

Chapter Membership Meeting
Harley Owners Group
Garden State Chapter
Morris County NJ
At Garden State Harley-Davidson
April 15, 2023

ATTENDEES

Director/Road Captain	R. Breuninger (<i>absent</i>)
Ass't. Director/Road Captain	R. Hall
Treasurer/Road Captain	R. Seitz
Secretary/Road Captain	DA Ryan
Head Road Captain:	D. Ryan
Webmaster/Road Captain	M. Durenberger
Historian/Road Captain	J. Gennarelli (<i>absent</i>)
Membership Officer/Activities Director:	D. Borowsky
Photographer/Road Captain	B. Gould
Safety Officer/Road Captain	H. Olbrich
AMA Rep	D. Bannon
Road Captain	MA Breuninger
Road Captain	D. Lannigan

General Attendees

L. Bakelmun	C. Irula
B. Bartick	M. Irula
V. Belcastro	V. Kellett
S. Bischoff	K. Krausz
R. Blackwell	D. Lannigan
D. Butkovich	M. Martino
J. Byers	M. McLoughlin
L. Carlson	J. O'Brien
M. Chmura	B. Papetti
M. Cirelli	P. Pease (<i>guest</i>)
C. D'Amato	D. Peterson
T. Deming	G. Rafuse
D. Dickerson	J. Sagarese
J. Gallios	G. Seitz
B. Gonzalez	D. Smith Jr
R. Hui	V. Viglione
	J. Vorrasi

Meeting Called to Order at 9:32AM with the Pledge of Allegiance lead by R. Seitz

OPENING REMARKS/OFFICER REPORTS:

Assistant Director: R. Hall opened the meeting notifying all that R. Breuninger was in "York, PA playing in the heavy rain and falling off his bike"; actually R. Breuninger was attending a weekend motorcycle training "RENEGADE Motorcycle Training". R. Hall continued by covering the following calendar of upcoming events:

- May 7 & 21: Bike and Brew (coffee and donuts with GSHD staff); 7AM to 11AM
- April 18 & May 23: Morris County Bike Night @ Mr. Crabby's; 6PM to 10PM.
- April 22: Cone Crusher Motorcycle Training; 9AM to 12PM @ 10 Park Ave., Morristown. R. Seitz shared that he would lead a ride for those members who are attending with KSU @ 8:30 from the dealership.

- April 22: Bike Blessing @ Garden State Harley Davidson; 12PM to 3PM
- May 13: Eleventh Hour Animal Rescue Charity Ride ~ TBD
- June 24: Celebrate the Children Charity Ride ~ info TBD
- *TBD*: Morris Plains Fire Company Charity Ride

R. Hall concluded asking members who have questions specific for the upcoming overnight trips to refer their questions to the specific road captain leading: Niagara Falls (May) led by R. Seitz and Milwaukee for the Harley 120th Anniversary (July) led by M. Durenberger

Treasurer: R. Seitz reported the chapter's finances to be in good standing.

Secretary: DA Ryan announced the chapter would be ordering chapter t-shirts for those members interested. DA Ryan shared that the t-shirts would be available in four-(4) colors and that the cost per shirt would be \$35 with the chapter picking up the tax and shipping thus keeping the shirts affordable. DA Ryan stated that more information would be coming out in the weekly communication regarding the process to order, pay etc. DA Ryan also informed members that going forward meeting minutes will now be posted on the chapter's website for all to access rather than requesting as per past practice. DA Ryan shared that the minutes are public knowledge and that if there is info, such as banking finances, that info would be omitted prior to posting but that all members can now obtain their own copy off the website rather than requesting. DA Ryan concluded by thanking the following chapter members for their collaboration to capture meeting minutes given DA Ryan's recent travel absence: ~ **THANK YOU MA. BREUNINGER, D. BOROWSKY, B. PAPETTI AND M. DURENBERGER!**

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Safety Officer: H. Olbrich spoke to members regarding pulling their bike out of storage for the upcoming riding season and that members should perform a close inspection of the bike to ensure the bike is road ready and to arrange for service if needed. H. Olbrich stated to especially focus on the response of how the bike brakes, as well as how the battery responds when firing up the bike. H. Olbrich then mentioned that at the last meeting, new batteries for key fobs were distributed and that he had more batteries available for the taking reminding all to change out their key fob batteries to avoid being stranded when out on the road. H. Olbrich shared that he will forward information on steps to start a bike minus having a key fob. H. Olbrich concluded by letting members know there were Gettysburg key rings available for those interested.

Membership/Activity Officer: D. Borowsky shared that as of present the chapter has 121 active members recorded. D. Borowsky also stated that if members ride their bikes to chapter meetings to let her know given there will be a prize awarded at the end of the season.

Head Road Captain: D Ryan opened with informing members that prior to every chapter ride, road captains will be covering group riding points which are words to "LIVE" by in so that all members are aware of expectations for chapter rides and understand the Do's and Don'ts when group riding. D Ryan covered 17 guidelines in total with a sample noted below:

1. Chapter rides conclude when we reach our destination. Being that we are a dry chapter, if anyone consumes alcohol at the destinations, they are not permitted to ride with the chapter when leaving the destination.
2. Ride in staggered formation; avoid side-by-side formation which reduces the safety space cushion.
3. Always maintain a proper safe distance at all speeds adhering to the two-(2) second rule (to bike ahead).
4. We don't make right turns at red lights.
5. Our chapter requires everyone to wear a helmet on all chapter rides, regardless of the state laws.
6. **ETC.....**

B. Gonzales asked where trikes should line up for chapter rides. D. Ryan confirmed trikes are to ride in the back of the group given trikes typically take up the entire lane, as well as to not throw off 2UP bike formation. B. Gonzales shared that members should consider having Gatorade or Pedialyte on the bike to keep hydrated for when the weather turns hot. J. O'Brien also asked members to be aware of their "flashers/signals" during group rides and that they are not turned on and left on which could cause confusion.

Webmaster: M. Durenberger reported that the HOG website had pages added that will now include "Meeting Minutes" for members to access; M. Durenberger will look into whether an archive will be created to store prior minutes. M. Durenberger also shared that the chapter member mailing list has been updated to reflect only those members who renewed for the 2023

season to receive chapter communication. M. Durenberger asked members to reach out to him if they were not receiving chapter communication/s ~ a 2022 statistic provided by M. Durenberger was that 65% opened email.

M. Durenberger commented that there were extra "red envelopes" available for members to take; these envelopes would be stored on one's bike and contain anything medically important to know about the rider/passenger should an accident or emergency occur. M. Durenberger further stated that these envelopes should be placed in the left saddle bag and thanked D. Smith for providing his valuable medical details which will be posted on the chapter website.

M. Durenberger touched on the July chapter ride out to Milwaukee and that the timeline for the ride back may not allow sufficient time for members to tour the Rock n Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland as planned. M. Durenberger stated that he would be looking for feedback from those members who signed up for this ride to obtain their input as to whether to alter the return so that more time can be spent in Cleveland leaving a day earlier from Milwaukee and that he will communicate directly with these members. Vince asked for a list of events to be held in Milwaukee to which M. Durenberger suggested he visit the Harley Davidson website to obtain event details and information.

Photographer: On behalf of J. Gennarelli, B. Gould presented a slide deck of pictures from past cone crusher training and suggested to chapter members that they should consider in order to sharpen riding skills and that the training is a lot of fun.

B. Gould went on to announce that this years chapter's pizza challenge was finalized, voting for the best HOG pizza at the end of the season. B. Gould continued that there are 10 restaurants and that all 10 must be visited, capturing a photo of the visit to each destination. B. Gould continued adding that there were six-(6) bonus choices added if members finish the mandatory 10 and are looking for more pizza. B. Gould concluded that road captains will be picking pizza destinations for possible chapter rides and that she would pick up the rest. The challenge starts April 15 and ends October 31. Vince Belcastro commented that members consider eating at the Reservoir Tavern, a pizza destination, during off hours given the popularity of this restaurant.

AMA Representative: D. Bannon stated that the chapter was in the process of applying for its National AMA charter. R. Hall stated that the chapter was no longer applying or becoming a local AMA charter given no value or benefit to the chapter.

OLD BUSINESS: R. Hall reminded all to register their bike mileage for the Harley Davidson 365 Mileage Program so the chapter can track how many miles members ride in a season.

NEW BUSINESS: B. Smyth, Service & Parts Manager, was guest speaker presenting on the topic of service prep for the riding season. B. Smyth shared that riders should pay attention by clicking your mindset into "spot anything unusual" mode which may reveal issues that require attention — before they turn into real, ride-halting problems. B. Smyth suggested that riders should focus on tire pressure, lights and that things are not loose on the bike; brakes and that ABS brakes should be flushed every two years and if not serviced properly could face up to a \$1,800 service bill. B. Smyth shared that a bike battery should be changed out within four-(4) to five-(5) years and that riders should check spots on the floor for fluids that may be leaking from a bike. B. Smyth concluded by sharing that the service department will provide preferential treatment when a bike service is needed for GS HOG members and that service is available and willing to help it's HOG members.

MA Breuninger then introduced M. Gibbons and J. Dewald, who were going to present to the chapter how to plan and pack for that long motorcycle trip, keeping safety in mind when traveling. J. Dewald shared the following travel packing tips:

- Plan to pack enough clothing for three days and that most hotels will have washers and dryers. Roll clothes when packing.
- Pack layers to cover all types of weather. Always include cold weather and rain gear no matter what time of the year it is.
- Choose light weight (example Dry Fit by Columbia or 32 Degrees @ Costco), quick dry clothing that can be washed in a hotel sink and dried overnight.
- Roll clothes or use zippered bags for organizing items.
- When traveling with others, conserve space by coordinating bike maintenance equipment.
- A week or two in advance, start making a pile of clothes you are thinking about taking. Start removing the least essential items to get to a manageable and packable set of clothing.
- Pack snacks to keep focused; rain gear should be in back or in left saddle bag to avoid road traffic.
- Bring extra shoes/sneakers.
- Toiletries: bring typical stuff but consider using supply from hotel on that long ride.

J. Dewald gave a demonstration on how to pack using different tricks to secure clothing in the travel luggage she uses and suggested to members that they can find some of the travel luggage on Amazon etc. M. Gibbons suggested that members should put luggage on their bike and go for a ride prior to that long ride to ensure safety in all aspects of riding. R. Seitz shared for those riding 2UP to not put weight on top but to try and load evenly and low on the bike. D. Lannigan suggested adjusting bike suspension to accommodate luggage weight. MA Breuninger suggested keeping toiletries protected so no leakage.

J. Dewald provided all members with bandannas to use to tie up rolled-up clothing when packing.

A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR GUEST SPEAKERS TODAY FOR TAKING THE TIME TO KEEP US ALL SAFE AND SOUND!

ADJOURNMENT: 10:38AM meeting was adjourned

RAFFLE DRAWING: DA Ryan was the winner of \$25 HD gift card ~ winning ticket ending in 1801052.

* Mtg minutes prepared by DA Ryan