

Chapter Membership Meeting
Harley Owners Group
Garden State Chapter
Morris County NJ
@ Garden State Harley Dealership
August 15, 2026

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:	S. Chizmadia
Webmaster/Road Captain:	M. Durenberger (<i>Absent</i>)
Historian/Road Captain:	R. Hall
Membership/Activity Officer:	D. Borowsky
Safety Officer:	R. Breuninger
AMA Rep:	D. Bannon (<i>Absent</i>)

General Attendees

R. Adametz	G. Bakelmun
L. Bakelmun	V. Belcastro
G. Berry	M. Bishop
B. Blackwell	C. Callaghan
C. Chludzinski	J. Gennarelli
J. Gennari	M. Gennari
B. Jones	J. Joes
V. Kellett	D. Lannigan
M. Marden	A. Paxton
A. Protin	E. Protin
G. Seitz	M. Simon
J. Troast	V. Viglione

Meeting Called to Order at: 9:01 AM with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Director R. Seitz.

OPENING REMARKS / OFFICER REPORTS:

Director: R. Seitz opened the meeting with "Good Morning Everybody". "We made it to August". "Days are starting to get shorter but lets make the best of the riding season as the summer starts to come to a close".

He started off by "thanking" Assistant Director M. Chizmadia for stepping in and officiating the August 1, 2026, EBoard meeting, while he was away. Was much appreciated.

He next wanted to "thank" all the Road Captains who have been scheduling / leading rides. The rides have been none other than...AWESOME. He also said a major "thank you" was due to RC M. Gennari and B. Bartick – who have been leading the chapter on some great new routes.

He next shared with members that the chapter ride which was scheduled for today, 8/15/2026, destination was The Narrows Restaurant, had to be postponed. So, due to postponing this route the chapter instead

would be riding to Chimney Rock in Bridgewater, NJ. RC V. Kellett would be leading today's ride, with HRC D. Paxton as his wingman; Director R. Seitz would be the sweep; he reminded all members that KSU would be at 10:30 AM; pre-safety talk 15 minutes prior.

He lastly shared a note of "thanks" from Members D. and S. Smith and their family. Their family recently experienced the loss of a family member. And they wanted to express their thanks for all the love and support that was shown to them from Garden State HOG Chapter.

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Assist Director: M. Chizmadia opened with "Good Morning Everybody".

He first shared that the Feed the Pig pot count increased by \$32.00 – bringing the total pot to \$64.00

He next shared that member B. Blackwell had a special presentation that he wanted to present to members G. and R. Seitz, from himself and the members who attended the Washington DC trip. An American Flag that was flown over the Capital building and certificate, which was signed by Senator Andy Kim, was presented to both G and R. Seitz, for all the work that they did in putting together this year's overnight trip – destination Washington DC. He shared that so much effort / work was done by the Seitz's, who not only secured the hotel accommodations, planned the route w/rest stops, but also the tours which required security clearance, set-up, etc. Truly a remarkable job. Thank You both G. and R. Seitz.

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Treasurer: MA Breuninger reported that the current balance in the chapter's bank account to be in good standing.

She next shared that anyone looking to attend this year's "End of Season" dinner, she has started to accept payment for those that would like to attend. Cost remains the same as last year - which is \$50.00 per person, keeping in mind that this \$50.00 strictly goes toward the cost of food / catering. Other additional costs will be paid by the chapter. These monies will be used towards any ancillary expenses – thus keeping the overall costs down.

She also shared that the Chapter's current banking institution is looking to increase bank fees, so she is researching to see what other options are available in trying to avoid high fees, etc. More to come.

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Secretary: DJ Lannigan shared again that chapter shirts (long and t-shirts) and name tags are currently being handed out. If you ordered a shirt or name tag – please see her so she can give you your item and you can wear it proudly.

She also announced that chapter sweatshirts have finally arrived. She shared that when she has had a chance to sort through them, will start to hand them out. **NOTE-** Sweatshirts started to get handed out after today's meeting. Again, please see D. Lannigan to receive your sweatshirt.

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Head Road Captain: D. Paxton opened with "Good Morning Folks". He started off with "thanking" his Road Captains for stepping up and filling up the ride calendar. Calendar is looking really good through the end of September - at this point.

He next asked Treasurer/RC MA Breuninger to speak about chapter ride scheduled for Sunday, August 16 which was going to "Under the Moon Café" in Lambertville, NJ. MA Breuninger shared that due to a family matter and also the weather showing rain in the afternoon this ride would be postponed. She also shared she is testing a "new" route to get to this location, so she is excited about sharing this route when it's rescheduled.

Next, member J. Gennarelli shared that for any members who might be interested in going on a chapter ride to the Hawthorne Gun Club, he is looking to get this ride / event scheduled and on the calendar for September 27, 2026. Cost will be \$5.00 per person for entry to the gun club with a lunch stop following. KSU at 10 AM from the dealership.

Next HCR D. Paxton spoke about the following steps that all members need to follow when they leave a ride that is in "progress". When leaving a ride:

- A Rider should always exit to the right – safely moving over to a secured shoulder / parking lot etc.
- Rider should give a "Thumbs Up or Down" signal.
- Rider should remain on the side of the road and/or parking lot, until the ride has passed him/her safely thus signaling to the Sweep if any assistance is needed. This method also allows the Sweep to communicate with the Lead Road Captain alerting him or her that the Rider who pulled off is "OK" or if rider "needs assistance".

He also reminded all members attending chapter rides that riders need to "pass back signals" given by the Lead Road Captain. He stated that this process of passing signals is a must; it keeps all riders apprised of what is potentially ahead of them and helps ensure rider safety. He closed with saying if any member had a question / concern about this topic, to please see him after the meeting.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Membership Officer: D. Borowsky shared that the chapter is currently at 111 active / paid members.

Next she shared that both Historian R. Hall and Director R. Seitz recently celebrated birthdays; Members broke out in song singing "Happy Birthday" to both. Happy Birthday Gentlemen.

She next reminded members come November 14 is when the Chapter's Year End Celebration will be held. Place will be "IL Palazzo" located in Wanaque, NJ. Party starts at 6:00 PM; Price will remain at \$50.00 per person. Food / Awards / Give-A-Ways / Dancing / Fun. Please see Treasurer MA Breuninger to provide payment.

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Safety Officer: R. Breuninger gave a safety presentation on "tar snakes" and how to safely navigate / ride when tar snakes are present on the road.

- Tar snakes are strips of tar-like sealant used to fill cracks in roads.
- Tar snakes can become slippery and pose hazards, especially motorcyclists.
- The materials used in tar snakes can be particularly dangerous in hot weather when they soften which can cause a motorcyclist to lose traction.

Some Tips for Riding Over Tar Snakes:

- Always slow down before approaching tar snakes to maintain control
- Stay upright / straighten the bike as much as possible to lower your lean when crossing tar snakes
- Cross at an angle if possible
- Maintain a loose grip on the handlebars to help the bike regain traction if bike wobbles
- Keep your body relaxed and avoid abrupt steering or braking inputs while crossing.
- Another road hazard to look for is freshly painted road markings

Be Safe Out There!!

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Webmaster: M. Durenberger was absent, but asked for the following to be shared at today's chapter meeting:

- Website and newsletter will now show all rides planned through end of September.

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Historian: R. Hall had nothing to report.

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Photographer: S. Chizmadia had nothing to report.

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AMA Rep: D. Bannon was absent.

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OLD BUSINESS: No old business.

NEW BUSINESS: Member V. Kellett shared that he had inherited an 84 Honda CB750, w/15,000 that needs to be totally restored; Anyone interested in this bike, please contact V. Kellett.

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“Feed the Pig” was held. Pot currently stands at \$64.00. Random picker selected number 13. Number 13 was assigned to Member M. Bishop who was present at today’s chapter meeting. Congratulations M. Bishop.

Next Chapter Meeting is scheduled for September 19, 2026

ADJOURMENT: 9:28 AM meeting was adjourned.

RAFFLE DRAWING: M. Marden was the winner of the \$25.00 HD gift card. Red Ticket #34738-704

*Mtg minutes prepared by DJ Lannigan