



Charter Officers

President Fred 'Grumpy' Hartmann

President@LIHarleyRiders.com

Vice President Ken McKay

VicePresident@LIHarleyRiders.com

Treasurer George Foundotos

treasurer@LIHarleyRiders.com

Secretary Kathy Efthimiades

Secretary@LIHarleyRiders.com

Activities Officer Steve Ficalora

Activities@LIHarleyRiders.com

Editor Ginny Nugent-Zeier

editor@LIHarleyRiders.com

Head R.C. Mario Ruffolo

HeadRoadCaptain@LIHarleyRiders.com

Assistant Head R.C. Gary Kinkel

AssistantRoadCaptain@LIHarleyRiders.com

Historian Lou Vaccarelli

historian@LIHarleyRiders.com

Ladies of Harley Annette Greco

LadiesofHarley@LIHarleyRiders.com

Membership Christine Vultaggio

membership@LIHarleyRiders.com

Photographer Pat Donohue

photographer@LIHarleyRiders.com

Public Relations Dominick Mazza

Safety Officer Dom Mozzone

safety@LIHarleyRiders.com

Webmaster Rod Morgenweck

Webbmaster@LIHarleyRiders.com

PRESIDENTS POINT OF VIEW

by Fred "Grumpy" Hartmann

Spring is here and it's time to get the motorcycle all set for the 2016 riding season. We have a lot of overnight rides planned this year:

In May, Rolling Thunder is a ride that you have to do at least once - May 27 to May 30. In June we have the big ride to Yellowstone - June 11 to the 26. We also have a ride to Cooperstown, June 24 to the 26. In July we are going back to WV for Montainfest, July 28 to the 31. Then we have a ride to the Adirondack Mountains., August 19 to the 21. Ending our 2016 overnights, we to head the Ozarks, September 15 to the 25. We have all the local and off-island rides the road captains have planned, so please make sure the bike is ready to go, your plates are renewed, state inspection is up to date and you have an E-Z pass for the off-island rides.

Talking about rides, we completed our 12th Annual Easter Bunny ride to Winthrop Hospital on Saturday March 26. Not only did we have a great turnout, but we had one of our better police escorts. Suffolk County PD started us off at the VFW taking us to the LIE where the Nassau County Highway unit picked up the detail. When we entered the LIE, two NCPD motorcycle officers were there to take over the escort. I waved a thanks to the SCPD and then, after riding about 5 miles of the LIE, my sweep tells me "they are coming up on the left". I wondered who "they" were, and it turned out to be the SCPD escort, who stayed with us all the way to Winthrop. Both Nassau and Suffolk PD did a great job, we thank both departments for a safe ride. Our Easter Bunny, Dom Mazza, who traveled by car this year because he cut his paw (finger) and was unable to ride, told me he was going one way or another. Beside the toys we bring each year, we passed around the jar at March's meeting and collected donations from member employers for a total of well over \$700. We are the best at what we do, and I thank you all.

Ride safe and prosper



Monthly Meeting March 20, 2015

The after meeting ride was canceled, due to weather, but our monthly meeting went on as usual. President Grumpy Hartmann spoke about the Winthrop Ride planned for the Saturday before Easter. Dom Mozzone, Safety Officer, gave us information on the Ozarks ride he is in the process of planning, as well as, upcoming new riders, lady riders and advanced riders classes that are planned. And last, but not least, Helen Rott, Asst. Activities Officer, reviewed the plans for our bowling night at Sayville Lanes.



Are You a Member of the American Motorcycle Association (AMA)?

Although there is no requirement for AMA membership as a LI Harley Rider member, only AMA members will be able to vote for our primary officers or be able to run for office.

**Please also consider the AMA's advocacy programs and other benefits.
Learn more about it at: www.americanmotorcyclist.com**

50/50 Raffle Winners



1st Place Ed Reiff and 2nd Place winner Richie Turan generously donated their winnings to the Winthrop Hospital Pediatric Care Unit

Special Pillow Raffles for April & May Meetings





On Sunday, March 5th, RC Dom led 15 bikes and 16 members on a nice Nassau County, north shore ride with some great roads. It started out a little cloudy and chilly but soon turned into a beautiful and sunny day. We stopped in Northport at Napper Tandy's for some lunch. Thanks to Dom for planning the ride and to all RC's that helped out.





On Sunday, March 13th, RC Sal Fino led 22 bikes and 24 members on a ride through Setauket, Stony Brook, Old Field and Nissequogue. The roads were winding and enjoyable as we rode through some historic areas of Long Island. We stopped for a photo op at the Old Field Lighthouse. Then, it was off to lunch at Changing Times in Northport. Thank you to Sal for planning the ride and thanks to all the RC's for all the great work they do!





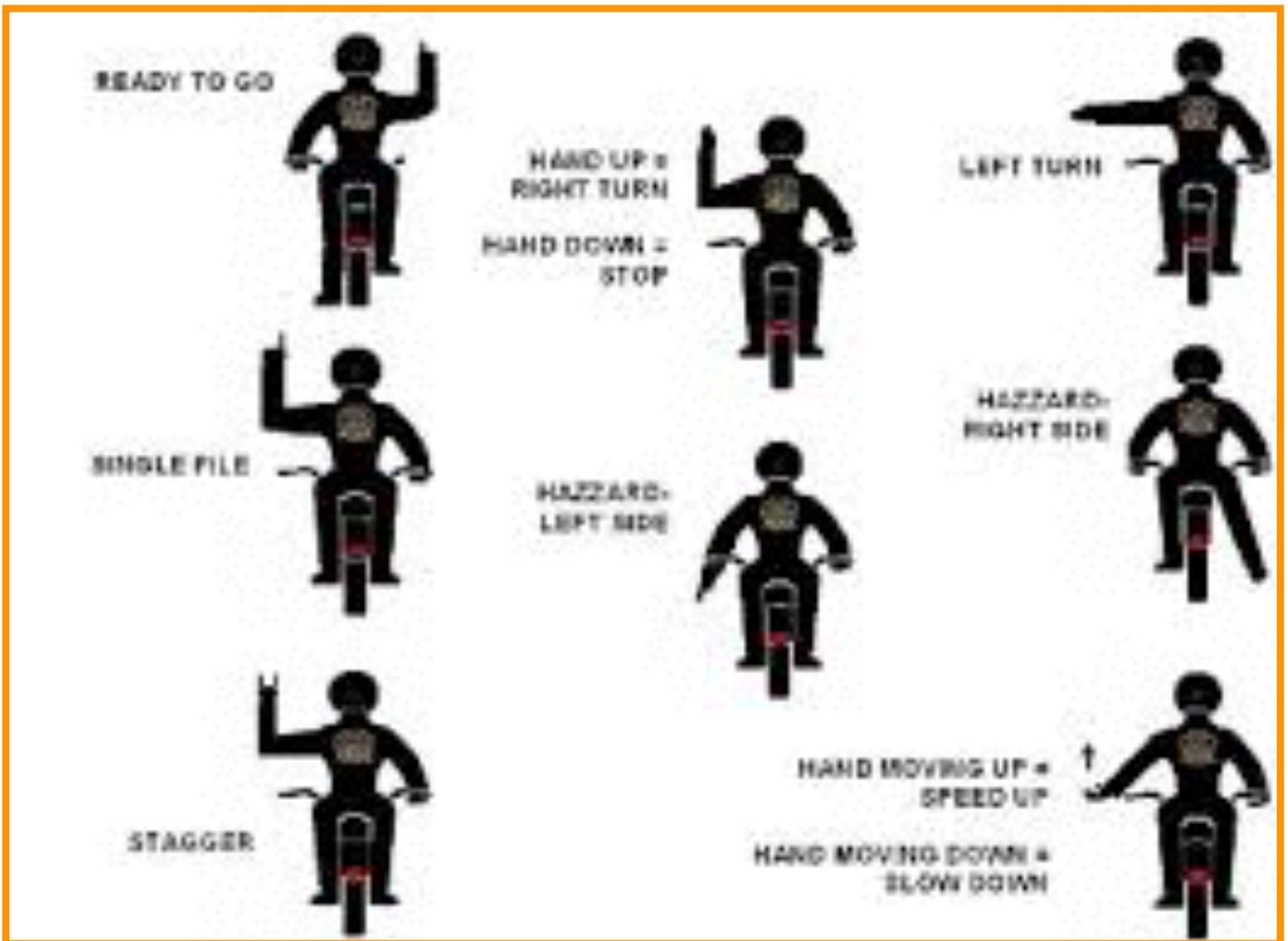
ON FRIDAY, MARCH 25, MANY OF THE LIHR'S ENJOYED A NIGHT OF BOWLING AT SAYVILLE LANES. THERE WAS FOOD, MUSIC AND LAUGHS AS WE BOWLED THE NIGHT AWAY! EVERYONE HAD A GREAT TIME. A BIG THANK YOU! TO HELEN ROTT, ASST. ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR FOR ORGANIZING THIS FUN EVENT!

****** On The Road Again (OTRA) Advanced Rider Course for May 14th has been cancelled. Further info to follow.******

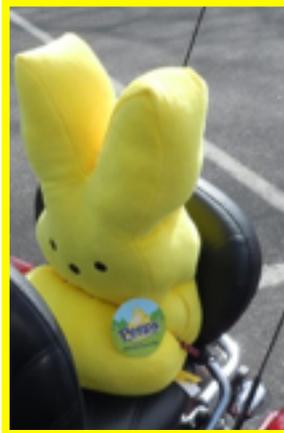
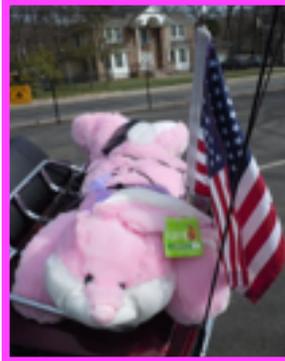
Big Apple has a 9 rider per class maximum. They are offering to conduct a women only class on May 14th if we desire. The cost for our members is \$100. If you are a HOG member you will get \$50 in Harley Bucks back to use at any dealership. Additionally, the school course completion card will qualify you for an insurance discount.



Commonly used hand signals



One of the most special rides of the year took place on Saturday, March 26th. Escorted by the Suffolk and Nassau County Police Departments, 33 bikes and 39 members rode to Winthrop University Hospital to bring gifts to the children. The children received stuffed animals, toys etc. from the LIHR family. At last count, we also donated over \$700 to the Child Life Program!





A big
"Thank You!"
to our men in
blue.



The smiles are what it's all about!



Winthrop Children's Easter Basket Ride

By Dom Mazza

Huntington, N.Y. March 26- 13 is supposed to be an unlucky number, but this was the 13th year (8 years as a HOG Chapter of Lighthouse Harley Davidson that closed its doors) that the L. I. Harley Riders visited the children's unit at Winthrop University Hospital in Mineola, L.I., N.Y. Members along with the holiday mascot "Biker Bunny" came with smiles, stuffed animals and toys for those children and their families who were spending all or part of their Easter Holiday weekend at the hospital. In addition over \$500 dollars was donated by members to the Child Life Program to help support it. Actually 2 of our 50/50 winners at the last meeting kicked their winnings into the kitty. Not surprised, as bikers are the most giving of people, especially when it comes to kids. The Winthrop Child Life Program relies mostly on grants and donations to keep it in the business of helping the children and families deal with their hospital stay and, yes, outside donations of cash, toys, coloring books, crayons, etc. are always welcome.

At a recent club open meeting Child Life Program Director Nicole Almeida visited our group and explained the program. In addition she said "Both the children and staff look forward to this visit. It is talked about weeks before the group comes. It brings a relief to the children and their families over this very difficult weekend for them."

Again the day of the ride we were fortune enough to have a sunny Saturday, but a bit on the cool side. Over 30 bikes and 36 rider/passengers converged on the Nathan Hale VFW (Veterans of Foreign Wars) in Huntington, N.Y. Not only does our group hold their meetings at this location, but we also support our

vets, who also support our group. We had the good fortune this year to be joined by a few of members of the local Blue Knights Chapter on the ride. At about 11:00 am “Biker Bunny” gave the “start your engines” signal and I am sure the roar of 30 big twins could be heard for miles. The group was then led out of the parking field by the members of Suffolk County Police 2nd Precinct. Our group cannot give these officers and their Commanding Officer Inspector Christopher Hatton and also Deputy Inspector Bob Reads enough praise. Not only for the assistance they provide on our semi-annual charity rides, (the group also visits a children’s psychiatric hospital during Christmas holidays to donate presents) but for the job they do protecting the people of the Huntington area. In the process they have also learned a little about most bikers and I believe that is good too. As our group entered Nassau County we were joined by two members of the elite Nassau County Highway Patrol Motorcycle Platoon that assisted us along the busy Long Island Expressway. Riding on busy Long Island is dangerous enough on its own, so any local law enforcement help is appreciated on this 30 minute large group ride. With their help and that of our road captains we were able to keep a tight group.

Upon our arrival at the hospital we were guided to reserve spaces at the main entrance and special parking for anyone who came by cage. We always receive first class treatment at the hospital by staff of the Hospital and especially members of Child Life Program, Melanie and Gayle. After a few photo ops together and with a family who had just had their child discharged our guide for the day Melanie (Child Life Services) led the group up to Pediatrics unit. As “Biker Bunny” walked through the lobby and hospital he gave out plastic Easter Eggs to visitors and staff (no candy eggs for patients, sorry). Lots of smiles, thank you and

waves. Upon arrival at the Pediatrics Unit activities room (this is where the Child Life Program has toys, coloring books and conducts fun activities for the kids) the group met some of the children and handed out stuffed rabbits and toys to every child there, whether a patient or not. One of the little ones Mathew Pickman age 2 was taken back by a 5'8" Easter Bunny dressed in biker gear, but after a short time settled in and held his new stuffed animal. His mom Jackie said "It's amazing that they do this for the kids, it definitely perks up their spirits". Also in the activity room was Nicholas Newcomb age 11 who had just had his appendix taken out. He said " I think this is pretty exciting and I never thought of the Easter Bunny was a biker"

After spending a while there it was time to go to each room to visit those kids that could not make it to the activities room. Everyone greeted the bunny and friends with a smile and told us how this is making their day...also they requested pictures with "Biker" Bunny on their cell phones. I noticed that there were even infants being treated and, wow, imagine years from now when they see their picture with the "Biker Bunny" and bikers.

Melanie was presented with a check from our group for over \$450 and some of the participants made personal financial gifts. Also one member who could not attend dropped off a big bag of coloring books and crayons.

Fred Hartmann who is the President of the over 150 strong L.I. Harley Riders said to LI News12 reporter Jackie Lucas "...motorcycle people are not tough, we like to give back to the community and that is why we are here, for the love of giving back to the children."

How does this leave us, well happy and a little sad. Happy that we were able to bring a little Easter joy to patients, family and

staff, but sad that many of the kids and the families would be there on Easter Sunday.

On a side note, things like this are something that bikers all over the country do every day. It helps to bridge that gap between those who ride and those who don't. It helps to dispel some of the image that some people who ride motorcycles create, along with a little help from some media.

If anyone would be interested in knowing more about the Winthrop Hospital Child Life Program or would like to make some type of contribution go to www.winthrop.org/child-life-program or call 516-663-2761. They are primarily supported by grants and donations (donations can include items needed in activities room). Also check the L.I. Harley Riders website at www.LIHarleyRiders.com for more pictures.

This article was submitted by Dom Mazza to the Beacon for publication.



Do I Ride Out This Thunderstorm?

by Dom Mozzone, Safety Officer

Its springtime and we all heard the phrase: April showers bring May flowers. So lets be pragmatic, it's the beginning of April and so far it has been a bust but hopefully May will warm up a lot! That being said, we can expect a high degree of precipitation throughout the spring and we know it's likely to produce thunderstorms. Where thunderstorms are concerned, we simply don't ride in them, ever, right? Wrong!! Your out in the country and an electrical storm blows in. There is no civilization or shelter for a hundred miles. Should you ride out the storm? If not, what should you do?

We have all heard that because your tires are made of rubber and because rubber is not a good electrical conductor, as long as you keep your feet on the pegs, lightning will not hit you since it cannot find a path to ground through you and the bike. **WRONG!!! READ THIS AGAIN...WRONG!!!**

Although rubber is a pretty good insulator at the normal voltage levels it is not very effective against the voltage in a lightning bolt.

You may also have heard that if a lightning bolt hits a car the occupants are safe because the car is riding on rubber tires. Actually, this is almost true! As long as the occupants stay away from anything metal they will more than likely survive a lightning hit without any injury whatsoever.

What protects occupants of a cage is not their rubber tires, but the fact that they are enclosed in a metal container. If a lightning bolt hits the surface of the car it spreads around the occupants, **NOT THROUGH THEM**, and goes to ground. Hence the safety of staying in a car during an electrical storm is a wise decision.

A lightning bolt that hits you or your motorcycle is a different matter entirely. We can assume with a high degree of confidence that if that happens you will immediately see a Harp and begin to rise up and have an early out of body experience. That is **NOT GOOD!!**

Here is a good comparison of what can be referenced from this. The master fuse on your bike handles about 30 amps before it blows. An average lightning bolt produces a current of about 20,000 amps. Even 30 amps can easily kill you because it disrupts your heart's electrical system and the heart then simply stops working. Your heart doesn't stand a chance against a lightning bolt.



Bottom line: if you are out in the open on your bike when lightning flashes begin, and if you can hear the thunder caused by those flashes in less than three seconds from when you see the flash, it's time to stop your bike and get the hell off of it **ASAP, NO EXCUSES!!**

- Immediately find low ground, but **NOT** under a single or small group of trees.
- Squat on the ground with your legs together, head lower than back, but **NOT** touching the ground. **DO NOT** lay on the ground.
- **LET YOUR CLOTHES GET WET!!!** (In this way, if you are hit the majority of the electricity will follow the moisture of your wet clothes around your body.)
- Do not get up until thunder following a lightning flash is **AT LEAST** five seconds after the flash. (Which means the lightning struck more than 1 mile away.)

If there are more than 5 seconds between the lightning flashes and your hearing that thunder, head for shelter. This is the only time trying to ride out from under an electrical storm makes any sense. The best shelter is a hard covered surface connected to ground with metal. Get under it and wait out the storm.

Ride safe, often, always anticipate stuff happening, execute instinctively and definitely avoid riding out thunderstorms.

Upcoming Rides and Events



Annual Biker Blessing May 22nd immediately following the meeting.



Rolling Thunder Friday May 27th thru Monday May 30th

This is something everyone should experience at least once in their life time.

****See the website for room reservation information****



Yellowstone Saturday June 11th thru Sunday June 26th

After a stop in the Sturgis area, experience nature in one of our nations most beautiful national parks. *****SEE THE HOTEL LIST ON P. 11-12*****



****Date Change** Cooperstown, NY Friday June 24th thru Sunday June 26th.** Enjoy the beautiful scenery of upstate New York while learning about baseball's history.



Mountain Fest, WV Thursday July 28th thru Sunday July 31st

This is a great motorcycle rally in a state with some of the prettiest roads in the country.



Adirondak Mountains Friday August 19th thru Sunday August 21st

What better way to spend one of the last weekends of summer than riding through the beautiful Adirondack Mountains?



****Date change** OZAARKS RIDE THURS. SEPT. 15TH THRU SUNDAY SEPT. 25TH**

If you missed all the other overnight trips, you won't want to miss this one! We're finishing up our off-island riding season with a trip down south to the beautiful Ozarks.

Watch the weekly e-mails and the L.I. Harley Rider website for further information on all upcoming rides and events.

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April 2016

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--------------------|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|----------|
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 | 2 |
| | | | | | | |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| Local Ride | | | | | | |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| Local Ride | | | | | | |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| Local Ride | | | | | | |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| Meeting/Local Ride | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |



Say Happy Birthday to.....

- Helen Rott.....April 5th*
- Barbara Heck.....April 5th*
- Nicholas Klopsis...April 6th*
- Kevin O' Connor....April 7th*
- Nadine Hartmannx..April 8th*
- David Radlauer...April 13th*
- Steven Humbert...April 14th*
- Dom Mozzone....April 18th*
- Deidre Kuster....April 20th*
- Barbara D'Amato.....April 21st*
- Susan Ceparano....April 23rd*
- Michael Sweeney.....April 25th*
- Rod Morgenweck.....April 26th*
- Chris Kuster.....April 29th*



1st Overnight/Off-Island Ride

**Rolling Thunder
Washington, DC**

**Friday May 27th
thru
Monday May 30th**

see website for details

2016 Membership

Get a friend involved!

Sweatshirts, T-shirts, Rockers, Mugs and Caps are on sale now!

2016 Membership Applications are Available on Line!

Applications are available on our website or the weekly e-mail. Download it for a friend, have them fill it out then bring them down to the monthly meeting.

As always, a BIG THANK YOU to our Road Captains for the great rides they plan and for keeping us all safe!

Head Road Captain: Mario Ruffolo - Asst. Head Road Captain: Gary Kinkle
Charlie Abruzzo, Steve Ficalora, Sal Fino, Joe Giacalone, Fred (Grumpy) Hartmann,
Nadine Hartmann, Cisco Mercado, Ken McKay, Dom Mozzone, Kenny Pastor, Ed Reiff,
Lou Vaccarelli & Rich Zeier.

Say Cheese!

Attending your first meeting?

Be sure to let us know where your from and what you ride.

Welcome to the Family!

After the meeting, our Chapter Photographer will take your photo.

Next Meeting April 24, 2016 10 AM

Nathan Hale VFW Hall
210 West Pulaski Road
Huntington, NY

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

Bagels, Coffee and Tea served
\$5.00 per person

Would you or someone you know like to advertise in our newsletter?

Please contact Ginny Zeier for pricing and information at:

Editor
@LIHarleyRiders.com

Before leaving for a ride, be sure to check your e-mail or Charter Website 1 1/2 hr before KSU at: <http://www.LIHarleyRiders.com> for updated ride information and last minute cancellations.

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For further information contact:
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