANDON FL



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

April 10, 2024

The meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Director Dennis Adams.

Board Members Present: Dennis Adams, Steve Byrnes, Monica Byrnes, Kathy Reimann, Gary Stein, Bob Backus, David Brown, Drew Moores, Cal Reimann, Len Goellner, Crafton Price, Becky Reimann, Renee Atkins, Richard McElvenny, Pam Mangiaracina, Debbie Speicher, Patty Kopcho, Craig Collet, Joe Hall, Mike Mangiaracina, David Atkins, Lori Bacchus, Robin Bacchus

Board Members Missing: Pete Barack, Jack Hinton, Dan Balla, Rick Vincent, Paul Fore, and Marty Roland

Past Directors: Cal Reimann, Robin Bacchus, David Brown

Director: Dennis Adams

OLD BUSINESS: Ride 365 Points – we are still working with Matt in Wesley Chapel to be able to enter the mileage into the system. Please keep sending your miles in.

NEW BUSINESS:

Treasurer: **Kathy Reimann** – Kathy gave a report. A motion was made by David Brown to accept the report, the motion was seconded by Renee Adkins and approved.

Secretary: Monica Byrnes – nothing to report

Membership Officer: **Robin Bacchus** reported 151 members, and 1 waiver. It was also brought to our attention that if you are a Life Member and purchase a new motorcycle that you would receive \$59.00.

Head Road Captain: Gary Stein – Gary announced that Pete Barack is a new Road Captain and introduced Joe Hall as a new Road Captain Recruit. He announced that all rides in May are in honor of Colonel Ron Rook. April is also a 777 month.

Senior Road Captain: **Bob Backus** – Tuesday night dinner ride was to Portillo's. There were 21 bikes, 25 riders and passengers and 18 attendees. This was the Ladies of Harley Meeting for April.

Jack Hinton – not in attendance

David Brown – Sunday's ride is to Fat Willie's Fish Camp. They will be opening early to accommodate our group. Please arrive early.

Communication Officer: Pete Barack – not in attendance

Safety Officer: Drew Moores – Rider's skills will be on 5/5.

Ladies of Harley Officer: Renee Adkins – Road Captain Appreciation Dinner will be 6/19

Fundraising Officer: **Len Goellner** – We are always looking for Harley gifts for give aways at the meetings. He stated that anybody who gives him a giveaway will receive a ticket for the raffles. The TBHD General Manager will be providing the gift cards for the meetings. There is a lot of participation for the 50/50's. Thank you to all who participate.

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Parliamentarian: Dan Balla – not in attendance.

Merchandise Officer: **Richard McElvenny** –Our Hats should be arriving soon. The hats will sell for \$23.00.

Public Relations: **Patty Kopcho** – There are no new ads and no renewals currently. Patty is planning on going around to the Vendors on Bike night to see if she can get some interest in purchasing an ad.

Hugs: **Becky Reimann** – please let her know if any members know of anybody who is sick, in the hospital or a death in the family so she can send Hugs from the Chapter. She sends out cards as the need arrives.

Webmaster: **Craig Collet** – please text or email Craig if you have any changes or additions (remove David Brown from Ride 365). Craig is looking for good challenge questions. If you send in an answer for the Challenge question, you are entered in the drawing at the meeting.

Newsletter Editor: Cal Reimann – articles are due by the 20th of the month. Cal will have 50 newsletters printed for this month. He'll keep an eye open to see if we will do the same for next month or if we will go back to having 40 printed.

Photographer: **Debbie Speicher** – thanked everyone who sends her pictures when she is not on the ride. Debbie reminded everyone to vote for their favorite photo bomber. The contest will end on 4/12. The photo with the most votes will win a small prize.

Historian: Crafton Price – all good

Members at Large: **Joe Hall** – Joe is going to continue to check on Bonding for the Board of Directors who handle the money.

Mike Mangiaracina – all good

David Adkins - all good

Lori Bacchus – all good

Assistant Director: Steve Byrnes – Steve stated that we are all set for the Key West trip on 4/18 - 4/21. There will be a June Planning Committee Meeting for PAW's. The PAW's Shoot Out is scheduled for 9/28. Steve is planning the Tellico ride for 8/31 - 9/2. Please check the Road Captain schedule for more information.

Cal Reimann – all good

Robin Bacchus – all good

David Brown – David reminded everyone that anybody who enters an answer for the Challenge question will be entered for the drawing.

Open Discussion: **Dennis Adams** – Dennis thought that he would contact Bruce Motta from Harley in Milwaukee to see if he can get any additional information on Ride 365.

Activities: Spring Picnic will be 5/4. Road Captain appreciation is 6/19. Game night will be 6/29. And Movie night will be 8/17.

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:39 pm.

Respectfully submitted, *Monica Byrnes*, *Secretary*

"Please support the OTC Newsletter Sponsors".







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Debbie "Patches" DiLeonardo Do you need a patch sewn on? Leather work/repairs? **Contact Debbie at 813-384-0207**





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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Daniel Evans

WE ARE 152 MEMBERS STRONG!



We're glad you joined the Old Town Chapter and look forward to seeing you on our Chapter Rides and participating at our events. If you have any questions about Chapter events, please contact our Director, Dennis Adams. Remember, you must maintain your National HOG membership to maintain your membership in the Old Town HOG Chapter. Any member who lets their national HOG membership expire will be put as "inactive" in the Old Town Chapter and will no longer be eligible to receive the newsletter!



Don Amberg

Ray Weber

Lori Walker

Craig Collet

Jeanie Dion

Marlene Monroy

Chapter membership forms no longer ask for a member's birthday; we are unable to modify these forms as they are provided by National HOG. If you would like to share your special day with us, please contact/ email our Membership Officer, His Contact information: Robin Bacchus 813.415.5011 casybritt@aol.com

DID YOU READ OUR NEWSLETTER?

Send an email by Friday, May 5 @ 1 pm to otcnewsletter@hotmail.com with a subject line of:

RON ROOK'S RIDES!

(don't forget to include your full name in the email for a chance to win a \$25 H-D gift card.)



2024 OLD TOWN CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP

Like what you see? Member of the National Harley Owners Group? New Membership forms will be found in this publication or available our Membership Officer or any OTC Road Captain.

Your signed membership form and a check for \$30 payable to Old Town Chapter insures your passport to continued fun in 2024.

Mail to: Membership Officer: Robin Bacchus

11435 Newgate Crest Drive Riverview, FL 33579

(Help support "OUR" Great Chapter)

Remember, if you want your birthday in the newsletter you will have to give it to Robin to provide to Newsletter Editor: Cal Reimann.

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ADVERTISE IN THE OTC NEWSLETTER

New Rates for 2024

Page	Monthly	Annual
1/8	\$8	\$ 88
1/4	\$16	\$176
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TAMPA BAY HARLEY-DAVIDSON

9841 E. Adamo Dr. Tampa, FL 33619 813.740.9898





TOP 10 MISTAKES BY MOTORCYCLISTS:

Here are ten common mistakes made by motorcyclists:

- 1. **Not wearing proper safety gear**: This includes helmets, gloves, jackets, and boots. Many riders overlook this, especially on short trips, but it's crucial for protection.
- 2. **Riding beyond skill level**: Some motorcyclists push themselves too hard, attempting maneuvers or speeds beyond their capabilities, leading to accidents.
- 3. **Neglecting regular maintenance**: Failing to maintain your motorcycle can lead to mechanical failures while riding, which can be extremely dangerous.
- 4. **Ignoring road conditions**: Motorcyclists need to be particularly vigilant about road conditions such as potholes, gravel, or oil spills, as these can cause loss of control.
- 5. **Riding under the influence**: Just like driving a car, operating a motorcycle under the influence of alcohol or drugs greatly impairs judgment and reaction time.
- 6. **Tailgating**: Following other vehicles too closely reduces reaction time and increases the risk of rear-end collisions.
- 7. **Neglecting to signal or check blind spots**: Motorcyclists should always signal their intentions and check their blind spots before changing lanes or making turns.
- 8. **Speeding**: Excessive speed reduces reaction time and increases the severity of accidents. It's important to adhere to speed limits and adjust speed according to road conditions.
- 9. **Riding without proper training**: Many motorcyclists hit the road without proper training or education, which can lead to unsafe riding practices.
- 10. **Being invisible to other drivers**: Motorcycles are smaller and less visible than cars, so it's important for riders to ride defensively and assume that other drivers may not see them.

Avoiding these mistakes can significantly reduce the risk of accidents and injuries while riding a motorcycle.

Honorable Mention: Not having Uninsured/Underinsured Motorist Coverage. Approximately 25% of Florida Drivers have no Bodily Injury liability coverage. Critical to have this most important coverage in your motorcycle and auto policies.

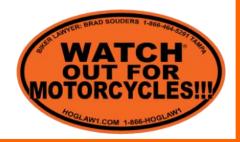
Brad Souders, a lifetime biker, an award-winning attorney with more than 30 years' experience – A Biker Representing Bikers!

Attorney Brad Souders has a main office in Tampa, representing injured bikers and their families throughout the state of Florida.

Free Initial Consultations, also offering home, hospital & evening or weekend appointments. Simply call Brad's cell phone at 813-220-7767.

Brad Souders

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Old Town Chapter		H.O.G. Calendar		May 2024		Brandon FL
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
SCHI LANGUAGO ON			-	2	3 Chapter Meeting Hilton Garden Inn, 4328 Garden Vista Drive, Riverview, FL Social Hour 6-7:30pm. Meeting 7:30pm	Chapter Picnic Ride KSU @ 9am from RaceTrac, (Fletcher Ave & Telecom Pkwy), Guess the Mileage, 0R/S, 2hrs, Fall Picnic @ EG Simmons Park HRC Gary Stein
5 Welcome Wagon Class Welcome Wagon Ride Texas Roadhouse 13006 S. US Hwy 301 KSU @ 11am from TBHD, 43 mi, 0 RS, 1.25 hrs. RC/SO Drew Moores B3 Range Training	Q	7 LOH Mission BBQ 1504 W. Brandon, Blvd., KSU @ 7pm from TBHD SRC David Brown	8 Board Meeting 7pm. TBHD Classroom	ത	10	Yalaha Bakery KSU @ 8:14 A.M. RaceTrac 5951 N US 301 & Sligh Ave, 98 mi, 1 RS, 2.76 hrs. RC Rick Vincent
B3 Range Training 12 Broken Yoke Café KSU @ 8am from Wawa, 2604 US 301 & Causeway, 32 mi, 0 RS, 1 hr. Ron Rook's Breakfast Ride RC/AD Steve Byrnes	13	14 O'Brien's Irish Pub 701 W. Lumsden Rd., Brandon, KSU 7pm from TBHD RC Harry Werner	15 Road Captains Meeting 6:30pm TBHD Classroom	16	17	18 WACO Kitchen (To Be Determined) KSU @ 9:30am from Wawa (Bloomingdale Ave & US-301), 51 mi, 0 RS, 1.5 hrs. RC Pete Barack T-SHIRT
KSU 9:30 AM Regency Square KSU 9:30 AM Regency Square Mall across from Red Lobster to the Rest-Stop at mile marker 307 I-75. 23 mi, 45-min. We will go onto Bushnell National Cemetery to visit with Ron. Dir RC Dennis Adams.	0	East Coast Pizza 13340 Lincoln Rd, Riverview, KSU @ 7pm from TBHD HRC Gary Stein	77	3	ţ	Old Castle German Restaurant KSU 10AM @ 7-11, Falkenburg @ Palm River, 2 hrs., 0 RS, 66 mi RC Harry Werner
26 Nav-a-Gator Bar and Grill KSU @ 9am from Steak and Shake - Bloomindale/Gornto Lake Rd (Riverview, FL) 92 mi, 1 RS, 3 hrs. RC Robin Bacchus	27	Golden Corral Golden Corral 815 Providence Rd, Brandon, KSU @ 7PM from TBHD SRC Bob Backus	29 Como vido utile red	30 Biloxi overnight ride KSU @ 6:00am from Flying J. I-75 & SR 52, 542 miles, 6 RS, 10 hours SRC David Brown	31 Biloxi Cafe DuMonde KSU @ 8am from Shell Gas Station 856 Beach Blvd., 170 mi, 2 RS, 8 hours SRC David Brown Tampa Bay HD Bike Night 6pm – 9pm	

Come ride with us!
Check out our website @ http://www.oldtownhog.com/

Old Town Chapter, Inc. #5039 9841 Adamo Dr. Brandon, FL 33619

Harley Owners Group



This month's Chapter Meeting is:

MAY 3rd, 2024

Next month's Chapter Meeting is:

JUNE 7th, 2024

at the Hilton Garden Inn

4328 Garden Vista Drive, Riverview, FL 33578

Social Hour from 6:00 PM - Meeting starts at 7:30 PM

Chapter Meeting Schedule for 2024

January 5th - PAST July 5th -

February 2nd - PAST August 9th -

March 1st - PAST September 6th -

April 5th - PAST October 4th -

May 3rd - November 8th -

June 7th - Dec. 7th Christmas Party



Support our Local Dealer
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