

Chapter Membership Meeting  
Harley Owners Group  
Garden State Chapter  
Morris County NJ  
@ Garden State Harley Dealership  
June 15, 2024

**ATTENDEES**

Director/Road Captain:	R. Breuninger
Ass't. Director/Road Captain	R. Seitz
Treasurer	B. Papetti
Secretary	DJ Lannigan
Head Road Captain	B. Gould
Photographer	J. Gallios
Webmaster/Road Captain	M. Durenberger
Historian/Road Captain	J. Gennarelli
Membership/Activity Officer:	D. Borowsky
Safety Officer/Road Captain	H. Olbrich
AMA Rep:	D. Bannon

**General Attendees**

S. Almeida	R. Blackwell
MA Breuninger	DA Butkovich
C. Carreira	M. Chizmadia
S. Chizmadia	E. Cohen
N. Dailey	M. Delarusa
T. Deming	P. Gallios
M. Gennari	A. Gibbon
R. Hall	N. Healy ( <i>guest</i> )
R. Hui	C. Irula
M. Irula	V. Kellett
D. Lannigan	J. Larkin
D. Lawlor	S. Lawlor
J. Parisi	A. Paxton
D. Paxton	A. Perez
DJ Peterson	DA Ryan
D. Ryan	P. Schneider
G. Seitz	D. Smith Jr
S. Smith	B. Worden-Spadone

**Meeting Called to Order approx: 9:30 AM with the Pledge of Allegiance led by R. Seitz.**

**OPENING REMARKS / OFFICER REPORTS:**

**Director:** R. Breuninger opened the meeting with stating that today was “hat” day; He acknowledged the cool kids (members) who were wearing their cowboy hats that went to Nashville; and for those members that did not go to Nashville and were not wearing a cowboy hat.... “go suck it”... LOL.

- R. Breuninger then said that he needed to give “a round of applause to the chapter” concerning the Puppy Rescue Mission Charity ride that was held on Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup>. R. Breuninger said that it was reported back to him that the organization took in over \$5,000.00 from this charity ride. “Job Well Done and Thank You All”. R. Breuninger then talked about the “Puppy Rescue

Mission” and what they do. He explained that there are times when a military person, who may be stationed in a 3<sup>rd</sup> world county, befriends a stray pup while stationed in a particular country. When that military person returns home from their tour, they cannot bring the pup with them, so the Puppy Rescue Mission’s charge is... to reunite that military veteran with the pup that they created a bond / relationship with, while overseas. The cost to reunite a veteran with their pup can cost anywhere from \$3,000 to \$4,000, and a lot of red tape. This is what the Puppy Rescue Organization does. To date it’s been reported that about 5,000 dogs have been saved / reunited with their military veteran. The Puppy Rescue Mission was started about 14 years ago.

- R Breuninger next reminded members about the “Wing / Ding” challenge. He explained to members that in order to earn the “wing/ding” patch a member needs to visit 6 out of 9 “named” wing locations....(Wing/Ding Flyer is currently posted on the chapter bulletin board inside the Dealership, and flyer is being included in weekly email blasts). He reminded members that when they visit a “wing” location named, they need to take a photo that shows that name of the location visited; All photos need to be sent to Membership/Activity Officer, D. Borowsky.
- R. Breuninger mentioned that the “Ride Like A Pro” course, which is being held on June 22, 2024, that both the AM and PM classes were full and that this is a rain or shine class. D. Smith encouraged all attending to bring liquids to stay hydrated / snacks. R. Breuninger mentioned that on 6/16 at the Park Ave location he will hold a “pre-play day” to go over basics to help riders get ready for the course.
- R. Breuninger then went over some dates of upcoming chapter / charity rides (full listing of all rides are posted on the chapter bulletin board inside the dealership; as well as the chapter website):
  - o July 20 – Ride for Red - Morris Plains Fire Department Charity Ride; Patch sewing will be offered that day.
  - o August 14 – Blood Drive (American Red Cross); There is always a critical need for blood
  - o September 21 – Eric C. Blohm Charity Ride; Registration 9:00 AM; KSU @ 11:00 AM; Patch sewing will be offered that day.

**Assistant Director:** R. Seitz opened with “YEE-HAW”... He started-off with expressing how the “group riding”, on the Nashville trip, was incredible. He shared that a lot of the great riding was most likely due to the three, 50 mile ride requirement (for overnight trips) that was put in place earlier this year. He announced this requirement will be enforced for the foreseeable future.

- R. Seitz then announced that the official messaging app that the chapter will use going forward for overnight trips and to correspond with “large” groups – will be “What’s App”. R. Seitz stated that this app works on every platform, and you can correspond with more than 20 people. He again “thanked” all involved with making the Nashville Trip a success. R. Breuninger then asked for a round of applause for G. Seitz and R. Seitz who both worked very hard to ensure trip was enjoyable for all. “Thank you”!!
- R. Breuninger then announced to the chapter that today’s meeting would be the last official meeting for D. Ryan and DA Ryan – who are moving to the state of North Carolina. R. Breuninger expressed how the entire chapter wish D. Ryan and DA Ryan all the happiness as they move forward in their next chapter... and how much they will be missed by all. Round of applause was given to D. Ryan & DA Ryan.

**Treasurer:** B. Papetti provided the current balance in the chapter’s bank account. Account is in good standing.

**Secretary:** DJ Lannigan thanked members for remembering to renew their National HOG Memberships; this saves her time in the fact that she does not need to send out reminder emails reminding members to renew. Keep up the good work.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**Head Road Captain:** B. Gould talked about her experience with the off-road course that she recently attended (weekend of June 8/9, 2024). She said that she thoroughly enjoyed the course; it was challenging but she had fun. She also said that she was the “only” women rider in her class. B. Gould also said a lot of the experience that she has gained thru “cone-camp” helped her tremendously with conquering this off-road course – “thanks goes to R. Breuninger. B. Gould said she has come out of this off-road course feeling more confident about her riding and riding on regular roads. D. Bannon also attended this course with B. Gould. He indicated that the course was amazing.

- B. Gould then announced a “new” road captain, D. Paxton. D. Paxton was presented with Road Captain rockers / patches. Congratulations to D. Paxton.

**Membership Officer:** D. Borowsky shared as of present the chapter has 125 paid/active members recorded.

- D. Borowsky introduced new member: N. Healy; favorite color is purple; rides a 2019 road glide; and new member – E. Cohen; favorite color is blue; rides a 2003 fat boy.

**Safety Officer:** H. Olbrich announced at the July 20<sup>th</sup> chapter meeting he will be giving a presentation on “Road ID” bracelet (which is a bracelet that can provide medical / family information to medical responders in the event of an accident; H. Olbrich will also be talking about “life vac”, which is a device that can be used to protect yourself, loved ones, etc from the dangers of choking.

- MA Breuninger then asked if H. Olbrich could speak about “grass clippings” that are blown into the street and the hazards it can pose. He stated that grass clippings can be very slick; if riding thru grass clippings “please pay attention”; do not stop in grass clippings.

**Historian:** J. Gennarelli shared with members that he was wearing a shirt in history. The shirt he had on was from the KOSCO HD Pompton Plains days.

- J. Gennarelli then gave a shout out to road captain, J. Gallios, thanking her for stepping up and sweeping the chapter ride he led to the Skylands BB game which was held on June 1<sup>st</sup>. He then thanked the newest road caption, D. Paxton for being his ears, in the #2 position, He also mentioned that this ride allowed 14 year old, E. Delarusa, who is the son of member, M. Delarusa the opportunity to attend his first baseball game. J. Gennarelli then led the chapter in song – singing “Take Me Out To The Ballgame”.

**Webmaster:** M. Durenberger started off his talk with asking everyone if they remember the show “Happy Days” in particular the character – “The Fonz” and how “The Fonz” found it hard to admit when he was “wwwwrrroooooonnnngggg”... Well M. Durenberger said that he wanted to set the record straight and admitted that in the latest email blast he gave credit to DA Ryan and D Ryan for leading the Puppy Mission Rescue charity ride, where infact it was MA Breuninger who led this charity ride and his email blast went out with wwwwwrrrrroooooonnnngggg info. Thank you MA Breuninger.

**AMA Rep:** D. Bannon had nothing to report.

**Photographer:** J. Gallios thanked all members who have sent her their photos of Nashville. J. Gallios said she received approx. 2,000 photos. R. Seitz then thanked J. Gallios for the photo presentation that was currently being shared during the meeting. J. Gallios also thanked P. Gallios for his assistance in helping her with the mundane tasks in getting the presentation “show” ready for the chapter meeting.

- R. Seitz also thank D. Paxton for the video that he put together of the Nashville trip that was posted on Facebook.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Helmet Presentation given by Gabby (Garden State Motor clothes Dept):** Gabby gave a presentation on motorcycle helmets; proper fit; expiration dates, DOT specs, etc.

- She started off by stating that there are many different types of helmets – full; half; three-quarter and modular. She said that when purchasing a Helmet please ensure it indicates on the helmet that it is DOT approved.
- She said that sizing is very important; “try-on” every helmet; every helmet has different molds.
- Helmets in New Jersey are not returnable.
- When trying on a helmet, wear it around the store; wear it for about 10 or more minutes to make sure it is not hitting any pressure points.
- Helmets have a 3-to-5-year lifespan before they expire; and check your helmets expiration date.
- If a helmet is dropped, you should get a new helmet. By dropping your helmet, you essentially damage the interior shell.
- Don't wear a baseball cap or any hat under your helmet; you won't get the proper fit/protection needed.
- Helmets need to be worn flat (over the eyebrow) – not pushed back.
- Helmet straps should be strapped on tight; never leave a strap loose; if an accident occurs with a loose-fitting helmet, the helmet may shift, leaving parts of the head exposed to hit the ground.
- Full Face Helmets should push your cheeks in slightly.
- Harley only makes unisex helmets – no longer makes helmets for just women or just men.
- R. Breuninger encouraged all members when it comes to head protection don't buy something because it's cheap; spend the money on a good quality helmet that will save your life.

**OLD BUSINESS:** nothing to report.

**Next Chapter Meeting is scheduled for July 20, 2024**

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

**RAFFLE DRAWING:** C. Irula was the winner of the \$25.00 HD gift card. Ticket #1801595

\*Mtg minutes prepared by DJ Lannigan