



Meet the Members



Dee Norman on her new bike

A little background about myself. I've been in the legal field since 1977. I was a legal secretary until about five years ago when I became a paralegal. I have one daughter Jennifer and two grandkids, Kylie (age 5) and Devin (turned 2 Nov. 8th). I am divorced.

My love of motorcycles began in high school when I would sneak to ride with my boyfriend who had a 750 Triumph. Then it was many years until I rode again, when a previous husband D.J. bought a Honda Magna. A few years later we bought a Harley Davidson Heritage Classic and I became a permanent fixture behind him. We put on many miles over a five-year period and during that time I was in awe of every woman I saw riding solo. I passed the

basic motorcycle course in December of 1994 - the same day my mother passed away. What a high and low that day. A few weeks later my sister and I found out our mother had left us a little bit of money and when my sister asked what I was going to do with my portion I didn't hesitate "I'm going to pay off some bills and buy me a Harley." Within a few days I was the owner of a black 1991 883 Hugger Sportster. I soon had it customized with a larger gas tank, lowered and a new custom purple paint job. My license was HUGBLD, which was for "Hugger Dee" which evolved into "Huggable Dee" which moniker I still have today.

That year in August (1995) D.J. and I rode to Sturgis, South Dakota and I got to participate in the Ladies Day Ride. I think we had 75 women in the ladies only parade down Main Street in Sturgis. Talk about turning heads! What an awesome experience. While in Sturgis, I test rode a Super Glide and decided when I got back home, I was going to buy a bigger bike. Within six months I was the proud owner of a new black and silver 1996 Softail Custom. A couple of months later my Harley went through what everyone jokingly called a "sex change" when it got a passion purple paint job and lots of accessories that turned it into a chick bike. I loved that bike! Many a vacation was taken on our Harleys and in 1998 we rode with 20 others from the Inland Empire HOG chapter to Milwaukee for the 95th anniversary of Harley Davidson. Now that was an experience! The last two and a half days of the ride it was a downpour and then on the way home we unknowingly rode through areas where tornados were skirting the area.

Barbara Rudie, former VP, Dee Norman, LOCAL founder, and Sandy Ruller, former safety officer





I had been a member of the HOG chapter for many years but I started thinking about forming a ladies riding group. I researched the internet for all the women's motorcycle groups that I could find. I kept coming back to Women in the Wind. So I emailed Becky Brown and then called her and asked her every question I could think of. She was great - taking the time to answer all my questions. So with my connections in the HOG chapter I decided to form an Inland Empire chapter of WITW. I think even before our first meeting we had 10 members. We passed out flyers to all the Harley dealerships and motorcycle shops in the area advertising our first meeting in January of 1999.

LOCAL in the early years

We had the meeting at a pizza place in Riverside and I will never forget seeing bike after bike pulling into the parking lot. We had 33 ladies at our FIRST meeting! We almost immediately became the largest WITW chapter. There were only a couple other chapters in California at the time, one of which was Faultline Riders so we planned a joint camp out with them at a campground north of Santa Barbara. What a great weekend! The next summer we planned another joint campout, this time at Bonelli Regional Park in San Dimas and we called it the "SoCal Rendezvous". It was a huge success, even the Vegas girls came. Our next accomplishment was hosting the Winter Nationals. It took over a year of planning and a lot of hard work but we pulled it off and to this day Becky Brown says it was the best of the Nationals she's ever attended.

In June of 2003 I had to sell my bike while going through a divorce and I wasn't sure I would ever have another. In June of this year while riding in a memorial ride (on a borrowed Sportster) I decided life is just too short not to be doing what I love, and whatever it took, I was going to own another bike. Now, normally I usually laugh at the messages in fortune cookies but the very next week, I had one that said "Your place is in the drivers seat" and then one that said "Take that chance you've been considering" so I took the chance, cinched my belt a LOT tighter and went for it and bought a 2003 Harley Deuce! I'm so glad to be back in the saddle! And I really hope that the fortune I got today that said I will soon have the opportunity to improve my finances will also come true because I'm sure as hell a lot poorer now (LOL).

I can't tell you how glad I am that LOCAL is going as strong as ever. I was so proud at our reunion that my "baby" was 10 years old. You have some really great hard working officers leading the chapter. I would like to take this opportunity to say if you have never attended any of the WITW nationals, you really need to attend the Winter Nationals being held in Phoenix, February 19 - 21, 2010. We always have such a good time. I got to attend a couple in Vegas, one in Grants Pass, Oregon and I flew back to attend one in Tampa Bay, Florida. This is a great opportunity for you to attend one and we actually have a chance to win the largest chapter in attendance award. Ladies, I am so happy to be back!



Dee Norman