

Chapter Membership Meeting  
Harley Owners Group  
Garden State Chapter  
Morris County NJ  
@ Garden State Harley Dealership  
April 19, 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	G. Bakelmun
L. Bakelmun	B. Bartick
R. Basile	V. Belcastro
S. Bischoff	M. Bishop
R. Blackwell	S. Chizmadia
M. Cho	M. Delarosa
T. Deming	D. Floyd
P. Fortunato	P. Gallios
J. Gennari	M. Gennari
A. Guadagnino	M. Irula
V. Kellett	D. Lannigan
D. Lawlor	S. Lawlor
M. Marden	J. Parisi
A. Paxton	A. Perez
DJ Peterson	J. Sagarese
M. Schattner	P. Schneider
G. Seitz	D. Smith
N. Smith	A. Spadone
V. Viglione	M. Vogt
J. Vorrasi	B. Worden-Spadone
M. Wright	

**Meeting Called to Order approx: 9:06 AM with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Chapter Member D. Smith Jr.**

**OPENING REMARKS / OFFICER REPORTS:**

**Director:** R. Setiz opened the meeting with "Welcome everybody to our April Chapter Meeting".... R. Seitz then welcomed 2 special guests who were attending today's meeting: A. & D. Paxton's son and his

fiancé (Craig & Tyler), who were visiting from Scotland (UK). Craig & Tyler's favorite colors are Red & Yellow....

R. Seitz next shared the following:

- He thanked all members who attended the "Stop the Bleed" course that was held on March 29<sup>th</sup> at the dealership. R. Seitz shared that the course was a huge success and thanked MA and R Breuninger for heading up and teaching this course. R. Seitz shared, "that we had a wonderful group of folks who attended; they were very attentive; everyone seemed to enjoy it and everyone seemed to have a good grasp of the course. We are that much safer when we ride – and I "thank you" for attending".
- Next R. Seitz introduced today's guest speaker – T. Caserta, from the "Forever Friends Foundation". T. Caserta gave a presentation about the Foundation and what they do to support riders and their families, who have been involved in a motorcycle accident, and aid that rider or their families thru the recuperation / recovery, and sometimes grief period, due to loss of life. She also talked about what led her to create this very meaningful foundation which started when she lost not only her son, but his best friend – both involved in motorcycle accidents – weeks apart.

T. Caserta also shared how she continues to focus her work on educating not only adults, but also children, on motorcycle safety awareness, and to help everyone understand what everyone needs to do to stay safe, stay alert and be aware when driving – whether a motorcycle or car. She is hoping to integrate motorcycle awareness training into the standard driver education programs that are offered to first time drivers. The Forever Friends Foundation will stay intact and continue their work even after the last charity event is held this coming Fall (2025).

Again 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. There will be a Chapter Ride to the Forever Friends Charity Ride....the Chapter will ride together to the Augusta, NJ Fairgrounds that day; once Chapter arrives at fairgrounds, the ride will be officially over.

Forever Friends emergency wallets were passed out to all members.

MA Breuninger next shared that we are always looking for ways to share motorcycle awareness with the community; May 16 is "Ride Your Bike To Work Day", she asked that members may possibly share this information thru social media, etc to get the word out there – also that the Chapter commits to getting a post out there for everyone to see... that's how it starts....

- R. Seitz next announced that at the May 17<sup>th</sup> chapter meeting the guest speaker will be from Celebrate the Children. Guest Speaker will talk about the school and their mission which is to provide students with solid foundation of learning while supporting their physical, social, emotional and cognitive development.

R. Seitz also shared that the Chapter will host the Celebrate the Children Charity Ride which is scheduled for June 7, 2025.

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**Assistant Director:** M. Chizmadia shared with Members how the Forever Friends Foundation was instrumental in helping his son, who was in a motorcycle accident a few years back, and how grateful M. Chizmadia and his wife, S. Chizmadia were to T. Caserta and the Foundation for all that they did for his son during a very difficult time.

- M. Chizmadia next spoke about the Howe Caverns Trip, which is scheduled for June 20, 21 & 22, 2025. He stated that rooms are limited; so if your interested in attending please contact the Hotel by May 30th.
- Next M. Chizmadia spoke about how National HOG likes to recognize/reward the people who are not only in Officer Roles, but Road Captain Roles, and the work that each person contributes to the chapter. At this point M. Chizmadia asked all Road Captains in attendance to please come to

the front of the room where they were presented with a National HOG PIN for recognition of all the time / effort spent in putting together all the great rides that the chapter goes on – all the while keeping us as safe as possible. He also mentioned that if any member is interested in becoming a Road Captain, please see D. Paxton.

He next presented each Officer with a National HOG plaque.. (Appreciation for the support and dedication to the Chapter and the Harley Owners Group): DJ Lannigan, Secretary; MA Breuninger, Treasurer; M. Durenberger, Webmaster; D. Paxton, Head Road Captain; R. Seitz, Director, M. Chizmadia, Assistant Director.

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**Secretary:** DJ Lannigan again reminded all members that they need to keep their National HOG memberships current. She stated that if your National HOG membership lapses, you can no longer be considered a Garden State HOG member. She mentioned that periodically she reviews National HOG membership expiration dates and if she sees that a members expiration date is coming due or has lapsed, she will send out an email reminder to alert the member.

She also emphasized that National HOG and Garden State are TWO different entities. A Member pays a membership fee to National HOG and pays a membership fee to Garden State.

She reminded members that National HOG expiration dates can be anytime during the year... meaning it depends on when you initially sign up with National HOG (example: May to May). Garden State membership sign-up is ALWAYS January to January.

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**Treasurer:** MA Breuninger provided the current balance in 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.

- MA Breuninger also shared that the B. Gould Memorial Ride has been scheduled for Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup>. Will leave from the Dealership. There will be a short ceremony with the spreading of ashes. We are hopeful that B. Gould's Mom will be able to join. This ride is only open to Chapter Members and Rescue Riders. Will dine at the BBQ establishment that B. Gould has taken the Chapter to in the past. This will be a long ride/day. **Ride will be rescheduled if weather is not permitting.**

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**Head Road Captain:** D. Paxton shared upcoming ride information:

- Chapter Ride to OMG Burger today, April 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Apple Valley (led by R. Hall), Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>
- Marleys Gotham Grill in Hackettstown, scheduled for May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Wing Challenge Plaque presentation. KSU 11:00 AM (led by DJ Peterson)
- Diner Challenge Ride to Coopersburg Diner – May 4<sup>th</sup>. KSU at 8:30 AM (Led by M. Bishop)
- May 10<sup>th</sup> Chapter Ride - TBD
- B. Gould Memorial Ride, Sunday May 18<sup>th</sup> (Led by MA Breuninger).
- CTC Charity Ride, June 7<sup>th</sup>.

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**Safety Officer:** R. Breuninger spoke about the importance of proper mirror position on your motorcycle. Motorcycle mirrors are an essential safety feature that allows riders to maintain awareness of their surroundings while on the road, However, many riders overlook the importance of properly adjusting their mirrors. He spoke about proper placement of the left and right hand mirrors and how members should be aware before heading out on a ride. Adjusting your motorcycle mirrors may seem like a simple task, but it plays a crucial role in ensuring your safety on the road.

He next shared that there WAS a pet carrier in the room that WAS free for the taking. Member M. Gennari offered to take the carrier.

- Next T. Caserta shared information about “Charity Flags” and the purpose these flags serve when having a charity ride or any big motorcycle ride. She shared by having these flags on several bikes during a charity ride, motorists become more aware of what is taking place and understand why they may be inconvenienced for a short period of time; By having Flags mounted to bikes it also helps motorists be more aware of their surroundings, police motor officers, etc.. Also by having mounted charity flags it may take away the road rage that some people may experience when being stopped by a long parade of motorcyclists. She suggested that it might be something the Chapter might consider investing in.
- R. Breuninger also shared that there are still some open spots for the May 18<sup>th</sup> Ride Like A Pro for any interested members. Hours are 8 AM to 1 PM. Reminder – Chapter Members are being charged \$175.00 vs. \$200.00 per person.

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**Webmaster:** M. Durenberger thanked MA Breuninger for filling in as Webmaster, while he was away in Arizona.

- M. Durenberger stated that his main focus was on today’s ride to OMG – as Lead Road Captain. Ride was to leave at 10:30 AM; ride was to be about hour and a half.... or so.

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**Membership Officer:** D. Borowsky shared the current number of active/paid members stand.... at 106.

- Special welcome back to M. Cho. Welcome to newest member M. Wright (favorite color – blue; rides a 2020 Police Electra Glide). Also welcome to Dawn – who is considering joining Garden State.
- Also D. Borowsky mentioned that she is still looking for an establishment where the Year End Party can be held. We do not want to have it catered; do not want to set-up; trying to keep the price at \$50.00 per person; needs to be on a Saturday; somewhere where alcohol can be served; AV equipment needed; need capacity for 60 to 70 people; preferably in Morris County. If anyone has a favorite place in mind, please let her know.

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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 everyone just remember to smile.

- J. Gallios also inquired if any members were interested in doing a Chapter night ride. Possibly to be held on a Friday night; KSU might be 6 / 7 PM. She will further investigate. TBD

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**AMA Rep:** D. Bannon reported that Charter application has been submitted.

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**OLD BUSINESS:**

**No Old Business**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Member / Road Captain, D. Lannigan** announced that a ride has been scheduled on June 28<sup>th</sup> to the Town of Jim Thorpe, PA (Little Switzerland). This ride is considered a destination ride, so mostly highways will be traveled to get to Jim Thorpe. MA Breuninger will be leading the ride. Ride will be leaving the Dealership early. Upon arrival in Jim Thorpe, chapter members will have lunch, then members can do several things:

- Continue Riding
- Return Home
- Go On a Scenic Train Ride
- Go On a Scenic Trolley Ride
- Go on a haunted prison tour
- Shopping

Whatever you would like. If a member decides to stay and enjoy the day there will be a 5 PM leave time where members can ride back together as a chapter to return home.

One more stop on the way home will be at the Biggest General Store in the country, and then continue on home. There is paved parking in the train parking lot to park motorcycles. Costs \$25.00 per spot and 2 bikes can share one spot.

This will be a LONG Day.

**Next – Member/Road Captain M. Bishop** – shared with members that he is currently selling raffle tickets @ \$20.00 a piece to win a Harley Davidson Road Glide. This raffle is through the Old Bridge Elks; drawing is July 27; do not have to be present to win. If anyone interested in purchasing a ticket... see him – has tickets on his bike.

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**Feed the Pig**” lottery was held. Pot currently stands at \$86.00. Random picker selected number 74. Number 74 was assigned to Member G. Osborne, who was NOT present at today’s chapter meeting, so therefore the pot will roll over to the next chapter meeting scheduled for May 17, 2025.

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**Next Chapter Meeting is scheduled for May 17, 2025**

**ADJOURMENT: 10:06 AM meeting was adjourned.**

**RAFFLE DRAWING:** L. Bakelmun was the winner of the \$25.00 HD gift card. Red Ticket #34738-251

\*Mtg minutes prepared by DJ Lannigan