



# The High Road

Syracuse H.O.G. Monthly Newsletter

Volume XXX Issue 1 – January 2018



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## Director's Report



Kevin Reney

Most of you may not know....

But writing articles is not my thing.

It seems like I have to do this EVERY Month...

(Oh wait, I DO..... LOL)

But I am thankful to be a part of this awesome club known as SYRACUSE HOG.

So, I will do my best to come up with these things.

First of all, HAPPY NEW YEAR to each and every one of you.

Starting with this newsletter you will see a new addition to the last page (Or close to it).

We are going to add a suggestion form.

You can fill it out and bring it to the meetings, or drop it off in the Member Mailbox at Performance.

If you are not going to be able to stop down, you can also mail it to Performance and put ATTENTION Syracuse HOG on there.

We are trying to do what we can to make this a better club for everyone. This is not My club, or the officers club.

It's YOUR club, so we want to do what we can to make this better.

Anything you want to put on there to help us is welcome, and you do not need to put your name on it. If you would like to include your name, you are welcome to....

Here is to a NEW YEAR.... and NEW ADVENTURES...

Thank you all for what you do....

Kev

## Meeting Minutes



Submitted by Kristine Wilson  
Chapter 3424 Secretary

### **HOG Meeting Minutes 12/17/17**

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 official. Barb and John Snyder were able to have breakfast with Tim Alexander a couple of weeks ago. John also mentioned that an old member who now lives in Texas, Lori Robbins, was in the middle of a pack of 18 bikes in a HOG group and was hit by a deer the Sunday before Thanksgiving. She had a concussion but is expected to be fine and went back to work this week.

**Dealership** – Bruno thanked us for the gift wrapping at PHD...we had very long lines! The holiday party was awesome...the 'pared down' version was noticed and well received with very positive comments.

Today, December 17<sup>th</sup>, is HOG shopping day. Bruno handed out coupons for today only.

The Chili Cook Off will be January 27<sup>th</sup>. The judging has been modified to be fair with guest judges, so please enter!

**Treasurer's Report** – Joanne Piston announced that November was a slow month. We have a \$1784 balance in the bank but that number is already increasing with the annual dinner tickets. She also sent around a card to sign for Lori.

**Membership** – Mike Piston reminded us to sign in at every meeting. Dave Ferguson won the free membership renewal for 2018.

**Head Road Captain** – John Kresse talked about getting a letter from the Fairfax, VA HOG group. He thanked Darwin for leading the ride and thanked us for making their group feel welcome. He reminded us that the ride planning meeting will happen directly after the

February meeting, so bring your ideas! If you want to submit your ideas but don't want to lead the ride, send them to us. Kevin mentioned that he likes that our HOG group doesn't need the Road Captain to lead the rides; some clubs do but we have more leeway.

**Safety** – Kirk Wilson talked about his article and told us to be careful of the salt on the roads.

**Activities** – Christine Lanfair told us that we already have quite a few signed up for the Annual Dinner, but we would like more! Cost is \$25 for members and \$35 for non-members. We talked about the entrees and cash bar. The deadline for signing up the dinner is the first week of January.

We have a lot of great stuff for the Chinese auction already but we would love to keep adding. You are welcome to purchase as many tickets as you want so you can win as many times as you want. She is meeting with Bruno this week for the raffle items.

Christine is leaving the Activities post after the Annual Dinner and switching to Editor. Anne Marie is taking over and already has some great ideas!

**Ladies of Harley** – Nothing new.

**Community Service** – Karen Whedon told us that the gift wrapping at PHD yielded us \$181 in tips. She thanked the people that stepped in when she needed help. She raffled off a HD Christmas ornament (thank you Bruno!) to her helpers and Jody won!

She wasn't planning on gift wrapping today and the 23<sup>rd</sup> but it has been such a great thing that we will go ahead and wrap.

The next Red Kettle is 12/23, not 12/22. If someone can help, please let her know. The busiest days will be Christmas weekend.

**Editor** – Anne Marie is finishing up and getting ready to change to Activities. The newsletter wasn't printed today but is on the website. We talked about different printing options.

**Photographer** – Karen figured out how to pull pictures off of Facebook, but the quality isn't as good. Please continue to email her pictures.

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

**Webmaster** – Rob Gabor still helps but Patti is taking over. Please send everything to Kevin and Patti to post.

**Assistant Director** – Steve talked about his newsletter and Iron Adventure Ride. He asked for interest; the ride will be August 2-4. We will add it to the ride calendar; it will take 10-12 hours to get up there. He also asked if there would be interest in a social gathering during the winter months to get together. His suggestion was Wednesdays at Kirby's in Westvale. Patti will post on the website and Facebook page.

**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** – Brian doesn't want our plastic cabinet in the conference room but would let us have one if it is made out of wood. John Kresse offered to make one.

**T-Shirt Bingo** – Kentucky was chosen with no winner so next month it will be \$20.

**Pig Pot** – Total was \$92.00. One lucky winner took home \$46.00.

\*Reminder: the January Annual Dinner will be in place of our regular monthly meeting!\*

Motion to adjourn was made at 10:48.

**Assistant Director**



**Steve Knowles**

Harley-Davidson Museum?

**Happy New Year Ya' All**

February is our ride planning month and getting some ideas out there to think about fits with our planning strategies. Don't be bashful with your thoughts; get'em to us anytime. Although, February's meeting is when our ride-calendar brainstorming, begins to roll.

Last month I spoke about the types of HOG events, Rallies and the Ride Home. Now I would like to introduce an idea of a 'Group' ride to the Harley-Davidson Museum in Wisconsin. Of course, a ride to Milwaukee from PHD is about 800 miles. That's a good 12-hour ride one way; so now we're talking about a multiday trip and overnight stays!

I'll touch on two experiences available for our HOG Chapter. We would need a group of 12 to make this a successful venture. Hotel Room rates are approximately ~\$160/night.

**All Day Experience** (*\$145/pp. includes 2 meals; a lunch and a happy hour*)

A guided tour of the H-D Museum

Behind-the-Scenes access to Harley-Davidson's Corporate Archives and Motorcycle Conservation Area

Access to Harley-Davidson's Corporate Headquarters on Juneau Ave.

Limited Edition souvenir

10 % discount at The Shop

Commemorative Photograph

The tour experience lasts from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Minimum 12 people.

**Behind-The-Scene's Tour (\$20/pp.)**

A guided tour of the H-D Museum  
Behind-the-Scene's access to Harley-Davidson's Corporate Archives and Motorcycle Conservation Area  
Limited Edition Souvenir  
Commemorative Group Photograph  
The tour experience lasts 75 minutes. Minimum 12 people.



Sign here for fun >>>..... I will go to the Harley-Davidson Museum in Milwaukee, Wi.

**Social Hour Gathering**

**3-H** night is

**HOG HAPPY HOURS**

**Where you'll find Burgers, Beverages and Belly Busting good times**

Thursday nights @ 5:30

- Feb 1st Kirby's, Westvale Plaza @ 2212 W Genesee St, Syracuse, NY 13219
- March 1st Coppertop-Camillus @ 3380 Milton Ave, Syracuse, NY 13219
- April 5th Blarney Stone @ 314 Avery Ave, Syracuse, NY 13204
- May 3rd Limp Lizards - Liverpool @ 201 First street • Liverpool, NY 13088

Send venue suggestions to [assistantdirector@syracusehog.com](mailto:assistantdirector@syracusehog.com)

All events are subject to change. Check our **Facebook** page **SyracuseHOG**, for updates.

## Treasurer's Report

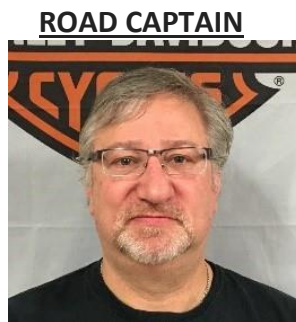


### Treasurer's Report for December 2017

During the month of December, we received membership renewals and annual dinner reservations. We again had very minimal expenditures. We also had our regular Pig Pot income from the meeting. On 12/31/17 our bank balance was \$2673.07.

If you have any questions regarding the club's finances, please contact me at [treasurer@syracusehog.com](mailto:treasurer@syracusehog.com).

Joanne Piston



John Kresse

Greetings all; Happy Winter. January sure started out cold. It makes you wish all the more for spring to hurry up and get here. But we have passed the winter solstice so the days are actually getting longer, even if it is only a minute at a time.

So what do you think about over the winter? Answer? Your bike. There's a surprise right? So what are you thinking about?

How about maintenance? Here's some info I dug up on line about brake fluid.

Is your bike 3-5 years old? You may want to plan on getting your brake lines flushed. Brake fluid is 'hygroscopic' meaning it absorbs moisture. Now, water can't literally seep directly into your brake lines or no-one would ever wash their bike or dare get caught in the rain! Moisture in the atmosphere as a vapor over time permeates through the microscopic pores in the hoses, seals, joints and seams contaminating your brake fluid at a rate of about 2-3% a year; clutch fluid also.



Once the moisture level reaches 3.7% you run the risk of having problems and the fluid should be replaced. In areas of the country that experience humid conditions, the issue can be accelerated.

Brake fluid has a much higher boiling point than the water. If your fluid is contaminated and the brakes get really hot, the heat from the pads and caliper can boil the water in the brake line. At atmospheric pressure, water has an expansion rate of about 1600:1. The tiniest little bead of water can suddenly have a volume 1600 times bigger. That boiled water turned into a gas. Gasses are compressible meaning you can change their volume under pressure whereas generally speaking, fluids are not. (That's why fluids work so well transferring the energy from the lever to the caliper.) The result then is a sudden feeling of a really spongy or soft brake lever or pedal and of course, massively reduced braking power and efficiency. Keep in mind that this just doesn't happen magically under normal riding and stopping conditions. But what could happen under extreme conditions like coming down MT. Washington on the hottest day of the summer, you'd be adding additional factors to the situation like prolonged time and an increased intensity of braking.

As I kept reading, interestingly enough, some systems use mineral oil. (mountain bikes in particular were one example that do use mineral oil). They both absorb moisture but the DOT fluids keep any water droplets formed evenly distributed throughout the system. Mineral oil lets the moisture pool at the lowest point of the system (oil is lighter than water) which may very well be the caliper; the one thing that's about as close to the brake pads and discs as it gets. A 'larger' quantity of water can also lead to corrosion.

So you can imagine, any water in a brake system is not good. As a general maintenance item, why would you not want to keep your bike, even the parts you don't see, in the best condition possible?

I made a quick call to the service dept at PHD and asked about the cost of a job like this. To *flush* both front and rear master cylinders and calipers is about \$75 bucks. The key word is *flush*. That means that they don't just *change* the fluid, they run an additional fluid through to clean the system first before adding the new fluid. Smart. Bikes with hydraulic clutches have a cost of about \$100 bucks for all 3 and because of the design of the clutch system *flushing* is not possible. The fluid can only be replaced. But maintaining that system is still obviously, a good move.

They recommend a flush and refill every 2 years. Additionally anytime your bike is in for service, they automatically check the fluid for moisture content.

Give it some thought. A bike in top-notch condition will be up for top-notch performance.

Take care all, be safe in everything.

Head Road captain.

John Kresse

### **Activities Director**

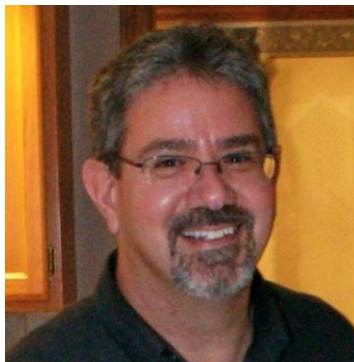


**Christine Lanfair**

Happy New Year everyone. Now that the holidays are over I hope you are looking forward to attending the annual dinner. The dinner is Saturday, January 20th starting at 6 pm at the Fireside Inn in Baldwinsville. Our group has been moved to the downstairs so just come on in and get settled. There is a cash bar available as well. We have many items for the auction so bring your money to buy tickets. We will be doing a Pig Pot drawing too. If you have any items you would like to donate please just let me know and bring them with you that evening.

I look forward to seeing you there.  
Christine

### **Membership Report**



**Mike Piston**

Thank you to all of our 2017 members; this past 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.

Congratulations to Dave Ferguson who won the drawing for a free 2018 local membership. Let's all ride (hopefully sooner rather than later) and have fun!!!!

If you haven't provided your birth month and would like to be recognized in the monthly newsletter you can send me the information through email; [membership@syracusehog.com](mailto:membership@syracusehog.com). Also, if you would like to be in the running for 2018 mileage awards you can send in your 2018 starting mileage through email or on the monthly meeting sign in sheet.

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!!

January:      Janice Jorgensen  
                    John Snyder  
                    Eduardo Odom  
                    Robert Dennis  
                    Kenneth Kotwas  
                    Joseph Flanagan  
                    Curt Johnson

February:     Mike Piston  
                    Michael Chellis  
                    Dave Farina  
                    David Todd  
                    Richard Yaroski  
                    John Kresse  
                    Barbara Witek  
                    Jennifer Marsh



## Ladies of Harley



Terry Lynn Clark

### Hey all,

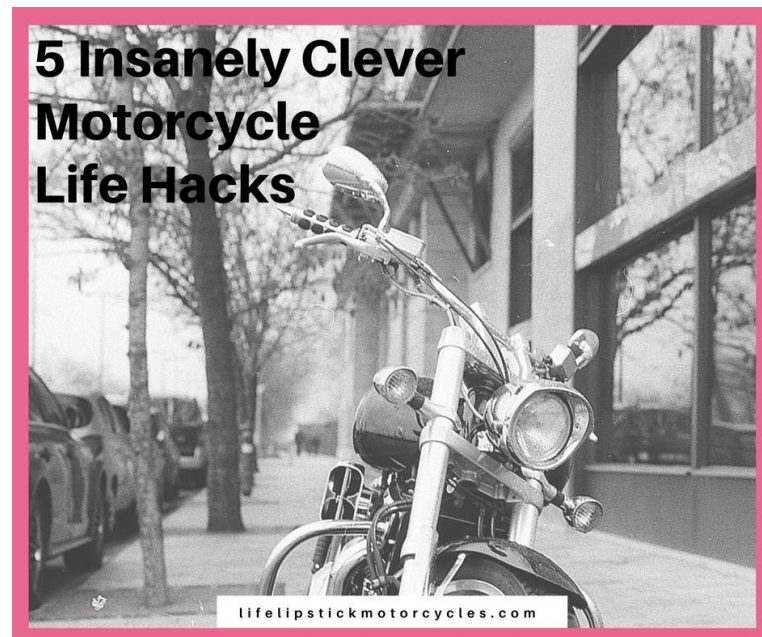
We are in the midst of the ugly snowy time of year where you can't catch your breath because of the COLD. People have asked me about the snow tires for my bike...Dave Ferguson said he tried to get tires and they just laughed. I am afraid I just go to Florida and run the son's bike, the no name one.

I found this interesting article I thought I would share. Most of these I knew, that doesn't mean everyone does so here it is...

**ENJOY THE WINTER, SPRING IS COMING.**

In the Wind,  
Terry Lynn

## **5 INSANELY CLEVER MOTORCYCLE LIFE HACKS**



I absolutely LOVE life hacks. You know what I'm talking about right? They are those little things you can do to make your life a little easier. We can all use some of that I bet. I love them so much I have dedicated an entire Pinterest board to them. So, when I learned about these motorcycle life hacks, I knew I had to try them out. I tried out a bunch, and these were my favorites. Also, while these are pretty genius, I didn't come up with them on my own. We have Ryan from [Fortnine](#) to thank for these. So here we go.

## 1. DIY Anti-Fog Coating

Many full face helmets come new with an anti-fog coating, but after a while it wears off. Also, some helmets don't have this coating at all. So what are your options? Grab some Head and Shoulders! Wait, what? Yes, grab some dandruff shampoo. Regular shampoo won't work for this, so be sure to get the real stuff.

So to begin, remove your visor from your helmet. Then, wash your visor really well and dry it. Next, rub on the shampoo with your fingers. Be sure to get both the inside and outside of your visor. Then let it sit for about 5 minutes or so to dry. This will allow you to get a really good film all across the lens. The last step is buff the visor with a clean, dry cloth or paper towel. And just like magic, no fog! How cool is that?

## 2. Traffic Light Hack

Sitting at traffic lights can be awful for motorcycles. Motorcycles are usually too small to trigger the sensors in the pavement and the light stays red FOREVER. This is seriously aggravating and many times you wind up with the decision to either sit there for eternity or risk running the light. The solution to this is...wait for it....magnets. Get a couple of small magnets and attach them to the bottom of your frame, one on each side. Traffic sensors are triggered by electromagnetic flux, so with the magnets, your small motorcycle now looks like big 'ol truck. Sweet!

## 3. Collapsible Fuel Can

Next time you're at your favorite coffee shop grab one of those large take out containers. Drink all the coffee and get a good caffeine buzz first. Then open up the box and rip out the internal bladder. The bladders are made of aluminum to keep coffee hot, but this also makes it perfect for gas. Now this won't hold the gas indefinitely because it will eventually eat through the plastic cap. However, in a pinch, it will work wonders when you find out that you should have filled up back at that last stop. Just keep one folded up in the corner of your saddlebag for emergencies. Oh yeah, and please don't drink the gas.

## 4. Instant A/C

I'm from the South and even though I now live in windy North Dakota, I can appreciate hot, humid temps. Add in your gear (ie. jacket, chaps, etc.), and you will get HOT pretty fast. The best solution for this is Ziplock bags. Whenever you stop at a C-Store or even a fast food joint, fill these bad boys with ice.

Then stick them down in your jacket. Keep them around your core and you'll be as cool as Samuel L. Jackson in an epic one-liner contest.

## 5. Instant Waterproofing

And last but not least, we have the instant waterproofing hack. Just like our visors lose their anti-fog coating over time, our leather boots can lose their waterproof coating. To fix this without using harsh chemical sprays, all you need is a couple of paraffin candles and a blow dryer. Rub the candles all over the leather of your boots. Then grab your blow dryer and melt the wax right into your boots. This works best with older boots and shoes as older leather will bond better with the wax. Boom! Instant waterproof.

### Community Services Report



**Karen Whedon**

## **THANK YOU HOG MEMBERS**

To the Syracuse HOG members that participated in one or all of the following community service projects during 2017:

WCNY Travel Auction

WCNY TEL-AUC

Salvation Army Red Kettle Bell Ringing

CNY Food Bank Canned Goods collection

Gift Wrapping at Performance Harley Davidson

Syracuse Veterans Hospital donations (Ladies of Harley activity)

You are all so awesome in the giving of your time and goods. It is a great feeling to be part of a club that shares and has fun at that same time.

Syracuse is a better place because of Syracuse Harley Owners Group.

Thank you all for your time and generosity,  
Karen Whedon

## Safety Officer Report



KIRK WILSON

## TIRE PRESSURE

**By James R. Davis**

As we are now into the colder months of the year I thought it appropriate to post a reminder about tire pressures and the effect of temperature on same.

Stamped on the outside of many of your tires is a recommended tire pressure range. (At least an upper limit.) For longest tire life it is my recommendation that you strive to keep them at the higher limit of those recommendations (regardless of what your motorcycle owner's manual might say to the contrary.) Further, this pressure should be determined while the tires are cold - meaning, have not been used for a couple of hours.

Time and outside temperature effect the pressure within your tires. It is NORMAL for a tire to lose about 1 pound per square inch (psi) per month. Outside temperatures affect your tire pressure far more profoundly, however. A tire's pressure can change by 1 psi for every 10 degrees Fahrenheit of temperature change. As temperature goes, so goes pressure.

For example, if a tire is found to have 38 psi on an 80-degree mid-summer day, it could lose enough air to have an inflation pressure of 26 psi on a 20-degree day six months later. This represents a loss of 6 psi over six months and an additional loss of 6 psi due to the 60 degree temperature reduction.

At 26 psi, your tire is severely under inflated and dangerous!

There is nothing wrong with your tire if it behaves like this, of course. What is being illustrated here is that you MUST check your tire pressure on a regular basis (about once a week is reasonable) and to be particularly aware of it on cold days.

Great Ideas Start With You...

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PLEASE SHARE YOUR IDEAS WITH US.  
YOU CAN BRING THIS TO A MEETING,  
OR DROP IT IN THE MEMBERSHIP BOX AT PHD.







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**For up-to-date information,  
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