

CALIENTE HOG #2013

Calientegram – 23Sep18

Several important items:

- 1) Had a great ride out to Shiner TX. The weather ended up being absolutely a non issue. 27 bikes and a slew of folks... Well, not on our ride as we had 7 bikes but we had fun anyway. The brewery is now open for tours on Saturdays which is a change. Had BBQ at the little restaurant where we normally go in Shiner and they haven't missed a beat. Great stuff.
- 2) Our trailer appears to be pretty much good to go. Remember, you need to supply the tie down straps. The registration is up to date and the lights all work. The only thing I didn't ck was the tire pressure but if you go to use it, swing by the Caliente service area and ck it there. Remember that our trailer does not have a flat loading ramp but uses two tire ramps so get a bud to help you when loading and off loading any motorcycle.
- 3) Our trip to Big Bend and Demo Days will be major events for us taking up much of October with a lot of riding opportunities.

RIDE CALENDAR

29 Sep - Chapter Ride - KSU 08:00 LRC: F1 SRC: TBD. Ride is going out to the TX Dragon (Lake Travis area). No MREs left from the Air Force so lunch might be whatever you can catch in the lake...

20 Oct - Raul Memorial Ride. Health Awareness Day. Details forthcoming.

UPCOMING RALLIES AND EVENTS:

26-29 Sep – BBB Motorcycle Rally – Fayetteville Arkansas – Open Event - Of note, this Rally is relatively close by and like the Lone Star Rally, it is free admission. Well worth a long weekend.

5-8 Oct – Big Bend Trip KSU: TBD LRC: F1 SRC: Lynda. Will have the final details shortly.

9 Oct – Chapter Officer Meeting 6:00 p.m. Caliente Training Room

13 Oct – Chapter Social 09:00 – Caliente Dealership (We are starting 90 minutes early due to Demo Days). We will do a fundraiser.

13-14 Oct - Demo Days. Great chance to ride the 2019 models and perhaps take a group out as a “Road Captain”. We will need folks to help out here especially on Saturday as we will be doing two things at once. Please come out and support the Chapter.

27 Oct – Employee Appreciation Lunch. Time to dust off your meanest, hottest, most awesome Chili recipes. We will probably do a taste test competition (votes coming from the employees) with a prize going to the winner. We (you) provide the chili, corn bread (etc...), and desserts. One of the prior year's hits was a venison chili and a pineapple upside down motorcycle cake or something like that.

8 Dec – No, I didn't forget November. However, this is the date for our Christmas Party! MTF

DON'T FORGET: Volunteering, attending meetings (Social, RC meetings & Officers meetings), participating on chapter rides, will get you tickets for chances to get great prizes at the HOG Christmas Party.

Group Riding reminders/tips – Here is something that is odd. Did you know that by TXDOT inspection criteria for motorcycles, turn signals are NOT an item that can be inspected on ANY motorcycle? Even if you have them, they are off limits to those inspecting your bike as there are also no criteria (color, size, brightness, etc...) . There is no “special” notice or errata sheet or “secret” document from TXDOT that gives inspection stations authority to perform any type of inspection on turn signals, even if you have a

bulb burned out – period. Don't believe me, look it up. <https://www.dps.texas.gov/rsd/vi/inspection/inspectionCriteria.aspx> also check out <https://www.dps.texas.gov/msb/msbfaqs.htm> specifically question #16. Bottom line is that you cannot fail a motorcycle inspection due to having no or only partially working turn signals.

However, the smart move is that if you have them, make sure that they are in working order and USE them. Where I am going with this is that you may encounter a motorcycle that has absolutely NO turn signals on them and yet be completely street legal. This could cause issues when riding in a group. Special care must be taken to ensure a dialog is established between riders and a review of hand and arm signals is paramount. As we get closer to the Lone Star Rally, there are a lot of modified and refurbished motorcycles that generally go to this event. You may find yourself coming up on a bike with no turn signals so keep your situational awareness up. Stay alert and stay safe.

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Frank Knapp
Director, CCSA