GRUENE TRAILS



GRUENE HOG NEWSLETTER MAY 2012

Congratulations to Neil Scirone, our newest Road Captain.



And congratulations to Michelle Scirone, our new LOH officer.

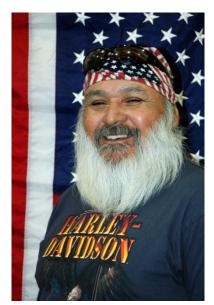


Neil and Michelle have been Gruene HOG members since Dec 2010.

I know they will both do a great job.

MEET THE MEMBERS

This month meet Joe Gonzales our membership officer. Joe has been riding since about 1971. Currently he owns a 2012 Ultra Limited purchased from Gruene Harley Davidson that's already been to California and back for Harley Officers Training.



Don't tell anyone but he is also Santa Clause.



So who are we?

Lately there has been some discussion about some of the aspects of the motorcycle world, and where we fit in. First of all Harley Owners Group is just that, a group. If you own a Harley and pay your money for the dues you're in, that's it. We are a group of people from all walks of life, from teachers, pilots, mechanics, soldiers, retired people so on and so on. We love riding and associating with other members. HOG's motto is "ride and have fun" and we try really hard to make that a reality. We wear two patches that show our designation. The top one designating what HOG chapter we are member of, then the large one showing the HOG logo. This should always be referred to as a "patch". Then there are clubs. Clubs have different requirements for being members and depending on the club could be very drastic. Most clubs require a "prospecting" period where the other members find out if he is club material. "Prospects" may have to wash and stand guard over the member's bikes and many other odd jobs to try and prove their worthiness. These are called "three patch clubs" and "M/C's". The top patch or "rocker" has the club name then the large club logo in the center, then the bottom "rocker" with the clubs territory. These are referred to as "colors" and will be defended at all costs. Do not disrespect the "colors".

Then there are 1% clubs. Years ago there was a study that turned into a statement that only 1% of the people that ride motorcycles cause problems or are criminally active. These are also "three patch clubs". I won't name them here, but you can research them on your own. And if you don't know how to show proper "respect" to them, it's best to stay away. Respect is very, very important to these guys.

Last, there are motorcycle ministries, or "M/M's". Some, depending on their focus group, may also be "M/C's". My favorite would of course be the Blacksheep HDFC.(shameless plug, www.Blacksheephdfc.org) The Blacksheep are a "one patch group" and most are also HOG members.

This is only a brief overview of some of the motorcycle culture out there. TV reality shows, books and internet articles are out there for more in depth information on the motorcycle world.

Be careful out there and keep the shiny side up!

Editor/Chaplan

Matt Gardner

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