The Stars and Pipes

Jan-Feb 2020



Some might call it seasonal insanity. We call it snow plowing with pipes.



Fairfax Harley Owners Group



EDITOR'S COLUMN

Hi there!

I'm Wes, the new newsletter editor.

I suppose an introduction is warranted since I've only been a HOG since last June: my hometown is Burbank, California (I've written three books about the place) but I have lived in Springfield, Virginia for 32 years. I've been married 39 years and I have three kids and seven grandkids. (It's true: the grandkids *are* the payoff for having kids.)

My wife Cari has her three wheel endorsement; perhaps some day you'll see her out with us.

I was a Sergeant in the Marine Corps from 1974-1978, a former rugby player where I played in the position called "second row " (one of the guys who unaccountably find scrums recreational), a bad Fender Jazz Bass player, and a former Civil War (Union—guys in blue) and Revolutionary War (American, not British) historical reenactor. Other hobbies include classical music (think Stravinsky, not Stones), genealogy and fine Swiss watches. And other stuff.

My ride - "Paladin" - is a 2016 Road King 103 Twin Cam in Vivid Black, and I've been riding for only 1 1/2 years. I took up riding at age 62. You see, I spent my entire life knowing that motorcycles were terrifying and that the minute I tried to ride one I'd hurt myself badly. That could still happen, but, hey, like, it hasn't yet, okay?

Really, everything you would ever want to know about me is at *wesclark.com*—go there. I am happy to be of service to F-HOG!



Stars and Pipes

A publication for the Fairfax Harley Owners Group (F-HOG) in Fairfax, Virginia

January-February 2020

Volume 22, Issue 1

As must be clear by my participation here, anyone — ANYONE — can submit articles for this newsletter— and please do!

That goes double for you, Boss Hogs. Triple.

Send stuff to editor@fairfaxhog.com. I like funny photos, too.

At a recent officers' meeting we discussed possibly making this newsletter a quarterly publication, but opted instead to remain monthly for the time being. More issues mean more content. More content means more writers and contributors. So I'll be hitting you folks up with minor writing assignments, okay?

Ride Safe! (And warmly—if you can manage that.)

Wes

COVER: If that "Snow Glide" looks a little far-fetched to you, check out this real photograph below.



DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

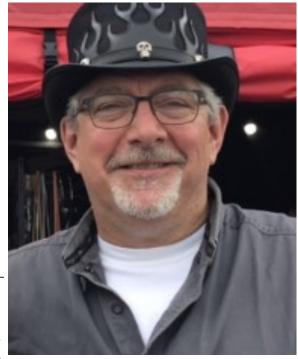
Happy New Year Everyone!

For anyone who doesn't know me, I am Ray, and I have once again been given the privilege and honor

to serve as your FHOG Director. I have 4 years under my belt as an officer of this great chapter and I am looking forward to 2020 as being a benchmark year in the legacy of Fairfax Harley Owner's Group.

Along with our Corporate Sponsor, Patriot Harley-Davidson, we have an amazing team of officers that are highly enthusiastic in leading our chapter through the next 12 to 24 months of fun events, exciting rides, community support and group fellowship. You will get to know each of them in the months ahead and I encourage you to engage them with your ideas, questions and suggestions. We are all here for you. Please use us!

The ultimate mission for FHOG is to Ride and Have Fun. In accordance with our mission, we will focus on two main operational goals in 2020: Full Transparency and Clear Vision. As we launch into the next 20 years of continued growth, we need to think outside the box and use the endless array of talents and knowledge of our members. We need to reach out to



our brothers and sisters in other chapters to see what's working for them. We need to throw open our windows and become truly transparent. For only through transparency will we gain clear vision.

One of the biggest tasks with which I have challenged the officers is to reconstruct our chapter meetings. While this will be a fluid exercise, you should see some exciting changes in the upcoming months. Member participation and total financial transparency are just two pieces of the new format you can expect. We are working with the training and safety programs to entice present and new members to get involved. A more comprehensive, exciting and rewards-based program will result in higher participation and, subsequently, to safer riders and better rides.

Boss Hog training will always be part of the FHOG culture. 2020 officers are developing a mentor program providing a clearer path to achieve the Boss Hog rocker. Road Captain training will also be reformulated to achieve the Road Captain certification within the chapter. Procurement will continue to provide all the goods members want and will accept credit cards as instituted last year.

The Ride of FHOG 2020 is one you will want to be on. I encourage you to attend our meetings, enjoy our group rides and get involved. I am committed to you and to our dealer to making this next year fun-filled and exciting. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me at our next meeting, ride or email.

And always remember, We Ride as One.

Ray Riddle

PRESENTING THE 2020 OFFICERS

"The Year of Clear Vision and Full Transparency"

Director: Ray Riddle



Treasurer: Ed Murphy



Activities: Courtney Scott



Asst Director: Jack Causa



Activities: Allen Foster



Community Relations: Linda Collins



Secretary: JD Morrissette



Activities: Anthony Rahner



Editor: Wes Clark



PRESENTING THE 2020 OFFICERS

"The Year of Clear Vision and Full Transparency"

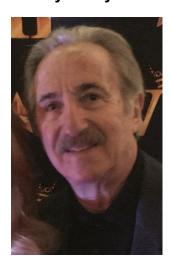
Membership: Holli Hurst



Procurement: Ollie Pluntke



Safety: Larry Zabel



Membership: Kurt Hurst



Procurement: Vince DeVito



Webmaster: Fabrice Corbatto



Historian: Anne Foster



Head Road Captain: Joe Livingood



Photographer: RJ Diaz



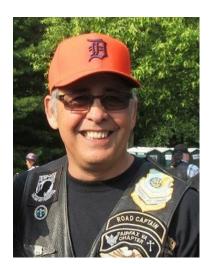
PRESENTING THE 2020 OFFICERS

"The Year of Clear Vision and Full Transparency"

Photographer: Walter Herrity



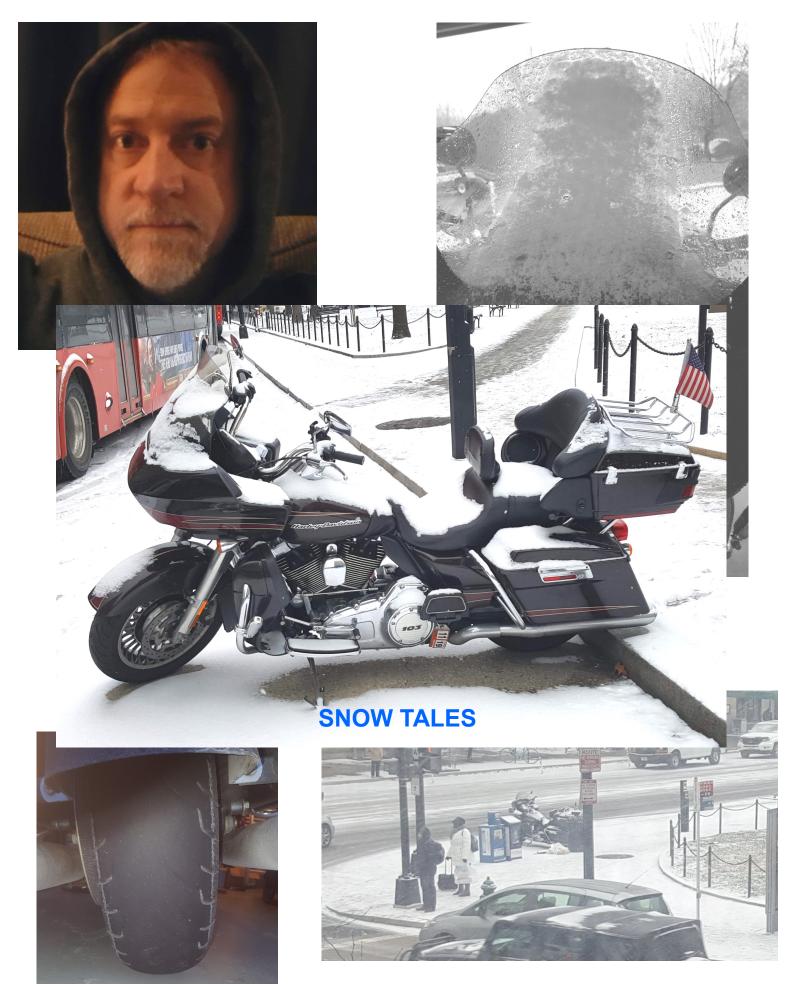
Photographer: Tom Zedan



Dealer Liaison: Ruby Lowe







Timothy Alexander's frozen adventures are described on the next page.

Around these parts January and February mean snow, and I was thrashing around ideas for my first newsletter at the 12/14 gift wrapping activity at Patriot Harley-Davidson when fellow new guy Timothy Alexander chimed in. He later furnished the jolly seasonal photos you saw on the previous page and this funny tale:

"February 2019—I unsuspectingly rode to work from Fredericksburg to DC. Shortly after I arrived, it started to snow. When I came out to go home, my Hog was covered. After cleaning the snow off, I geared up for the journey home. I tried to pull out but all I got was a spinning rear tire because of the slight upward incline of the road. So I had to tilt the Hog and turn to the left to get the back end to spin around so I could get some momentum. One wrong move and I would go down at the curve. Once I got moving, all I had to do is keep it smooth, no quick moves, avoiding all the steel grates and manhole covers. Upon arriving home, I noticed my rear tire was completely bald! I knew it was getting low on tread but I didn't realize it was that bad. The new tires I ordered had arrived a couple days before.

"The picture of me frozen was from Thanksgiving, 2017. I rode down to my in-laws in Myrtle Beach, SC. It was nice and warm on the ride down. I stayed the week of Thanksgiving but the day I was to return, a cold front moved in. I geared up and put on my heated liners. As I rode north, the temperature continued to drop below freezing and I continued to get colder. It was a seven-hour ride into the night. When I got home I was so cold I almost fell over in the garage because I could hardly move my legs; I was cold for days. When I investigated why I was so cold I found that my heated liners were not working. When I inspected the power feed from the bike, I found that the wires had separated, were broken and were not providing power to my gear. Lesson learned: Install a second power feed and bring more layers for colder weather!"

Tim is a self-described extreme rider. I reckon so! He does the DC-Fredericksburg commute in all weather—normally with tires featuring more tread than depicted upon the previous page.

Chat with him and get to know him!



HOGs "Last Day of the Year Ride," Great Falls, VA, 12/31/19

HARLEY HIBERNATION TIPS

Not all motorcycle riders ride year-round, so for those that are looking to keep your motorcycle in good shape while in hibernation, here are some helpful tips:

1. Full Tank of Gas & Stabilizer

Make sure you have a full tank and add fuel stabilizer to promote a healthy engine when you fire it back up in the spring. Make sure that you let your motor run for several minutes when finally fire it back up.

2. Fill up your fluids

Confirm your bike's brake, coolant (if applicable), and clutch fluids, maintaining or changing as needed. Some people suggest draining your oil etc. completely and waiting for spring, but I prefer to change my oil and fluids right before winter sets in. This way I have fresh fluids and don't have to worry about rings or seals deteriorating.

3. Put your Battery on a Tender or Remove it

Newer motorcycles experience a slight battery drain in order to maintain things like your clock and radio presets. Remove the battery entirely and store in a moderately warm and dry space. If you will be riding occasionally over the winter, I prefer to put my battery on a tender year-round in order to keep my battery at peak performance levels.

4. Maintain your Tires

If you have a lift, keep your tires completely off the ground to prevent any flat spots. If you don't have a lift, just move your bike around so that the same spot on the tire is not always carrying the weight of the motorcycle. Most importantly maintain recommended tire pressure **ALL YEAR ROUND!**

5. Wax, Baby, Wax

A fresh coat of wax before winter helps prevent rust from periods of inactivity. Always wash, thoroughly dry and wax your motorcycle before winterization. WD-40 works great on pipes and bolts to help keep moisture and rust away. You can also cover the exhaust pipes to keep mice and critters as necessary.

6. Location, Location

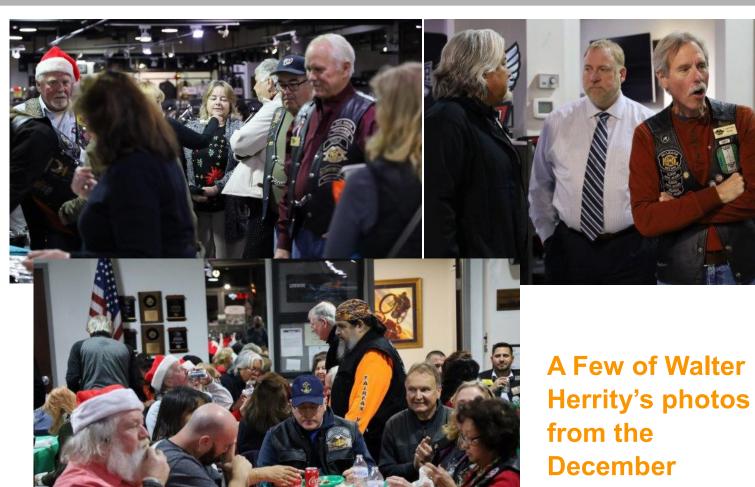
Pick the right place for your bike's long winter slumber. Storing in direct sunlight will cause items to

fade. Get yourself a nice breathable cover which will keep sunlight, dust and other unpleasant surprises away. If you don't have a nice cave for your bike to hibernate in, Patriot Harley Davidson offers affordable winter storage and will provide routine maintenance and service as needed.

Spring will be here before you know it, so make sure you prepare your motorcycle for its winter hibernation correctly!

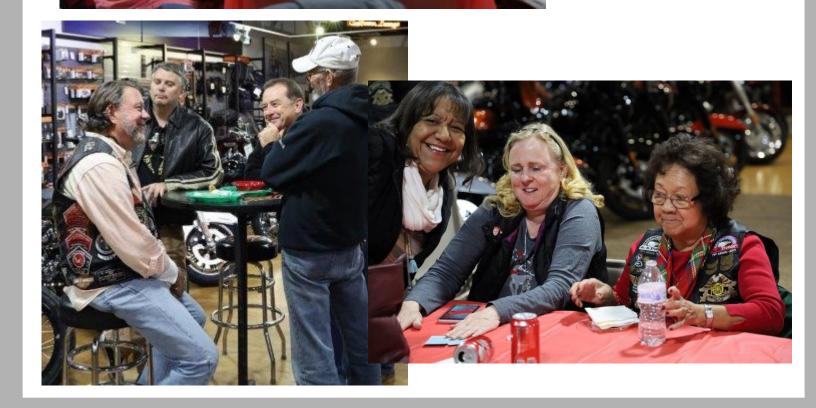
Joe Livingood, Head Road Captain





Meeting...

The rest can been seen on the Gallery on the website!





The deal in December was, buy an item from Patriot Harley-Davidson on December 7th or the 14th and HOG Elves Sholpan Butterfield, Blair Couk, Ruby Lowe or Cari Clark giftwrapped it for you.

Note from Fabrice, the HOGS Webmaster: "The newsletter is a PDF file that is set up for an 8.5" x 11" page format... Inherently, this is not conducive to being easily read with a mobile phone. I recommend downloading and using a PDF reader application for mobile phones as those do wonders to alleviate this issue. I regret any inconvenience."

Trying to produce a graphical file that is easily readable on a multitude of workstations, laptops, tablets and smartphones all running different operating systems and with a host of browsers is a friggin' nightmare. (Have you ever met a software developer? Do these seem like the kind of people who naturally all agree with one another?) Do yourself a big favor and read this newsletter on

something with a big screen, okay? Put the smartphone back in your pocket!

Right: Check out that flashy new orange bike that Patriot H-D got in last month. Word is that some little girl was especially nice and Santa rewarded her...





An enterprising gang of HOGs rode out for the annual Wind Chill Ride, 1 January 2020, where they found this handsome embankment for a group photo.

Leather is your friend in cold weather!



...AND THE WINNER IS...

By Marty Smith, 2019 FHOG Activities Officer

So, Thanks to EVERYONE who participated in the 2019 Fairfax Alphabet Soup Tracking game!

We had four contestants this year, which isn't bad for our first time out. The game was created to fill the void left by the departure of the ABCs of Touring contest that National HOG used to have every year for member participation. Points are earned with photos, each one depicting an official sign, our Chapter newsletter, and the member's bike.

For our top 3, it was pretty close.

Our winners are as follows:





Second Place – Dave Danner with 86 confirmed points!



Third Place – Anne Foster with 81 confirmed points!



Honorable Mention – Allen Foster with 18 points!



Thanks to everyone in participating in our contest this year.

Winners will also be recognized at the January Fairfax HOG Chapter Meeting!

VINTAGE RIDES

No matter how cool your Harley is—and, yeah, we all know it's cool—it can never be as cool as Elvis Presley's Harley because, well, he was The King, wasn't he? This is an excerpt from an July 12, 2019 article in *ultimatemotorcy-cling.com*:

It's no secret that rock 'n' roll pioneer and icon Elvis Presley was a motorcycle enthusiast. He owned countless motorcycles, but this AMF-era 1976 Harley-Davidson FLH-1200 Electra Glide is a special one. It is claimed to be the last motorcycle Presley purchased before dying in 1977. Kruse GWS Auctions will put the Presley Electra Glide on the auction block on August 31 at a yet-to-be-disclosed location in Los Angeles as part of the Artifacts of Hollywood collection. According to Kruse GWS Auctions, Presley bought the 1976 Harley-Davidson Electra Glide on August 11 in California. The FLH is custom-painted and is a low-mileage example. Previously, the Electra Glide has been displayed in a glass case at the Pioneer Auto Show in Murdo, South Dakota. The 1976 Harley-Davidson FLH-1200 Electra Glide featured a 1206cc Shovelhead motor with a four-speed transmission. Peak output was 58 horsepower at 5150 rpm. With a curb weight of 761 pounds, the FLH topped out at about 84 mph.

Along with the motorcycle, all of the essential documentation is included, such as the title and registration in Elvis Presley's name. There is also a bill of sale, as Presley sold the 1976 Harley-Davidson FLH-1200 Electra Glide just three months before his death.

NADA Guides put the value of an excellent condition 1976 Harley-Davidson FLH-1200 Electra Glide at \$16,395. Expect to pay much more for the Presley motorcycle.



Yes, *much* more. That '76 FLH-1200 sold for a whopping \$800,000 making it the third most expensive motorcycle in the world. It had just 126 miles on it.

Not all of Elvis' rides were this cool. In the 1970s The King also rode a weird-looking 1975 Super Cycle Stallion trike.

Yikes.

The only thing worse-looking than that fairing is that jumpsuit.

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Happy Birthday Friends!

January birthdays

February birthdays

Jack Causa

Robert J. Cool

David A. Brown

Steven Royle

Oscar Saenz

Frank Tamburelli

George H. Billy

Laurie Freese

James R. Stocking

Bruce Mersereau

Allen C. Haid

Scott Blevins

Christopher Reimann

Thomas Dobrai

EJ Thompson

Michaela LeMessurier

Robert Eich

Megan Hawkins

Teddy Bowen

Gary Ford

Dan Kobick

That bike at right is Harley-Davidson's new Pan America Adventure Touring Motorcycle for 2020. Whether your adventure is negotiating rough mountain passes on two wheels or simply getting up in the morning, F-HOG wishes you a Happy Birthday!

William Schutt

Kerry Nistle

Courtney Scott

Steve Shannon

Jack McAleese

Roberto Guasch

Lorrie Branch

John Taylor

David Fairclough

Donna McMillan

Debi Corbatto

John Morrissette

Tom Mitchem

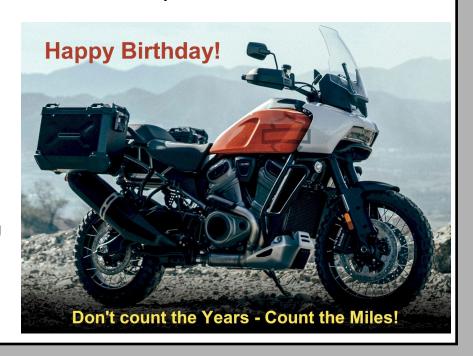
Theo van Lingen

Joe Livingood

Chad Simonds

Ana Lugaro

Sundara Jeya



There Is Rest For The *WICKED*

Winter Storage at Patriot H-D

Available Nov. 1st - Feb 28th



Storage \$599

- Climate Controled
- •Kept on Battery Tender
- ·Bike Started Weekly
- 2.5K Service Performed
- Bike Cleaned Prior to Pick Up

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- •20% OFF Labor (Paid Prior 12/31/19)
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Ask About Our NO INTEREST Customization Offer

Love Me Tender

by Wes Clark

It's December 20, 2019. 39 years ago today I made the best decision I ever made: I married my wife Cari. And how are we celebrating this momentous day? She has to work, so I planned a motorcycle ride. The temps were in the mid-twenties this morning, and it was unusually cold this past week. I haven't started Paladin (that's my black Road King) since the HOGS Christmas Lights Ride on Sunday. I waited for it to warm up a bit so that it was a balmy 41 degrees in my garage. Put the kill switch on run, hit the ignitor and we hear an unusually sluggish, *Erm, erm, erm*. (Silence). No Harley *Potato-Potato-Potato.* Let's try that again: *Erm, erm, erm* (silence). A few more tries and I don't even get *Erm*, just silence. So I drive my cage over to the local bike shop and purchase a charger/tender, and hook that up. An hour plus later the voltage reads 13.VDC and Paladin goes *Potato-Potato-Potato.* But by now it's 2 PM and the shadows are getting long - drat this season! (The shortest day of the year is the next day, the 21st.) So I do one of my Better Than Nothing Rides (tm) to Manassas and back. Paladin starts just fine after my Foster's Grill milkshake.

And what have we learned? (I ask myself that a lot.) We learned that during the cold season it's a good idea to hook the bike to the tender whether you think you're going to ride a lot or not. Last year I didn't need to because I had just bought the bike and was either riding it or starting it up and simply sitting on it daily; I was like a teenager in love.

Today we're an old married couple, Paladin and I. So I did a <u>one year anniversary video of myself going over my likes</u> and dislikes about my 2016 Road King. I am happy to report that the likes far, far outweigh the dislikes and I am still in love.

Same comment about Cari!

Hey! Do you HTML? Have a yen to get the word out? Want to ramp up your activity with your Fairfax HOG Chapter and serve the others who share your passion for the Ride? Then have we got a deal for you!

We are looking for a webmaster! Please contact Director Ray Riddle at director@fairfaxhog.com if interested!

(And that may be one of the dumbest photos I have ever taken.)



Upcoming Events and Rides!

Fairfax Harley Owners Group
20th Anniversary Year End Celebration
&
Annual Holiday Party
Saturday January 11, 2020

6:00pm-10:00pm

\$30.00 person Includes (2) Beverage Tickets

> BOSS HOGS Ray Riddle Diane Struck Ruby Lowe

Information director@fairfaxhog.com 703-967-5136



3315 Old Lee Hwy, Fairfax, VA 22030



Dress Code Options
Casual
Harley Gear
or
Formal Attire



2020 Activities Planning Meeting

Are you dreaming of your favorite Fairfax, VA HOG Chapter ride while still in hibernation?

Well <u>Everyone</u> is welcome and encouraged to come and join us in the planning of the 2020 riding schedule!

To propose an activity for the 2020 riding season, go to:

https://www.fairfaxhog.com/?page=suggest

Or bring it to the meeting on the 18th.



<u>Date</u>: Saturday, January 18, 2020 @ 9am <u>Place</u>: Interstate Van Lines Community Room 5801 Rolling Road, Springfield, VA 22152



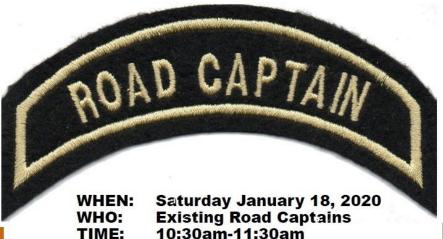




Upcoming Events and Rides!

ROAD CAPTAIN REFRESHER

Saturday January 18, 2020



HAND SIGNALS

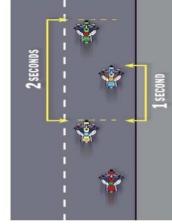


Information Contact:
Joe Livingood
roadcaptain@fairfaxhog.com
703-283-4851

5801 Rolling Road, Springfield, VA 22152

WHERE: Interstate Van Lines









Real men are not intimidated by legal text.

Real men are not intimidated by Wind Chill.

Upcoming Events and Rides!





stars & pipes





Fairfax H.O.G. (Harley Owners' Group) 2020 Advertising Rates

Who we are

The Fairfax H.O.G. (F.H.O.G.) Chapter began in 1999 with an organizing committee of four. Today our membership nears 800 riders and passengers, people from every walk of life with the full spectrum of riding experience. According to figures on the Harley-Davidson web site, as well as an article in Fortune magazine, a Harley owners' average annual income is \$80,000 and the average age is 46. Most F.H.O.G. members have discretionary income, are professionals, like to eat out and travel, and have insurance, real estate and other needs. In other words, the *Stars & Pipes* newsletter is a great way to advertise your business!

Advertising Guidelines

- We welcome any advertiser not in direct competition with our sponsoring dealership, Patriot Harley-Davidson.
- All ads must be tasteful in content (no profanity or adult content). F.H.O.G. may, at its sole discretion, decline to accept and publish a submitted advertisement. In such case, any funds tendered by the prospective advertiser for the refused ad will be refunded promptly.
- Advertising content is the sole responsibility of the advertiser and will be run as submitted; ads are not proofed.
- Ads can be camera-ready, however electronic format is preferred. If ads are submitted electronically, accepted file types are jpeg, tiff, eps, doc or pdf. Resolution must also be at least 200 dpi (no screen dumps from the internet, otherwise graphic content is pixelated and doesn't print well. No gifs accepted). Word, Photoshop, Illustrator, PDF or QuarkXpress files accepted. Note: ads generated with logos, images, etc. must include the original linked graphics with the layout file in order to print properly; contact the editor if there are any questions: editor@fairfaxhog.com. Simple ads can be designed for an additional fee of \$25—contact the editor prior to the monthly deadline.
- Payment in full is due with ad; if ad precedes payment, it will not be run until payment has been received. Checks should be made payable to Fairfax H.O.G.

Newsletter Ad Sizes and Rates

Size	1/2 Page	1/4 Page	1/8 Page		
Measure*	$7^{1}/_{4}$ "w x 5" h	$4^{3}/_{4}$ " w x 5" h	$4^{3}/_{4}$ "w x 3" h		
Price	\$ 100	\$ 50	\$ 25		
SPECIAL OFFER—BUY 10 ADS & GET THE 11th FREE!					

^{*} NOTE: Height of ad can be shorter; please advise editor of trim size when submitting ad.

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Newsletter advertising submissions are due by the 15th of each month. Make checks payable to: FAIRFAX VA H.O.G. *Stars & Pipes* is published 11 times a year (there is a combined January–February issue)

Mail to: Fairfax VA H.O.G. Advertising, c/o Wes Clark

Questions?

7442 Shepherd Ridge Court, Springfield, VA 22153

Contact Wes at: editor@fairfaxhog.com