



Volume 9 Issue 4

April 2019

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President's Point of View, by Ed Reiff

Welcome to spring as a new riding season begins. You know the saying "March, comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb". HAH April 1 is 30 degrees and the 2nd was 35 degrees in the morning. Well the 3rd was in the low 60's. Be patient it's going to get here.

We are looking forward to our Winthrop ride for the kids with the Easter Bunny. It's very rewarding to see their faces light up with excitement when all the bikes pull in to the hospital. Their parents love it as well as they can watch from the 5th floor windows. At the March meeting Nicole from The Child Life Program gave us all the information we needed and explained how it works when we get there. Dom Mazza from our club will organize us on the morning of April 20th, which is a Saturday. If you plan to attend, please try to be there by 10:30 so we are ready to leave when the police escort arrives.



Dominic Mozzone has set up once again an experienced rider course. It is Saturday April 27th. If you would like to attend email me and I will get you the info. It has been posted on facebook as well. Rain or shine 7:30 AM and there will be a b-q lunch afterwards.

We will have our biker blessing after the April meeting so try to attend for member Deacon Dale to bless the bikes and the membership.

Next month we are having our annual Mother's Day Ride and that's always fun to watch the moms receive their bouquet's. This year it will be Sunday May 5th. A rain date of the following Saturday (May 11) has been set up. Watch the weekly emails and updates as this ride approaches. Also, in May we will be having a bowling night.

See you all on the road, keep the shiny side up.



March Meeting



Spring is finally here but Mother Nature has still been fickle! The club has only been able to get 3 rides on the road since the New Year. The weather was finally on our side this Sunday and Head RC Mario led the club on a North Shore ride which ended with lunch in Hauppauge.

The Meeting started out with the Director of the Child Life Program at NYU Winthrop program. Nicole Almeda reviewed this amazing program which supports the children and their families who are hospitalized at NYU Winthrop. This program helps relieve the anxiety and stress that these children face while being hospitalized. The ages range from infants to young adults who are dealing with minor to life threatening illnesses. The program is not funded by the hospital and depends on donations to provide a safe environment for these children and families. 100% of our donations go directly to the children and program. This is the LI Harley Riders 18th year working with this program and we hope everyone can join us and the Easter Bunny for this inspirational run. Thanks again to Dom Mazza for all his hard work in organizing this run. Dom contacts the administration at the hospital, reaches out to the media and the NCPD and SCPD to keep us safe on the road. We will be meeting at the VFW Hall at 10:30 am with KSU at 11 am sharp. Dom will be there with his truck for those who want to leave their presents. During the meeting the members "passed the hat" and raised \$430 for the program. The program also accepts checks made out to NYU Winthrop and make sure you write Child Life program in the memo

Another beautiful pillow was raffled off during this months meeting and Sue Hachmann was the lucky winner. The 50/50 raffle 1st prize winner was our President Ed Reiff who generously donated his winnings to the Child Life Program and 2nd prize went to Club photographer Pat Donohue!

Remember to check our website for upcoming rides and social events. Hotels are already booked for our overnights. Planning is in the works for another advanced rider safety class organized by Dom Mozzone and On the Road Again motorcycle school.

Two of our members purchased new bikes this month. Dom Mozzone has a 2019 Ultra Limited. Joyce Dunn purchased a new Softail Slim which is on its way to NY from sunny Florida. May you both have many happy safe miles on your new rides!





Harley Shrine

We know we are truly Harley Fans and some of us take that love to extremes. It may be the clothes we wear or how we decorate our homes and yards. Some of our members have shared their Man or Women Harley shrines so if you have a Harley shrine just send us your pictures and you may find them in an upcoming edition of our newsletter. This month Richie and Ginny Zeier share there Harley Bathroom!





A Blast From the Past



Thanks to Christine Vultaggio for this picture. This is a picture of a club ride from 2006! Can you name the members, current and past? If you have any old photos from past club trips please send them to me at Editor@LIHarleyRiders.com



Ed's St Patty Day Ride



The weather was finally on our side and after many cancellations President Ed led the club on its 3rd ride of the season! Ed led 17 bikes and 18 members on a brisk ride through Ronkonkoma, St James, Stony Brook and Yaphank. The members warmed up and enjoyed a delicious lunch at Café Joelle in Sayville. Lets hope this is the beginning of a great riding season!



SPRING

North Shore Ride March 27th



Spring is here and the riding season has finally begun. Head RC Mario led the club on a North Shore Ride as 25 bikes and 27 members rode some winding roads and dodged potholes as we travelled through scenic Syosset, Oyster Bay, Brookville, Locust Valley and Dix Hills. Mario and our road captains led us to Hauppauge and a tasty lunch at Hurricane Grill and Wings. Thanks again to our RC for keeping us safe on the winter-weary roads!



How to Stay on Top of Your Game

By Dom Mozzone - Safety Officer



With the '19 riding season finally arriving now is a good time to reread this article that I wrote in 2015 again to stay on top of your game when riding. There are many diversions that keep drivers from focusing the way we want them to be focused as we ride among them. Like anything else, a good defense against the careless driver is a good offense when it comes to instinctively practicing the 14 points below while riding.

We've all been stuck in heavy traffic, in particular during hot weather when tempers are short and people are preoccupied with cell phones, screaming kids, texting (God forbid) as well as zoning out and not paying attention. Imagine the vehicles surrounding you, crowding you, cutting you off. Imagine yourself monitoring closing speeds, reading street signs, noticing and anticipating traffic lights. Then imagine guessing what pedestrians will do, or how slippery that painted line might be and all those drivers with cell phones, newspapers or screaming kids to deal with. Imagine trying to guess what they're going to do. So, prepare yourself with these 14 defensive strategies for dealing with traffic-choked streets that we all need to practice, they are as follows:

Watch drivers' heads and mirrors

Watching the head movements of drivers through their windows and mirrors is an excellent way to anticipate sudden moves. Most drivers won't lunge left or right without first moving their heads one way or another (even if they don't check their mirrors). Above all stay out of their blind spots!!

Trust your mirrors, but not totally

Your bike's mirrors can be lifesavers, but they don't always tell the entire story even if they're adjusted properly. In traffic, always buttress your mirror-generated rear view with a glance over the appropriate shoulder. Do it quickly and you'll add an extra measure of rear-view and blind-spot avoidance.

Never get between a vehicle and an off ramp

This one is a no brainer, but drivers who decide to exit at the last-minute kill plenty of riders each year. The simple rule, then, is to never position your self between a vehicle and an off ramp. Passing on the right is generally a no-no; but, at times is necessary. So, if you do it, do so between exits or cross-streets.

Cover your brakes

In traffic you must often react extra quickly, which means not fumbling for the brake lever or pedal. To minimize reach time, always keep a finger or two on the brake lever and your right toe close to the rear brake pedal. Always when crossing an intersection and for when that cell phone-yakking idiot cuts across your path trying to get to an exit you'll be ready.

Job One: Be noticed

Make sure drivers and pedestrians can see you, even from a distance. Ride with your high beam on during the day (turn it off when sitting behind someone at a light), and wear brightly colored gear, especially your helmet and jacket.

Be ready with the power

In traffic, ride in a gear lower than you normally would so your bike is ready to jump forward instantly if asked. Doing so gives you the option of leaping ahead instead of being limited to just using the brakes when that pickup suddenly moves over. The higher rev sound may also alert more people to your presence.

Traffic slowing? Stay left (or right)

When traffic slows suddenly, stay to the left or right of the car in front of you. This will give you an escape route if needed. It will also help keep you from becoming a hood ornament if the car behind you fails to stop in time. Once you've stopped short, be ready--clutch in, your bike in gear and your eyes on the mirrors. You never know you may need to pull over to prevent getting hit.

Practice the scan

Constantly scan your entire environment while riding--from instruments to mirrors to the road ahead to blind spots to your left and right rear--keeps you aware and in touch with your situation, and therefore better able to react. Scanning as a matter of practice will prevent the dreaded zone out and surprises.

The Infamous Left-turn

When approaching an oncoming car that's stopped and about to turn left, be ready. Your brights should be on so the driver can see you (during the day), but don't rely on this to save you. Watch the car's wheels or the driver's hands on the steering wheel; if you see movement, be ready to brake, swerve or accelerate, whichever seems best for the situation.

How to Stay on Top of Your Game (continued)

Study the surface

Add road conditions to your scan. Be on the lookout for spilled oil, antifreeze or fuel; it'll usually show up as shiny pavement. Also keep an eye out for gravel and/or sand, which is usually more difficult to see. Always try to avoid those impediments but if you can't and the situation arises don't panic and above all don't over steer or hard brake as bad stuff can happen.

Ride in open zones

Use your bike's power and maneuverability to ride in open zones in traffic. In any grouping of vehicles there are always some gaps; find these and ride in them. Doing so will separate you from four-wheelers, give you additional room to maneuver and allow you to keep away from dangerous blind spots. And vary your speed. Riding along with the flow can make you invisible to other drivers, especially in heavy traffic.

Use your thumb

Get into the habit of canceling your turn signals often regardless of the traffic situation. A blinking signal might tell drivers waiting to pull into the road or turning left in front of you that you're about to turn when you aren't. So, if you need to push it a few times each minute then so be it. Better to keep other drivers from anticipating false moves.

Anticipate a way out

Don't just brake hard in a sudden situation. There's almost always is an escape route so you should always be anticipating what's going on around you and what would you do if..... Swerving into someone's front yard could be a lot better than center punching the Buick that turned left in front of you. Always have an escape route planned, and update it minute by minute.

Running interference

This one's easy, and we'll bet most of you already do it: Let larger vehicles run interference for you when negotiating intersections. If the idiot coming toward you from the left or right is going to blow the light, better they hit the box truck next to you, right? For the same reasons, don't lunge through an intersection as soon as the light turns green. Be patient, and use the vehicles next to you as cover.

These items outlined are sensible, will become instinctive once fully understood and above all it will help us avoid the unthinkable from happening as we enjoy our passion: riding. Read these 14 points often, practice them always and have a blast riding safely in all conditions.



For a complete list of Charter Events and the latest information, visit www.LIHarleyRiders.com for details.

April 2019

April Birthday's

- Barbara D'Amato 4/21
- Michael Fella 4/8
- Nadine Hartmann 4/8
- Barbara Heck 4/5
- Steven Humbert 4/14
- Deidre Kuster 4/20
- Chris Kuster 4/29
- Diane Mauro 4/27
- Rod Morgenweck 4/26
- Dom Mozzone 4/18
- Dave Radlauer 4/13
- Helen Rott 4/5
- Michael Sweeney 4/25

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 Local Ride RC Steve KSU 10:30 Ex 56 Parlor Grill	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 Local Ride RC Sal KSU 10am exit 56 Robkes	15	16	17	18	19 Passover 	20 Easter Bunny Winthrop/ NYU Child Life ride
21 Easter 	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 Monthly Meeting Local Ride	29	30				



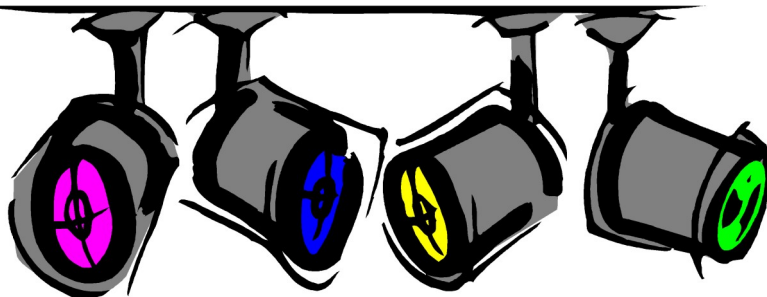
Upcoming Events

- Winthrop Child Life Ride 4/20
- Mother's Day ride 5/5 (rain date 5/11)
- Bowling night 5/17 Farmingdale Lanes

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 your email, our website or facebook for last minute changes. Full tank of gas and empty bladder required for all Rides

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April Upcoming Rides

Upcoming Rides

April 7 RC Steve KSU 10:30 Exit 56 Parlor House Grill
April 14 RC Sal KSU 10 exit 56 Robke's (cash only)
April 20 RC Mario KSU 10:30 VFW Hall Winthrop Child Life Ride
April 28 Monthly Meeting Bike Blessing
May 5 RC Joe KSU TBD



Remember to check the Hotline at (631)406-4170 1 1/2 hrs before KSU to hear updates and cancellations



UPCOMING EVENTS

NYU/Winthrop Child Life Ride - April 20
Bike Blessing - April 28
Mothers Day Ride - May 5
Bowling night - May 17 Farmingdale Lanes
Rolling Thunder - May 24-May 26

How About a Big Cheer for Our Road Captains?

Head Road Captain: Mario Ruffolo, Asst. Head Road Captain: Sal Fino
Steve Ficalora, Kerry Fletcher, Joe Giacalone, Fred (Grumpy) Hartmann, Nadine Hartmann, Gary Kinkel, Dom Mozzone, Ralph Norton, Ed Reiff, Bill Vultaggio



2019 Membership Renewal Drive

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or send an email to John at Member-
ship@LIHarleyRiders.com to request one



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

Please send your stories and photos to: Editor@LIHarleyRiders.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 28, 2019
10 AM

Nathan Hale VFW Hall
210 West Pulaski Road
Huntington, NY

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

Bagels, Coffee and Tea served
\$5.00 per person



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