



Volume 11 Issue 3

April 2020

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President's Point of View, by Ed Reiff

Hi all, I hope this email finds everybody safe, sound, and healthy. I wish this note was a bit more positive but this, as you know, times are not good.

The primary officers met the first week of March as we do every month or two. We spent a lot of time going over our approach with regards to the Covid19 pandemic. Trying to stay positive at that time, we decided that we would proceed as normal with club activities and take it one day at a time. Shortly after, we had an email exchange as the situation continued to worsen. We heard from the VFW that they were suspending their meetings for a few weeks. At that point I decided to shut us down as well. A couple days after that is when the advice from the President and Governor went from groups no larger than 50 to groups no larger than 10. So, our policy must be the same.

Since then the numbers are still growing. As you know we have canceled the first overnight ride which was to be April 4 to April 5. Also, at this point I am canceling all rides and meetings through April 30, which is the government guideline at this point. Understand that things change daily. Some people say this will peak in the next 2 weeks. Hopefully this thing will be in the rearview mirror soon. As things change, we will be sending out emails to keep everyone updated.

This club is all about riding, but it is also about having fun. And right now, I would think we could all use a little bit of fun. We must press on using the guidelines set forth to us. We have many members over the age of 60 and that's where they say the complications start to get worse. If you plan on riding please keep that in mind. Groups of 10 or less.....so if you have more than 10 please split up into 2 groups. Even though the end of this is something we hope happens soon, make sure to keep watching the emails and the facebook posts for the newest updates. When we do get back to riding, I would say we should still practice a little bit of social distancing. It certainly can't hurt.

Stay safe out there. Watch for another baby boom in December.....HAH



VP Corner

By Steve Ficalora



What's your Spark?

I certainly hope we are all staying safe and healthy during these trying times and pray that we've turned the corner by the time you read this. Being forced to work from home full-time, I got a little lucky with the timing as we had recently finished a rip-out and refresh of my home office space, AKA the junk room 😊. During the clean-out I found many artifacts from years gone by. Some I kept but most I parted with. One of these items was a small spark-plug pin from the Lighthouse HOG days.

Back then when we were dealership sponsored, a few of us each year would go to Primary Officer Training, or POT training, which my kids always got a big laugh about. During one of the sessions we were all handed one of these pins and asked to describe our Spark, that is, how did we get the itch to start riding. The following is my true story.

Back in my early teens, my Mom and Dad would drive us over to Grandma's house, or more appropriately Noni's, who lived in Lyndhurst N.J. This seemed to be every Sunday, but as my Mom revealed later in life, there were days when they could not afford the \$1.50 to cross the bridge. Any time we would take that trip in the '67 Ford station wagon, we would always stop at the Gas station around the corner from the house right on Hicksville Road (route 107) in Bethpage. I honestly don't recall the actual year, but I must have been around 14 that summer when we saw a Rupp Roadster minibike for sale at the gas station for \$100.00. For those of us old enough to remember, this was like the Cadillac of minibikes. Not your average garage-born stingray with a Briggs and Stratton lawnmower engine attached, this beautiful machine had a headlight, taillight, a 5HP Tecumseh Motor with a "Torque Converter", coil-over shocks and chrome side pipe. As my brother and I begged and pleaded with our parents "Can we have it?", the only response my Mom could muster, was "Sure, save your money".

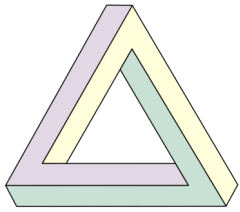
My brother and I must have cut every lawn that summer within a 5-mile radius, sometimes riding our bikes pulling dad's lawn mower behind us, paying for the gas ourselves. This became our full-time summer job, and on Sunday's when we would pull in to get gas on our way to Noni's, we would crane our necks to ensure that beautiful machine was still available. When we finally had saved enough cash, the only thing my parents could do was let us buy it and bring it home. I still remember that summer, my brother and I taking turns taking it into the Central Boulevard school yard and sometimes being chased by security, as well as riding the stretch of land where the remnants of Old Motor Parkway used to pass through between 107 and Stewart Avenue, which had already become a LILCO power-line easement.

Years would pass and we rode that bike everywhere. Eventually My Dad's Firehouse would close and the men from Engine 2, though scattered by the job, remained together by purchasing a bungalow colony in New Paltz that they aptly named "Maltese Manor". That Minibike and I found every back road, dirt road and stream in and around route 209 between Accord and High Falls and is why to this day I have such an affinity for the area. As I got older and outgrew the bike, we eventually parted ways, selling it to another deserving young man, you guessed it, for the same sum of \$100.00.

Us bikers have a saying that "If I had to explain it, you wouldn't understand", which probably holds true for the non-rider audience. For my brothers and sisters, I can tell you, every time I start that Harley, it's like yanking the pull start on my 5HP Rupp Roadster, and instantly I'm 16 again!

That's my Spark what's yours?





Triangle Pub Ride

March 1, 2020



After a weather cancellation in January RC Ralph led 17 bikes on a brisk ride on the Eastern end of Long Island. RC Ralph led our members on some scenic roads through Yaphank Manorville and Riverhead. A great lunch was had at The Triangle Pub in Eastport.





Daylight Savings Ride March 8, 2020



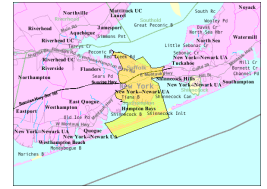
Head RC Mario led a Daylight Savings Ride (and everyone set their clocks ahead!) 24 bikes and 28 members enjoyed a great ride through Wheatley Heights, Deer Park, Stony Brook and a scenic tour around Lake Ronkonkoma. Our members enjoyed a cold and sunny ride ending at the Green Turtle in Smithtown. As always a big shout out to our RC who kept us safe. After a great lunch everyone went home to catch up on our sleep!





Gold Coast Ride

March 15, 2020



Safety Officer RC Dom led a brisk ride on a scenic South Shore Ride. Dom stepped up and took over the ride planned by our Past VP Bill Vultaggio. Dom led 22 bikes and 26 members through Manorville, Eastport and down the beautiful Dune Road past the mansions of the Rich and Famous! After enjoying the view the club enjoyed a delicious lunch at Sundays on the Bay. Big thanks to RC Dom for taking the lead and all our RC who always keep us safe on the roads.





Parlor House Grill Dinner March 15, 2020



Our Activities Director Lynne did a great job organizing our 1st Bike Night for the 2020 season. Our members enjoyed a great night of food and drink at the Parlor House Grill. We enjoyed each others company and got to wish John Capobianco a Happy Birthday with a Harley themed cake! We are looking forward to many more Bike Nights as the weather gets warmer and the nights get longer.



April Safety Article

by Dom Mozzone

Technology and Unsafe Conditions For Riders

We all love new technology and gadgets which tend to make our lives easier and in some instances more complicated. Have you noticed how millennials mostly choose to text rather than speak to one another, haven't we all embraced the changing tech environment. This convenience has clearly influenced the communications landscape we all have become accustomed to. Texting, although very convenient, can become catastrophic when driving a car.

There have been years of DWI advertisements professing the dangers of drinking while operating a motor vehicle. The results of which can negatively change the lives of those impacted by some idiot driving while intoxicated. Not to mention what a DWI can do to us riders. Texting while driving is all about losing control of a motor vehicle due to a distraction, like your eyes off the road for a few seconds while you read a text/email or stupidly try to respond to one. Even two seconds of vision off the road at 60MPH will cause you to lose 120' of stopping distance by being distracted. Crunch, not good!!

I witness cars swerving each time I drive due to distractions drivers are engaged in with their cell phones. Its crazy!!! It's like exponentially increasing DWIs aka DWTs (driving while texting) with how people text and drive now. I recently took a 3 ½ week road trip to Florida and literally experienced at least 20+ instances of cars swerving out of their lane due to PDA distractions that I noticed. No wonder states are passing strict fines for violators who text and drive.

We all need to be conscious of this issue and be vigilant to keep clear of cars that seem to drift in and out of their lanes and especially when in traffic to be aware that the car behind you is going to stop and isn't distracted. When I was in Florida I was stopped at a light and got rear ended by a person who had a cell phone in her hand, when I walked over to her car she denied using her phone just prior to ramming me. Bottom line: Use your mirrors when you stop and leave yourself an out if necessary at all times when riding. Remember to avoid blind spots of the cars around you and keep in mind that people are and will text around you. Consider yourself vulnerable by the unexpected moron who is DWI as well as DWT; the results are the same for us, not good!!

Our riding season will be in full swing soon, lets have fun, look out for one another and be aware of our surroundings and ride safely.





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

April 2020

April Birthday's

- Barbara D'Amato 4/21
- Michael Fella 4/8
- Nadine Hartmann 4/8
- Barbara Heck 4/5
- Steve 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
- Mike Sweeney 4/25

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
			Passover		Good Friday	
12  Easter Sunday	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		



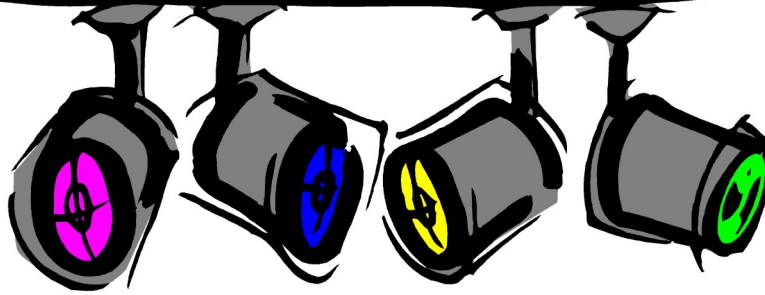
Upcoming Events


Until further notice all club event are cancelled. Keep looking for updates via emails or facebook.

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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Upcoming Rides

All LIHR Rides are on hold till further notice



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



UPCOMING EVENTS

All upcoming events are on hold till further notice

How About a Big Cheer for Our Road Captains?

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



2020 Membership Renewal Drive

**Renewal Applications
Available online NOW!**

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

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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