

SYRACUSE HOG

CHAPTER 3424



The High Road

Syracuse H.O.G. Monthly Newsletter

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MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!!



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Director's Report



Kevin Reney

WOW, it's December already?

This year has passed by way too fast.

But the good thing is that we have had another successful year as a club.

Thank you to each and every one of you that has helped us throughout the year.

I would love to name you all individually, but I know I will forget someone.

Next year we will be having a few officers switching roles, and a few new additions.

This club is for the Members, so please feel free to leave us some feedback

so we can make this even better as we move forward. You can drop us a note in the Membership mailbox at PHD if you wish to remain anonymous as well.

Don't forget that the Annual is in January and quickly approaching.

I hope we have a large turnout this year as we are trying someplace new.

With all that, I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Kevin



Meeting Minutes



Submitted by Kristine Wilson
Chapter 3424 Secretary

The meeting came to order at 10:00 am with the Pledge of Allegiance.

New Members and Guests – No new members or guests this month.

Health and Welfare – Nothing new; Tim Alexander is suffering from cancer.

Dealership – Bruno talked about doing Black Friday differently this month with a sale throughout the day instead of the first few hours. PHD will offer 25% off all HD licensed products and 10% off all off brands, aftermarket parts and Screamin' Eagle products. PHD doesn't need help for Black Friday, but we are more than welcome to come hang out! The Holiday party will be Saturday, December 9th and will be pared down considerably from previous years. Bruno asked us to be in charge of the giftwrapping station this year; it was well received last year. Proceeds can go to the club or anyone we see fit. If we want to schedule more gift wrapping days, just let him know. PHD will be open Saturdays from 9-4 and Sundays in December from 11-3; maybe we want to try to add Sundays to the gift wrapping? The store is usually busiest between 10-2. He ordered more wrapping paper and we have a bigger table.

Bruno wants to bring the storage cabinet from outside into the meeting room for us.

PHD supported Toys for Tots last year with Channel 3, but won't be doing the same this year. We may engage in the program on our own (without Channel 3), and there will be a box out in the store for a canned food drive again this year.

Treasurer's Report – Joanne Piston announced that the deposit is in for the annual dinner. We have a \$1667 balance in the bank.

Membership – Mike Piston reminded us to sign in at every meeting. From now until December, we will have a drawing for a free membership renewal for 2018. He also added a column for end of year mileage; we will have awards at the annual dinner. If you don't know your mileage, you can email him.

Head Road Captain – John Kresse talked about putting your bike away for the winter. He has a lifesaver horn sample; it lets you engage your horn with your thumb in the same place. He'll try

it and let us know. He said that the samples are for 2013 bikes and down. Kevin mentioned that anyone with a 2014 and up can go to PHD and have their controls moved to the other side with new covers (this is very labor intensive).

Safety – Kirk Wilson talked about wheel traps and cautioned against wet roads as the weather changes.

Activities – Christine Lanfair talked about the Annual Dinner. Cost is \$25 for members and \$35 for non-members. We are accepting money for the dinner and would like to know how many people will be attending ASAP. There will be a cash bar and the same entertainment as last year. As this is considered a HOG event, you're on your own if you partake in alcohol. The dinner will replace the January meeting. There will be a Chinese auction and 2 big prizes, and you are welcome to purchase as many tickets as you want so you can win as many times as you want.

Ladies of Harley – Terry reminded us to please remember our vets. We are continuing to collect sundries for the veterans (hotel samples), as well as new clothes with tags and games.

Community Service – Karen reminded us to bring in our canned goods for the Food Bank of Central New York. The food bank needs food all year; they also send food to calamity areas. She also sent around a signup sheet for Black Friday and before Christmas bell ringing at PHD and thanked those of us that signed up. She still needs people to sign up for the holiday party. She will email and Facebook more information. Last year PHD collected the most money for a 'specialty business!'

Editor – Thank you to Dwayne for making copies of the newsletter this month!

Photographer – Please send Karen your pictures- anything HOG related- email them to her because it's easier to download than to transfer from Facebook. This is how she makes the disk for the end of the year dinner.

Historian – Jim Lanfair wasn't at the meeting, so no report.

Webmaster – Please pay attention to the website and Facebook for any updates.

Assistant Director – Steve thanked everyone for the newsletter and Bruno for the cabinet and meeting room. This meeting is a forum for members to speak up and reach out.

Director – Kevin talked about accident reports. He found out that the form we had wasn't the newest form, so it is now fixed and downloaded for the website.

Old Business – None

New Business – Karen talked about sending a box overseas to our troops: they need juice boxes, fresh sheets, baby wipes, socks, camping gear, hats, gloves, toilet paper, instant coffee (little packets), petroleum jelly and movies. Duane offered to ship it if HOG wants to put together a box. Deadline for items is the next meeting, December 17th.

Kevin proposed that we have a suggestion box. Steve and/or Patti will make a 'tear off' form for the newsletter, and you can put any suggestions in the HOG mailbox at PHD (it's locked).

There was also a suggestion that we could remind people about the HOG meetings a week out for better attendance at meetings.

February is our ride planning meeting; should we pick a single day for dinner rides like some clubs do?

T-Shirt Bingo – Massachusetts was chosen; the winner took home \$20 because there was no winner last month.

Pig Pot – Total was \$112.00. One lucky winner took home \$56.00.

Motion to adjourn was made around 10:40.

Assistant Director



Steve Knowles

2018 H.O.G. EVENTS

[HTTPS://MEMBERS.HOG.COM/WEBSITE/HOG-RALLIES/HOG-RALLIES.JSP#/](https://members.hog.com/website/hog-rallies/hog-rallies.jsp#/)

Let's talk about the major types of HOG events, which really are the H.O.G. Rallies. H.O.G. events are about the ride there, the ride home, and everything in between.

ANNIVERSARY RIDES HOME

These rides celebrate the 115TH anniversary of H-D and the 35TH anniversary of H.O.G. Each ends in *Milwaukee* for the big celebration.

TOURING RALLIES

Multi-day rides that go from place to place, typically stopping overnight at a different town or city each day.

H.O.G. RALLIES

Based in one location, with special activities and day rides on scenic roads to nearby places of interest.

In 2018, there are thirteen H.O.G. Rallies throughout the United States. Each year there is an ANNIVERSARY RIDE HOME, one from each the 'four corners'. For 2018, the closest

ANNIVERSARY RIDE HOME to Syracuse is the **Northeast Ride Home** Starting in Portland, ME on August 23 - August 29, 2018

Another close by H.O.G. Rally is the **IRON ADVENTURE OF NEW ENGLAND** starting in Newry Maine at Sunday River Resort on AUG 02 - AUG 04.

Nestled in the beautiful Western Mountains, Sunday River is the perfect starting place for many enjoyable rides and memories. Mt. Washington (the highest point in the Northeast) is just a short ride away, while the coast is also within easy reach. What could be better than a ride with your friends – both new and old – to see lighthouses and eat lobster? There will be activities and nightly entertainment, but most importantly riding. This is the perfect place to get onto a scenic road and forget all the unimportant stuff. This rally will be about riding and having fun, and you will be assured to have as much as you want.

Registration and rally information:

<https://members.hog.com/website/hog-rallies/hog-rallies.jsp#/iron-adventure-new-england-me>

In our upcoming Syracuse HOG club meetings, we should discuss one of these rides and get a consensus of participation. Feel free to contact me and share your thoughts during our meetings or email at assistantdirector@syracusehog.com

PHD Holiday Event
Merry Christmas from PHD, The GEM and the Syracuse H.O.G. Club

Santa LoBo bringing it on!



...and all his Elves!



...Giving is part of receiving



Thank you... to all our members and a Merry Christmas to all 😊

Treasurer's Report



Joanne Piston

During the month of November, we received a few memberships and some annual dinner reservations. We had minimal expenditures. We also had our regular meeting Pig Pot income. On 11/30/17 our bank balance was \$1787.46.

If you have any questions regarding the club's finances, please contact me at treasurer@syracusehog.com.

Joanne Piston



John Kresse

Greetings all. Happy -Almost-Winter. Unless you're getting to travel to someplace warm, I'm going to presume your bike is put up and you're waiting for spring just like the rest of us. Well, all I can say is, "C'mon Spring!! Hurry up and get here!"

Here's a couple of things to think about for the coming riding season. There's already the idea of riding up to Sunday River in Maine which I believe is the start of the ride to the rally in Milwaukee. Steve Knowles has already said he's up for leading that ride. It'll be a long one; about 10 hours. We'll be talking about that more in the coming months at our meetings so if you have any ideas or interest, we encourage you to join us at the meetings and tell us what you think and at least grab a coffee and a donut.

Unfortunately, the rally ride will not be swinging through CNY but will sweep down through southern PA. Of course, details are still being formulated but I was thinking about a ride south to join up with the ride for a day. I thought I saw that it will pass through Harrisburg. That would be a 5-6 hour ride. We could shoot down there a day early and be standing by to fall into formation. I will suggest we stay with the group to their next overnighiter location and then, if you wanted to continue to Milwaukee you'd just keep going. My thought was to head back northeast through PA and the NY Southern tier. And of course, all those details are TBD. I think it would be a blast to ride with that gang for a day.

Another thought I had would be a destination ride like, fly to Santa Barbara CA, rent bikes and ride the Pacific Coast Highway north to Carmel. Or, Brian S. did a ride this year... was it the 'Dragons Tail'? I need to ask him about that. It sounds like a really good time.

So next month is our holiday party and in Feb. we'll have our ride planning meeting. Start thinking up ideas for rides and places to go; things to do and see etc. I hope to see you all sometime in the next couple of months to kick off our riding year.

Take care all, be safe in everything.

Head Road captain.

John Kresse

Activities Director



Christine Lanfair

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving. The annual dinner is Saturday, January 20th, at 6 pm at the Fireside Inn in Baldwinsville. Members are \$25 and non-members are \$35. I look forward to seeing all of you there. Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Membership Report



Mike Piston

Thank you to all of our 2017 members; this year we had 122 members. Last year, 2016, we ended the year with 145 members. Let's remind our family, friends, and those we meet to join HOG and look forward to a great 2018. Just a reminder, any 2017 member that renews their local membership prior to the December meeting will be entered into a drawing for a free 2018 local membership. Let's all ride and have fun !!!!

Many of our members provided their starting mileage at the beginning of the riding season for 2017. You can submit your ending mileage on the meeting sign in sheet or through email; membership@syracusehog.com. I believe there may be prizes at the annual dinner.

The following members National HOG memberships have or are about to expire:

July 2017:	Steven Johnson
September 2017:	Joel Campagnola
November 2017:	Christine Lanfair Duane Erwin

Just a reminder, the local membership to Syracuse HOG is for the calendar year; your National HOG membership may cover a different time period. Your local membership to Syracuse HOG requires an active National HOG membership.

Happy HOG Birthday!!

December 1	Barb Snyder
8	Jeff Mocyk
16	David Witek
17	Robert Henry
19	Steven Johnson
21	Dave Ferguson
22	Cindy Lancette
28	Donn Brown
29	Jim Lanfair

January 2	Janice Jorgensen
3	John Snyder
9	Eduardo Odom
14	Robert Dennis
26	Kenneth Kotwas
29	Joseph Flanagan
29	Curt Johnson

Ladies of Harley



Terry Lynn Clark

Hi,

Okay, lately every month I think riding is done and seeing how it is December, you would think it would be. But, Central NY is having a heatwave and we are still riding...

I am going to go with most are driving 4 wheels now and I trust you will drive safe in our crazy weather. Keep that bumper space in front of you and watch out for all the wacky drivers. We need to make it to spring so we can pull out the bikes once again.

Please remember our veterans when you are out of town and bring the hotel beauty products to the meetings or drop them at Performance. They are happy to have our contributions. New t-shirts and sweats are also welcome as well as crafts and games.

Everyone have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Spring will be here before you know it and we will be out riding.

In the Wind,
Terry Lynn



Community Services Report



Karen Whedon

FOOD, BELLS, PAPER AND BOWS



I made a delivery to the **Central NY Food Bank** in November and we had 136 lbs. of food. Thanks everyone! Keep up the good giving. PHD is going to be collecting food items as well during December, so we will be consolidating our collections with theirs. Hopefully we will have a lot of donations.



Once again with the support of Performance Harley Davidson, we are ringing the **Salvation Army Red Kettle** bell around the holidays. The first was on Black Friday, November 24, 2017 and the kettle was filled with \$180.00. With the members of the club donating their time to ring the bell and the generous giving of PHD customers, I am hoping the bell ringing on December 9th and December 22nd will be just as good. If you want to help out, just let me know. Open shifts are on the website and the face book page.

Thank you all for your time and generosity,
Karen Whedon
(Community Services)

Safety Officer Report



KIRK WILSON

Tips for Little Riders of Big Bikes

By Elaine Anthony

Most altitudinally-impaired riders learn to ride a motorcycle on something smaller than a Bagger. Assuming you are thinking of moving up to a bigger bike, these 10 points may help you enjoy the move.

- ▶ **No matter how many miles you have behind you on a smaller bike, don't assume you can ride a bigger one on the street without practicing on a parking lot first. Moving up to a bigger bike is almost like starting over. (Most little riders going up to a bigger bike don't have to be told this, but you never know. Some 'little people' still have 'big brass ones'...or else they wouldn't be trying to ride a big bike to begin with. <grin>)**
- ▶ **If you can flatfoot one side and have 'ball of the foot' control on both sides of a big bike, you can probably ride it safely under most circumstances. *[Most bikes can have their seats cut down about an inch to improve your ability to control it at the expense of some comfort]***
- ▶ **Since the fear of dropping a big bike needs to be overcome early, assuming your bike has sufficient guards on it to prevent damage, you may want to take it onto a grassy area and practice dropping it gently from a standstill a couple of times in order to learn the art of standing on the high peg and stepping away from the bike with your other leg, in the event you ever do. This, in order not to end up underneath it. You also may need either a reverse gear (if such is available for your model) or to ride with accommodating friends in order to get your bike out of incline trouble, now and then. Most of your fellow riders will be so impressed with your 'big brass ones' for what you're riding that they're glad to help. If not, find riders who are.**
- ▶ **Before you take your big bike on the road for the first time, sit on it and learn where all the controls are, even the ones you don't think you will need (your 'mute' button, for example.) It can be so exciting to ride one of these beasts that should you forget to learn some of the basics early on, it may be too late when you're out there in traffic and too terrified to even move around on the seat.**

- ▶ When you stop a big bike on an incline across your lane, put your foot down on the HIGHER side only at first, and reach very carefully with your foot for the lower side. If you have to, you CAN hold that big bike up with one leg for a very long period - after all, its weight is on the tires, not carried by your leg. Short-legging a big bike (and dumping it) is usually a matter of absent-mindedness... but in some groups, you'll be wearing that pacifier for a while if you forget. <grin>
- ▶ When turning a big bike at slow speeds, a tiny amount of pressure on the rear brake can help you maintain control of the degree of lean you want. NEVER forget to look through the turn!
- ▶ To get a big bike off the side stand when it is leaning so much you can't easily pick it up, grip the front brake and clutch levers securely (whether the engine is running or not) and push the bike FORWARD as you try to bring it upright in one smooth movement. (This modestly compresses the front suspension, making the bike a little shorter.)
- ▶ Be sure before you take your big bike on the road that you don't have pant-legs or chaps which will tangle on the peg as you put your feet down at a stop.
- ▶ Just because it's big doesn't mean it won't lean smartly. If your engine will dependably carry you through a curve with power, you'll be able to lean a bigger bike just as much as a turn requires, with normal skills, at prudent speed. This is a matter of confidence and parking lot practice. You can control it through the foot brake and the clutch.
- ▶ If the wind seems to be buffeting a big bike more than the little bike you used to ride, try to relax and know that your wheels are securely under you. The weight of the big bike will tend to keep the rubber on the road in the absence of crisis braking, even if you have to lean. If you increase speed somewhat in a strong crosswind, this may help to give you stability (and will get you to the next stop a little sooner, where you can relax your pucker string for a while).
- ▶ You will soon get past the feeling that you are 'flying a 747' or that the big beast 'wants to go faster', although those are common reactions when you get on a bigger bike. Big bikes tend to have smoother engines and a somewhat different gear ratio from your smaller ride. Once you do get the hang of it, and after that magic 'click' in the mind that tells you you're really RIDING this thing, remember to relax and enjoy yourself -- and now and then, when you feel comfortable, to wave at your admirers!

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Performance Harley-Davidson

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