



# The High Road

Monthly Newsletter of the Syracuse H.O.G.<sup>®</sup> Chapter  
Volume XXIX, Issue 4 April 2012

## BIKER AT HEART

**W**hen it comes to motorcycles, there are not many things to which Bud "Scratcher" Moore can't say, "Been there, done that."

Scratcher began his life-long passion for two wheels in rural Cayuga County with a Cushman motor scooter. He was 15 years old at the time and rode everywhere. As far as a license, "At 15 you can't get a license to drive anything." The issue of registration was also taken care of with a bit of creative ingenuity. "We made license plates out of cardboard to look like real ones."

No helmets, no licenses, no worries, the police never bothered them.

When motorcycle operator licenses began in New York State, you could receive a waiver on any testing by proving that you had owned and operated a registered motorcycle for three years. A motor vehicle operator license was not required. It was some time later that the system of adding a motorcycle endorsement to your operator's license was put into effect.



Scratcher aboard his "slightly modified" 1953 Panhead Harley. Photo was taken about three years ago in front of Ithaca Harley-Davidson when he had it in for its annual DMV inspection.

Provided Photo

Scratcher's first Harley was what was called a 45 by 45. It was a 1945 Army bike, model WLA, with a 45 degree, 45 cubic inch engine. The bike previously belonged to a neighbor.

He also had a Yamaha bike for a while. This was an all-weather, ride-it-year 'round, machine. Snowmobile trails were a favorite in the winter, however after a lot of grief from snowmobilers, he traded the Yamaha for a sled.

The Panhead, pictured to the left, is a 1953 that Scratcher purchased in either 1965 or '66. He found it in a chicken coop and took it home for \$150. It was originally a police department bike. The difference being the police bikes had foot shifters and the machines sold to the general public were still using a hand shift-lever. The police bike also had a larger capacity electrical generator.

Gleaming paint was only a dream at the time. The bike's restoration finish was Allis-Chalmers orange tractor paint.

In earlier years, there was a category for Panheads in the annual chapter mileage contest. Scratcher won more than once with between 1500 and 2000 miles.

Scratcher is one of the senior members of HOG, relative to time in the organization. He is a Life Member having joined in June 1988. In addition to membership in the Syracuse Chapter, he belongs to the Finger Lakes Chapter where he previously

## John Muldoon Director



### Director's Chatter

What a start to the riding season so far! After an incredibly warm March, we kicked off our riding season with some fun at the St. Patrick's Parade and the Chili Cook-off at PHD.

This month we will have the

## Meeting Minutes February 19, 2012 Kathy Crouse, Secretary



Call to order **10:00 a.m.** - (John Muldoon)  
**Pledge of Allegiance**

Housekeeping issues- Health and Welfare, welcome members

Motorcycle night at Syracuse Crunch Hockey game 3-24, tickets \$12.00, see John Muldoon for further info.

Assistant Director (Jeff Crouse)- State HOG Rally Alex Bay July 12-14 update, can register online. Gave Community Service report for D Robbins (vacation); Tel Auc scheduled 4/19-22 and 4/26-29; contact Lori via email or on website. Highway Cleanup 4-29, need ride leader as Lori will have cleanup supplies and cannot do both roles.

Treasurer (Ron Blakley)-Feb. report given, tax documents filed and accepted by IRS

Membership (Steve Moretti)- 165 members at this time; **New Members: Robert Bishop, Susanne Firkins, Kathleen Kilgore, James French, Christopher Croad, Mari Lynn Mocyk, and Tim Rowland.**

Ride Report (Bill Becker)- Chris Blakely will update rides on the web; updates on upcoming rides noted. Ride today to Madison after meeting.

Activities Officers-(Peggy Neary & Marie Tubolino)-Provided updates on St. Pat's Parade & chili cook-off (March

Blessing of the Bikes at PHD. As we did last year, we will be helping with traffic and parking of the bikes. I hope that Jeff and Kathy remembered what we learned last year!

Please watch our website for details. As you read Jeff's article this month explaining the Annual HOT in Pa., think about how you can support your officers efforts to make our Chapter the best it can be so we all can RIDE and HAVE FUN together!

Hope to see you soon on a ride.

JFM

24). Need to set up chili by 11:30; cook-off 12-4 p.m. Tim Fox and Tim Barr to judge chili for the competition.

Safety Officer (Ken Yackel) - Guest speaker today Trooper Greg Eberl from Troop D Lysander on Motorcycle awareness and safety checks as conducted by himself and others in his division. Trooper Eberl cannot speak for all divisions or other law enforcement agencies.

LOH (Marcella Becker) - Has a list of women who signed up last year for impromptu rides. If you are not on the list, let Marcella know and she will add your name.

Community Service (Lori Robbins)- given by Jeff Crouse

Photographers (Kevin & Kathy Baker) - will take officers pics if needed for website

Web Master (Chris Blakely) - rides will be on website with updates three days prior to ride date; Big rides will be on the website consistently.

Historian (Dick Davidson) - no report

Editor (Mike Waters)- Newsletter on website and tables.

Old Business: Rolling Thunder information given for Memorial Day weekend leaving 7 a.m., not 10 a.m. as per website, route to be completed by Jim Poole by April meeting. Need to book hotel rooms by 4-24 or the blocks for rooms will be lost. Jim will provide his email for those interested.

Pig Pot Payout: \$83.00 to a lucky member, T Shirt Bingo: NC winner.

**Adjourn 10:45 a.m.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathy Crouse, Secretary



## Chapter Officers

**John Muldoon**, Director  
director@syracusehog.com  
315-243-7832

**Jeff Crouse**, Assistant Director  
astdirector@syracusehog.com  
315-729-7075

**Ron Blakley**, Treasurer  
treasurer@syracusehog.com  
315-247-8163

**Kathy Crouse**, Secretary  
secretary@syracusehog.com  
315-729-1865

**Peggy Neary & Marie Tubolino**  
Activities Officers  
activities@syracusehog.com  
315-436-6806

**Bill Becker**, Head Road Captain  
roadcaptain@syracusehog.com  
315-415-3416

**Ken Yackel**, Safety Officer  
safety@syracusehog.com

**Steve Moretti**, Membership  
membership@syracusehog.com  
315-246-1299

**Dick Davidson**, Historian  
historian@syracusehog.com  
315-439-3016

**Chris Blakley**, Webmaster  
webmaster@syracusehog.com

**Kathy & Kevin Baker**,  
Photographers  
photo@syracusehog.com

**Marcella Becker**  
Ladies of Harley  
ladiesofharley@syracusehog.com  
315-415-3416

**Mike Waters**, Editor  
editor@syracusehog.com  
315-446-1455

**Lori Robbins**, Community Service  
communityservice@syracusehog.com

**Dave Sedlack**, Sponsoring Dealer  
David@performancehd.com  
315-471-1157

## Biker, from Page - 1

served as road captain.

The only current members ahead of Scratcher on the Chapter seniority list are: Carol and Bob Anguish, Linda and George Fields, Bob Hurwitz, and Debbie and Dave Sedlack.

When he joined HOG, his primary ride was a 1986 Liberty Edition Harley. It was produced with an 80 cubic inch engine. After getting his doors blown off by those he rode with, he increased the stroke to where the engine had 92 cubes.

He put more than 100,000 miles on that bike.

With all these miles comes some practical techniques you won't read about in company literature. When riding his chopper, he wore spurs. If he leaned over too far, the spurs would drag and he would know that was the limit.

While this worked fine on his bike, it wasn't as effective if he was on his brother's Low Rider. An aggressive ride resulted in dragging parts of the bike on the pavement. In particular, it was tough on the two exhaust pipes on the ride side; reshaping them from round to oval. Scratcher developed a technique of using a broomstick handle to work the metal back into its original shape.

In more than 25 years as a member of Syracuse HOG, Scratcher has

seen many changes in the Chapter and motorcycling in general. He remembers meetings being held upstairs at the Western Ranch motel and then the Bridge Street Tavern in Solvay, prior to moving to the new Performance H-D building.

At the beginning, members elected all the officers. Meetings did not begin with the Pledge of Allegiance. There were far fewer Chapter rides.

Among the "senior" members he has had the pleasure of knowing, Scratcher fondly notes Ron and Rose DePeyster, Peg and Walt Nowakowski, and Carm and Shar Rinaldo.

Scratcher was also very instrumental in the formation of A.B.A.T.E. chapters in New York State. For 11 eleven years he was state coordinator. In that role he oversaw the growth from one chapter on the east coast - Syracuse - where they first met in member's homes before moving meetings to Jumpin' Jacks Tavern in East Syracuse; to an organization of more than 2,000 members in 23 chapters.

"I was out on the Panhead every night organizing and I can remember riding to Albany, in the snow, for the annual helmet ride.

About every five years, I'd have to rebuild the engine. Probably put 200,000 miles on the bike," he said.

Scratcher has more than 200,000 "official HOG miles" and many thousand more on various machines.

During the more than 50 years Scratcher has been riding, he has seen a



2011 File Photo

**Pat Christensen**, the regional road captain for the Patriot Guard Riders, and a member of the Syracuse HOG chapter, stands for a photo with "Scratcher" following a PGR ride through Wayne County to support Blue Star Mothers. PGR is one of the many motorcycle organizations that "Scratcher" supports.

significant change in the local motorcycle world. "There has been a transition from "bikers" to many more motorcycle enthusiasts.

The Swap Meet, now held at the fairgrounds was started by Bob Stonecypher and held in the basement of the Onondaga County War Memorial. Stonecypher was a full patch holder of the local motorcycle club, "The Eliminators."

Among other local clubs of that era were: Stalkers, Road Runners and Klansmen. Scratcher was president of the Roadrunners.

"Brotherhood was the most important thing if you belonged to a club," he remarked. If the president called and needed six members for something, that was what you did. It wasn't a matter that you might have other plans.

"Friday nights were for bar hopping and stopping to shoot a round of pool. On a Sunday ride you didn't stop at any bars.

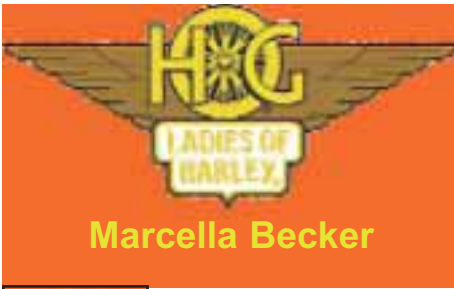
"Fights between members of different clubs were to be assumed. "I came home more than once, pretty beat up. You could only fall through a window so many times, so a visit to a hospital wasn't always an option. You learned to do what you had to do. I became pretty good and sewing up my wounds; the ones I could reach."

Bud "Scratcher" Moore is a fascinating guy with a million great stories. He's the real thing and has ridden more miles than most of us can only dream about. Above all, he's a Biker at Heart.



Photo by **Mike Waters**

**Bud "Scratcher" Moore**, at home with his '06 ultra Classic. He is wearing what he refers to as his "War Vest." It was made for him by a "Guy in the joint" in exchange for two cartoons of cigarettes. This treasure is handcrafted from elk hide and carries a number of momentos from days gone by.



Happy April everyone.

Since Memorial Day is approaching next month, I decided to cruise the Internet and look for the connection of Military, Motorcycle and Women. I expected to find a connection to the "Rosie the Riveter" campaign from the World War II era. Instead I stumbled across a site about our sisters across the big pond in Britain.

Come to find out there were women working in the military and riding motorcycles beginning in World War I and World War II. They were Britain's WOMENS ROYAL NAVAL SERVICE (WRNS); they rode motorcycles as dispatch riders.

Dispatch riders would sometime have to deliver documents to areas hidden on unmarked roads. They also delivered live ammunition between military naval bases on very dark and treacherous "roads" and on occasion with bombs dropping.

The site I found is [www.SeaYourHistory.org.uk](http://www.SeaYourHistory.org.uk).

Also, for you Monty Python fans remember the scene where the British dispatch rider delivers the world's funniest joke? It was being used as a military weapon against the Germans because those who read it or heard it would die laughing. In the skit, the British read it out loud in German but did not understand it so they would not die.

Harley has some info on their site about military history of the Harley-Davidson motorcycle. By broadening the scope to all brands of motorcycles in the military; there is a lot of history.

Looking online, there are some great photos of our military men and those of other countries on motorcycles, mounted with machine guns and soldiers with their motorcycles designed to carry their rifles and ammunition.

As a patriotic refresher, the United States has a code about our national anthem - United States Code, 36 U.S.C. § 301, states that during a rendition of the national anthem, when the flag is displayed, all present except those in uniform should stand at attention facing the flag with the right hand over the heart; members of the Armed Forces and veterans who are present and not in uniform may render the military salute.....

Thank you to all our military men and women past and current and their families at home for their sacrifice. Land of the brave home of the free.

### Activities Peggy Neary & Marie Tubolino



The Syracuse St. Patty's Day Parade was held on March 17. It

was a beautiful day. Thanks to all who helped us decorate and participated in the parade.

The large crowds seemed thrilled to see Harleys back in the parade.

We all had a great day.

The Second Annual Chili Cook-off was held at Performance Harley-Davidson on Saturday, March 24. There was a great variety among the 11 competitors who submitted their



Photo by Kevin Baker

Tim Fox, Josh Brittain and Tim Barr, celebrity judges, sample chili made by each of the contestants, as Karen Peck picks up their rating sheets.



Photo by Kevin Baker

Dick Davidson can always be counted on when the task involves food. Although not an official judge, he managed to savor a sufficient amount of each entry to ensure all were suitable for human consumption.

spicy and special chilies.

When the tasting and judging were complete, Dave Sedlack announced the three winners and awarded them PHD gift cards.

First place went to Rick Yaroski for "Rick's Heavy Breather Chili," second place to Barb Snyder for her "Clean Your Chrome Chili," and third place to Erin Kish for "Erin's V-Rod® Vegetarian Chili."

Special thanks to our three celebrity judges: Tim Fox from Channel 9 News, Tim Barr from Glen Loch Restaurant and Catering, and Josh Brittain. Josh is a left winger on this year's Syracuse Crunch hockey team.

We couldn't have put together such a great day without the help of our generous club members: Don Peck, Barb and John Snyder, Dick Davidson, Dave Tubolino, and Jeff and Kathy Crouse.

We would also like to thank Performance Harley-Davidson for their help with setup and Brian Sedlack for supplying all the paper products, utensils and beverages.

Thank you very much to those who participated in the cook-off.

With beautiful weather beginning, it is time for us to ride and have fun.

Everyone stay safe.

See you all on the rides.

## Safety Officer Ken Yackel



Hopefully everyone enjoyed the safety portion of our March meeting with Trooper Greg Eberl and his presentation. All of the information presented was invaluable.

Many of the statistics that were explained were mind-boggling. Did you know that in the past five years, motorcycle fatalities have increased 47 percent in the United States? Last year alone they increased more than 18 percent in New York State.

Even as I write this article the news has announced the death of two more bikers on New York Route 49 in West Monroe. (When will this end?) The number of deaths on motorcycles exceeds that of any other vehicles by three percent, per miles traveled. Trooper Eberl also stated that the number of deaths and injuries involving motorcycles are rising, while other vehicle related injuries are declining.

Trooper Eberl passed around cut-away versions of a DOT helmet and a novelty helmet. What a major difference between the two. He went on to explain that during their road checks, they are looking for expired New York State inspections and straight pipes.



Photo by Kevin Baker

Trooper Greg Eberl shows the differences between a novelty helmet and one that meets DOT safety standards. It was quite clear from the construction; the novelty helmet offers no protection for the rider.

The presentation would not have been possible without the help and assistance of Captain Jeff Raub, Zone

2, Troop D commander and a 26 year veteran of New York's finest. He has had several commands over his career including Watertown (which encompasses 3 counties) and now the zone that covers Onondaga County.

Debbie and I spent several hours with Captain Raub, who is no stranger to motorcycles or motorcycle safety. He is a rider and owns a 2009 Road Glide CVO.

Many people do not realize that there are only 17 motorcycle troopers in New York State (approximately two per troop; and they are used primarily for traffic control at large events and dignitary escorts).

We are lucky to have Troopers Eberl and Jay Strait assigned to Zone 2. Trooper Eberl will have 20 years of service on March 30, 2012, with the New York State Police as a road patrol trooper and has been a motorcycle officer since 2001. His personal ride is a Dyna Wide Glide. Trooper Eberl's brother is also a New York State Trooper.

New York State Police motorcyclists must be specially trained before being assigned to motorcycle duty. Troopers who have been trained by Harley Davidson conduct this training. Each motorcycle trooper must attend, and successfully complete, recertification training every two years.

These troopers have the same passion for riding and safety as we do.

In conclusion, I would like to thank Captain Raub and Troopers Eberl and Strait (who could not be with us for this meeting) and pray that every night they make it home safely to their families, and

to my wife Debbie, for being my extra ears at these meetings and taking notes for me and we look forward to



Photo by Mike Waters

Trooper Greg Eberl with his "official" ride at the Lysander barracks. The bike had just been serviced at Performance H-D. Trooper Eberl will be taking it to Albany this month for his annual recertification.

having the troopers visit us again next year with another presentation.

Ride Safe.

## Community Service Lori Robbins



Our spring highway cleanup is scheduled for April 29. I am looking for a volunteer to lead a ride of your choice after the cleanup. This is always

a great way to start out the season and promises to be a great time! We meet at Tabitha's Restaurant on state Route 370 at 10 a.m.

Thank you in advance to Jim Allen, Karen Whedon and Mike Waters for offering their time to answer phones at the WCNY Tel Auc on April 28 from 8 p.m. to 12 a.m.

Next "save-the-date" is August 25 for the MDA Ride. We will be looking for 10 - 15 volunteers to help out in various ways the day of the ride. This will take place in downtown Liverpool and we usually help out from registration to parking. If you are not interested in helping out, please plan to support this worthy cause and participate in the ride. There will be food by Limp Lizard, music and many vendors.

Ride safe!

# As Simple as ABC

By Arasmus B. Draggin

It's never too early to get a head start on the riding season. I had to be in Las Vegas (poor, poor, pitiful me) the beginning of March for a couple of trade shows, and lo and behold I had a weekend free in between.



Photos by Arasmus B. Draggin

Arasmus parks his bike along side the roadway to make a documentary photo indicating he and his bike were in Pahrump, Nev. in 2012.

Having several choices (1. Lose all my money playing video poker; 2. O.D. at the buffet; 3. Ride a motorcycle) I thought long and hard about what to do with my spare time. If you haven't guessed yet, I'm too cheap for gambling, too fat for the buffet already and love to ride so it was an easy decision.

I was able to procure a 2011 Street Glide for the two days and made my arrangements. I packed up my helmet, jacket and riding boots and headed west. My plan was to see how many ABC points I could rustle up around Sin City.

After picking up the bike on Friday evening (most rentals are based on 24 hours, not on a calendar day, so try to get them the night before so you can head out early) and taking a short ride to work out some cobwebs, I headed back to the hotel for a good night's sleep.

Saturday morning I was up early and headed out south on Las Vegas Blvd. to get my first points. After stopping at the Clark County Fire house and the Las Vegas city sign, I hopped on the highway and headed toward the

Hoover Dam, a Nevada state welcome center and Arizona's Mohave County.

Along the way I got off the beaten path (the cattle guard should have been a clue) and found a neat old town called Chloride. Go figure. First real stop was in Kingman, where I spent some time with the fine folks at Mother Road H-D before heading down to Yucca and Lake Havasu City. There are two great things about Lake Havasu City—it's the home of the real, actual, in-the-flesh London Bridge. It was not falling down. There were no fair ladies. But... located across the parking lot from this transplanted assemblage of brick and mortar, was the shining light of my first day out. Of course, I refer to the world-famous In-n-Out Burger. Damn, that's good eats.

After a couple of double cheeseburgers (when I am ever going to be back there?) I headed out for Parker Dam, which is not only a town but the name of a dam (duh). Crossing the dam put me into San Bernardino County, California.

Parker Dam Road was a real nice ride along the Colorado River, and after saying "hello" (actually, I said "Holy Sh##") to a couple of burros in the road, it took me all the way to Earp (post offices say "United States", so that counts for a country) and then on to Vinal Junction. From there is was a right turn and up to Needles.

A little later that day I was able to pass through Searchlight, Nevada and



Needles, Calif., where temperatures run well into three digits during the summer months.

then Henderson H-D (remember, dealerships count for towns as well).

The day ended with a trip to the parking lot at Las Vegas H-D.

Day one: 19 points.

Sunday morning was a little warmer than Saturday, and it was a great ride west over to the border town of Pahrump, Nevada, which is located in Nye County.

After a visit to the Terrible's Casino for their spectacular (and cheap) breakfast buffet, I headed over to California and Death Valley. After turning onto California state Route 127 in Shoshone, I was in Inyo County, and then it was up to Death Valley Junction



Death Valley National Park counts as one point out of possible five in this category.

and then into the park.

Death Valley is spectacular and much more colorful and scenic than one would think. In the miles I rode I went from below sea level to more than 2,500 feet of elevation. It's a wild ride. If you go, make sure you take the trip up to Scotty's Castle. Talk about plopping something down in the middle of nowhere. I picked up the sign for Death Valley National Park on the way out toward Beatty, Nevada.

After gassing up, it was time to head back to Sin City, via Indian Springs and then a visit to Red Rock H-D before returning the bike.

Day two: 9 points.

Two days, 28 ABC's points, 806 miles, priceless views. I didn't even mind losing at the video poker that night.

## Photography Kathy & Kevin Baker



It is a good idea to take a second to check for distractions when composing photographs. Bright objects, distracting lines, or too much contrast in the backgrounds can detract from the main subjects.

Usually a change in position left/right or raising/lowering the camera angle can help. You can also use your zoom lens to control backgrounds by changing the perspective.

For a portrait type image step back and zoom in to show less background and bring more attention to subject.

If you are on the Bob Davidson New York City Ride and are photographing the group and bikes in Times Square, get closer to the group and zoom out to show more of the scene while still keeping the main subjects large enough in the image.

If you are photographing the Xenia, Ohio sign with your bike for HOG's ABC of Touring Contest, take some time to compose the image to highlight your motorcycle and the sign by choosing the best angle, distance and zoom.

Technology makes it easy to take a photo, try to get into the habit of creating an image.

---

## Who are the Newlyweds?



Photo by **Mike Waters**

## Assistant Director Jeff Crouse



### It's More Than a Party

What used to be called POT is now called HOT. And neither has to do with drugs or pretty people. What it has to do with is training – Harley Officers' Training to be exact. Every year Harley Davidson Motor Company sponsors a number of three-day training sessions throughout the United States for the training of those individuals who have volunteered to be officers for local HOG chapters.

HOT Training for our area will be held during the third weekend in April in Pittsburgh, Pa. and the Syracuse Chapter will be well represented. All four of our primary officers will be attending as well as a number of other officers.

Training sessions are held all day Friday and Saturday with a final banquet Saturday evening. There are approximately 25 unique courses available and each officer is asked to attend the courses which best meet the responsibilities he or she has as an officer.

One of the biggest advantages of attending HOT is the opportunity for our officers to connect with fellow officers from other HOG chapters. Our primary objective as a HOG chapter is to ride and have fun but it doesn't happen automatically. Our officers need to understand how a successful chapter is organized and operated. They need to have clear goals and the tools necessary to achieve those goals. The Syracuse Chapter primary officers meet on a regular basis to ensure we are in compliance with the National Charter as well as state and local laws pertaining to the operation of a not-for-profit membership organization.

The primary officers are also charged with the maintaining financial records and keeping the chapter financially viable.

Many of the courses are designed to cover promoting and maintaining membership, how to run successful events, dealership relations, rider safe-

ty and more. HOT training is designed to give officers the knowledge they need to achieve these goals from professional trainers and fellow HOG officers.

The cost of attending HOT training is split among the officers, the sponsoring dealer and the chapter. The Motor Company covers the cost of the training and the last-night's dinner. The remaining costs are divided as mentioned. The sponsoring Dealer has agreed to cover 50% of the room cost with the remaining 50% split between the chapter and the participating officers. The officers are also responsible for all transportation costs and any incidentals including time off from work to drive down and attend.

Upon returning from HOT, an officers meeting will be held and information gained by each officer will be shared with fellow officers.

So it's much more than a party – HOT is an essential part of making sure our chapter remains strong and provides all members with the opportunity to ride and have fun.

## Membership Steve Moretti



Syracuse HOG welcomes the following members who have recently joined the chapter:

Mary and Ronald Amyot, Henry Capella, Jeff and Susan Gordon, Charles and Kelly Koagel, Chet Kotwas, Christine McCullough, Ronald Pennock, Richard Raab, Tim Rowland, Joseph Swierk, and James Togni.

The following National HOG memberships expire in April:

Timothy C. Alexander  
Robert F. Bugnaski  
Victoria A. Cole  
Timothy H. Duerr  
Renee M. Sager  
Michael D. Standen

You must be a member of the national organization to remain a member of the Syracuse chapter.

# HAPPY St. Patrick's Day

By Barb O'Snyder

Saturday, March 17, was a perfect day for a parade. Luckily for about 20 HOG members, there happened to be one in Syracuse that day! There were a dozen or so motorcycles ridden by our members and a few friends, a big red truck and a ginormous Harley-Davidson balloon.

We gathered at PHD to decorate our bikes, the truck, and balloon and then headed over to our staging area to wait for the cannon to go off signaling the start of the 30th Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade.

The 'biggest crowd ever' greeted us as we rolled along Salina Street. Folks cheered and roared almost as loud as our Harleys. It was so warm and sunny that some got their first sunburn of the season; everyone certainly had a good time.

After the parade most of us headed back to PHD for some food and laughs, which is pretty 'standard operating procedure' for Syracuse HOG.

The Parade was a great way to kick off the 2012-riding season. Let's hope all our events are as fun and colorful as this one.



Photo by **Mike Waters**

**Dick Davidson** holds the tether for the Performance H-D balloon as members on bikes pass between the Gridley Building and Clinton Square.



Photo by **Kevin Baker**

**Syracuse HOG members** who were participating, gather for a group photo prior to the beginning of the parade.



Photo by **Kevin Baker**

**Peggy Neary** make adjustments to decorations as **Dick Davidson** and **Barb Snyder** look on.



# It's gotta be the chili !



Photo by Mike Waters

#17 Josh Brittain, Syracuse Crunch, "drops the gloves" against #29 Derek Mathers of the Adirondack Phantoms. Less than a week prior, Brittain was one of the celebrity judges for the PHD Chili Cook-off. Josh also doubled his season goal production in games played after the Cook-off. He purchased a new Sportster from PHD as a gift for his mother. Josh is from Milton, Ontario.

## Mardi Gras or St. Pat's?



Photo by Kevin Baker

Mike Williams, followed by Mike and Toby Casler pass through crowds along W. Genesee St., between Clinton Square and the Syracuse Newspaper building.

## Historian

### Dick Davidson



#### A Blast from the Past

Today we are blessed with an ice storm that cut power to several areas of Central New

York. It seems hard to remember riding at Daytona Bike Week just a few weeks ago!

Even the recent temps of 60-70's seem like a distant memory. But, when spring arrives, it will come in a rush with warm temps and dry, sunny skies. Be ready to take advantage of this long awaited weather by having your bike together, serviced and road ready.

April is the traditional month of motorcycle registrations being renewed, so make sure to contribute to the DMV for the privilege (?) of riding on the highways of New York. Put the new registration sticker on your bike license plate, as it will do no good at home on the kitchen table when you get stopped.

It is a good time to check the insurance cards you are carrying to make sure they are current and readable. Ready? – Now let's go riding!

NEXT MEETING – The next SYRACUSE HOG Chapter meeting will be held

SUNDAY, APRIL 27 @ 10AM at the BRIDGE STREET TAVERN. The meeting date was changed to allow for the Easter holiday. Damn The Snow Chapter guided ride will follow, so bring the bike!

See you there!

Reprinted from April 2003

## Our Fearless Leader



John Muldoon, chapter director, Jeff Crouse, assistant director, Kathy Crouse, secretary, and Mike Waters, editor, have served as parade marshals for many years.

Syracuse, NY Harley Owners Group  
Performance Harley-Davidson  
807 North Geddes Street  
Syracuse, NY 13204-1215

# **Mark Down These Dates**

**Monthly Meeting 4/15/12 - PHD 10:00 a.m.**

For up-to-date information, visit our website

**[WWW.SYRACUSEHOG.COM](http://WWW.SYRACUSEHOG.COM)**

Password: Chapter3424