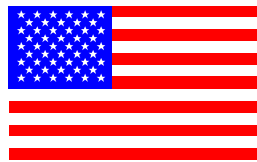


# Rhein Valley Legion Chapter

March 2007

NEWSLETTER



*The views and comments contained in this newsletter are the personal views of the contributors and are not those expressed by the Editor, the Rhein Valley Legion Chapter, the Harley Owner's Group (HOG), their authorized dealer or Agent.*

**PO # 9201**



**director**  
**Mike Kotula**

Here is my input  
Hi to everyone

It was a nice ride to the rod and gun club on Sunday. Yes I rode with HP and Like always we get there in time for the board meeting. We have the meeting and then go home. Will HP said to me let's take the bake roads home. Will three hours later in the dark I get home. Thanks HP for the nice long ride home. Back to the meeting there were about 25 members there most rode the bikes nice to see. We talked about doing more riding this year then the last few years. The big discussion was about the money we donate to the toy run in Erlangen. I know we love to donate money but people you need to look at the money we have to spend. Every one looks at oh we have 3.000 in the back so lets donated. What people don't see is the about of money it takes to keep the chapter going. With all the money going out we are in the hole about \$800. We are not a big chapter anymore. Please look at Brenda's report. We are limited to what we can do because we are a PO. And all money raiser have to be held on an Army post by the PO. And with all the post closing it is hard to do any thing these days. So people look at the money we have and can spend. I spent the Sunday at Brenda's looking at the money and the only thing I come up with is RVLC is \$800 in the minus. I don't know how we as a chapter are going to function if we are Broke.... So if we don't fine a post to have our toy run then guess what it will not happen. We came up with ways to make money but no one out there wants to work. And no work no money. This chapter can not sit on there Butt and make money. We can also raise the dues to make up the difference. Dues would be about \$80 to a \$100 a year. And how many members would we have then. People complain about \$24 a year. Ok I'll get off this now. We all need to rethink the money. Hope to see you at Manfred's on the 31st.  
Mike



**treasurer**  
**Brenda Morosin**

**BRENDA'S TWO CENTS**

Ho hum ho hum....man I really need my own bike. Someday someday!! Dennis has stepped past his half way point of his sandy vacation. Now that people are starting to come out to meetings and vote on things I thought I would put a little better view of the financial status in the newsletter.

January start	3109.00	68.11
Petty cash moved	36.00	
Membership	121.00	
Merchandise	32.00	
Service charge		-5.00
Ending	<u>3298.00</u>	<u>63.11</u>

**February**

Membership		100.00
Merchandise	125.00	167.00
Patches		-30.00
Flowers		-50.00
Service charge		- 5.00

<u>Ending</u>	<u>3423.72</u>	<u>245.11</u>
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**March**

Membership	72.00	140.00
Merchandise	87.00	103.00
50/50 donations	37.00	22.00

<u>Ending</u>	<u>3619.72</u>	<u>510.00 Euro</u>
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We all learn from mistakes and when I threw out the amount of money we had I think I may have misled some members at the meeting. I should also have included what was already going out rather than the on hand amount. We have to remember there is money set aside for Manfred's shop which will be 1000.00 Euro or the \$\$ equivalent. We had 250 \$ donation that has now been changed to a 500 Euro donation to the toy run. We have a \$250 going out to an audit and bond which has to be done according to our PO.

Then you have at least 1500 to 2000 that needs to be set aside for the toy run. We also wanted to get another 24 shirts for the toy run and a basic patch order that would run us about 1200\$. To combine those figures, combined, and sum it all up it is about 4945 \$ or 3700 Euros we had planned out. Take our balances which, combined, would be 3231 euro OR 4297 \$ subtract out what we had planned and that leaves -469 Euro or -648\$. So basically whatever we do or don't make at the one fundraiser we are going to have, and membership is the only running cost we will have for the following year. I am not seeing things lookin on the upside here.

To sum all that up basically if we continue to sit on our butts and think that one fundraiser a year and membership is going to let us survive.....its not. It seems people really don't want to work at making money and having a carwash or something. Everyone wants a party to make the money. I hear people give motions and tell the rest of us to "focus" well lets focus!! If we do not find ways to raise money to donate money we are not going to have a PO. If we don't have a PO then we will have to become a German chapter, pay German taxes, not be able to get anything from the base, not be able to raise money on the base, and not be able to get patches and such in US dollars for the chapter. Which means dues and patches would more then double.

There has been a few ideas thrown around about some fundraisers we can do. We need to get more money out there to the red cross, Fischer House, Kindercare, special Olympics, our name as Rhein Valley is not going to grow without making donations somewhere, German and American.

Ok off my soapbox now...next!

***assistant director***  
**Petra Naylor**

Hello everybody,

it was nice to see you at the meeting.

24 members plus board members were there.

We talked about what we plan on doing for rides this year and we had a little bit of discussions about how much money we should spend on the Toy run in Erlangen.

After a motion was made, we raised the amount of money.

Please read Brenda's financial report carefully. We are not the big chapter we used to be and we did not raise a lot of money to give away last year.

Maybe we should all get used to the fact that some things have changed: e.g. we are competing with tons of other HD-related and other biker events.

Our means are limited: sometimes we are limited by laws we have to follow as a private organisation; a lot of military installations are closed down or will be closing down – this means we are more and more limited on the choices of places where we have our events.

We have small groups of members all over Southern Europe – and quite an amount of our members is – at least temporarily – deployed. This reminds me to say Hi to all of you down range!!! I hope you are all doing ok and return home safely. Can we still hope that you join us for the riding season?

It is harder to attract people to come to our events – this is why we choose to change our Toy Run back to October so we have the support of a lot of other chapters and groups we are friends with and do not interfere with their events. There are not many biker parties at that time of the year – so we will attract people.

We are already looking for another place to have the Toy Run. We try not to go back to the Rod and Gun Club in Heidelberg for various reasons: main reason – it is too expensive – prices are too high. But – the riding season has not even started, so we still have quite some time to find a place. If you know of any alternatives, let us know.

Have you started your personal riding season already? I started mine on the back of a Sports bike – it was an experience from “the other side”. Now I know that sport bikes are definitely made for solo riders. It is hard to stick to the passenger seat while you are trying to balance your weight while the thing wants to kick you off!! I still had fun but I am definitely convinced now that sport bikes are not made for me. Even though – better riding b..... than not riding at all. The weather was so great – we just could not resist. I just dream of the time, when my scooter is ready for riding – hopefully when I write my next input I can tell you more!!!! What the heck – winter just came back and we have snow again at the Black Forest and the birds are singing – that sounds like spring!!

Hope to see you all soon at Manfred's open house on the 31<sup>st</sup> of March – we will have our April meeting then!!

Keep your hair in the wind,

Petra



### ***assistant director***

#### **Dennis Morosin**

Batman said the sand is still blowing and looks like he will be back at the beginning of May. The only thing close to a Harley he can find is a two wheel green chopper bicycle. I told him to ride it and take a picture for us.

His loving wife Brenda



### ***secretary/webmaster/editor***

#### **Pavla Fröhlich**

Hi children,

I leave you alone for one meeting and what happens??? You try to ruin our Chapter! Even we are not able to spend more money than we own without to bear the consequences. And that would be to loose our Chapter. Do you really want to do this??? No! I don't think so. I suppose you just didn't know

about our finances. Ok, you read Brenda's 'Two Cent's' now and we can talk about donations on our next meeting again. Ok ok you are right I'm not your mom, but .... Yes you are right you are old enough.....I'm quiet now, but....

So: Hi folks,

I'm back to Old Europe again. We had marvellous vacations. First we had flown to Portland to visit my aunt. She is over 80 but still living at her own and driving a car. I wish I'll be like her at that age! We spent few relaxing and 'eating' days with her (wasn't it the same last year?!?!?). And of course we visited al the H.D. dealers in and around Portland. Debbie welcomed us in Latus Motors. She remembered us and we had to promise to let her now the next time earlier so we can party together. And, as you can see in our Guest Book, we have new friends in Vancouver WA. To wear a strange colour in USA is like this: please ask me where I'm from.... I like it. You meet people, no people meet you, you would newer talk to..... Then we flew over to Daytona. Oh by the way do you know the movie 'Groundhog Day'? The weather was good again this year. We had only one rainy day and it was cold only at the night time, in the low 30<sup>ties</sup>. Don't worry. I didn't freeze. I had two foam and one air mattress and two sleeping bags.....-☺ We could ride only in short sleeve t-shirts at the day time and some got a bad sunburn and looked like a racoon. Yes our good friend George lent us his Electra Glide Sport. But.... like Ernie said: ride a Jap-bike or push a Harley. So I have a new experience. I know the 'homeless feeling' under a bridge waiting for help..... And I know a new English expression: jumpers! First was the battery, then the regulator and the last one was an 'unplugged' wire.... Fun is if you even though laugh! We met 'old' friends we didn't see for years and we had great time together. It wasn't a 'big parties Bike Week' but rather a 'deep relation ship' time. I enjoyed this so much! In German you say: 'Es war Balsam für meine Seele'. I don't know if this translation makes in English a sense: 'It was balm for my soul'. Can someone explain to me those damned distances?!?!? I have to wait to see them till next Bike Week.

Stay shiny and keep the rubber side down

Pav

## ***head road captain*** **John Ballard**

Hello Everyone:

The title "Head Road Captain" implies there are more road captains than just me! Gary Loper (as far as I know) is the only other Road Captain on my list. I need volunteers for road captains from the other communities to assist me in setting up the rides we are doing to Erlangen and also to the Super Rally in the Netherlands. Please contact me or the Exec Board. Otherwise, don't complain when I dork up the ride through your area! First come, first appointed.

My wife Teri gave me a GPS for my birthday. I wasn't sure if I would like it, since I like to be "old school". I have heard some people say they don't like GPS since "It's not the destination, it's the journey". Well after a month of fooling with my GPS, I can't help but remember all the cool journeys that were nearly ruined by difficulty reaching the destination! Or frustration with the "Esso Shuffle". Sure, later on these adventures make for funny stories, but sometimes too much adventure can be a bad thing. With GPS, you can go wherever you want and never have to pull over to look at a map unless you want to. For me, since I'd rather be riding that stopping, GPS gets "two thumbs up" so far...more to follow on this subject as the warm weather gets here.

The RVLC Toy Run has become a hot topic. This is our only "big" event this year and is scheduled for October. "Back in the Day" we had big Toy Runs in October, then more recently we have had them in September hoping for better weather. This year we chose October to avoid conflicting with other events. Everything looked okay until we lost our posh indoor location in Griesheim.

I think we should think about what we are trying to accomplish. This is the "Year of the Ride". We are trying to raise money for the Fisher House and collect toys for kids. If having a 3 day event is too intense and too expensive, I propose we organize a 1 day/night event. We could host this event at any restaurant or bar that will have us. We all arrive around noon, pay/donate a 20 Euro (or some other amount) fee, donate a toy, get a t-shirt, a raffle ticket, and maybe a poker run card for the "run". At the end of the "run" we give away some prizes, and let the restaurant host of for dinner/drinks. The chapter could hire an inexpensive band. Everyone is on their own for accommodation (or maybe the restaurant has a big field we could camp in next door). Or plan it in a campground that has a restaurant and bar already (like Black Forrest Rally). Just my thoughts. Planning "big" events is painful, maybe we should forget big events and go small. I'm just the Head Road Captain so I'm going to plan rides. All you hoping not to be NRBs this year, read on:

### **Here are the details for 31 March Ride to Manfred's Open House:**

I am organizing a ride in Stuttgart to all the local dealers. Everyone should arrive in Stuttgart by 1000 and we will ride in scenic circle from Sindelfingen, ending at Manfred's shop.

**We will link up at the Sindelfingen Esso (two blocks up the street from Manfred's) for departure NLT 1000.** Then we will ride to the 3 other H-D Dealers, ending at Manfred's at 1400 in time for the meeting. If you are unable to make the start time, link up with us at any of the dealers or simply go to Manfred's (NRBs) at 1400. Here are the addresses for your mapquest or GPS, etc.

To get to the start point via Autobahn, follow signs to/from A8/A81 to A81 direction Singen, exit A81 at Sindelfingen Ost (Exit 21).

Start Point: Esso Station, Mahdentalstr. 97, 71065 Sindelfingen

Stop 1: Harley-Davidson Stuttgart, Zuffenhauserstr. 93, 70825  
Korntal/Münchingen

Stop 2: Harley-Davidson Neckar-Fils, Max-Eyth-Str. 17 73269 Hochdorf

Stop 3: CPO Cycle Products GmbH, Robert-Bosch-Strasse 5, 72654  
Neckartenzlingen

Stop 4: Manfred Angster, Königsknollstr. 3, 71065 Sindelfingen

### **Link up Plan for Erlangen Toy Run:**

I will depart Stuttgart for Erlangen at 0800, side roads from Stuttgart through Schwabisch Hall to Ansbach to Erlangen, arriving at 1200 at the meeting point. I need a Road Captain or POC from K'town and Wiesbaden to determine northern and western departure times and places. I recommend those two groups converge in Würzburg like last year.

### **Details for Super Rally and Memorial Day Ride to Arnhem:**

Chapter will ride together on Friday, 25 May beginning in Stuttgart linking up along the way to Bussloo, NL. Tentative Linkup times are below. IF you are along the route but not near a point already identified, please recommend a location (Autobahn Esso or Aral preferred) and let me know.

Stop 1: Stuttgart (Patch Barracks) Depart 0800 Stop 2: Esso on A5 in Heidelberg  
Depart 1000

Stop 3: Aral or Esso Vic Wiesbaden on A3(Need help with Location) Depart  
1200

Other Stops as required? (please contact me) Stop 4: Bussloo, NL

On Sunday 27 May, RVLC will conduct a Memorial Ride to Arnhem to visit some of the historic locations associated with Operation Market Garden

([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Operation\\_Market\\_Garden#The\\_plan](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Operation_Market_Garden#The_plan)) which was the largest Airborne operation in WWII. My next newsletter input will contain a little summary of the battle and more details on some of the places we will visit along the ride.

Critical times for the Memorial Ride on 27 May:

1000 Depart Super Rally Site for Airborne Museum 1100-1200 Visit Airborne  
Museum (<http://www.airbornemuseum.org/>) 1200-1300 Lunch at the Schoonoord  
Hotel

1330 Depart for ride to Eindhoven, turn north through Veghel, Grave, Groesbeek,  
and Nijmegen

1600 Memorial Ceremony in Nijmegen

1700 Ride back to Arnhem on to Bussloo to the Super Rally Site

I am riding from Stuttgart to Prague on 1 June. We are dedicating our ride to the memory of our friend Ron Johnson who had planned to join us this year but obviously won't be able to due to his tragic death in January. Those who were friends of Ron who want to link up and ride with us, please contact me directly. I have not set a departure time yet but it will be fairly early 0900ish from Stuttgart. If work permits, I may leave earlier to link up with Derryl and/or Pavla on 30 May but currently that is looking doubtful...(for me)

The next rides will be an Iron Butt Ride to the HOG Rally in Spain, and the 4-7 July trip via Berchtesgaden and Fucking, Austria (a real place, not a cuss-word in this case) back to Hannau, followed by the Alps Run (join me to ride to Petra's House!) and then our return to Aviemore, Scotland in August. And there is lots in between that I left out. Check out the calendar!

Don't be an NRB!

John Ballard  
Aka Johnnynlabel  
Head Road Captain

## **GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES**

- meeting opened at 13.15 by director Mike; 24 members plus board members are present
- thanks for everybody coming
- Toy Run: Griesheim was rejected;
  - hangar is an indoor paintball range
  - Masons have Remington Club every Saturday and Sunday
  - We are looking for a new place right now
  - If you know of anything let Mike Kotula know
  - We want to ask for entry donations and make money with food and drinks
- 31<sup>st</sup> March meeting in Stuttgart at Manfred's Open House at 1400
- 12 – 14<sup>th</sup> of April Mannheim new car sales is having their road show with barbecue
- 13<sup>th</sup> April safety day in Ramstein
- 28<sup>th</sup> April safety day at Mannheim Benjamin Franklin Kasern
  - for more info get with Bev Melvin or check our website
  - you have to show up in full riding gear
- May 12<sup>th</sup> : Toy Run Erlangen:
  - Date was changed to the second weekend in May!!
  - \$250 donation; motion was made to raise the donation to €500
  - camping available
  - RVCL meeting at 1700 on Saturday at the 74 or more club house
  - Group-ride to Erlangen

- Super Rally: 25<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> May in Bossloo
  - June meeting at the Super Rally
  - We want to go as a group; leaving in small groups from different points and meet on the way on Friday
  - memorial ride-out on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> May; John reports on what he has planned. Full day's ride (150 miles) with museum visit, lunch, visiting historical sites (Eindhoven, Nijmegen, Arnhem); including a memorial ceremony
  - trying to have it announced on AFN
  
- 4<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> Juli ride-out to Fucking (name of the town) in Austria; organized by John and the Stuttgart Clan
  - base camp with free overnight sleeping (bring your own sleeping bag)
  - for reservations and more info get with John Ballard or check our website
  
- July 7<sup>th</sup> : Hanau Rod and Gun Crew 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary
  - director's challenge ride-out; meeting place at 1200 at HD Hanau
  - July meeting at 1700
  - free camping in the back; at the Hundeverein Clubhouse in Hanau
  - live band
  - free bikers breakfast in the morning
  
- **American plated bikes fall under the same noise pollution law as German bikes!!!**
  
- if you know of anybody who needs to renew, please remind people - if they want to be members they need to pay their dues
  
- Brenda gives a quick financial report
  
- There are still RVLC T-shirts available
  
- Mannheim / Heidelberg new car sales manager Dave Moles makes a 380\$ donation for the Erlangen Toy Run –Gary Loper will change the money into Euros and hand it to our treasurer Brenda Morosin
  
- 50 / 50 (20€ and 25 \$ ) goes to Gernot
  - first ticket HD coffee mug goes to Jason
  - second ticket HD hat goes to Lori
  - third and following tickets HD bandana: Johnny
  
- Meeting adjourned at 14.30 by director Mike Kotula.

Keep your hair in the wind,  
Petra

# RHEIN VALLEY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## March

31<sup>st</sup> **1000/1400 RVLC meeting at Manfred's shop in Sindelfingen**

## April

13<sup>th</sup> safety day in Ramstein

28<sup>th</sup><sup>t</sup> safety day at Mannheim Benjamin Franklin Kasern

## May

12<sup>th</sup> Toy Run Erlangen

**1700 RVLC meeting at the 74" or more club house**

25<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> Super Rally in Bussloo and **RVLC meeting**

## June

1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> Prague Rally and

Pavla's riding in CZ from 28<sup>th</sup> May to the 1<sup>st</sup> June and from the 4<sup>th</sup> June to the 7<sup>th</sup> June to the Magic Bike Rally in Rüdeshheim

7<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> Magic Bike Rally in Rüdeshheim and

9<sup>th</sup> **RVLC ride out** at the magic Bike Rally in Rüdeshheim

7<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Mania Saalbach / Austria

## July

4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> ride-out to Fucking / Austria; organized by John and the Stuttgart Clan

7<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Rod And Gun Crew Hannau

**1700 RVLC meeting**

20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> **2<sup>nd</sup> RVLC Alps Run**

## August

4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> **Fug'n Nutz / Stuttgart Clan / RVLC Party in 'Garden of Eden' Stuttgart**

4<sup>th</sup> **RVLC Chapter picture at Manfred's shop**

5<sup>th</sup> **1000 RVLC meeting**

17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> Long Rider 'Plausch weekend' Himmelried / Switzerland

24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> Black Forrest Rally

24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> Thunder in the glens Aviemore / Scotland

## August

2<sup>nd</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> European Bike Week at Faaker See

7<sup>th</sup> **RVLC ride out** at the European Bike Week at Faaker See



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