



# Black Sheep

## Harley-Davidsons for Christ Inc

So. Cal. Breakfast!  
Sat. July 6th @ 9am  
In Temecula. (909)600-2694

A Family Oriented, H.O.G. Focused, Christ Centered Motorcycle Ministry Since 1999

VOLUME 4

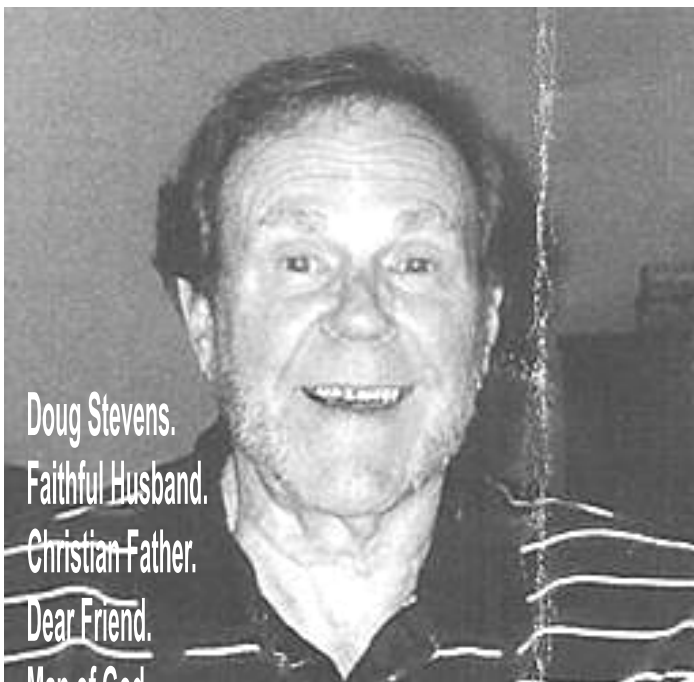
JULY 2002

NO. 7

### Remembering Our Friend Doug Stevens

By Slow Dog

He had only lived in the Temecula valley less than a year; a member of our motorcycle group less than that. So how is it that Doug Stevens was known and loved by so many? I guess that there are just a very few people who are like that. Doug was one of them.



Doug said goodbye to us last month while riding near idyllwild. A week later About 35 riders left the Saturday morning breakfast in Temecula to attend the memorial services at his home church. At first the quiet little church seemed to be under siege as our irreverent machines pulled into the parking lot. Finding no place to park, we simply turned them off where they stood. As we entered the

sanctuary, faces that had been strained and defensive turned to understanding and empathy. They knew that we had come to do what they had come to do; remember a good friend.

Person after person came to the microphone to say the same thing: "I didn't know Doug for long, but in that short time he changed my life. He was loving and kind, eager to get involved and serve, He was a stranger to no one. He wanted everyone to know that he believed in Jesus Christ as his personal lord and savior. He was a man of God!"

Doug leaves us not only with a sad spot in our hearts, but with a few lessons as well. First, be careful! Ride within your abilities and stay alert. Secondly, anyone can make a positive and lasting impact upon a community of people within a very short period of time. Kindness and concern go a long way these days. And finally, you'd better be ready to meet your maker. One minute Doug was approaching a curve and the next he was in the presence of God. How do we know that? Because the Bible says, "To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord. Of course, that's what it says about those who serve Christ. To the populace in general it simply says, "it is appointed unto man once to die and then the judgement." We will all see Jesus; some as their Savior and friend, others as their judge. It's up to you; a decision you will have to make on your own.

We know that Doug would want for his death to bring a sobriety about such things to all of us. Doug wanted more than anything else to tell people about Jesus Christ. He wouldn't want anything less than for us to ask you, "are you ready? Do you know that if you were to

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die today that you would spend eternity in heaven?" We're not talking about religion or simply going to church. We're talking about coming to God, in the name of Jesus Christ, confessing our sins to him and surrendering our lives to him for whatever he would want. That was Doug's heart; surrendered and Forgiven, and At peace with himself and with his father in heaven. ♦

## **Gesundheit!**

**Submitted by Ken Kane (North San Diego Chapter)**

They walked in tandem, each of the ninety-three students filing into the already crowded auditorium. With rich maroon gowns flowing and the traditional caps, they looked almost as grown up as they felt. Dads swallowed hard behind broad smiles, and moms freely brushed away tears.

This class would not pray during the commencements ----- not by choice but because of a recent court ruling prohibiting it. The principal and several students were careful to stay within the guidelines allowed by the ruling. They gave inspirational and challenging speeches, but no one mentioned divine guidance and no one asked for blessings on the graduates or their families. The speeches were nice, but they were routine..... until the final speech received a standing ovation. A solitary student walked proudly to the microphone. He stood still and silent for just a moment, and then he delivered his speech...an astounding sneeze! The rest of the students rose immediately to their feet, and in unison they said, "GOD BLESS YOU!" The audience exploded into applause. The graduating class found a unique way to invoke God's blessing on their future ... with or without the court's approval. ♦

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### **Only In America!**

Only in America can a pizza get to your house faster than an ambulance. Only in America are there handicap parking places in front of a skating rink. Only in America do drug- stores make the sick walk all the way to the back of the store to get their prescriptions while healthy people can buy cigarettes at the front. Only in America do people order double cheeseburgers, large fries, and a diet coke. Only in America do banks leave both doors open and then chain the pens to the counters. Only in America do we leave cars worth thousands of dollars in the driveway and put our useless junk in the garage. Only in America do we buy hot

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dogs in packages of ten and buns in packages of eight. Only in America do we use the word 'politics' to describe the process so well: 'Poli' in Latin meaning 'many' and 'tics' meaning 'bloodsucking creatures'. Only in America does a group like the ACLU escape imprisonment. ♦

## Too Hot To Handle

By Bill Stegemann (Temecula Valley Chapter)

Here's one I've put in my "Lessons Learned" file. On Thursday June 6th I left to meet a friend in Vegas. He bought a Dyna Low rider in Idaho and I was going to meet him in Vegas and we'd come back together. I left at 9:45 (mistake #1) and decided not to stop until I needed gas, which ended up being Baker. I cooled my heels in Baker for about 15 minutes, had a large Diet Coke and took off (mistake #2). Did I mention it was 106 degrees in Baker? About 5 miles out of Baker I started pouring sweat even though I was riding at 70-75. I thought about turning around because of the sweat and I was a little woozy but testosterone ruled (BIG mistake #3). The next place to stop would have been Primm or Stateline but I was so close.....what the heck. Besides I'd already ridden through the hottest part (115 degrees I learned later). My mistake bucket was overflowing by this time. I finally pulled into the Fremont garage and was directed where to park. I rode over and put the kickstand down and COULDN'T get off. I thought I was going to pass out. When I'd gotten enough courage to try and make it to the desk I stumbled in. The girl at the desk turned as white as I must have been. Before I was finished checking in she needed a mop for the sweat and, almost, a stretcher for me. I've learned a valuable lesson.....heat exhaustion can sneak up on you without you even realizing it. Don't mess around with 100+degree heat. It is a killer! An extra stop or two isn't going to put you there that much later but, it will put you there. Ride safe. ♦

**Editor's Note:** We receive a story similar to this one every summer. Last year's story was about a woman H.O.G. rider in a similar situation, only when she rolled in to her destination she simply laid the bike on the ground and then collapsed. Paramedics were called, fluids were administered and the story had a happy ending. But what if she hadn't made it

back? What if Bill (a seasoned rider) had lost it on the 15 freeway? Be safe! Take your time. Live to ride another day. ♦

## Stay Cool! Suggestions for Summer Riding

by Slow Dog

1. Leave early in the day.
2. Dress in layers so that you can shed the morning wear.
3. Stay away from caffeine and alcohol (which dehydrate) and load up on water.
4. Carry extra bottles of water with you.
5. Those "cool wraps" that you soak in water REALLY DO WORK! Get one!
6. Eat, rest and re-hydrate during the middle of the day. Find a cool spot to siesta!
7. Don't "push it" or be "macho." Be willing to be a little late and arrive alive.
8. Don't ride alone through the desert.
9. Always carry a cell phone.
10. If you're feeling "funny" stop, get off of the bike and wait for help. ♦

## Hemet Chapter Goes Camping

By Dominic "father guido" Armato

Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, a few members from the hemet chapter and our flealess (er...faithful?) leader "Slow Dog" rode from Hemet to idyllwild mountain. The weather that day was sunny and warm. Riding into the little town of Beaumont, we



caught the tail end of the cherry festival parade down sixth street. Crowds were still standing on the street corners waving as we went by. (Were we "IN" the parade?)

Winding our way up the first part of highway 243 there's a great view of the town of Banning and the 10 freeway. The rest of the ride went smoothly. As we mastered the gentle curves past Lake Fulmor and Pine Cove, we concluded our 47.9 miles in idyllwild.

Joker, our Hemet president, had his bike in the shop so he got stuck driving the supply truck which was packed with campfire goodies, tents and lawn chairs.. At the campsite our first priority was to unload...the munchies and lawn chairs. And there we sat for an hour just shooting the breeze. We eventually got around to setting up the tents. Slow Dog proudly announced that he would be the only one sleeping under the stars without a tent. (grunt! Grunt!) That is, until the ranger came by and warned us that a bobcat had been seen in the area and to be careful. We loaned him one of our extra tents!

The town (and dinner) was only two blocks away according to joker. Slow Dog was concerned about the distance into town and thought that it might be a lot further than two blocks! (Hey! We're bikers, not cross country runners!) It was just then that a shuttle bus came by (God be praised!) and took us into town.

After a great Mexican dinner (beans and small tents???) we headed out in search of ice-cream! Once that was finished we started our trek back to the camp. Back at the camp we finished setting up and built a fire. (Joker brought road flares to start the fire!) And as many campfire stories go, stories were told and told and told! Jokes and laughter rang throughout the campgrounds. That reminded me of the verse, "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." (Psalm 133:1)

Sunday we woke up to more clear sunny weather. What a great morning! As I was sitting and thinking of how wonderful it all was I started hearing growling noises coming from slow dog's tent. Bears? Suddenly the flaps flew open and out came slow bear! He had to leave early to make it to a HOG meetings, so we all bid him a safe ride home.

Because it was Sunday it seemed good that we have a Sunday morning service. A short message was given by Father Guido and then it was time to pack up and roll down the mountain. It was a great finish to our first chapter camp out.

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Thank-you Joker for setting this all up. The munchies were awesome! You are a blessing to us all. And thank-you Slow dog for being a part of our chapter! By the way Slow Dog. Have you seen any more

"wild" trash bags in the night? (Editor: "It was a bobcat!") ♦

## **L.A Black Sheep: Measure of Success**

**By Lorin Bice (Mid-Cities/Orange County Chapter).**

Mid-Cities/Orange County Black Sheep are on the move, meeting and riding weekly. A recent trip to Riverside County's popular Tom's Farm included the magnificent seven including: Ralph "The Magician" and "Skip the Bear." (Editor: I guess you had to be there?) We were led by Toni Bonetti (Hey outlaws! Girls rule!) and Ralph Chan. We ate well and listened to music.

The real entertainment was supplied by Ralph Chan with his sleight of hand card tricks (Tip:dont play cards with Ralph). A tour through the Toms farms Swap Meet proved to be quite productive for Toni and Skip. Toni picked up some special silver pieces and Skip picked up a rider for the way back. Easy now! skip is a married guest that rode with us, the rider he picked up was an inanimate object, in the form of a large carved Bear. In my opinion the ride was a great success. ♦

## **You Know Your A Yuppie Biker If...**

**By Our friends On the Internet).**

1. If you cant figure out why the battery on your new bike won't stay charged.
2. If your trailer has more miles on it than your bike.
3. If you move your bike and the grass is brown under the wheels.
4. If your tattoo washes off.
5. If you have doubled the weight of your bike with bolt on chrome.
6. If you really believe that there are bikes that come customized from the factory
7. If the last time you went to the Harley dealer you came home with golf balls and a toilet seat
8. If its not fun to ride unless someone sees you
9. If your ponytail comes off with your cap
10. If you leave your garage door open just so people can see your bike
11. If you're a HOG member and think you're an outlaw

12. If you stop 30 miles from Sturgis to unload your bike so you can ride in
13. If other people you consider bikers scare you
14. If you paid for your new FXSTC in 24 months or less.
15. If you won't ride unless it's a group ride.

16. If everyone on your last group ride works at your law firm, or plays golf with you.
17. If you've ever said "Isn't it too cold, wet, hot, dry, or dark to ride?"
18. If your saddlebags have a special pocket for your cell phone.
19. If the most important item in your toolkit is a manicure kit.
20. If this article made you kinda mad!

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## Mission & Statement of Faith of this flock

Black Sheep; Harley-Davidsons for Christ M/M is not a church. We are not a "club." We are members of The Church of Jesus Christ which is represented by many different denominations and affiliations. We are, however, agreed upon the essential beliefs listed below and committed to living in harmony on secondary issues.

**Our mission** and focus is: "... to introduce Jesus Christ to the world of motorcycle riders, for the purpose of making more and better disciples through the ministry of the local church."

1. We believe in the Bible, the authoritative Word of God.
2. We believe that there is only one God,
3. We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in all of His miracles, in His substitutionary and atoning death through His blood which was shed on the cross, in His bodily resurrection to the right hand of the Father and in His personal return in victory and power. JESUS IS LORD!
4. We believe that all men are sinful and lost and in need of salvation and that salvation comes only through the name of Jesus Christ and His sacrifice on the cross.

5. We believe in the present ministry of God the Holy Spirit; in His convicting, cleansing and empowering work.

6. We believe in the resurrection of all men; that they are resurrected to either eternal life and glory or to eternal damnation. That is why we do what we do.

7. We believe in the spiritual unity of all Christians. We are the church, united as the bride of Christ.

**COLORS:** Colors are a combination of browns, golds and black. Colors will be sold to and worn only by members. Colors remain the property of the local chapter and must be surrendered by any member leaving the club for any reason. Colors will be worn to all club functions. Colors will not be defended with violence, Black Sheep makes no distinction between male and female with respect to colors being worn.

**VALUES:** We value our personal relationship with Jesus Christ. We value the Bible as our sole authority for living. We value relationships with brothers and sisters in the local church. We value relationships with brothers and sisters in the motorcycle community. We value deeply those who have yet to receive the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We value being IN the world but not OF the world. We value our government and its laws and so we obey them with enthusiasm. We value our lives and our families and so we ride safe. ♦

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