



Brandywine Bullet

Volume 7 Issue 3

September/October 2025

50 Rides trip review by Alan R.

Summer is almost over and I want to thank everyone for your support of Brandywine HOG. This year has had a lot of memories made and we have a lot of new members, totaling 125. As I am sitting here writing this, I am recalling how we had a lot of rain at the beginning of the year and rides became few as it never seemed to stop raining. Thankfully the nicer weather came our way as the weeks passed. The chapter trip to NE made it into the HOG Officers Connection, below is what I sent to HOG to be published in case you missed it.

Brandywine HOG 50 Rides One Nation Trip: New England Adventure

Date: June 17-22, 2025

This June, Brandywine Chapter of Harley Owners Group (HOG) embarked on an unforgettable journey through the picturesque landscapes of New England. From the early morning kickstands up to the last ride home, our six-day adventure was a celebration of camaraderie, exploration, and the open road.

Day 1: Tuesday, June 17th

Our adventure began at 7am at the Wawa on Naamans Creek Road, where 14 bikes and 23 riders gathered, ready to hit the open road. With engines roaring, we set our sights on Cornwall Bridge, Connecticut. The day was marked by a light drizzle that added a mystique to our ride as we maneuvered through the misty rain. The camaraderie was palpable, with each rider sharing stories and laughter. We captured memories with pictures upon arrival, finally reaching the Super 8 Manchester Airport around 8 pm, having covered 415 miles. We were welcomed by Maria Petit and Dave & Nancy Simone from Seacoast HOG.

Day 2: Wednesday, June 18th

The next morning, we had KSU at 9 am and headed to Point Judith Lighthouse in Rhode Island where we met David McCullem, director from Ocean State HOG. David took us on an adventure through Rhode Island taking us down Mansion Way. Lunch at Monogans Clam Shack was a highlight, where the fresh seafood was as delightful as the breathtaking ocean scenery we rode through in Newport. The total ride for the day was a leisurely 285 miles, filled with laughter and stunning views.

50 Rides trip review (cont.)

Day 3: Thursday, June 19th

Day three began with a 9 am KSU as we set off for the iconic Ben & Jerry's in Vermont. Here, we connected with Justen Elliott, director, and other members of Central Vermont HOG, who graciously provided a free lunch at Wilkins Harley Davidson. A big thank you to John Lyons, ride lead, as our route brought us through unexpected downpours, but the spirit of adventure kept us moving. After a refreshing day, we checked in at Manchester Harley, totaling 290 miles.

Day 4: Friday, June 20th

The early risers gathered at 7am for a day split into two groups. Six bikes ventured toward Acadia National Park, where there was breathtaking scenery. We found a delightful lobster shack for lunch savoring the local flavors and stopped at Seacoast HD for the check in. This all made the 570-mile journey worthwhile. Meanwhile, twelve bikes, led by Dave and Maria from Seacoast HOG, took the scenic Kancamagus Highway to Woodstock Station in New Hampshire. After lunch, they also checked in at Seacoast Harley Davidson followed by a check-in at Rochester Harley Davidson, completing a fantastic 280-mile ride.

Day 5: Saturday, June 21st

At 8 am we began a ride to Lincoln, NH where we met members of Central Vermont HOG. Once we got there, I spotted a business across the road with my last name on it. I walked over to purchase a shirt and was met at the door by the owner. I told him I had the same last name and he went and got a shirt in my size and gave it to me. Thank you Rodgers Ski & Sport. Then we were off to explore the Kancamagus Highway once more and experience the excitement of Laconia Bike Week in New Hampshire. The day was filled with energy as we mingled with fellow riders and enjoyed lunch before heading to the New Hampshire Motor Speedway for the Harley Davidson corporate check-in. The day ended with 354 miles in the saddle.

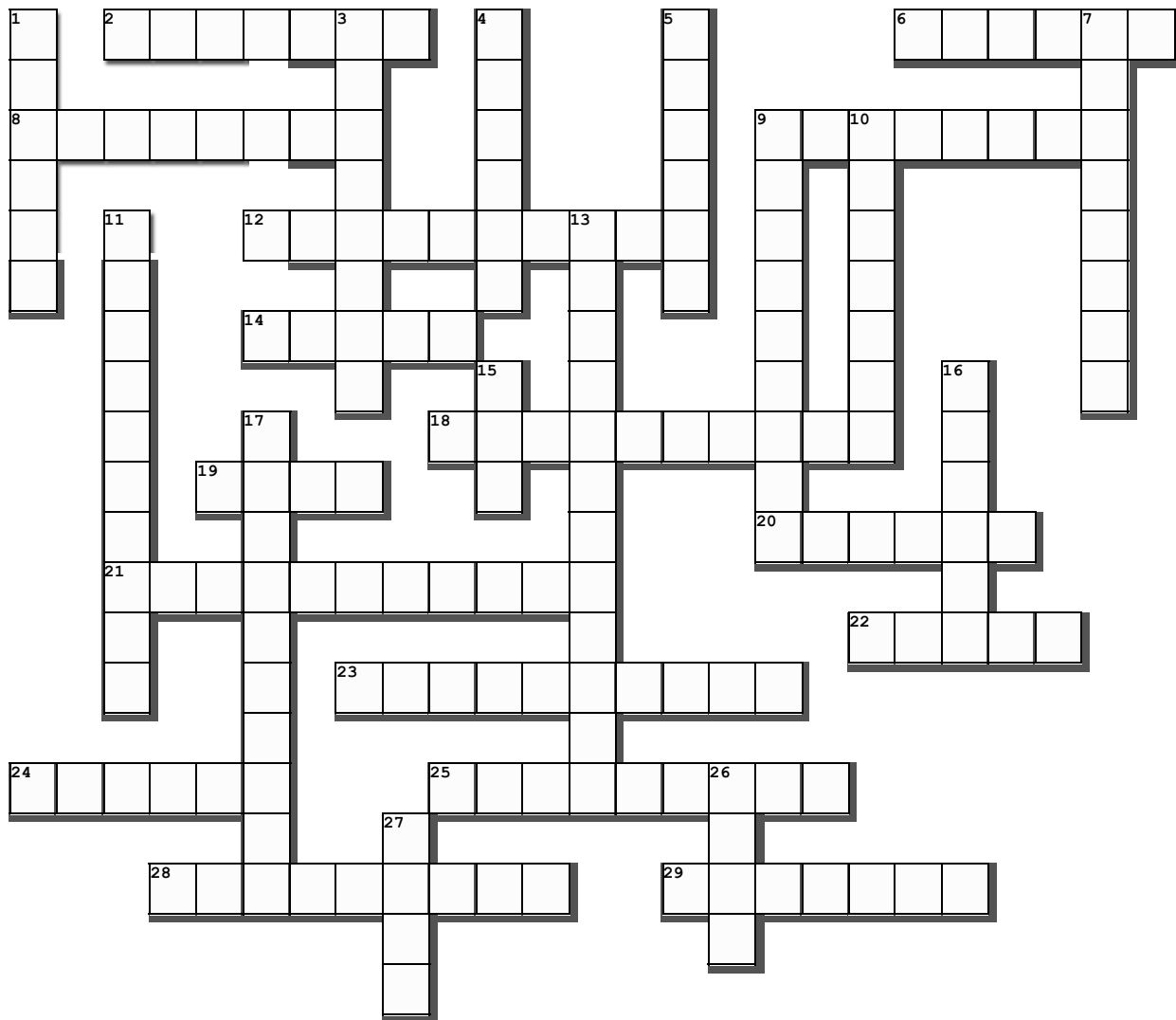
Day 6: Sunday, June 22nd

As our journey came to an end, we gathered for our final KSU at 7am. We set off in a drizzle towards Mount Greylock in Massachusetts where we were rewarded with epic views from an elevation of 3,491 feet. Nature greeted us warmly, with a baby bear cub spotted along the route. With hearts full of joy and memories made, we began our journey home, concluding our trip with a day of 420 miles riding.

In total, Brandywine HOG's 50 Rides, One Nation trip covered approximately 2,334 miles. More than just a ride, this journey fostered new friendships, unforgettable moments, and a deep appreciation for the beautiful landscapes of New England. As we returned home, we carried with us not only the miles traveled but the lasting memories of laughter, adventure, and the open road. Here's to many more rides and the bonds we create along the way!



Test your knowledge by completing the crossword puzzle below.



Created using the Crossword Maker on TheTeachersCorner.net

Across

2. maneuver involving the front wheel lifting off the ground
6. famous Italian motorcycle brand
8. what occurs between the tires and the road
9. backrest for the passenger
12. two-wheeled vehicle associated with freedom and adventure
14. riding when both seats on the bike are occupied
18. where the rider puts his feet
19. the second rider in a group
20. popular maker of tires for Harleys
21. one way riders can communicate while riding
22. the last rider in a group
23. what the riders holds onto
24. sound that Harleys are known for
25. ignites the fuel in the engine
28. storage compartment next to the rear wheel
29. some bikes have this to block the wind

Down

1. competition for racing motorcycles on a track
3. turns everything on or off on the bike
4. mechanism that allows gears to be changed
5. protective gear worn on the head while riding
7. controls speed and acceleration
9. how we ride when in a large group
10. site of a popular rally held in South Dakota
11. place to purchase a motorcycle
13. how to initiate a turn at high speed
15. our parent organization
16. shiny metal on many bikes
17. transparent protection from the wind
26. the first rider in a group
27. garment that is often covered in patches and pins

Answers to the puzzle can be found on page 8.



The Veterans Memorial Bridge as seen from the Crossing River visitor center.

Columbia, PA Loop Ride by Dave G.

This is one of my favorite day trips, approximately a 50 mile loop, along both sides of the Susquehanna river. The roads are all secondary or back roads with lots of twists and turns, view's from above and along the river, scenic farm land, and a few small interesting towns.

You can start at any of the major intersections along the route, but I have these directions starting in Columbia, PA at the Columbia Crossing River Trail Center. The visitor center is on the Susquehanna River near the wonderful bridge shown in the picture at left. Plan to take a few minutes to visit the River Trail Center. There's a lot of great information about the area and clean bathrooms.

From the center head across the bridge on Rte. 462 W. After crossing the bridge take Rte. 624 S, to Rte. 425 S, to Rte. 74 S, to Rte. 372 E. Take the Rte. 372 bridge back across the Susquehanna river. Make the 3rd left after the bridge onto River Road heading north which will lead you back towards Columbia. Follow River Road until it becomes Water Street, also marked as Rte. 441 N,. The River Trails visitor center is a just a few miles further north after River Road becomes Water Street/Rte. 441.



Here's my Road ID bracelet. This is the narrower version, but the company also offers a wider bracelet with more lines for info. There are multiple color options and a variety of special segments that you can add to the bracelet.

Road ID By Curt B.

As I was planning my recent cross-country trek, my wife raised a question about how to be as safe as possible as I was riding. A Road ID bracelet was part of the answer. If you're looking for one more thing to help keep you safe as you ride, maybe you should check out a Road ID bracelet.

The Road ID company makes personalized bracelets that can be inscribed with just about any information you want. One purpose for the bracelet is to show basic contact info and any medical concerns you think a first responder should know in the event that you are found unresponsive after an incident. They can also be made just for fun if desired.

I found the process of ordering my bracelet online easy to do and the \$40 cost was reasonable. My bracelet arrived in a timely fashion (with free shipping) and it came in just as I had planned it. The company stands behind their products and offers support if there are any problems. They also offer other similar products that are designed for a variety of purposes. You can find more information on the company's website at <https://www.roadid.com/>.

Upcoming rides and events

October

18 Chapter mtg. at 8:00 am at Brandywine H-D, mystery ride after the meeting, KSU at 9:30

19 Solomon's Island, MD, KSU at 8:30 am

25 Sleepy Hollow, NY, KSU at 7:00 am

26 Fall Foliage to Wrightsville, PA, KSU at

November

2 Closed ride for members only

15 Chapter mtg. at 8:00 am at Brandywine H-D, mystery ride after the meeting, KSU at 9:30

December

13 Holiday party at Renzi's, 6:30 to 9:30 pm

20 Chapter mtg. at 8:00 am at Brandywine H-D, mystery ride after the meeting, KSU at 9:30



Chapter ride to the PA Grand Canyon in September.



Some of the ladies at Bag Bingo.



Lunch ride to the Tuckahoe Inn.

Have a good idea for a ride? Talk to one of the officers about how to make it into a chapter ride.

Two-wheeled Tales; The Therapeutic Power of Two Wheels; Tale of Craig Wood

I've been riding since I was about six years old. It all started with dirt bikes — tearing through trails and kicking up dust. As I got older, I transitioned into scooters and mopeds during my teen years. But then, life shifted. The dirt trails I loved riding on in New Jersey began disappearing, replaced by houses and developments. With nowhere left to ride, I stopped for a while.

About 25 years ago, I found my way back to motorcycles — this time on the road. I picked up my first Harley, and I've been riding ever since. There's something special about being on two wheels, whether it's off-road or on the pavement. It's not just transportation; it's an experience.

There's a therapeutic effect that comes with riding a motorcycle. It's hard to describe, but I've spent years trying to articulate it. Riding connects you to the world in a way that no car ever can. You notice the smells, the temperature changes every few feet, the wind brushing against you. It's an immersion in nature that's impossible to replicate. There's also the inherent danger of it — a slight edge that forces you to stay in the moment. You can't let your mind wander because focus is essential. And when the ride is over, there's this calming, almost meditative feeling that washes over you.

I've talked to so many fellow riders about this, and we all agree — it's magical, but nearly impossible to explain. There's just something wonderful about being on a bike.

Of course, with that joy comes responsibility. One of the unwritten rules among riders is to always check your mindset before hitting the road. If you're angry or upset, it can affect how you ride — maybe you'll go too fast, maybe you'll take risks you shouldn't. That can lead to disaster. But there have been days when I felt restless or agitated, and I just needed to get out for a ride. After a couple of hours on the bike, I'd come back calm and centered. Riding has that power.

Because of motorcycles, I've met thousands of people I never would have known otherwise. The biking community is full of incredible individuals, so many of whom are generous and giving. One example is the "America's 9/11" ride, which I learned about through fellow riders. It started after 9/11 with just a few bikers, and now it's grown into a massive foundation that supports victims of 9/11 and their families.

The ride itself is an incredible experience. It starts in Gettysburg, and over four days, we visit all the crash sites. Last year, I even found myself televised on the news with the rest of the group, sharing the story of what we do. All of this — being part of something meaningful and connecting with amazing people — is thanks to having a motorcycle.

For me, riding is so much more than a hobby. It's a way of life, a form of therapy, and a connection to a community that I'm proud to be part of. It's hard to imagine my life without it.

Interview by Gregory Andrus from "Portraits of the Jersey Shore"

<https://www.rider.com/motorcycle-community/two->



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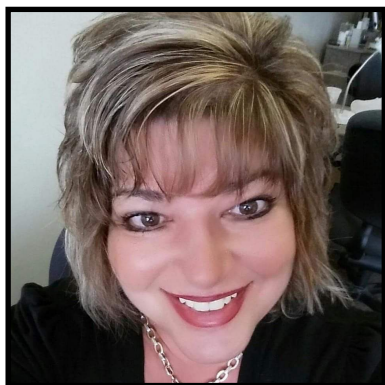
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29 fairing	27 vest
28 saddlebag	26 lead
25 spark plug (no space)	17 windshield
24 rumble	16 chrome
23 handlebars	15 HOG
22 sweep	13 countersteer
21 hand signals (no space)	11 dealership
20 Dunlop	10 Sturgis
19 wing	9 staggered
18 footboards	7 throttle
14 two-up (no hyphen)	5 helmet
12 motorcycle	4 clutch
9 sissybar	3 ignition
8 traction	1 Motogp
6 Ducati	
2 wheelie	
Across	Down
Crossword answers	



Safety Tip

The "12-second rule" for motorcycles is a safety technique that requires riders to look at least 12 seconds ahead of their position to anticipate and avoid hazards. By consistently scanning this far down the road, riders can spot potential dangers early, make proactive decisions, and have enough time to plan a safe response, whether it's by braking, swerving, or adjusting speed. If a rider cannot see a fixed point 12 seconds ahead, they should reduce their speed to a point where they can safely stop within the distance they can see.

How to join Brandywine HOG.

If you are interested in joining our HOG chapter, it is really simple. First you need to have a National HOG membership. Go to <https://www.harley-davidson.com/us/en/content/hog.html> to set up your national membership if you don't already have one. Once that's done or if you already have your national membership simply find a 2025 Chapter Membership Enrollment Form and Release on our chapter wall at the dealership, complete the necessary info. and then drop the form in our chapter mailbox. You can also come to one of our monthly meetings to sign up. Once your membership form has been verified we'll add you to our roster, Facebook group, and email list. Feel free to contact one of the four main chapter officers listed above if you need help getting signed up.