



THE TALON



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A NEWSLETTER FOR AND ABOUT THE MEMBERS

Tidewater HOG Chapter 5344

In Memory of Mary McDermott Hughes

For those of you that knew Mary your life was enriched by her joyfulness, mannerism, laughter and very smart business sense. It is with great sadness that we share with each of you the news of her passing:

Mary McDermott Hughes of Smithfield, VA, age 71, passed away peacefully on June 11, 2024 in Scottsdale, AZ. She was born on May 14, 1953 in Williamsburg, VA to Thomas and Louise McDermott. Mary received her Associate of Accounting degree from Thomas Nelson Community College. She went on to have a 45-year distinguished career as President and CEO of Hampton Roads Harley-Davidson, Inc., with two dealerships, one in Yorktown and the other in Virginia Beach as well as a retail outlet on the beachfront.

Her dedication and passion to help those less fortunate were evident by her sponsorship of two An Achievable Dream (AAD) academy classes, (2002 and 2012) providing 68 students with scholarships and the opportunity to receive a college degree. She also chaired AAD’s Middle/High School Board of Directors for many years and served the school as a board member. Mary donated motorcycles benefiting hundreds of students with her annual support by her donating Harley-Davidson motorcycles to the Tennis Ball auctions every year. She also served the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Virginia Peninsula in leadership positions and monetarily. She donated motorcycles annually to support their auctions as well. Mary was named a Power Woman of South Hampton Roads by Inside Business in 2006.

Mary was known for being the most loving wife, mom, granny, sister, boss, and friend imaginable. She was a quiet philanthropist and supported many non-profits that benefited individuals throughout Hampton Roads, Virginia and the country. In one of her most generous acts, Mary donated a kidney to her younger brother Tim, in October 2008. She co-founded and led “Harley’s Angels,” a team of volunteers that supported American Cancer Society ‘s Relay for Life for many years. She made a significant impact on those around her, always helping those in need. She and her husband welcomed two of their youngest son’s friends into her home when they most needed support.

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Art Verdin
Editor

Mary Hughes continued

Mary is survived by her loving husband Jerry, children: Chad Cox, Julie Sallade and Danny Cox, grandchildren: Samantha Sallade, Chase Sallade, Cole Sallade, Danny Cox Jr., Sade Cox, Fernando Seminario, Kisha Hester, Chyna Hester, Rob Hester, and Clint Hester, and siblings: Poppy Cumpson, Jeff McDermott, Bryan McDermott and Tim McDermott, and many cousins, nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to American Cancer Society. The family expresses their gratitude to the wonderful staff and caregivers at Arizona's Mayo Clinic and Hospice of the Valley's Eckstein Center for their compassionate care and support.

Mary will be remembered for her love of family, life, beaches, painting, sense of humor, compassion for those in need, business leadership, extraordinary Sudoku skills and for her Snoopy dance.

Mary was very dedicated to the Harley Owners Group with Hampton Roads and Southside Harley. Her willingness to support each Chapter each and every year for events, charities, Christmas functions and the many HOG Rallies were important to her. For many years she supported the Virginia HOG Rally in ways that no other dealership came close to. You could tell her your vision; she got it and we moved forward with our goals to be one of the best. She saw it and made it happen. There are not many individuals that will give and support to the degree of which Mary did time after time. If you knew her personally, you had a friend for life. She was the most up front and honest lady with everyone she knew. She will truly be missed by the enormous amount of people that she touched in her lifetime.

We all now have a very precious "Angel" watching over us. Rest in Peace, Mary.

Jo Anne Emmons



Mary McDermott Hughes, CEO, Southside and Hampton Roads Harley Davidson

EVENTS

TO DO RIDE—JULY 6
CHAPTER MEETING—JULY 10
2 CHAPTER CHALLENGE—JULY 13
WOOD BROTHERS RACING MUSEUM RIDE—JULY 25--27
STURGIS TRIP LEAVES—JULY 29
EXTORTION RIDE—AUGUST 3
SPECIAL DAY RIDE—AUGUST 7
BURGERS AND DOGS—AUGUST 10
CHAPTER MEETING—AUGUST 14
SUNRISE BAY BRIDGE—AUGUST 18
RIDE TO THE RALLY—AUGUST 20

13th Annual EXTORTION 17
 HONOR AND REMEMBER
 Memorial Ride
 Saturday, AUGUST 3rd, 2024
 Virginia Beach, Virginia
 to honor and remember the 31 Heroes of EXTORTION 17.
 This year's ride is again hosted at
 Lendy's Cafe 1581 General Booth Blvd.
 Virginia Beach, VA 23454

NO COST OR FEES to participate
 Registration is required
 All participants must sign the Liability Waiver

Registration from 0700 - 0845
 Opening Ceremony 0900 - 0950
 Ride departs Lendy's at 1000 and will
 return to Lendy's at 1100

Ride will be escorted by
 The Virginia Beach Police Department



More to come...See Facebook, emails and the website calendars for updates.

Let's Keep the Ugly Trophy with our Chapter again for 2024. Join your fellow Chapter Members on July 13th for the Two Chapter Challenge. See Facebook page at Tidewater HOG Chapter #5344 or our calendar on our website at <http://www.tidewaterhog.com> for more information!

LINDA KNOWLES
DIRECTOR

ROLLING TO REMEMBER THOUGHTS

As I come back from my second year attending this event, I want to share with you how powerful this event is. I knew about this event years before I got back on a motorcycle and even before I joined Tidewater HOG. After I bought my first Harley, I told myself that I wanted to go but life got in the way, and it was not meant to be. Finally, in 2023 I got the opportunity to attend this event and go on the HOG ride up. I can't tell you how much fun I had. I got to spend time socializing with our HOG members that went on the ride. I got to meet new people at the hotel and listen to their stories, where they were from, what branch of the service they were in and such. The Friday night pizza outside the hotel was good. Interesting to see what toppings people like on their pie, and no pineapple still doesn't belong on a pizza. Our Saturday started with a ride to Patriot Harley in Fairfax then we went and visited Washington DC Harley and finally we stopped off in Thunder Alley for shirts and such. But the magic of the event happens on Sunday ... both times I have attended this event the Sunday morning meetup at Patriot Harley was something to see. Thousands of riders, all in one place, ride down Fairfax Blvd heading to the interstate. Families waving the American flag line the street, you ride underneath the American flag and all the time you are honking your horn and waving to the kids. You make the ride down the interstate to the Pentagon and at just about every overpass parents and children are waving at us with the American flag in hand. As you near the Pentagon staging area you see just how many other riders have come together. It doesn't matter what you ride, 2 wheel or 3, or if you are young or old we are all together.

Then the event we gathered for happens at the stroke of noon. Thousands upon thousands of motorcycles roar through the nation's capital. The reasons that people participate in this demonstration ride are numerous. They themselves have suffered or you know of someone that is suffering. Your father, brother, uncle or even neighbor never returned home, or you do this for some other personal reason. But whatever it is we are together and truly roar through the capital. Then as quickly as the event starts the event ends and you prepare to go back to where you came from. You look forward to attending the event next year and seeing friends that you have made while you are there and just like that the event is over.

I can truly say that I have never been prouder of our HOG group for going to this event every year. I am already looking forward to going next year and hopefully seeing old friends I have made and new ones.

STEVE CAIN

TO RIDE BEYOND—HEAD ROAD CAPTAIN

We are now halfway through the year with summer in full swing! I hope you're getting lots of opportunities to ride and staying hydrated while you're out there. As Road Captains, we do our best to keep you safe and remind you of important things like drinking water while on a ride, or finding shade at our rest stops to ensure we don't have any heat related injuries. But we also want to remind you of something else that we do to help keep you safe. We communicate.

Road Captains communicate through a variety of methods to ensure the group stays safe and knows what is happening. We use radio calls to ensure the Lead and Sweep know what is going on at either end of the group. We use them for traffic calls, navigation, and general situational awareness. If you have a radio, you can listen in on what is being said. We also use the radios when we need to make a decision because of a change in plans, weather, or road conditions.

Another method we use to communicate is through hand signals. The hand signals we use are similar to what is taught by the Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF). By using a standardized set of signals, everyone can learn what they mean and use them. This is important because not every rider has a CB radio on their bike. Those radios cost hundreds of dollars and may not be feasible for all riders. We understand this and try to make hand signals the normal way we communicate with the rest of the group when we're out riding. We try to review these signals every ride during our briefing. If we cover them too fast or you can't remember what a signal means, please ask a Road Captain. They'd be happy to cover these signals with you. It is important for you to know what these signals mean to help keep you and the rest of the group safe. It is also important for you to pass the signs along so that everyone in the group can see the signs and know what will be happening.

Remember, our goal is to have a fun and safe experience. You can help by maintaining communication through the proper use of hand signals. Communication enhances situational awareness. We look forward to seeing you out on a ride soon! Oh, and if you have an idea for a ride or ridgetivity (ride to an activity), please see a Road Captain and let them know!

Tom Sanchez



A LITTLE SAFETY—Staying Hydrated on Your Summer Motorcycle Ride Summer motorcycle rides are a fantastic way to enjoy the warm weather and scenic views. However, the heat and wind can quickly lead to dehydration if you're not careful. Dehydration can cause fatigue, headaches, and impair your concentration, making it more difficult to ride safely. Here are some tips to stay hydrated on your next summer motorcycle ride:

1. Hydrate before you ride: Aim to drink plenty of water in the hours leading up to your ride.
2. Plan your route and stops: Factor in gas station stops or rest areas where you can refill your water supply.
3. Carry enough water: The amount of water you'll need will depend on the length of your ride, the temperature, and your individual sweat rate. A good rule of thumb is to carry at least one liter of water for every hour of riding.
3. Choose the right container: A hydration pack is a great option for easy access to water while riding. You can also use water bottles that fit in a tank bag or saddlebags.
4. Sip frequently: Don't wait until you're thirsty to drink.



Take small sips of water every 15-20 minutes, even if you don't feel parched.

4. Consider electrolyte drinks: In addition to water, you may also want to consider electrolyte drinks, which can help replenish electrolytes lost through sweat.
5. Be aware of the signs of dehydration: If you experience headaches, dizziness, fatigue, or muscle cramps, it could be a sign of dehydration. Stop riding and drink fluids immediately.

By following these tips, you can stay hydrated and enjoy a safe and refreshing summer motorcycle ride.

Linda Knowles and Lisa Verdin

Our motorcycles are an extension of us.

When we ride, the true riders, not the once in a while, fair weather riders, we feel the road and the wind and the bike and it is all one thing. Our motorcycle connects us to everything around us. We can get lost in the sounds, smells and sights, all while being completely aware of everything. It is a state of being. Those who don't, will never understand what calls us to want to ride all the time. We hear, "its dangerous" , "You're going to get killed", "I don't understand how you can enjoy that" (OBVIOUSLY!). But, when we ride, and have that connection, there is a sense of peace that over takes us. That feeling of calm in the sea of claustrophobia. We know how to move, we sense the mistakes others are making on the road, yet it seems to go around us. We can resolve all our issues on that bike, taking a long ride through winding roads, with nature swirling by us. Angry? Go for a ride. Sad? Go for a ride. Anxious? Go for a ride. Happy? Go for a ride. It is the perfect solution for it all. It is something we can do with others but, it is still ourselves on that machine with our own thoughts, alone achieving peace in that pseudo solitude. How do you explain that to someone who has never experienced it? There are no words to really describe what is going on. If you know, you know.

Then we have the Motorcycle itself. This isn't just a machine we use, it really is an extension of our bodies, and minds. Mine is named Thea, after the Goddess Thea. She is the Goddess of Sight and Wisdom (and the one who gave gold, silver and gems their brilliance and value). But, she helps me see things more clearly, helps me work out issues and overcome problems. I struggle with some health issues and PTSD from my military career and, when Thea and I go riding, I come to grips with all of it. She helps me understand my place in all of this. I know I am not alone in giving life to our motorcycles. For those of us who truly ride, they are alive with us, through us, and us through them.

We care for our bikes, do all the maintenance, adorn them with things to make them stand out as ours, keep them clean and are proud of them. Sometimes it takes a while to find the right match, I have had three in the 52 years that I have been riding, that I have had a full symbiotic relationship with. Thea is one of them. An ex separated me from my first and, medical issues did that to the second. I will hold on to Thea, gift her to my son when I can no longer ride. But, for now, that is a long way off. She goes in to the shop at the end of June to get some upgrades and, I am very excited for that. More and more, she is becoming the perfect companion for the road.

I know many of you have this relationship with your motorcycles. Some of you voice it, some of you don't want to seem crazy, LOL. But, IYKYK, and I know.

Mike Pastore

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Summer is finally here! As much as we need rain, I hope Mother Nature will take pity on us and rain during the week, giving us beautiful days to ride on the weekends! During the past couple of months, we've had some great day rides and "ridetivities" thanks to our Road Captains. We've had our annual overnight ride to the Ride to Remember in Washington, DC. Our Activities Officer Bill Jackson has also been busy – we had a putt-putt golf "tournament" and saw Bike riders movie together. We have many more day rides, over-nights and activities coming up this summer.

The Chapter helped Southside out with events they held. We had a Pancakes and Sausage cookout out twice and made hamburgers and hotdogs for their Memorial Day weekend event. We received several positive comments and thanks from customers who enjoyed the food we served.

Speaking of positive comments, we received a very nice message through Messenger from someone who saw the Chapter heading towards Kilmarnock on June 8th:

"hey I just wanted to say thanks to you guys crossed the HRBT today and you guys were all following the rules of the road I appreciate you guys too many people on motorcycles these days swerve in and out of traffic also you guys looked badass on the road as well."

This says a lot about this Chapter and how we ride. Over the years, I have heard many of our members say they enjoy riding with the Chapter because we follow group riding practices. It's nice to have someone recognize our efforts and see us as a positive example of motorcyclists. Lastly, I want to give our condolences to the family of our long-time member, Ted Giles who passed away on May 31st. Ted and Carolyn joined the Chapter in 1994 and were very active in the Chapter. In the last few years, they attended meetings and the special events the Chapter held and Ted rode with us on occasion. He rode with the Chapter to Sturgis in 2019 and that was when I really got to know Ted. He was a delight and one of the kindest people I have met. You will be missed. The Chapter was involved in his Celebration of Life on June 22nd by honoring him with a procession. Thank you to all of you who participated in the memorial ride to honor Ted. Per the request of his family, the Chapter made a donation in his name to Sympathy Store, purchasing trees to be planted in memory of Ted.



9-12-1942—5-31-2024
MEMBER SINCE 1994

Thanks to all of you for your participation in Chapter Rides and volunteer events. This Chapter is going on its 41st year and the reason for this is our members. I hope to see you soon on a ride or event! Let's go!!!

LINDA KNOWLES
DIRECTOR

NO REGRETS

Do you love yourself? The only answer to this should be YES!!! Any other answer stops your ability to love anything else, and to this date (almost 60 years on this Earth) I have not found anyone who doesn't love something, even if its rocky road ice cream.

Most of the time people don't like a piece of what's going on in their life and they start the chants that are so popular these days ..."I hate my life", "My life sucks", "Why does everything bad happen to me". These people don't step out of the situation and see that a thing going wrong, even a few things going wrong, doesn't define their whole life. Wait, I take that back... everything we do, everything that happens to us, every decision made, defines us. Makes us who we are. And when you Love yourself, you have No Regrets.

No Regrets! That's important. I hear people talk about the things they regret doing in the past or things they regret not doing. You have to look at this a different way, any change you make to your past will change who you are today, and that could be very bad!. If you Love yourself, you wouldn't want to change, so forget having regrets and move forward with your life. If you didn't do something in the past, give it a try now. If you did something in the past you are not proud of, make amends for it now. It sounds so simple because it is that simple. I am not saying that I always did great things. There are a lot of things I have done that I wouldn't admit to in public, but those things help me see the world in a different way. I understand things that others may not because of things I have done before. I can Love more and feel more because of those things. I can help others better because of them as well. So I have no regrets in my life and I love myself completely!

I have also learned that I have to find positive things to counter the negative things. Those of you who know me, know I like to say "I'm alive, that makes for a better day". I wake up every day! My day starts off perfect. I choose to keep it that way, but I also look for positive things. Negative things try to find us all on their own, we don't need to search for them. And when that happens we tend to overlook all the good things going on. Everything from the fresh smell of a sunny morning, the feel of the wind on our faces, the dog wagging his tail and showing you unconditional love. Take note of these things each day. Write them down and keep adding to the list each day. If you start to do that, you will find yourself in a happy place more often, and soon you wont have to look for the happy things you will just notice them naturally. And when you are happy, you will love yourself and others more!

Don't be afraid to share your happy as well. Smile!!! The more you smile, the more others around you smile. The more others around you smile, the more you smile. It is really a glorious thing, its almost contagious. I have seen videos of it but you can try it yourself... just start to laugh. For no reason, just laugh. Keep laughing. Soon enough, others will come by to find out what's going on. If you just keep laughing like you heard a great joke, eventually, others will start to laugh as well (not even knowing what they are laughing about). This is a great gift to give, sharing happiness.

Al in all, I have no regrets, I am happy with who I am. I Love Me and with that can Love completely

MIKE PASTORE



2024 FALL FOLIAGE RIDE

Take your chances on escaping from the Tran Allegheny Lunatic Asylum on Saturday, Oct. 12, this year!

The much anticipated Tidewater HOG Fall Foliage Ride this year begins on Friday, October 11 at 7:00 am, at WAWA, 701 Newtown Rd., Norfolk, VA. The ride will follow Freeway I64 to Richmond, intercept US Highway 33 and run that road to Harrisonburg VA and then the wonderful “Viper”, an “interesting” run to Elkins WV. Lunch along the way will be in Louisa, VA and might be Barbecue (and other stuff).

Arrangements have been made with the newly renovated LUXOR Inn for the three night stay under the block name “Tidewater HOG” and riders must make their own reservations, the sooner the better. Group rate is \$150.00 per night plus tax, including breakfast. Couples are asked to reserve king bed rooms. 304-636-5311 to reserve.

The Trans Allegheny Insane Asylum

On Saturday, Oct. 12, enjoy the colors of the Allegheny Mountains en route to the Asylum, which will host a 45 minute tour of the facility following which the HOGs will traverse more mountains roads to the Boston Beanery in Morgantown WV before return “home” in Elkins. The total ride for that day will be about 250 miles.

Flight 93 Memorial

Enjoy more of the beautiful mountains on a ride to the Flight Memorial, symbol of one of the dark days in our America. Lunch following will be at Shorty's Grill nearby and then we'll return to our hotel. Total miles for day are about 250.

Return on Columbus Day, Monday Oct. 14, will be via route 250 down the mountain to Staunton with lunch at the famous Depot Grill and then on home to Virginia Beach, about 310 miles for the day.



BILL JACKSON

TIDEWATER HOG OFFICERS AND ROAD CAPTAINS
2024
SOUTHSIDE HARLEY DAVIDSON, VIRGINIA BEACH, VA
Dave Charette —General Manager Info@HRHD.com



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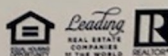
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Bill Arnold		Mike Flynn
Linda Knowles		Regie Farr
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HOG Members—We could use some ads. Ask some of your friends, or post one of your own. Even if it is just for a partial year or one issue. Your group needs it. Dues are also due now. Thanks in advance, and please request a copy of the form from me at taloneditor@tidewaterhog.com



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