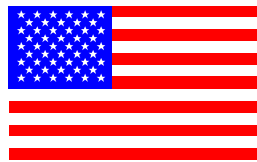


Rhein Valley Legion Chapter

April 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

Sorry, no input.....



treasurer
Brenda Morosin

BRENDA'S TWO CENTS

Nothing really new, nice to say hey to the regulars again, got stuck in a stau...needless to say I was ready to go by the time I got to the meeting. I have had visits from the states for work and company to boot ! So I give my apologies but I don't have an input. We had three member renew and our 500 Euro HOG reimbursement made it here and has been deposited. Again my apologies for not making a neat little statement but it is a rough month. So if ya really want to know look at last month add about 600 euro and ya got it.

I have signed two new members here in Ramstein and Mike has picked up two in his area.

Brenda

assistant director
Petra Naylor

Sorry, no input.....



assistant director
Dennis Morosin

Our batman is still playing in the sandbox and building sandcastles and dreaming of riding in the Alps.....



secretary/webmaster/editor
Pavla Fröhlich

Hi folks,
never new what ,burn out' means, now I know. I'm so tired I
even don't know what to write. I'll do my best to be on the
Toy Run in Erlangen.
See you there

Stay shiny and keep the rubber side down
Pavla

head road captain
John Ballard

If you plan it, they will come...Well, that turned out to be the case for Stuttgart bikers and the Swiss contingent, but NOT SO MUCH for the rest of the Chapter! I will talk to the Treasurer to get "RVLC NRB" patches made for those of you who need them...

Pavla, Peter, and Hardy arrived at my house "early" Friday evening at about 2130 hrs. After a small wine crisis and the ritual blowing of the air mattress, we settled in for a nice evening of telling lies and stories. Peter and I called it an night at about 1:30 a.m., not bad outing for a couple of older men such as ourselves, particularly in light of the early hour of our impending departure for the following day's activities...

The next morning we were up early for bacon, eggs, and coffee (Malmsheim Standard Breakfast), not necessarily in that order! We departed my driveway in time to make a quick stop at Manfred's shop to hang the RVLC flag and provide Manfred with an update on our plans. The weather was looking pretty good: cloudy as hell and dark but no rain! Hey, we're still okay!

At 0945 we arrived at the designated meeting place, the Sindelfingen Esso, just a few blocks up the street from Manfred's shop. I had to chuckle at the phone calls I got five minutes prior to our departure saying "I'm at THE ESSO" to which I replied "You are at THE WRONG ESSO!" Love it!

We had chosen the Sindelfingen Esso to make it easier for all the out of towners to roll in without having to worry about trying to find the Aral or heaven forbid Patch Barracks Shoppette. Well, all that worry for nothing, as while the turnout from Stuttgart was a solid 15 bikes, other than the 4-wheeled Swiss contingent in the Audi, there was not a single out of towners to join us for the ride. Yes, slightly disappointing

but not completely unexpected due to the current level of NRB-ness in the Chapter and the potential for the forecast to go from good (dark and cloudy) to not so good (raining like hell).

Well, we departed at 1000, after a quick game of "Where's Waldo(Brian)" and were on our way to Stuttgart H-D in Korntal, a few kilometers northeast just off of A81. On the way we met a few heading the wrong way who turned around and joined us, making our numbers a very respectable 17 bikes. We arrived at Stuttgart H-D dry and more or less warm. After shaking hands with Peter DeLorenzo, cups of coffee for some and t-shirts for the others (40 Euro) we were on our way to the next stop, H-D Neckar-Fils in Hochdorf.

Well, about halfway to Hochdorf the rain really started to come down. . Uncle TomTom, although set to avoid highways, chose a 4 lane road which was just as bad. This leg of the ride was not much fun, but on the other hand, a lot more fun than not riding at all! After all, a little practice in keeping 3 layers of glass/plastic (windshield, face shield, glasses for you NRBs...) clear of mist is helpful in building character of a proper biker. This particular leg also helped to develop the character of two riders in particular, who were taught the hard way how not to cross wet railroad tracks at funny angles to the road! That's right, someone fell down after getting caught by railroad tracks running parallel to the lane we were traveling in. When the first fell, the 2nd was taken down when unable to escape. Luckily, nothing other than pride was injured and the bikes relatively undamaged.

From Neckar-Fils we pressed onward to H-D CPO in Neckartenzlingen. Having been chastised earlier for not synchronizing the bagpipe music precisely with our arrival, I was looking down to ensure the correct tune played at the correct time, and looked up in time to notice not only was nobody behind me any longer, but also that I had missed one of the turn offs for the dealer. My "pack" peeled off and took the more direct (and more congested) route in while I made my grand entrance via the less direct and less crowded western route! CPO had the best spread of food, and as a result we left a few minutes behind schedule but still managed to arrive at Manfred's shop at 1315, beating all of you who didn't show up by hours and those who did show up by only minutes!

Naturally when we arrived at Manfred's shop, the rain finally quit! While I had been disappointed in the weather I was not disappointed in the camaraderie shared with those others brave enough to don their rain gear and head out with us. A good ride in the rain is better than not riding at all, that is for damn sure.

I could not help but notice the difference in t-shirt prices along the route. Two of the four dealers we visited I had never been to before. I thought it would be cool to have a t-shirt that says "Stuttgart" but that t-shirt went for nearly 40 euro while one that says "Sindelfingen" only cost 25 Euro, so I'll proudly wear my Sindelfingen t-shirt and give the others a miss!

The turnout at Manfred's was pretty impressive considering the weather. The highlight for me was Manfred's new flag pole, a surplus US Army telescopic radio antenna that was at least 6 inches in diameter and 40 feet tall. One of a kind, which is in harmony with Manfred's decor! Speaking of Manfred's decor, many have

wondered what Manfred's status in the eyes of corporate Harley-Davidson. It looks like H-D will allow Manfred to keep his H-D franchise as long as he continues to run it himself. Manfred will one day turn his shop over to his son Michael, and at that point in time (yet undetermined) H-D will either force a move to a more modern facility or make the shop become an unofficial H-D shop. So the good news for the short term is "status quo" until Manfred decides to hang it up, which we all know he is not ready to do for many years to come! Long live Manfred, the oldest Harley Dealer in Germany!

Stay tuned to your email for the link up plan for Erlangen. If you aren't sure RVLC has your correct email, please email Pavla with your updated email address.

Sooner (rather than later)
JB

Reminder:

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) 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 Johnnylabel
Head Road Captain

assessor/advisor
H.-P. Moschner

Hi all!

We don't know what's about Stuttgart, but as always going there Jürgen and I hit a big black cloud in Heilbronn which followed us and made sure that we got pretty wet before we arrived at Manfred's store.

At the meeting I explained a little bit about our financial situation and that we (all in the chapter) have to do something about it. We cannot donate money which is not there. Before Mike's last month input to the newsletter we had a meeting at Brenda's house. There I said, that if the members don't want to do something but still want to donate money, the easiest fix would be to raise our membership dues up to \$75 or € 75 but with the stipulation that those extra amount are strictly for donations. With about 80 members that would give us about (80x50) **\$4000** to give away over the year as the renewals come in.

Because in my opinion we can not just sit down and cry about that we cannot sell Beer and Booze or ask for an entry donation for our toy run. We should be smart enough to find other ways to raise money.

One could be that the ID-card holders get together with ENCS and make a BBQ and/or Car/Bike wash at the HD-Road shows they have every year on the different installations. That way we could also show more presence in the communities and gain new members. The Non-ID-Card-Holders are challenged to find ways off post to raise money that the chapter will donate. In order to man all the events we could make it mandatory that each member spends let say 20 hours for moneymaking events a year. They could man at least the Road Show in there community. We also could give the option that the members can choose if they either pay the higher fee or work a certain amount of time.

That is just two thoughts I had. How much more will we get if **you** get involved.

Tell us your ideas how we can generate money to give to the ones in need. Come to the meeting in Erlangen or mail it in or give the board a ring. This way or the other, be part of it.

See you there

Ride always, sober all days

HP

Hallo Leute!

Als ich mit dem Jürgen nach Sindelfingen zum April-Meeting in Manfred Angsters Shop fuhr, fing es gleich hinter Heilbronn an zu regnen. Die Wolke blieb schön bei uns und stellte sicher dass wir nass wurden.

Beim Meeting ging ich etwas genauer auf die finanzielle Situation des Chapters ein und das wir (alle im Chapter) etwas dafür machen müssen. Wir können kein Geld spenden dass nicht vorhanden ist. Vor Mike Kotulas Newsletter Input hatten wir ein Meeting in Brendas Haus. Dort sagte ich, wenn die Mitglieder Geld spenden wollen, aber nicht bereit sind dafür etwas zu tun, sollten wir den Mitgliedsbeitrag um \$ € 50 erhöhen, mit der Bedingung, dass dieses Geld nur zum Spenden genommen wird. Bei etwa 80 Mitglieder hätten wir ca. (80x50) **\$ 4000** übers Jahr verteilt, grad so wie die Erneuerungen kommen.

Meiner Meinung nach sollten wir nicht darüber nachdenken, dass wir keinen Alkohol verkaufen dürfen und keine Eintrittsspende erheben dürfen. Wir sollten schlaue genug sein andere Wege zu finden Spenden zu erhalten.

Eine könnte sein das die ID-Card Inhaber sich mit den Leuten von ENCS (Autohändler in den Kasernen) zusammen tun und an den Harley Road Shows, die jedes Jahr stattfinden, ein BBQ und oder Auto/ Bike wash in den verschiedenen Kasernen veranstalten. Auf diesem Weg könnte sich RVLC in den amerikanischen Gemeinden wieder bekannter machen und bestimmt auch neue Mitglieder finden.

Die übrigen können sich Überlegen, wie sie außerhalb der Kasernen ihren Beitrag leisten können, damit wieder Geld zum spenden da ist.

Um genügend Leute für die Veranstaltungen zu haben, könnten wir es so halten, dass jedes Mitglied 20 Stunden im Jahr dafür bereit steht. Damit sollten wir die Leute für die BBQ's in den Kommunen haben. Es bestünde auch die Möglichkeit, dass die die Wahl haben, ob sie lieber den höheren Mitgliedsbeitrag bezahlen oder bestimmte Stunden erbringen.

Das sind zwei Ideen, die ich so hatte, wie viel werden es erst sein wenn **Du** dich beteiligst.

Teilt uns eure Ideen mit wie wir alle Geld für die Bedürftigen erhalten können. Kommt

zum Meeting nach dem Toy Run in Erlangen oder E-mailt sie uns oder ruft einen vom Board an.

Wie auch immer, seid Teil davon.

Sehe Euch dort

Ride all days, sober always

HP

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

Sorry, no input.....

RHEIN VALLEY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May

- 12th Toy Run Erlangen
1700 RVLC meeting at the 74" or more club house
25th-28th Super Rally in Bussloo and **RVLC meeting**

June

- 1st-4th Prague Rally and
Pavla's riding in CZ from 28th May to the 1st June and from the 4th June to the
7th June to the Magic Bike Rally in Rüdesheim
7th-10th Magic Bike Rally in Rüdesheim and
9th **RVLC ride out** at the magic Bike Rally in Rüdesheim
7th-10th Mountain Mania Saalbach / Austria

July

- 4th-7th ride-out to Fucking / Austria; organized by John and the Stuttgart Clan
7th 10th Anniversary Rod And Gun Crew Hannau
1700 RVLC meeting

20th-22nd 2nd RVLC Alps Run

August

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

4th **RVLC Chapter picture at Manfred's shop**

5th **1000 RVLC meeting**

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

24th-26th Black Forrest Rally

24th-26th Thunder in the glens Aviemore / Scotland

September

2nd-9th European Bike Week at Faaker See

7th **RVLC ride out** at the European Bike Week at Faaker See



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