

# Hog Tails



April 2009  
Central South Dakota H.O.G.

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## *Randy Bingner, Chapter Director*

April, a month of new beginnings: buds appearing on the trees; the tattered edges of the last snowstorm hiding in the draws, tree belts, and ditches; a hint of a green cast spreading in the fields; Oahe is filling; rivers and streams running full; baseballs flying out of the yard; everybody's team is still in first place.

Last newsletter I talked about the long winter of 2008-09. I should have known better. As soon as I complained, March came in like a lion, went out like a lion, and then hung around to screw up the first week of April. You can blame me. It is my fault. I first tempted fate by expecting to ride the motorcycle I traded for in January. I then offended the gods by complaining in February that the winter was already too long.

Yesterday I enjoyed a great ride in beautiful spring weather. However, for a good reason I will try to explain, I will resist all temptation to announce that spring is here at last. My reasoning may seem like superstition, but it is true scientific fact. And you can't have opinions about fact.

We watch a fair amount of sporting events at our house. Over the years, we have learned that it is very bad luck, perhaps even the kiss of death, for an announcer to ever attempt to link a player's positive past performance with a prediction of what is about to happen in today's game. We never, ever want to hear an announcer say anything like: "Billy Bob has not missed a free throw in his last 27 attempts." Or "Bases are loaded. Over the years Ace has been dominant against Lefty in this situation." We even have a name at our house for this unforgivable announcing blunder. Whenever we hear an announcer say anything like this, after first feeling a moment of mixed dread and panic, someone will say, "He just Curted him."

Continued on next page.

## Meetings

The first Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at Petersen Motors.  
Membership is \$10 annually.

**Check out our website at [petersenmotorcycles.com/HOG](http://petersenmotorcycles.com/HOG)**

Email news and comments to: [donjzeller@aol.com](mailto:donjzeller@aol.com)

***Stop in at Petersen Motors and pick up your  
2009 Central South Dakota HOG calendar:***

|            |   |                              |
|------------|---|------------------------------|
| April 7    | Monthly Meeting   | 6:30 p.m. at Petersen Motors |
| May 2      | Boys & Girls Club poker run and fund raiser                     |                              |
| May 5      | Monthly Meeting (Ladies Night)                                  | 6:30 p.m. at Petersen Motors |
| May 22-24  | 9 <sup>th</sup> Annual Memorial Day Run                         |                              |
| June 2     | Monthly Meeting   | 6:30 p.m. at Petersen Motors |
| June 11-13 | State HOG rally in Watertown. Registration Deadline is April 23 |                              |

Web site is <http://sdstatehogrally.com/>

Club website at [www.petersenmotorcycles.com/HOG](http://www.petersenmotorcycles.com/HOG)

**Chapter Directory - continued**

Named after legendary sports announcer, Curt Gowdy, if an announcer ever uses past positive performance to predict a good outcome for your team, that player is instantly doomed to fail. "Billy Bob has not missed a free throw in his last 27 attempts . . . clunk, brick." Or "Bases are loaded. Over the years Ace has been dominant against Lefty in this situation. Oh, he just took strike three." You just don't do it. No matter how tempting, you just don't say it. You don't want to hear anyone else say it. Resist all temptation to even think it.

So forgive me if I don't talk about the weather. What will happen will happen. South Dakota spring will suddenly arrive, or just leapfrog right over itself into summer, in its own good time.

When spring, or summer, does arrive, your Central South Dakota H.O.G. Chapter will be there with rides and events planned for each and every member's riding style and interest. Again this season, the opportunities are here. For big mile riders, the Memorial Weekend Poker Run is back for its 9<sup>th</sup> year. Plans are shaping up for a 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year. These plans will be outlined in Hot Springs at the end of this year's ride. Again this summer, for the "Ride and Have Food" rider in each of us, the always popular dinner rides will be offered 3 times each month. Again this year our first chapter event will be May 3 - our charity ride to benefit the Boys and Girls Club. Stay tuned. The opportunity is there. Ride with us, and remember to share the ride with a friend.

Ride Card – print this page, cut, fold, carry with you.

2009 Central South Dakota Harley Owners Group Dinner Rides.

|             |                      |              |
|-------------|----------------------|--------------|
| May 7th     | The Diner            | Murdo        |
| May 13th    | McClellands          | Pierre       |
| May 19th    | Grand Lodge          | Highmore     |
| June 4th    | Firehouse            | Gettysburg   |
| June 17th   | Hot Rod's Steakhouse | Kennebec     |
| June 21st   | Bob's Steakhouse     | Gettysburg   |
| July 9th    | Willey's             | St. Lawrence |
| July 15th   | T-34                 | Milesville   |
| July 21st   | The Rusty Spur       | Murdo        |
| August 13th | Fireside             | Onida        |

## *Ninth Annual Memorial Day Run*

May 22-24, 2009

Registration deadline: April 18, 2009

This poker run is sponsored by the Central South Dakota HOG Club.

We will be heading back to Wyoming this year. Come enjoy the great scenery.

Stop at Petersen Motors for more information. Registration forms with details on lodging are available. A detailed map is also posted at Petersen Motors.

Evenings call Bill at 224-4296, Frenchy at 224-1462, or Curt at 258-2415.

See previous newsletter for registration forms and more details on this great ride.

### **State HOG rally in Watertown**

The pre-registration cut-off date for the 2009 South Dakota State H.O.G. Rally is April 23. It is fast and easy to register online at [www.sdstatehogrally.com](http://www.sdstatehogrally.com).

From early bird registration on Thursday, June 11, through well into the evening on Saturday, June 13, there will plenty of activities to keep you busy. The Rally will be topped off with great banquet followed by entertainment by the Native American Dance Troupe and ZZ Top tribute band Sharp Dressed Man. As we have been saying all along, this will be a Rally that you won't forget!

Highlights of things to look forward to include:

- Thursday - early bird registration, self-guided rides, observation ride
- Friday - the feature guided ride to Fort Sisseton, evening Dealer party, games
- Friday and Saturday - guided and self-guided rides, poker run, scavenger hunt
- Saturday - Redlin Center reception, parade, banquet, entertainment, bike blessing

There will be numerous ride options, both guided and self-guided routes. However, the special guided day-ride to Historic Fort Sisseton and the area north of Watertown will be one you won't want to miss. Riding doesn't get much better anywhere! Free entry into the Fort and free food will all be included on this ride.

Don't forget to pre-register before April 23. And remember, it's not too late to get in on the chance to win special prizes that will only available to pre-registrants. You won't want to miss out on the 2009 South Dakota State H.O.G. Rally. We look forward to seeing you in Watertown!

Subject: Motorcycle Safety Course - Basic

Contact Andy Jackson 605-222-2031

Registration is up and running for the 2009 motorcycle safety classes in Pierre and Fort Pierre. Go online to [www.southdakotasafetycouncil.org](http://www.southdakotasafetycouncil.org) and click on the motorcycle link to find all available classes in South Dakota. Registration is online only, by credit card. Space is limited, so if you have any interest at all, please register early!

If you are new to motorcycling (scooters included), think you want to try motorcycling, or need a refresher after not riding for several years, you need to register for a BRC (Basic Rider Course) class. Cost is \$75 for the Basic Rider Course. Motorcycles are furnished by Petersen Motors.

Some of the reasons why everyone who rides should take these classes: 1) Learn how to SAFELY ride a motorcycle. 2) Most insurance companies will offer a discount on your premium when you receive your completion card. 3) If you purchase a new motorcycle or are a member of a motorcycle riding group, you can be reimbursed the cost of the class fee. 4) If you successfully pass the course, you ARE NOT required to take the State motorcycle testing to get your motorcycle endorsement on your drivers license. You simply take your MSF completion card to the drivers licensing station, get your picture taken, pay your fee and you walk out with your new license with the motorcycle endorsement.

First ride of the year ...March 15, 2009

It was a beautiful afternoon and the roads were dry so the itch to ride got the best of me. I barely got the bike started due to a low battery. The battery tender is in possession of one of the kids; they probably think Dad doesn't need it anyway.

The bike is warming up and I'm locating all the riding gear which seems to have moved since I used it last. Wow...coat still fits; it didn't shrink during the winter.

I got on the bike, checked the clutch lever pull and the front brake to make sure it's good to go. Everything checks out O.K.

I hit the gravel road with snow in the ditches and the smells of the beginning of spring which includes the skunk that didn't get out of the way of a grain truck.

I get to the highway and the gas gauge had gone from a 1/4 of a tank to almost empty. With the breeze from the north I'll go south with the wind and I'll get gas in Vivian. One mile down 83 and the fuel light comes on and only 14 miles to go. Seems like I do this once a year just to test my nerves and see if the bike really can run with a flashing fuel light. Slowing down to 60 m.p.h. to conserve fuel seems to be a nice option. Spotted a fox sunning on a mound in the road ditch along the way. The wheat fields are getting a hint of green.

I pull into the Coffee Cup and there are two nice, black, spotless HD's parked by the building and I look at mine covered in dust and bug dew that hadn't fallen off during the winter in the shop. I'm thinking..."I hope these riders don't know me."

I put 4.44 gallons in a 4.5 gallon tank and walk into pay and by golly there is a voice..."Noel, it sure is a nice day for a ride." Yes, I have been caught with a very dirty bike. Oh well, at least I didn't run out of gas and need a ride.

I headed home to wash my bike. Now I'm ready with a full tank, a clean bike, a charged up battery and all my gear is in one spot.

Safe riding my friends, and see you along the way.

Noel