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[www.BlackSheepHDFC.org](http://www.BlackSheepHDFC.org)

**"Yaller Scrammin' Aggles" In Chattanooga**

Black Sheep members from California, Pennsylvania, Georgia and Tennessee met in Chattanooga for the 2005 National HOG Rally. More than 30,000 HOG members came for the music, the exhibitions and the privilege of riding through some extremely beautiful country.



(TOP) Wynema & Jonathan Pierce, Tennessee Bob Schrader (Bottom) Goose and Mary...uh, what IS Goose's last name!?

One day the Sheep were walking down the boulevard when "Tennessee Bob" (aka Bob Schrader) exclaimed, "There's a yaller scrammin' aggle!" What worried California and Pennsylvania was that Georgia and other Tennessee members seemed to understand what Bob was saying! Upon further review and translation through local natives we learned that "yaller scrammin' aggle" was none other than "Yellow Screaming Eagle" - - Harley-Davidson's high powered special edition. Bob had seen one and was...uh... quite impressed. (Thank-you BOB!) Other words that we learned were "Sweet Tay" (aka - "sweet tea" - a pre-sweetened iced drink common to the South) and "Yasser" (aka - "Yes Sir" - an affirmative response to any question. Southerners are very polite ya know!)



Black Sheep passed out hundreds of brochures, tracts and business cards in an attempt to further introduce this ministry to HOG. Many took interest including some

National HOG officials. We'll have to wait and see what comes of that. In the mean time we'll just sit here on our Yaller Scrammin' Aggle sippin' sweet tay! Yasser, we will! (Photo Bottom Left: Chris Armato "rode" from PA to TN for the National HOG Rally along with Darren Geesaman.) ❖

**Black Sheep: Classic Cars for Christ?**

Hey! What's going on here? We're all about motorcycles - right? So where did this yellow (that's "yaller" for all of you in Tennessee!) '55 Chevy Nomad come from and why was it so popular at the September So. Ca. Regional Breakfast? It belongs to one of our newer members, Jim Fuller from Norwalk, Ca - Mid-Cities Chapter. Just goes to show you that some have more "cool" in their lives than others! Jim rides a HD FXWG and uses his classic Chevy (photo here and at the top of this page) to promote the ministry on rainy days. Thanks Jim! ❖



**Fresno, CA Meets Oregon at Crater Lake**



Bonds are made at events such as the National Black Sheep Leadership Summit and the Tri-State Rally. Evidence of this is when riders from

Oregon and California met at Crater Lake for a time of fun and fellowship. There truly is a deepening brotherhood and sisterhood developing among our members for which we are grateful! ❖

Nobody loves you like Jesus! Nobody ever could love you like Him. Nobody ever gave their life to pay for your sin! Nobody! He's worth the investigation.

## The Shoemaker's Story

by Pastor Sandy Shoemaker (Sacramento, CA. BSHDFC)

Are you sick and tired of waking up sick and tired? Do you feel like life keeps dealing you a bum hand? The people around you seem happy enough, they're content with their lives, but deep down inside, though nobody else may know it, you're feeling miserable, empty and in desperate need of a step up. I know what that's like. I've been there too.

Usually drunk and always lonely, separated from my wife after only six months of marriage, I was well on my way to a second divorce. Feeling no sense of direction in my life, I was literally sick and tired – and just plain tired of life as I knew it. The thrill of working at the hottest night club in town and partying with the most popular people had long since given way to a nagging sense of despair. As far as I was concerned, it all could have ended right then if that was all life had to offer.

For three months my fellow bartenders and I had been organizing what was sure to be known as the party of the year. The event was slated for a Sunday afternoon, and finally the date had arrived. As I awoke that Sunday, I was immediately aware that I wasn't hung over from the previous night's partying. This alone seemed strange, but the weirdness I was experiencing was compounded by a total loss of excitement related to the party. As I tried to figure out what was going on, it was like I heard this small voice from within me say, "God can change your life! Seek Him today!" I remember thinking, "This is crazy." As astonishing as these things were to me, what I seemed to be hearing at that moment made perfect sense.

Driven by my need for a change of life, I found myself sitting on the front row of a small church on the north side of my town. The preacher spoke of Jesus Christ, how He came to earth to heal the brokenhearted and to release those who were bound by addictions. In closing, the speaker said, "I don't know what your need is this morning. Maybe you're an alcoholic. Maybe you're on the verge of a divorce." I remember thinking to myself, "Well that's two out of three! How'd this guy know I was going to be here this morning, and why, although there are many in the room, is he speaking only to me?" "Jesus is the answer to your need," the speaker said, "and He's here for you this morning. Just come, accept Him as your Savior and experience His love and forgiveness. Let Him fill your heart and begin the work of transforming your life." - I bowed my knee to Jesus that morning. As tears of gratitude flowed from my eyes, I felt something truly amazing taking place within me. It was as if the man I had been prior to that moment was dying and a new, God-given life was being born within me.

Many years have passed since that wonderful Sunday. I never did go to the party. Instead, I went to lunch with my wife. It took several months of working through issues and showing her that the change in me was genuine, but eventually we reconciled. In fact, we just celebrated our twenty-eighth anniversary. Life for both of us has been an amazing journey of trusting and following Jesus as He's so faithfully led us through all the customary ups and downs of this life.

While on the earth Jesus offered an invitation: He said, "Come to me, all of you who are tired and have heavy loads, and I will give you rest. Accept my teachings and learn from me, because I am gentle and humble in spirit, and you will find rest for your lives" (Matthew 11:28-29). If you are tired of life as you've known it and are looking for a change, why not accept His invitation; why not discover the rest and refreshment only He can provide? He will accept you no matter what. He promised, "I will never turn away anyone who comes to me" (John 6:37). Reach out to Him today. Get some rest! ❖

## Petra Says, "Yes" to the Flock.

"Petra" means "rock" in the Greek language. It is the name that Jesus gave to the disciple Simon who later, as Peter, became an Apostle and author of two New Testament books. Petra is also perhaps one of the finest Christian rock bands ever...compromising NOTHING in terms of talent and skill. All of this to say that Black Sheep has received permission from Bob Hartman of

Petra (founder and lead guitarist) to use their song, "Rose Colored Stained Glass Windows" for our new promotional DVD. We appreciate Petra's graciousness and appreciation of our ministry. ❖

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## Leadership Rewarded in Central California



Mike Teague is the founding president of the Santa Maria chapter in Central California. When Mike first approached us about starting a chapter in Santa Maria, several of us thought, "Yeah sure! Go for it!" (Like anything was going to come out of a little town such as Santa Maria.). To our surprise Mike called a week later with 5 members...and then two weeks later with 10 members...and then a month later with 20 members. It just goes to show what a little zeal and hard work can do!

Mike is indeed one of the hardest working sheep we've got! he's even been known to flag down other riders on the freeway just to tell them about Jesus and Black Sheep. Recently Mike heard of a downed Hell's Angel member and went to visit him in the hospital. He was greeted by a dozen "angels" and his prayers were welcomed. Even though the rider died, the son of that rider expressed great appreciation for Mike investment. Mike, of course, attended the funeral.

Mike surrendered his position as president of Santa Maria and was appointed to become the Regional Director of Central California, overseeing five chapters. His previous members recently awarded Mike for his faithfulness and hard work with a Bible and a VERY special, hand carved leather Bible cover (pictured here). The bottom of the cover reads: "Mike Teague. President."



Central California's loss will be Arizona's gain in a few months when Mike and Christie relocate to the Phoenix area. Be warned AZ Black Sheep! Mike is like a lit bundle of dynamite under a pile of gasoline cans! (Go easy on these guys Mike! They aren't used to crazy people such as yourself!).

Congratulations Mike Teague! Job well done! We love and appreciate what you mean to this ministry. ❖

### Road Gear: Psalm 18

by Marty & Debbie Edwards

Psalm 18 reads: "I love you, O Lord, my strength. The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge. He is my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. I call to the Lord, who is worthy of praise, and I am saved from my enemies. As for God, his way is perfect; the word of the Lord is flawless. He is a shield for all who take refuge in him. For who is God besides the Lord? And who is the Rock except our God? It is God who arms me with strength and makes my way perfect. He makes my feet like the feet of deer; he enables me to stand on the heights. He trains my hands for battle; my arms can bend a bow of bronze. You give me your shield of victory, and your right hand sustains me; you stoop down to make me great. You broaden the path beneath me, so that my ankles do not turn."

Bikers know the importance of dressing appropriately. Protection for the hands, the skin, the eyes, (and for some) the head are all a part of riding. Leather is truly more of a shield against the wind and asphalt than it is a fashion statement. Wrap around sunglasses protect our eyes from wind and bugs. Without these, we are left vulnerable, uncomfortable and more likely

to be injured.

Training is important. Whether you learned to ride from a friend or a certified safety course, it's important to know what you are doing BEFORE straddling a bike. Far too many have injured themselves or worse by writing out a check and then hitting the road.

So it was Sam's first day on his new bike. He had had his jacket for weeks, the helmet carefully picked out and painted to match his new wheels. Gloves and jeans were seen as riding essentials. Sam, however, had decided to hold off until the next paycheck to purchase his motorcycle boots. He already had a pair of boots he felt were fairly protective and the expense could wait.

Sam set out across town on a beautiful day to meet a friend for lunch decked out in all of the gear he owned including his favorite cowboy boots. He was not aware, however, that his gear was destined to fail him. At a slow speed, up a steep driveway, he crossed a speed bump and put his feet out to steady himself. The slick bottomed cowboy boots slipped on the pavement and gave way. Losing its precarious balance, the bike leaned too far and sent Sam sprawling onto the roadside as it went down. Fortunately, a scratched mirror and bruised ego were the only damages. He learned that day, however, the importance of proper foot gear if you want to be an effective road warrior.

Pete was enjoying a leisurely ride on a beautiful day. It was warm so he stopped and took off his jacket and gloves. The cool air felt good against his skin wearing just shirt sleeves. The traffic slowed abruptly as his attention was momentarily diverted. When he looked up he was too close to the car in front. In reaction, he locked up the rear brakes, lost control and went down hard. Painful road rash was the extent of his injuries. A leather jacket and gloves would have served him well.

In Psalm 18, the writer acknowledges that God is the only proper attire for our daily struggles and battles. He is our shield against the arrows the enemy fires at us. He is a stronghold we can run to and be protected. God arms us with strength we don't naturally possess making our way straight, our footsteps sure and our defense effective. If we are not clothed in God's righteousness, strength and character, we are ill prepared to handle the daily battles of anger, sexual temptation, depression and addictions, to mention just a few.

Notice though in verse 34 that this is not an ability instantaneously received for the asking. David speaks of God training him for the battle. The truth is that there are two kinds of protection mentioned here and we need them both. The first kind is the kind we run to and hide behind, meaning the fortress or the shield. This kind is instantaneous and offers shelter when we are under sudden attack, being hunted down or assaulted with a barrage of arrows.

The second kind of protection is the kind we have to learn over time. Depending on our willingness to grow and change, this can be a lengthy process. To learn to use weapons skillfully, a soldier must be committed to his training and his instructor. In the spiritual realm, God teaches us the skills we need and gives us the necessary tools to be effective in battle through times of reading the scripture and prayer. We will miss it if we depend upon ourselves and our own abilities. As in riding, the wrong training, techniques and gear can be disastrous.

So get into an ongoing close relationship with God. Invest into something more than "chat prayers" and spend some considerable time on your knees and searching the scriptures. You may even want to seek out an "accountability partner" (one of the same gender - always!) who will spend time with you in prayer and reading. Such a partner helps to keep us consistent in our spiritual development.

Let the Lord teach you what you need to know, how to dress and prepare for the ride of your life. ❖

**Laughter On Two Wheels:** I rode my Harley to the store the other day. I was only there for about 5 minutes, but when I came out there was a city cop writing a parking ticket. I went up to him and said, "Hey buddy, c'mon! How about lightening up! Let's you and me go get a few dozen donuts and talk this thing over. He looked angry and proceeded to write a second ticket. I then called him an offensive name, made a few comments about his weight and said something about his cute badge – which of course just made matters worse. He just glared at me through those mirrored sun glasses as he wrote the third ticket and placed it on the windshield, concluding with a, "Have a nice day sir!" So - why would I antagonize one of our city's finest in such a cruel way? It wasn't my bike! It was a Honda Goldwing with a "Hilary in 2008" bumper sticker. (Just kidding!) ❖



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Amy (left) receives a hug from Inland Empire's Vicki Payne. Amy and her 18 month old baby boy from Louisiana lost everything to Katrina. Members raise nearly \$500 to say, "We Care!"

