

Chapter Membership Meeting
Harley Owners Group
Garden State Chapter
Morris County NJ
@ Garden State Harley Dealership
March 15, 2025

ATTENDEES

Director/Road Captain:	R. Seitz
Ass't. Director/Road Captain:	M. Chizmadia
Treasurer/Road Captain:	MA Breuninger
Secretary:	DJ Lannigan
Head Road Captain:	D. Paxton
Photographer/Road Captain:	J Gallios
Webmaster/Road Captain:	M. Durenberger
Historian/Road Captain:	R. Hall
Membership/Activity Officer:	D. Borowsky
Safety Officer:	R. Breuninger
AMA Rep:	D. Bannon

General Attendees

A. Andersen	L. Bakelmun
B. Bartick	R. Basile
V. Belcastro	S. Bischoff
M. Bishop	R. Blackwell
D. Butkovich	DA Butkovich
C. Carreira	S. Chizmadia
J. Cimmino	M. Delarosa
P. Gallios	S. Gamberale
J. Gennarelli	J. Gennari
M. Gennari	A. Gibbon
R. Hui	K. Hunt
C. Irula	M. Irula
B. Jones	J. Jones
D. Lannigan	J. Larkin
B. Lombardo	J. Lombardo
K. MacDevette	G. Moore
H. Olbrich	B. Papetti
J. Parisi	A. Paxton
A. Perez	DJ Peterson
G. Seitz	N. Smith
V. Viglione	M. Vogt
W. Waltsak	J. Weinheimer

Guest:

P. Coveutry

Meeting Called to Order approx: 9:04 AM with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Chapter Member M. Irula.

OPENING REMARKS / OFFICER REPORTS:

Director: R. Setiz opened the meeting with “Welcome to the March Chapter Meeting... What a GREAT turnout”....

R. Seitz then shared the following:

- A date has been established for the Celebrate the Children Charity Ride, which has been scheduled for June 7, 2025. He shared that volunteers will be needed for parking, registration, etc... so if anyone can volunteer their time that day, please arrive at the dealership around 8:00 AM. R. Setiz explained that the Celebrate the Children Charity ride is an important ride that the chapter has sponsored for the last several years. Monies raised are used to help with improvements that are needed at the school. A Representative from Celebrate the Children will be attending a future chapter meeting in which they will talk about the school, and share what school improvements have been done, or future improvements that are still needed, that monies raised will be used for... and to say ‘THANK YOU’.
- He also reminded members that the Guest Speaker for today’s Chapter Meeting would be John Caemmerer from “Ride Like A Pro”. R. Sietz stated that John will share his stories about what led him to become invested in not only learning how to enhance his own motorcycle skills, but taking the knowledge/skills that he has learned and sharing it with the motorcycle community... thru the “Ride Like A Pro” program.
- R. Seitz also shared that T. Caserta has been lined up to be a guest speaker at the April Chapter Meeting. T. Caserta heads-up the “Forever Friends Foundation”. T. Caserta will speak about the Foundation and what they do to support / help riders, who have been involved in a motorcycle accident, and aid that rider thru their recuperation / recovery period. He also shared that the “LAST” Forever Friends Charity ride will be held on September 21, 2025. Registration starts at 9:00 AM. Ride usually pulls out between 11 / 11:30 AM. He shared that this will be the last charity ride, but the Foundation will stay intact and continue their work. He also announced that this will be a Chapter Ride....the Chapter will ride together to the Augusta, NJ Fairgrounds that day; once Chapter arrives at fairgrounds, the ride will be officially over.
- R. Seitz also reminded all members to register for RIDE 365. Members will need to take a picture of their odometer and give picture to Brian (Service Mgr) to get registered for the year.
- Next R. Seitz announced that the “Stop the Bleed Class” that is scheduled for March 29th at the Dealership is filled and a big “THANK YOU” to all who signed up. R. Seitz emphasized how important this class is especially if you’re ever in a situation where techniques learned thru this course will help. It’s a great skill to have. Start time is 10:00 AM

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- **Next Guest Speaker John Caemmerer** gave a presentation on a program he offers to the motorcycle community called “Ride Like A Pro”. He talked about how he rode motorcycles for almost 20 years, and with 20 years’ experience under his belt, he came to realize how much more he still needed to learn and understand about “how to ride his motorcycle”. That’s when he invested in the “Ride Like A Pro Program”. John next shared information about the course he offers/teaches. About the rider techniques gained.... like – leaning, turning, swerving, stopping and how most importantly to pick up your bike. Riders learn the 3 Motor Officer skills taught to the professionals.
 - o Cost is \$200 per person; for groups of 8 or more cost is \$175.00 per person
 - o Reduced rates are offered to anyone invested in the Military; Fire; Police or EMS
 - o Course last approx. 5 hours (8 AM to 1 PM); there are some 2 days classes offered
 - o Classes are offered on weekdays and weekends
 - o J. Caemmerer does offer one-on-one training (\$100.00 an hour)
 - o Ride Like A Pro will be at Americade this year (May 27 – 31, 2025)

- **A sign-up sheet was then passed around to members asking members to indicate if they would be interested in signing up for a Ride Like A Pro class. Secretary DJ Lannigan created a list of members interested in attending, and she provided list to Safety Officer R. Breuninger. R. Breuninger will head up setting up a class if there is enough interest. More to come.**

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Membership Officer: D. Borowsky shared with the Chapter that Member R. Hui had recently celebrated a birthday. With that she led the Chapter in song... singing "Happy Birthday" to R. Hui.

She also welcomed new and returning members to the Chapter:

- J. Andersen (Rides a 2022 Heritage / Favorite Color – green)
- Joe (Rides a 2023 Low Rider) & Barbara (Rides a Honda Rebel)
- S. Gamberale (Rides a 40 year old bike / Favorite Color – black)
- J. Cimmino (Rides two red Harley Davidsons / Favorite Color – blue) and partner Penny (Favorite Color – black)

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Assistant Director: M. Chizmadia started off with congratulating Director R. Seitz and G. Seitz on recently becoming grandparents to a baby girl named Nora Evelyn, who arrived on March 9th.

He next shared that the current "Feed the Pig" pot stood at \$41.00. He stated that hopefully this new lottery proves to be successful, and is looking forward to continuing this lottery thru the year.

M. Chizmadia next shared that he had more details on the upcoming trip to HOWE Caverns, which is scheduled for June 20, 21 & 22, 2025.

- Ride will be leaving the Dealership Friday afternoon (June 20, 2025)
- Ride is approximately 4 plus hours (will be stopping for lunch)
- There will be a reduced rate for second night hotel stay; First night includes tour to cave / fudge / gem mining rough
- Cafeteria is on premise
- Things to Do: Escape Room
- For Dinner – will have to ride about 15 / 20 minutes to get to restaurants
- Will arrive on Friday; Cave tour on Saturday (2 ½ hours); After that possible ride thru mountains
- Flyers were given to Members that contained hotel room prices, etc.
- If interested hotel rooms need to be booked by END OF MAY
- To make reservations call 518-296-8900 (ask for April)

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Secretary: DJ Lannigan announced that as of today, 3/15/2025, the Chapter stands at 88 "Active / Paid Members". She encouraged anyone who still has not signed up – to please "sign-up". By being an active member this will also afford you the privilege of participating in the new "Feed the Pig" lottery.

DJ Lannigan also mentioned that thru the survey... members asked to be able to purchase "long sleeve chapter shirts". She was happy to announce that members will now be able to purchase a long sleeve shirt at the cost of \$50.00. Long sleeve shirts will be offered in the same colors as the t-shirts (black, navy blue, ash and white). The long sleeve shirt will mirror the t-shirt as far as fabric/material and chapter emblem design. She also shared that anyone interested in purchasing a Name Tag / T-Shirt or Long Sleeve Shirt that payment will be due upon placing order. She is hoping to place an order for shirts come 2025 May timeframe.

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Treasurer: MA Breuninger reported that the chapter's bank account to be in good standing. She shared that if anyone wants to make any purchases she will remain after the meeting to accept payments of cash; check; or credit card.

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Head Road Captain: D. Paxton shared some Road Captain items:

- All rides end at the destination. What happens after that? Talk to the people your lunching with to see what their doing for their return ride home.
- Rides are advertised in advance to give members ample time to figure out what your return ride may be.
- Some of the Road Captains will share what their return ride will be... but know the return ride is not an official ride
- He again emphasized that Garden State is a "dry" chapter so if a member consumes an alcoholic drink that member will need to return home on their own.

- D. Paxton also shared that if any member might be interested in becoming a road captain, please speak with him. Always looking for road captains.
 - o Potential road captains will be measured / evaluated. This will ensure that as a road captain... you will succeed.
 - o Some expectations of a road captain – planning and leading rides; making sure rides will be enjoyable for everyone – not to technical.
 - o Ride pre-rides
 - o Part of the ride planning process is informing members of what to expect of a ride.
 - o A road captain wants to make sure members are riding well; give encouragement to members but also give constructive criticism if a road captain sees someone struggling – example: struggling in a turn; or getting to close to center line, etc.
 - o Being a positive influence

- D. Paxton also shared again that during Any and ALL charity rides, the chapter will ride together – as a chapter. Garden State Chapter will ride at the front and then all non-chapter riders will follow behind. There will still be Rescue Riders and Road Captains spread throughout and in the back of the pack.

- Upcoming Rides:
 - o April 5th – M. Breuninger will be leading the Clear the Cobwebs ride; Ride will be approx. 1 hour; staying local to the area.
 - o April 12th will be a ride to Table 9 (R. Seitz is leading)
 - o April 19th will be a ride to OMG Burger (Mark is leading)
 - o April 26th will be a ride to Apple Valley (Russ is leading)
 - o These are all Saturday rides; will see if we can get in any Sunday rides. Again, all rides are weather permitting.
 - o D. Paxton shared that if the weather is not looking promising for a chapter ride on a particular scheduled ride day, the road captain who is leading the ride will be the person responsible to make the call to cancel the ride. Members should look at their emails / Facebook, to receive updates should a ride need to be canceled.

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Webmaster: M. Durenberger shared that 86% of those who receive the weekly emails – open it. He also mentioned that on a yearly basis the email newsletter distribution list is cleaned up. Which means any member who has not renewed their membership will be removed from receiving the weekly newsletter. He also shared that Secretary DJ Lannigan will be providing him with an "active" member list at the

beginning of April so he can begin the task of removing members who are not active. He ended saying “so if you haven’t signed-up for the 2025 season please do so, so your name is not removed”.

He did share that for any member who does not sign up, non-members can still access the Chapter Website to obtain ride information dates, etc.

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Historian: R. Hall shared that he is currently working on a presentation that goes back 10 years – fun things that were done as a chapter; memorable rides, etc. More to come.

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Photographer: J. Gallios asked that any new/returning members to please see her after the meeting so she can take their picture for the Chapter Facebook webpage. Director R. Seitz then followed up with stating, “if there is anything that members don’t want on social media to please let J. Gallios know”.

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AMA Rep: D. Bannon had nothing to report.

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Safety Officer: R. Breuninger announced that on April 27th, he will be holding a “Cone Crusher”. An Eventbrite invite will be going out for interested members to sign-up. Only 12 spots are available. Will be held at Park Avenue building.

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OLD BUSINESS:

No Old Business

NEW BUSINESS:

The First Official “Feed the Pig” lottery was held. There was \$41.00 collected from today’s lottery/meeting. Random picker selected number 78. Number 78 was assigned to Member V. Senia. Member V. Sena was not present at today’s chapter meeting, so therefore the pot will roll over to the next chapter meeting scheduled for April 19, 2025. It was decided at the next chapter meeting when members sign-in to participate in the Feed the Pig lottery – upon sign-in they will be given their number.

Member M. Bishop announced that next year Daytona is celebrating an anniversary. He is planning on attending (first week of March 2026) and stated that any member who may be interested he would be willing to lead a ride to Daytona. This would be an unofficial chapter ride. If anyone is interested, please see M. Bishop to obtain hotel information, details for this upcoming trip/ride.

Next Chapter Meeting is scheduled for April 19, 2025

ADJOURMENT: 10:04 AM meeting was adjourned.

RAFFLE DRAWING: S. Chizmadia was the winner of the \$25.00 HD gift card. Red Ticket #34738-154

*Mtg minutes prepared by DJ Lannigan