

Chapter Membership Meeting
Harley Owners Group
Garden State Chapter
Morris County NJ
At Garden State Harley-Davidson
October 21, 2023

ATTENDEES

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

General Attendees

L. Bakelmun	J. Medina
R. Blackwell	J. Parisi
M. Chizmadia	G. Rafuse
M. Delarusa	P. Schneider
T. Deming	G. Seitz
R. Hui	D. Smith, Jr.
C. Irula	A. Spadone
M. Irula	J. Vorrasi
B. Jones	W. Waltsak
J. Jones	B. Worden-Spadone

Meeting Called to Order at 9:35AM with the Pledge of Allegiance led by chapter members

OPENING REMARKS/OFFICER REPORTS:

Director: R. Breuninger commenced the meeting notifying members that today's agenda had been abbreviated due to what was expected to be the chapter's focus of the day ~ hosting the Celebrate the Children (CTC) charity ride. R. Breuninger stated that due to the weather cancellation of the CTC ride a second time this riding season, that the chapter will look to host this ride in the beginning of the 2024 riding season. R. Breuninger asked if chapter members knew about CTC and then provided an overview of the CTC mission. R. Breuninger then spoke about their talent show and how impressed he was and will attempt to obtain information to share at November's chapter meeting.

R. Breuninger then introduced chapter member W. Waltsak who has been invested in a decades-old tradition of providing Thanksgiving turkeys to those less fortunate and that he will again manage this year's 2023 Turkey Trot. R. Breuninger went on to share that this year the plan is for chapter members to meet at the Andover Diner and to leave for the ACME in Blairstown between 9-9:20AM. R. Breuninger stated that vehicles (cages) are needed in order to transport the turkeys from the ACME to the church destination. R. Breuninger concluded informing chapter members that W. Waltsak was just awarded a riding patch for riding over 350K miles ~ **KUDOS TO WALLY**. R. Breuninger encouraged all chapter members to register for HD's Ride365 program.

R. Breuninger asked if anyone had attended the dealership Buffalo Soldiers event? Many members confirmed there was a large turnout. R. Breuninger then thanked everyone for attending the dealership's open house and the Eleventh-Hour Rescue.

P. Schneider shared that the Eleventh-Hour Rescue does host a casino night which he recommended the chapter look into for a future charity event.

R. Breuninger invited chapter members to share what they liked about this riding/chapter season and what they did not like given the end of the calendar year is fast approaching. R. Breuninger reminded all that the chapter had previously sent out a survey to solicit member feedback and that the E Board is here to support chapter member ideas, as well as the dealership's. Per R. Breuninger, chapter members will likely be surveyed again for the upcoming riding season.

A. Spadone shared the following practice from prior years back; there would be a drawing for a free "chapter ride lunch" which was paid by those members who participated in that chapter ride to the lucky participant winner.

G. Rafuse offered to chapter members his personal beach house in Bethany, DE and that he would open it up to those members interested in a weekend get-a-way.

B. Gould mentioned that the chapter could consider participating in a local beefsteak fund raiser as a chapter activity.

Assistant Director: R. Hall shared his personal observation of watching the chapter grow since Costco. Per R. Hall, at the time there were only four-(4) women enrolled and now there are more women who have stepped up to ride. R Hall referred to our chapter women riders as "warriors", like back in Ireland. R. Breuninger mentioned that K. Austin abandoned the Ladies of Harley to unite the chapter into one riding unit vs men and women.

Treasurer: R. Seitz affirmed the chapter's account balance in good standing and that taxes were filed on behalf of the chapter thanks to B. Blackwell and reminded all to sign up for the year-end party.

Secretary: DA Ryan was home sick. D. Ryan took notes on behalf of DA Ryan.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Historian: J. Gennarelli directed chapter members to his slide show entitled "Andy's Gang" which referenced past director Andy Byra.

Photographer: B. Gould: reminded chapter members that the pizza challenge was coming to an end ~ October 31. B. Gould asked all to provide her with their pizza attendance specifics to ensure her records are accurate for vest patches which will be made by B. Jones. B. Gould reminded members to send in their baby pics for the year-end dinner, no inappropriate pics please. B. Gould concluded that if anyone rides during the off season, please send her their travel pics with chapter vest advertisement so she can post up on the HOG website.

Membership Officer: D. Borowsky shared that as of present the chapter has 148 paid active members recorded. D. Borowsky solicited for off season fun ideas like paint ball or bowling and referenced the year-end party, reminding folks there is still time to sign-up.

Head Road Captain: D. Ryan talked about and gave a demo of the 360 camera.

Guest Speaker: B. Smyth, Service Manager, presented to the chapter information about storing one's bike over the winter months. B. Smyth encouraged members to purchase fuel stabilizer to put into the gas tank and run the bike a bit so the stabilizer can circulate into the fuel line, in addition to placing a tender on the bike battery. B. Smyth stated that members do not need to park one's bike on wood or a material in order to preserve the tires ~ per B. Smyth this is a myth. B. Smyth shared that after prolonged storage, oil tends to settle so to run the bike before checking oil levels so as to not overfill. Another tip offered by B. Smyth was that battery life is to always be watched and that weather does affect the life of a battery. B. Smyth said to stay away from internet info and blogs given the info out there is not always accurate. R. Breuninger shared

that B. Symth's son will soon be graduating from the Marines and that he will be the fourth generation ~
CONGRATULATIONS B. SMYTH AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR SON'S SERVICE.

As a tip, R. Breuninger suggested that members should put maintenance info into their phone notes to help remind them when batteries etc. should be replaced. R. Breuninger also reminded folks to wash their brakes to improve effectiveness; monitor tire pressure to increase life of tires and use X-10 Jump Starter which comes with special wire tails and put it under seat on the curb side to have ready if one needs to jump their battery.

G. Rafuse mentioned that there is a phone app for tire pressure.

R. Breuninger mentioned that members when fall riding should be aware of wet leaves and grass in the roadways.

NEW BUSINESS: G. Rafuse exhibited his new inflatable air bag riding vest. Per G. Rafuse, the cost is approximately \$100 to repack the vest when it is deployed. G. Rafuse mentioned that one can buy multiple tethers to place on other bikes and that the vest is approximately \$800 to purchase; the manufacturer is Helite.

There was mention of another safety vest which is gyro based which would detect when the bike is tipping over. It was suggested this type of vest is best not to wear when practicing cone crusher.

B. Gould asked members to consider decorating their bikes for Halloween for the October 28 Halloween Chapter ride.

ADJOURNMENT: 10:44AM meeting was adjourned

RAFFLE DRAWING: J. Vorrasi was the winner of the \$25 HD gift card

* Mtg minutes taken by D Ryan prepared by DA Ryan