



Gruene HOG Newsletter

The Official Newsletter of the Gruene Harley Owners Group (Chapter 2062)

Sponsor: Gruene Harley Davidson 1288 Loup 337, New Braunfels Texas 78130

(830)624-2473



The Directors Cut

Main Entry:

bik·er

Pronunciation:

\bî-kər\

Function:

noun

1: BICYCLIST2: MOTORCYCLIST ; especially : one who is a member of an organized club or gang

What is a "Biker". There can be lots of discussion on what is a biker. Is it only the 1%ers?, Do you have to wear a vest?, Is it only folks who ride a specific kind of bike? One thing is for sure there is a lot of pride that goes with calling oneself a "Biker". This is evident when some folks are pointed out as "Not a biker" because they don't ride a lot, trailered their bike to a place they could have ridden, don't have the right look. I resist the segmenting of our sport into us and them. My definition of a biker is quite simple, it is anyone whose life, identity, status is inextricably woven into by their motorcycle and their bike culture. Under this definition the make and kind of bike is irrelevant, it can be American (my preferred choic), European, Japanese. It can be a trials bike, motocross, sport bike, bi-sport, cutom, touring. You can be a doctor, teacher, lineman, welder, housewives, secretary, nurse, mechanic, salesman, and on and on. These folks , who define their live, or at least one aspect of their life, by their bike. These are the modern day cowboys, independent, a touch of loner in them, wanting to be free from societies constrains, possible a bit of the rebel in them. To a true biker the bike is not just a possession but is an extension of self. So to all the true bikers out there, no matter what you ride or your station in life.. Ride and Have Fun.

GHOG Officers 2009



Director: Mike McFalls



Asst Directors: Jerry & Cindy Clement





Secretary: Jessica Buerfer

Treasure: Gene Roussin



LOH: Cindy Clement

Membership: Joe Gonzales





Head Road Captain: Doug Stolz

Safety Officer: Darryl Taylor



Quartermaster: Howard Armstrong

Activities: George Mandry





Sargent of Arms: Chris & Chris Hiebel



Editors: Mike Poole & Cindy Lindsley



Web Master: Mike Brown

Dealer Liaison: Mike Roussin



Chapter Photographer: Eddie Gilder

Rides for the spring

The mysteries of Stonehenge, the literary legacy of Shakespeare's Globe Theatre and the ostentatiousness of the Eiffel Tower draw throngs of tourists from around the world. Yet Texans willing to forgo travel and authenticity don't even need to cross the state line to enjoy lesser-known replicas of these landmarks that □ for whatever reason □ are within driving distance. In addition to Stonehenge II in Hunt, the Paris (Texas) Eiffel Tower and the Globe of the Great Southwest in Odessa, there is a faux Forbidden City in Katy and even a second Alamo outside Brackettville. None may anchor a vacation, but there's enough around them to piece together a fun time.

Stonehenge II What it is: In some ways this replica is more pastoral than the original ancient stone circle, which is flanked by two English motorways. The Texas version sits in a pasture on a bend of FM 1342 just outside the Hill Country hamlet of Hunt, about 13 miles west of Kerrville. The oddity, free and open to the public during daylight, dates to 1989 when landowner Al Shepperd and pal Doug Hill whimsically set a large limestone chunk upright on the property. The rock reminded world traveler Shepperd of the mysterious ruins on the Salisbury Plain, so in 1990 they set out to build a two-thirds scale replica from concrete and steel. The pair added two Easter Island-style heads on the property before Shepperd's death in 1994. In the area: The scenic Guadalupe River, which braids back and forth across FM 1342 at bridges and low-water crossings, has several popular spots for people to pull over and wade, swim or simply loll in a submerged chaise longue. Camps, motels and bed-and-breakfasts line the river. Among them is Mo-Ranch, a wooded, hilly retreat with spectacular views of the Guadalupe that was initially developed by two oilmen, including long-ago Conoco president Dan Moran, who inspired its name. It's a conference center for regional Presbyterians, but accommodations are available to the public. The nearby Kerr Wildlife Management Area is home to the area's plentiful white-tailed deer and myriad other creatures. A paved route is open to vehicles and cyclists, fishing is available along the river, and there is deer and turkey hunting during their respective seasons. Note: A permit is required to enter state wildlife management areas.

Paris (Texas) Eiffel Tower What it is: This inexact replica of the real thing proves everything is not bigger in Texas. The 13-year-old Northeast Texas version is 65 feet tall, which doesn't even match the antenna on the original 1,000-foot-plus behemoth in Paris, France. Texas' tower does sport a red cowboy hat, though. In the area: About 20 miles to the north is the Pat Mayse Wildlife Management Area, a Texas Parks and Wildlife Department reserve that includes Pat Mayse Lake. While camping, hiking and horseback riding are permitted, the park has been left largely untouched, meaning the roads demand four-wheel drive, and there are no facilities. History buffs can visit the Sam Bell Maxey State Historic Site. The 140-year-old home was built in 1867 by Maxey after his time as a Confederate general and before his election to the U.S. Senate. His family occupied the High Victorian Italianate-style home for a century, and it was restored and opened to the public in 1980. Paris' 18,000-grave Evergreen Cemetery is known for its unique monuments, none more so than the final resting place of Willet Babcock, who died in 1881. His plot is marked by a 12-foot statue of Jesus carrying the cross □ and wearing cowboy boots.

Globe of the Great Southwest What it is: The Texas version of William Shakespeare's theatrical home opened and started hosting plays in 1968, inspired by Odessa High School English-lit teacher Marjorie Norris, who got the idea from a student. The Odessa College building holds a late-summer Shakespeare festival each year, which mixes works by the Bard with other fare, but various shows are performed throughout the year. Nearby Anne Hathaway Cottage is a replica of his wife's childhood home. In the area: Unlike presidential libraries, the Presidential Museum in Odessa honors all U.S. commanders in chief, as well as presidents of the Republic of Texas. Next door is the Odessa home former President George H.W. Bush and his family rented in the late 1940s, but the museum itself was begun in the 1960s. The Odessa Meteor Crater, once 100 feet deep but naturally filled in over the millennia, might be more impressive to science buffs because it's not much to the naked eye. But 30 miles to the southwest is the more striking Monahans Sandhills State Park, which looks like a set piece out of Lawrence of Arabia and features sand-dune surfing on plastic discs and other conveyances.

Forbidden Gardens What it is: A replica of Beijing's Forbidden City and the famous terra-cotta soldiers, on a smaller scale, conspicuously sticks out amid housing developments in suburban Katy. The 40-acre facility, the brainchild of Chinese-American businessman Ira Poon, is open Fridays through Sundays for guided tours. In the area: Shoppers choose among options large and small. For the full-immersion experience, the sprawling Katy Mills mall includes stores ranging from AT&T to Zumiez. Those looking for something more laid-back can try Old Town Katy, with quaint shops that hark back to a time before Houston began its rapid approach from the east. For visitors from outside the Houston area, the nation's fourth-largest city is a short drive away on newly widened Interstate 10.

Alamo Village What it is: Texas might not have needed a second Alamo, but it's got one. The real deal couldn't be used to film the Academy Award-winning 1960 film *The Alamo* for too many reasons to count, so director and star John Wayne re-created 1836 San Antonio from scratch near Brackettville, 116 miles west of San Antonio. The set has been used for dozens of productions ever since, including at least four in the past three years. Surrounded by a working ranch, it's also a tourist attraction that includes a museum dedicated to the Duke, a restaurant and Western shows during the summertime. In the area: Guides offer special tours at Kickapoo Caverns State Park, 22 miles north of Brackettville, including a look at the evening flights of Brazilian freetail bats out of the Stuart Bat Cave each Saturday during spring and summer. "Wild Cave Tours" are conducted every other Saturday in January and February, then weekly on Saturdays starting in March. The park also offers mountain biking, hiking and birding.

Meeting Photos



January Rides

Date	Time	Event	Start	End	Du- ra- les	Mi les	Lead	Sweep
Wed, Jan 21, 2009	5:45pm	Mini-Meeting	GHD	Gruene Harley-Davidson	½ hr	N/A	N/A	N/A
		Mike McFalls		1288 Loop 337, New Braunfels				
				(830) 624-2473				
Wed, Jan 21, 2009	6:30pm	Dinner Ride	GHD	Mamacita's Restaurant & Cantina	5	2	Cynthia Clement	Jerry Clement
		Bring GHOG Card		505 N Business 35, New Braunfels				
		Or Fill Out Release		(830) 620-6565				
Sat, Jan 24, 2009	11:00am	Chapter Ride	GHD	Shade Tree Saloon & Grill	¾ hr	30	Howard Armstrong	Mike Poole
		Bring GHOG Card		13430 Hwy 281, Spring Branch			OL: Harold Vallee	SO: Cindy Lindsley
		Or Fill Out Release		830-885-5550				
Sun, Jan 25, 2009	12:00pm	Chapter Ride	GHD	San Marcos River Pub & Grill	1¼ hrs	51	RR: Dennis Binkley	Frank Hillis
		Bring GHOG Card		701 Cheatham St, San Marcos			Walter Vincent	OS: Mike Rowland
		Or Fill Out Release		(512) 353-3747				
Sat, Jan 31, 2009	9:30am	Chapter Ride	GHD	Billy Gene's Restaurant	2½ hrs	90	Richard Marhofer	Walter Vincent
		Bring GHOG Card		1489 Junction Highway, Kerrville				SO: Harold Vallee
		Or Fill Out Release		(830) 895-7377				
Sat, Jan 31, 2009	11:00am	Chapter Ride	GHD	C. Discount Guns	1¼ hrs	52	RR: Cindy Lindsley	Jessica Buerger
		Bring GHOG Card		3715 Cowey Road, Nixon			Mike Poole	OS: Larry King



February Rides

Sun, Feb 1, 2009	4:30pm	Super Bowl Party	N/A	Bar2Bar Ranch - Doug & Karen Stolz	4-5 hrs?	N /	BYOB	*Working Ranch*
		Game Starts		10323 FM 466, Seguin (830) 379-4481			&	*Extremely Casual*
		5:28pm (Ch.4 - NBC)		bar2barranch@hotmail.com			Bring Potluck Dish	*In a 60' x 100' Barn*
Sat, Feb 7, 2009	11:00am	Chapter Ride	GH D	Sammy's Mexican Restaurant	1¼ hrs	5 0	RR: Harold Vallee	
		Bring GHOG Card		13520 US Highway 87 W, La Vernia				
Sun, Feb 8, 2009	11:00am	Chapter Ride	GH D	Black's Barbecue	1½ hrs	5 8	Kate Petty	Walter Vincent
		Bring GHOG Card		215 North Main Street, Lockhart				SO: Larry King
Sat, Feb 14, 2009	9:30am	RC Meeting	VF W	VFW Post 7110	½ hr	N /	N/A	N/A
Sat, Feb 14, 2009	1030am	Chapter Meeting	VF W	VFW Post 7110	1½ hrs	N /	N/A	N/A
Sat, Feb 14,	12:00pm	Valentine's Day Ride	GH	Grueene River Grill	10	2	Walter Vincent	Doug Stolz
Valentine's Day		HOG & NON-HOG		1259 Grueene Road, New Braunfels				
Presented by Grueene Harley Davidson	RSVP & Flowers	Contact ASAP: Jennifer Trevino E-mail		Limited 50 tables Reserved by Grueene HD- Flowers can be Preordered @ 30% Discount GHD	First Come-First		Flowers will be at your table when you arrive	Flowers Supplied by: Flower's By Jeni
Sun, Feb 15, 2009	11:30am	LOH Ride	GH D	Blake's Cafe	½ hr	1 2	Cynthia Clement	Jessica Buerger
		Bring GHOG Card		9216 FM 725, McQueeney				
Wed, Feb 18, 2009	5:45pm	Mini-Meeting	GH D	Grueene Harley-Davidson	½ hr	N /	N/A	N/A
Wed, Feb 18, 2009	6:30pm	Dinner Ride	GH D	TBA			Joe Gonzales	Walter Vincent
Fri, Feb 20, 2009	10:30am	Chapter Ride	GH D	Spoetzi (Shiner) Brewery	2 hrs	7 5	Richard Marhofer	Doug Stolz
		Bring GHOG Card		Brewery NO1 Street, Shiner,				
Sat, Feb 21, 2009	9:00am-	ERC	GH D	Experienced Riders Course	8 hrs	N /	N/A	N/A
	-5:00pm	\$75 - \$50 Gift Card=\$25		1288 SL-337, New Braunfels				
		HOG Reimbursement		(830) 624-2473				
Sat, Feb 21, 2009	6:00pm	LOH Overnighter	CR M	Christina's Restaurante Mexicano	Over-night	N /	Then on to make	Jessica Buerger's
		Meet At Christina's		707 E Kingsbury Street, Seguin			Harley Quilts at	2085 Schneider Road
		Restaurante		(830) 372-5839				Seguin
Sat, Feb 21, 2009		Chapter Ride	GH D	TBA			Darryl Taylor	James Kromer