

Smoky Mountain H.O.G. Chapter #3002

General Membership Meeting

DATE: 9/14/2024

Harley-Davidson of Asheville (porch)

General Membership Meeting began at approximately 10:59 a.m. Director Matthew Mims called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Chaplain Juli Morgan gave the invocation. Director Mims welcomed everyone in attendance at today's meeting.

From the Director Matthew Mims: Reminded everyone about the Ice Cream Social and Ride after the meeting.

Matthew then introduced members of the Blue Ridge Honor Flight team that thanked us for our donation to them. They spoke for a few minutes about what Blue Ridge Honor Flight is, who can go on their trips to Washington, and how to become a Guardian on one of their Flights. The next Welcome Home Event will be on Saturday, September 28th at Asheville Airport.

Matthew then reminded the members that nominations for Director and Treasurer are now open. We will vote at our October meeting. Absentee ballots will be available for those that can't attend the October meeting. Steve Short and Michael Ketchum have thrown their name in the ring for Treasurer.

HD General Manager Steve Larson: A gift (pocketknife) is available with a \$300 purchase. Steve also reminded everyone of the 10% off coupons for HOG members today. Tiffany showed us the new Harley Halloween shirts that are in stock. She also told us about the Gift Basket that the Dealership is selling raffle tickets for with all the proceeds going to HOG for the Toy Run. There's over \$1400 worth of goodies in the gift basket. Tickets are \$2 each, or the length of your bike for \$10. Ray announced that he would soon be leaving the dealership. He thanked all that have volunteered for events while he's been at HD Asheville.

Matthew introduced the HOG members from Texas that were visiting with us today. He also told us about the TC Roberson Toy Drive on 10/4/24. We'll be meeting at Ingles on Long Shoals Rd., at 6:15, for a short ride to the school.

Officer Updates:

Assistant Director Pat Harvey: Pat reminded us that leaf season is almost upon us. We all need to remember that lots and lots of tourists will be in the area looking at the foliage and not paying a lot of attention for motorcycles.

Treasurer Cliff Dodson: Cliff announced that we have \$15,992.46 in the bank. He spoke in a little more detail about the TC Roberson event. He thanked everyone that had offered help during Shelley's surgery and recovery. She is mending well.

Secretary Marcia Pruitt: Reminded everyone of the Ice Cream Social directly after the meeting and asked for patience while everything is getting setup. She also thanked everyone for their kind comments on the ribbons she had won at the NC Mountain State Fair. Matthew asked for feedback on the Ice Cream Social.

Head Road Captain Robert Schweikert: Thanked Road Captains that had led rides since our last meeting. There's a ride on the Blue Ridge Parkway scheduled for after the meeting. Robert also talked about riding staggered and the correct placement if riding behind a trike. Tim Martin won the prize for participating in a ride. Please check the calendar for all upcoming ride dates and details.

Safety Officer Michael Wilson: Encouraged everyone to participate in any training opportunities that are available. He also talked with the group about visibility and the factors that play into what a rider can see easily. Remember that certain medical conditions can also affect vision.

Membership Officer Kristen Schweikert: We have 172 members. Kristen welcomed all the new members. The monthly challenge for September is taking a picture with an orchard. August's challenge was having your picture made at a picnic area. Michael Wilson won the gift for the August challenge.

Merchandise Officer Diane Davis: Merchandise is available in the cabinet at the HOG office. Anyone in Motor Clothes can help with a purchase.

Sunshine Officer Cara Wilson: Cara is home sick today. She will be training with Kristen to take over Membership in the new year.

Photographer Tim Pruitt: Tim had nothing new to report.

Social Media Sarah Ashleigh: Sarah has taken over doing our social media postings. She asked for folks to let her know of rides/events she needs to post.

Activities Team Sandra Mims, Teri Nelson, Sarah Ashleigh, Tom Shantz: Sandra announced that we'll be doing, "Socktober," again. All the socks that we gather will go to the Veteran's Home. She reminded us of our Toy Run in November and that volunteers will be needed in a variety of ways. The Santa Selfie Contest will be held again this year. Take your picture with Santa, or any holiday character, at each Toy Run you participate in for a chance to win a prize. December 12, 2024 will be our annual Dirty Santa Sock Party. January 11, 2025 will be the date of our New Year's Party. It will be held at the Legion Hall again. Terri Nelson won the door prize for being in attendance at today's meeting.

50/50 Drawing Shelley Dodson: Michael Ketchum won.

Other Business: The winners of the Volunteer Drawing were: \$500 Gift Card – Spider Trantham, \$250 Gift Card – Cara Wilson, and the \$125 Gift Card – Kevin Graham.

Final Announcements: Our next meeting will be October 12, 2024.

Meeting adjourned at approximately _12:04___ p.m.

Minutes prepared and submitted by M. Pruitt