



# L.I. Harley Riders, Inc.

Huntington Station, NY • AMA Charter #3156 • Founded February 2012 • A Non-Profit Organization



Volume 1 Issue 2

April 2012

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## President's Point of View, by Bill Vultaggio

### GET YOUR MOTOR RUNNING ... HEAD OUT ON THE HIGHWAY ... LOOKING FOR ADVENTURE ... IN WHATEVER COMES OUR WAY...

Yeah, it's time. In as much as we have been really spoiled with the weather this past winter, SPRING is officially here and it's time to get out and *RIDE!* This is one of the best times of the year ... cool enough in the morning for a layer (or two), but not cold enough where we need the heated gear ... and, in some cases, by noon we're shedding those layers. Cool temperatures ... bike runs great ... and if you haven't done so already, it's time to drag the bike out of the shed and crank it up. For some of us, getting back in the saddle is a re-awakening ... adjusting to the balance and weight – especially when riding "2-UP". So, for those who haven't been riding through the winter, take the time to reacquaint yourself with your bike to make for a safe, enjoyable riding season.

Our group is "pro-active" in its ride schedule. Last year, we amassed over 8,500 miles ... about triple what the average rider puts on their bike in a typical riding year. This year, we have many new and exciting rides planned, be it local or crossing over a bridge, and we're about to start jumping off the island for those yearning to rack up some miles. (Don't forget to pack your EZ-PASS!!!)

A great deal of planning is done for each ride we participate in as a group. And while the Road Captains do their best to plan the safest ride possible, each rider assumes the responsibility to maintain their own individual safety, which impacts the safety of the group. Please reacquaint yourself with the ride topics below so you are ready when the time comes to join a group ride:

### **Ride Participation**

All members are invited to participate in our group rides and each rider is expected to ride safely and to ride within their comfort level at all times. If a rider is not comfortable riding at highway speeds when traveling off the island, we recommend the rider spend more time in the seat locally to reach that comfort level before venturing out on our long-distance rides.

### **Check Yourself**

Make sure you are rested, alert, feeling well and dressed appropriately (including being prepared for different temperatures and conditions). You should be physically and mentally prepared to make the ride. If you are tired, not feeling well, or just "not up to par", it may be wise to stay home and ride another day. Each member should be properly licensed and insured to operate a motorcycle, as well as have the proper safety gear.

### **Perform a Safety and Mechanical Check on your Bike**

Check your tire pressure, oil level, turn signals and lights. It is also advisable to check for any parts that may have loosened due to vibration. Don't forget to arrive on time with a FULL TANK of gas and an empty bladder.

### **Ride in Staggered Formation with Approximately 2-Second Spacing**

Our group rides in the standard staggered formation, which we feel is the safest method - as riding staggered always provides an "out". Just in case there is something (or someone) entering into your safety zone, you will have the ability and space to react. The bikes form two columns, with the leader at the head of the left column. The second bike will head up the right column and ride approximately one second behind the leader. The other riders follow the bike directly in front of them by two seconds, which puts them one second behind the diagonal bike in front of them. Using the 2-second spacing, the distance of the gap will increase with speed. Generally, we ride in "STAGGERED" formation to ensure the safety of the group. At times, we will ride in "SINGLE FILE" formation. The Road Captains will signal Single File by raising their left arm and holding up one finger. Examples of the times we would switch to Single File are: when the Road Captains are required to return to the front of the line, the group moves to the right of the lane to allow the Road Captains clear passage; or when riding on roads that are "twisty" or narrow; or if there is an obstacle/hazard along the lane (bicycle rider or vehicle in trouble).

### **Fill Gaps by Moving Up in the Column**

Should a bike drop out of the ride and create a gap, the trailing bikes in that lane fill the gap, in turn, by moving up to fill the gap. DO NOT CHANGE LANES! When riding in a group and one rider leaves the group, it is easiest and safest for those riders in that one lane to move forward than it is for both lanes to change and then have to re-group.

So, as we start looking at some of the exciting ride destinations coming up, let's all be mindful to ensure our own safety and that of the group as we start venturing out this riding season. Look for you on the road ...

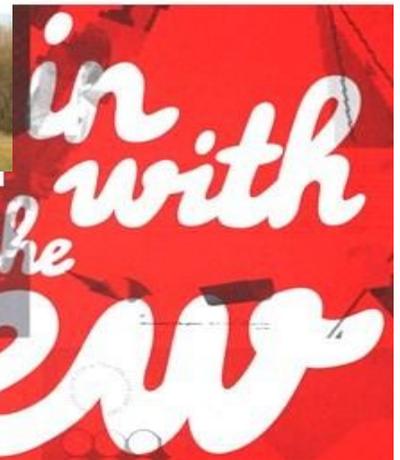
## **New Ride**

*Glen Karuschkat  
and his new  
2012 Ultra Limited*

*Have you gotten a new ride recently?  
If so, please email a photo to  
Editor@LIHarleyRiders.com*



# Out with the OLD



## Safety Corner

by Dom Mozzone

How many times do we hear from people that you must be crazy to ride a motorcycle? Yes it's dangerous. Yes it's invigorating. Yes we are exposed to all the elements in lieu of the comfort of a climate-controlled, stereo-filled car and yes, above all, it's a hell of a lot of fun! Many folks are unnerved by bikers, especially when encountering us at a rest stop. We're viewed as renegades and, most likely, lawless. When people I encounter find out that I am part of a motorcycle club, they are awed, as well as very curious as to how I can engage in such a dangerous passion. What I tell them is that it's a heck of a lot of fun and it all comes down to knowing your risk limits and managing your environment accordingly. In the following article I recently read authored by Jackie Vaughan of Wheels in Motion, she clearly articulates the necessity to obtain training combined with sensible risk behaviors in our ever-changing environment. The article aspires to sensible behaviors that will make riding more predictable as we rack up those miles.

### **You Must be Crazy to Ride a Motorcycle**

by Jackie Vaughan

*"You have to be completely crazy to ride a motorcycle. Those things are dangerous!" How often have we heard that? Zealous four-wheelers are bent on saving us from our own stupidity. Of course, our bulbs are dim. Anyone bright wouldn't go near one of those two-wheeled death machines. "It's too risky," they intone piously.*

*In a small part, they are right. There is risk involved in operating a motorcycle. There's also risk involved in driving on a freeway, even in a tank. And it's purely insane to sleep on a waterbed if we have cats. The trick is to manage the risks and to not take dumb risks.*

*One of the main keys to managing risks is to take a motorcycle rider course, and to keep the mental and physical skills we learn sharp. Many skills are lost in six months if they aren't practiced. Knowing good cornering and curve-riding techniques doesn't do us any good if we don't practice them. Knowing our limits, the limits of our machines, and the limits of our environment and riding within those limits is also critical. We must remember that those limits change constantly and adapt our riding style to conform to them.*

*Superior riders never get themselves into situations requiring superior skills. Taking dumb risks is asking for trouble. If we keep pushing our limits, we will eventually exceed them, and the consequences can be devastating or even fatal. Riding faster and faster through a familiar curve can spell disaster when we've pushed our traction to the limits and there's something unexpected in the road halfway through the curve. Riding fast in the rain just because we're in a hurry makes no sense when we know we can't stop quickly. Slowing down and putting distance between us and a hazard is sensible risk management. Replacing worn tires helps keep us safely stuck to the road.*

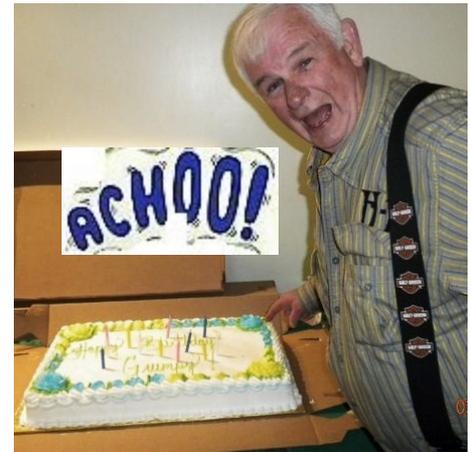
*Part of the challenge of motorcycling is risk management, and the sport wouldn't be very enjoyable if we wrapped ourselves in cotton and surrounded ourselves with a cocoon of safety devices. However, the sport is more fun if we don't have to worry about dangers we create for ourselves.*

The above sounds simple enough and certainly makes a lot of sense. As active riders, we all should make a point to get regularly-scheduled training to keep our skills sharp. Just as important, with our 2012 riding season upon us, it is very important to maintain your motorcycle.

Are we crazy to ride motorcycles? Hell no! We live to ride, eat and have a great time with our club ... as always.



# Casino Party



## A Helpful Tip

### “2032”

“2032” – Although one might consider betting these numbers in a “Pick4” game, if you own a 2007 or newer bike you might want to make note of these four numbers. At some point in time, they may make the difference in getting home one afternoon. Perhaps you’ve run across a rider, having a newer bike that came with the “key-fob” technology who encountered the dreadful misfortune of their bike not starting.

One day, a rider ventured out for a 60-mile ride, stopped for lunch, recharged and got ready to continue his ride. The rider unlocked his bike at which point the “flashers” unexpectedly activated. So the rider assumed someone may have bumped into or perhaps sat on their bike, which activated the alarm (flashers). But alas, the flashers won’t turn off and the bike won’t start. Now the panic sets in (and the screaming starts). At that point, the rider starts making phone calls ... trying to remember where they put the security code override instructions and PIN codes ... contemplating their next course of action .... elevated PANIC!

“2032” to the rescue! Those are the numbers of the replacement battery found within the key-fob. As we are a society dependant on batteries to operate electronic “gizmos”... so too is the key-fob for our bike. Unlike smoke alarm sensors found in many homes these days that emit an audible sound when the battery power is low, the key-fob does not, unexpectedly leaving you and your key-fob without a replacement ... and facing a difficult situation. NOTE: You will get a "heads-up" that your battery in your key-fob is starting to weaken if you notice the need to get closer and closer to your bike each time to disarm the alarm.

So before you (or a buddy rider) encounter this dreadful situation, do yourself a favor and pick up a “spare” 2032 battery and keep it with the bike. It may mean the difference making it home or not.

### 2012 Overnight Trips

#### Mark your Calendars! Make your Reservations!

**Rolling Thunder:** 3-Night Stay – May 25th (Fri) Return May 28th (Mon)

**Laconia:** 3-Night Stay – June 13th (Wed) Return June 16th (Sat)

**NYS Rally:** 4-Night Stay – July 11th (Wed) Return July 15th (Sun)

**York, PA - HD Open House:** 3-Night Stay – Sep. 27th (Thu) Return Sep. 30 (Sun)

**Newport, RI:** 2-Night Stay – Oct. 19th (Fri) Return Oct. 21st (Sun)

*Please email Nadine at [Activities@LIHarleyRiders.com](mailto:Activities@LIHarleyRiders.com) for hotel information.*

Road Captains: **Head Road Captain: Ken Grant**, **Assistant Head Road Captain: Mario Ruffolo**  
Charlie Abruzzo, Bob Bernstein, Bob Corso, Buzzy Farquhar, Steve Ficalora, Fred (Grumpy) Hartmann,  
Nadine Hartmann, Gary Kinkle, Dick (Judge) Klein, Mike Macari, Dave Marzola, Cisco Mercado, Dom Mozzone,  
Kenny Pastor, Bob Read, Lou Vaccarelli & Bill Vultaggio



For a complete list of Charter Events and the latest information, visit [www.LIHarleyRiders.com](http://www.LIHarleyRiders.com) for details.

# April 2012

## April Birthdays

- Kevin O'Connor .....7
- Nadine Hartmann ...8
- Michael Levine.....10
- David Radlauer.....13
- Anthony Fiorello .....14
- Anthony Camizzi .....15
- Dom Mozzone .....18
- Barbara D'Amato ....21
- John Roulett .....21
- Fred Schmidt .....23
- Daniel Stebbins .....23
- Oliver Hirschfelder..24
- Susan Ceparano.....24
- Michael Sweeney .....25
- Rod Morgenweck.....26
- Terrence Casey .....27

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 April Fools Palm Sunday <b>Bayville Ride</b>	2	3	4	5	6	7 Passover <b>Winthrop Hospital Ride</b>
8 Easter 	9	10	11	12	13	14 <b>Ride to Thunder Bikes Open House</b>
15 <b>Cutchogue Ride</b>	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 Monthly Mtg, Biker Blessing & Ride	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 <b>Off-Island Reservoir Ride</b>	30					



**Don't Forget ...** Our Annual Winthrop Hospital Bunny Ride  
Saturday, April 7th—11 am VFW

*Charter rides that begin and terminate on Long Island are officially over when the destination is reached. If a Charter Ride leaves Long Island, the ride will officially end upon returning to Long Island. Official charter rides are "dry" rides, no alcohol. Helmets are required on all club rides.*

Check the HOTLINE at 631-427-0382 x7 for last minute changes.

Full tank of gas and empty bladder required for all Rides

# HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY!



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BEHIND  
THOSE FOSTER  
GRANTS



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or send an email to Chris at [Membership@LIHarleyRiders.com](mailto:Membership@LIHarleyRiders.com) to request one



**Are you a member of the American Motorcyclist Association (AMA)?**

Learn more about it at:

[www.americanmotorcyclist.com](http://www.americanmotorcyclist.com)

**Say Cheese!**

Attending your first meeting? Be sure to let us know where you're from and what you ride. Welcome to the Family!

**After the meeting, our Charter Photographer will take your photo!**



**HELLO**  
my name is

See our **Activities Officer** for individual name tags. This way, other members can put a name with a face!

**NEXT MEETING**  
**April 22, 2012**  
**10 AM**

Do you have a story to tell about a special bike ride or trip you've taken? We would love to publish it.

Please send your stories and photos to:  
[Editor@LIHarleyRiders.com](mailto:Editor@LIHarleyRiders.com)



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**Charter meetings are held 4th Sunday\* of each month**  
*(\*unless otherwise noted)*

Bagels, Coffee and Tea served  
\$5.00 per person

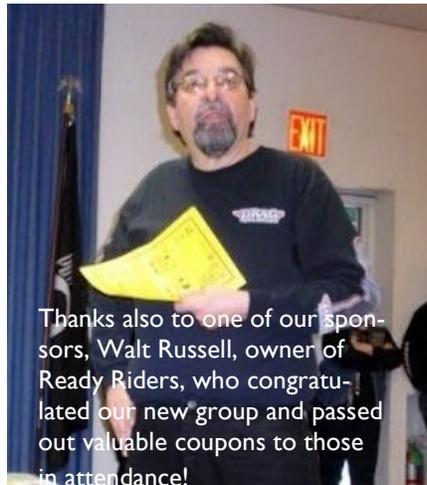
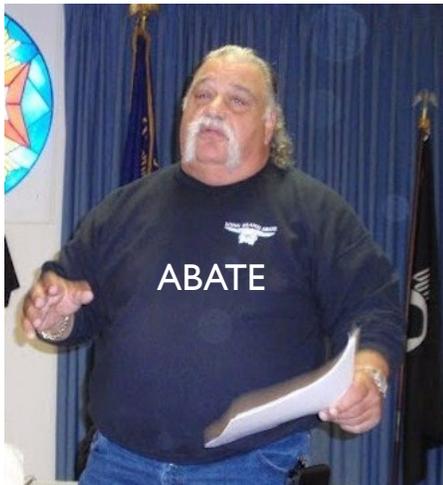


Before leaving for a ride, be sure to call our **Hotline** 631-427-0382 x7 or check the Charter Website at <http://www.LIHarleyRiders.com> for updated information and last minute cancellations.



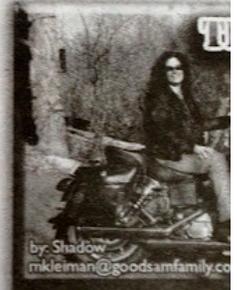
## MARCH MEETING

We would like to thank Stavros Dalambakis of ABATE Long Island for speaking to our group and informing us of their mission to promote motorcycle safety, awareness and education and protecting the interests of NY Motorcyclists!



Thanks also to one of our sponsors, Walt Russell, owner of Ready Riders, who congratulated our new group and passed out valuable coupons to those in attendance!

let me live it down)... Speaking of H.O.G. chapters, when Lighthouse Harley-Davidson in Huntington Station, New York, closed its doors a few months back, the Lighthouse H.O.G. chapter was left without a sponsoring dealership. THUNDER PRESS contributor and Lighthouse H.O.G. Public Relations officer **Dom Mazza** tells me after 10 years of riding with the H.O.G. chapter, the members wanted to stay together so they formed a new riding group—L. I. Harley Riders. The group is open only to Harley-Davidson riders, and was officially sanctioned as an AMA organization on March 1. The group's first benefit ride will be on April 7 (the day before Easter) to Winthrop Hospital in Mineola, Long Island, New York. For more information on the group and upcoming events, go to [www.liharleyriders.com](http://www.liharleyriders.com) or email [liharleyridersinc@gmail.com](mailto:liharleyridersinc@gmail.com)... My dear friend, Dr. Robert Kozlowski will be at the head of the parade.



by Shadow mkleiman@goodsfamily.com

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