

Chapter Membership Meeting
Harley Owners Group
Garden State Chapter
Morris County NJ
@ Garden State Harley Dealership
October 19, 2024

ATTENDEES

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

General Attendees

A. Almedia	J. Andersen
L. Bakelmun	B. Bartick
M. Bishop	MA Breuninger
DA Bukovich	E. Cohen
M. Delarusa	J. Gennari
M. Gennari	R. Hui
K. Hunt	V. Kellett
J. Parisi	A. Paxton
D. Paxton	DJ Peterson
B. Rafuse	G. Rafuse
M. Schattner	V. Senia
W. Waltsak	

Meeting Called to Order approx: 9:02 AM with the Pledge of Allegiance led by H. Olbrich

OPENING REMARKS / OFFICER REPORTS:

Director: R. Breuninger opened the meeting asking everyone if they were given an AMA voting card upon arrival for today's meeting. R. Breuninger then explained what each AMA category/description means to chapter members... to consider when voting. Category for Safety: award is presented to a chapter member who continues to promote rider safety and has an outstanding safety record for the current year; Category for Service: award is presented to a chapter member who has been the biggest asset to the chapter thru their service throughout the year. All members were asked to please vote on who they felt was deserving of either award; Members were instructed to give their voting cards to M. Chizmadia at the end of the meeting. Cards will be tallied up and award winners will be announced at the year-end dinner, being held on November 16, 2024.

- R. Breuninger then talked about the activity being held at the dealership today, 10/19/2024 – HARLEYWEEN – from 10 AM to 2 PM. Dealership is looking for members to participate and help hand out candy. Firemen were making sandwiches at \$5.00 per sandwich. Thanks to anyone who can participate in this event today.

- R. Breuninger then thanked all who participated in the Eric C. Blohm ride which was held on September 21, 2024. It was a successful ride; unsure of the number of bikes that participated; was very good energy and thanks to everyone who stepped up concerning logistics on this ride. He also "THANKED" B. Gould for a great route.
- Next - R. Breuninger again "thanked" B. Gould for leading the ride to the "Forever Friends" Charity event, and all who participated from the chapter; Charity ride was held on Sunday, October 6, 2024. R. Breuninger emphasized on "what a great turnout" for this charity ride; estimated about 400 bikes participated. Chapter Member D. Bukovich also shared that this charity ride looks to be scheduled again for next year (2025), however date is being moved to the end of September; possibly September 21st; location will still be at Sussex County fairgrounds.
- R. Breuninger then shared that the scheduled guest speaker for today's meeting, Brian, Dealership Service Manager, would not be speaking (he was ill). Brian was supposed to give a presentation on "winterizing your motorcycle". Will reschedule for a later date. .
- Next, Member MA Breuninger shared some health updates concerning certain chapter members:
 - o She spoke about R. Seitz who continues to improve with each day. She shared that he appreciates all the notes and visits; just keep in mind that he tires easily so be patient with his response time. R. Seitz was hoping to attend today's chapter meeting but unfortunately was not able to.
 - o She also shared that D. Lannigan recently had surgery this past week; he is up and about and doing nicely with his recovery.
 - o Lastly, P. Schneider who continues to recover from his motorcycle accident. Upon his return, he will be sharing his story and talking about proper motor clothes members should wear to protect themselves, specifically the gear he was wearing that protected himself at the time of his accident.

Assistant Director: M. Chizmadia explained that he was helping out Membership/Activity Officer D. Borowsky with sign-in sheet for today's meeting; he asked all members to please make sure they sign in for today's meeting. M. Chizmadia then talked briefly about the AMA voting cards handed out to members and reminded all members to please hand in their voting cards to him before leaving the meeting.

- R. Breuninger then inquired with members if they have signed up for the year-end dinner. He reminded all members to see Treasurer, B. Papetti to reserve their spot for the dinner.

Treasurer: B. Papetti reminded all members that if they haven't paid for the year-end dinner, or paid for their tee-shirt / tag, to please see her. She reported that the current balance in the chapter's bank account to be in good standing.

Secretary: DJ Lannigan shared that name tags and tee-shirts are in. She asked that members see her after the meeting to pick up their tee-shirt/name tag.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Head Road Captain: B. Gould reminded members who are participating in next week's chapter Halloween ride to make sure they decorate their bikes, and also make sure that decorations are properly secured to their bike to withstand highway speeds.

- R. Breuninger then shared with members his costume mishap that occurred during last year's Halloween ride. His costume which was "Batman"... had a long cape and halfway through the ride the cape got caught in his back wheel and started to pull him back. Luckily, he was able to stop his bike safely and assistance was given to remove the cape from himself, and the bike. He asked all members to be mindful of costume choices while riding.

- MA Breuninger then shared some information about the Lighthouse tour chapter ride which was scheduled for Sunday, October 21, 2024; She shared that the ride would be a direct route; there would be a lunch stop; will be visiting 3 lighthouses - Sandy Hook; Madison Twin Peaks and Seagirt. There will be a \$5.00 charge to enter all 3 lighthouses. She suggested that one may want to bring a change in footwear to make it easier to climb the stairs in the lighthouses. KSU at 10:00 AM from the Dealership; Lunch at 12:00 PM.

Membership Officer: D. Borowsky was absent; Secretary D. Lannigan did share that current active/paid members still stand at 126.

Safety Officer: H. Olbrich gave a presentation on “Road ID” – which is a safety app/device, to alert first responders/police, etc. Can be purchased as a bracelet; tag clipped to iPhone or dog tag. H. Olbrich shared that he has been wearing the bracelet since 2017. Information that can be stored on Road ID: your contacts; emergency contacts; medications; allergies; medical conditions; doctors phone numbers; documents; driver’s license; passport, insurance information, etc.

- Handouts were given to members for anyone interested in purchasing “Road ID”.
- Cost can vary somewhere between \$30.00 to \$40.00 – with 1 year subscription; then there is a renewal subscription cost of \$19.95; bracelet can be purchased in different colors / materials.

H. Olbrich also reminded members to be cautious when riding during the fall season with the leaves that are now falling from the trees; acorns; apples etc.... and watch out for deer.

Member M. Bishop also shared that Member D. Smith had talked at one of last year’s meetings about keeping a red envelope in your tour pack that contains all your contact / medical information; Officers are trained to look for this red envelope in the event of an accident.

D. Bukovich also shared that if any member wants the safety plastic card holder from Forever Friends, he can provide.

Historian: J. Gennarelli talked about 1 major charity event that was held back in the day – it was the “Fall Foliage” run; It was always held in the beginning of October; Chapter raised over \$100,000 over the years for different charities. The Chapter would look for someone like a local child with a medical issue; monies collected from various events held were given to that child/family for medical bills, etc; Various ways funds were collected: collection jars were placed at different businesses in collecting money; motorcycle runs – most successful run had over 1,000 bikes. Vendors were at these events; trophies were given out. The photo presentation being shown during today’s meeting was of photos taken during these motorcycle runs.

Webmaster: M. Durenberger reminded all about the weekly newsletter that is sent out via email which contains allot of information about upcoming events that are happening. R. Breuninger gave a big “THANK YOU” to M. Durenberger for all he does in getting emails out and notifications out. It’s not an easy task and it’s allot to keep track of.

AMA Rep: D. Bannon shared that there will be Polar Bear runs in the upcoming months. He will be providing a list of upcoming Polar Bear rides. He also shared that the “Polar Bear” is an AMA grand tour. Riders meet every Sunday, from October thru March, in a different location somewhere in NJ, DE, PA and sometimes in NY and CT; Riders meet at the destination; you get points as you go, and get patches if you obtain a certain number of points. You can also take your car, and you will receive points, as opposed to riding your bike in the event the weather is not good.

Photographer: J. Gallios was absent

OLD BUSINESS:

Chicken Wing Challenge: R. Breuninger reminded any member who participated in the challenge to send in their pictures to Membership Officer, D. Borowsky, by email / text / messenger, so credit can be given to that member for completing. Also a big "THANK YOU" to B. Jones on the work she did in creating / producing, the custom patch for the chicken wing challenge.

NEW BUSINESS:

Member G. Rafuse shared with members that he and Member P. Pease recently purchased a cottage home in the Poconos and all are invited; if anyone would like to use the house it's a gravel road. Anyone is welcome to use it; if interested please see him and will work out the logistics.

Members D. Butkovich and W. Waltsak spoke briefly about the annual "Turkey Trot". Will be held on Sunday before Thanksgiving (this year would be November 24, 2024). Meet up will remain at the Andover Diner. If anyone wants to donate a Turkey or money, please see D. Butkovich or W. Waltsak.

Next Chapter Meeting is scheduled for November 16, 2024

ADJOURMENT: 9:38 AM meeting was adjourned.

RAFFLE DRAWING: . DJ Lannigan was the winner of the \$25.00 HD gift card. Ticket #1801751

*Mtg minutes prepared by DJ Lannigan