



L.I. Harley Riders, Inc.

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



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March 2012

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President's Point of View, by Bill Vultaggio

L.I. Harley Riders, Inc. ... and so a new chapter begins!

So, what's in a name? Although our name has changed, rest assured that our primary goal is to remain true to our mission: Riding our Harley-Davidson motorcycles and creating memories with all our members. For it is not about our name, it is about "us". We make up one of the premier riding groups on Long Island ... always have and always will. When you think about it, as individual riders, each of us has the freedom to swing a leg over the Milwaukee Vibrator and follow the road wherever it may lead us. And while there are days that we need to get out, if only for an hour by ourselves, there are the times we look forward to sharing the ride experience and destination with our close friends and fellow Harley riders. That is one of the things that set our group apart from the rest. Our Officers and Road Captains are committed to you, our members, to provide some of the most memorable riding and event experiences we can. Those of us who have participated in our rides and events would agree that our folks have done an amazing job!

So what exactly is L.I. Harley Riders, Inc. all about? As a group made up of exclusively "Harley Riders", we have created a Charter under the guise of the American Motorcyclist Association (AMA). Our Charter #3156 became official in mid-February, as we incorporated as a "Non-Profit" corporation ... a requirement in forming an AMA Charter ... and we are indebted to one of our members, Lance Margolin, who was instrumental in the incorporation process. The AMA offers a few different types of riding group charters. The one we chose is the "Promoting" type, which promotes safe, responsible, recreational motorcycling activities, in addition to supporting our annual charity events – Winthrop and Sagamore. We have created By-Laws and a Constitution (which we will post on our new website for all to view at www.LIHarleyRiders.com) identifying the protocol we are to follow. We have decided to keep the membership fees at the same \$24 (member) and \$15 (Associate) levels and will 'reconcile' with those who had paid their 2012 Lighthouse membership renewal and wish to transfer membership to the L.I. Harley Rider.

One question many may be asking: Do I need to become a member of the AMA? The short answer, no. While our members are not required to join the AMA, we encourage all to explore the AMA and the benefits afforded to its members. Officers and potential officer candidates are required to be AMA members. Please feel free to explore their website at www.americanmotorcyclist.com to see what the organization is comprised of and the benefits offered. One such benefit, Roadside Assistance, is similar to that of a National HOG membership. Like National HOG, the AMA offers different levels of membership, and membership rates vary to each

(continued from page 1)

respective type. Many may wish to retain their National HOG membership as we plan to attend a few Harley-Davidson events, some of which are "Pin-Stops" requiring a National HOG membership to acquire the pin for the respective event. Again, it's your choice.

Unlike HOG, the AMA does not host "rallies" per se, but if you go to their website you will see an array of "recreational" motorcycle events ... many of which are benefits supporting a variety of charitable rides/events. Those and other sanctioned events (i.e. Americade) may be of interest to you as you plan your trips and vacation get-a-ways.

So as we look down the road, we hope that all our Lighthouse members choose to remain as a family within our new group, the L.I. Harley Riders. Albeit the name we identify ourselves may be different, "we" have not changed and we want all our members to know that we will continue in our quest in creating some of the most memorable rides and events together ... for truly there are Too Many Roads and Too Little Time!

New Ride



Harry Kramer and his new 2012 Street Glide
Have you gotten a new ride recently? If so, please email a
photo to Editor@LIHarleyRiders.com

**** Membership Drive ****

Saturday, March 3rd 11 am-2 pm
at Ron Starke's Thunder Bikes LI
72 Jayne Boulevard, Port Jefferson Station
www.ThunderBikesLI.com

Come complete a membership application, bring a friend
and see Long Island's newest motorcycle shop!

*Ron is offering all members of the LI Harley Riders
a 10% discount!*



Casino Night is Coming! ... Saturday, March 10th 7-11pm (\$35 pp at the VFW)

Please email Nadine at Activities@LIHarleyRiders.com to reserve tickets



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

The History of the Motorcycle – Harley-Davidson Police

by Lou Vaccarelli, Historian

The Beginning

Chief August Vollmer of the Berkeley, California Police Department is credited with organizing the first official Police motorcycle Patrol in the United States in 1911. However, a few police departments used motorcycles before 1911. The first Harley-Davidson police motorcycle was delivered to the Detroit Police Department in 1908. Right from the start, police departments recognized the tactical advantage provided by a maneuverable vehicle such as a motorcycle along with Harley-Davidson's reputation for reliability.



The Roaring '20s

In the 1920s, state police forces were being formed in several states to protect rural areas from lawlessness and to enforce Prohibition. The motorized vehicle of choice on rutted rural roads was the motorcycle. In 1921, six troopers kick-started their Harley-Davidson motorcycles and the Washington state troopers were in business. In those days, considering the territory officers had to cover, a motorcycle needed to be reliable. In Louisiana, for example, a force of just 16 men on motorcycles patrolled the entire state.



By 1920, Harley-Davidson was the largest motorcycle manufacturer in the world. As mass production increased the numbers of cars and motorcycles on the road, and most speed limits were not enforced, highway fatalities skyrocketed. Being faster and more maneuverable than most cars on the road, Harley-Davidson motorcycles gave police the upper hand against speeders. By the end of the 1920s, more than 3,000 police departments and government agencies used Harley-Davidson motorcycles.

Recent History

In the last five years, Harley-Davidson police sales have more than doubled. Today, just as in the late 1920s, more than 3,400 police departments ride Harley-Davidson motorcycles in the U.S. alone.

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 for hotel information.

Don't Fear the ... Dragon!

By John Giglia

There is a song by The Blue Oyster Cult ... "Don't fear the Reaper". Well, don't fear The Dragon (Deals Gap) either. From the little bio of me in a past newsletter, you know I have been riding for many years and have a lot of motorcycling experience. But I have to say, the first time I heard about The Dragon I was a little intimidated. 318 turns in 11 miles seems pretty hairy. So I started doing a little research on the place and everything I read scares you into thinking how dangerous the place is and how hard it is to 'slay the Dragon'. So, my next step was to look at some videos on YouTube and, once again, the videos seemed to indicate the same. Well, this past June, a few friends of mine asked if I would be interested in taking a trip to Tennessee via the Blue Ridge Parkway and over to Deals Gap to do the Dragon's Tail. It certainly sounded like a good time and I heard the Blue Ridge was one of the nicest places to ride, so I jumped at the chance to go.



The guys met my house at 4 am so we could beat the traffic getting over the VZ Bridge and out of the city. We stopped somewhere in NJ at a Cracker Barrel to get some breakfast and, believe it or not, warm up a little. After we ate, it was back on the road to put on some mileage. We hit some rain in PA around Harrisburg ... not enough to stop and put on rain suits but enough to make it uncomfortable. We stopped a little past Christiansburg, VA ... doing about 650 miles before the day was done. We stayed in a Roadway Motel and it was the first time I stayed in a place like that for more than three hours (LOL!). All kidding aside, the place was very clean, the price was pretty good and it had a lot of places to eat within walking distance.

We woke up early the next day when two more friends came rumbling into the parking lot to meet up with us and ride the rest of the trip. After a quick bite to eat, we headed out on 81 towards Waynesboro to pick up the Blue Ridge. The Blue Ridge Pkwy (which is about 500 miles long from start to finish and is everything you've ever heard about the place and more) is one of the nicest motorcycling roads you can ever ride. The road is very well maintained and the overlooks are unreal. The only thing is you have to watch where you are and plan out your gas stops because there aren't too many places to get gas on the Pkwy itself. You have to jump off, get gas and jump back on. You don't want to run out of gas on the Blue Ridge

... that's for sure. After spending most of the day on the BR, we jumped off and started to make our way over to the Two Wheel Inn in Robbinsville, NC where we were staying for the rest of the time down there. The Two Wheel Inn is on Route 129 and is geared towards motorcycles. The place is super clean and each room has its own garage for your motorcycle! It will fit one full dresser but you should be able to get two Dynas in there with no problem. Even if you have to leave your bike outside, the overhang is wide enough that your bike will be protected if it rains. The owners, Barry and his wife Linda, can't do enough for you. They even have a place to wash your bike and give



you towels to dry them off. They have a pavilion and a fire pit so you can mingle with the other guests and share some stories. The place is great and I highly recommend it.

On our third day, we woke up to the sound of thunder and it was raining out. My buddies said, "Let's get ready". I was thinking ... for what? Let's hang for a while and maybe it will pass. "No way," they said. "Today we are doing the Dragon. Let's go."

I'm thinking ... great we are going to do this super-curvy road in the rain ... that's just great. Well, we headed up 129 toward the tail of the Dragon. The road was getting a little twisty and turns were getting sharper and sharper and then we stopped at the Deals Gap store. I said to my friends, "That wasn't so bad". They started laughing and said, "We didn't do it yet. This is the start of it here".



Great. Here we go. I was the second of six bikes. The rain let up a bit but the roads were still very wet. I'm thinking ... I'm on one of the hairiest roads in the country in the rain! Curve after curve after hairpin turn ... right, left, right again, right, left hairpin turn, curve, something that might be considered a straight portion of the road, curve, turn, turn, turn and before I knew it, we were pulling over on the side of the road. "What's up?" I asked. It was over. We did it. That was it. 318 turns in 11 miles goes by pretty fast when you're really paying attention to what you're doing. It wasn't bad at all. Don't get me wrong, though. You have to watch what you're doing but I think if you didn't know you were on it, you would just think this road has a lot of turns to it. We then rode over to Dry Falls, Bridal Veil Falls and a few other places before doing the Dragon the opposite way. The rain stopped and it was dry this time. We

then went to Chimney Rock, Smoky Mountain Harley-Davidson, rode a bunch of other great roads and back to the Inn.

We left early the next day. This time, no rain ... just FOG ... HEAVY FOG and, of course, we had to do the Dragon one more time before we left. So I did the Tail three times ... first in the rain, then dry and then in the fog. All we needed was a little snow and I would have done it all! We did about 3,000 miles for the whole trip and I loved every mile of it. If you get the chance to go, it's beautiful down there and if you pay attention, you too will be fine. Don't fear all the hype.





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

March 2012

March Birthdays

- Dennis Irizarry3/1
- Bob Beck..... 3/6
- Fred Hartmann..... 3/10
- Jim Kowchefski 3/16
- Mario Cantone 3/18
- John Ehlich 3/19
- Angela Dallogacono.3/23

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 Member-ship Drive—Thunder Bikes LI
4 Out with the Old, in with the New Ride	5	6	7	8	9	10 Casino Night—VFW
11  St. Pat's Parade & Ride Daylight Savings	12	13	14	15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day 
18 Out East to Mattituck Ride	19	20 Spring Begins 	21	22	23	24
25 Monthly Mtg, & Ride	26	27	28	29	30	31



Don't Forget!
Clocks spring ahead at 2:00 am on Sunday, March 11th.

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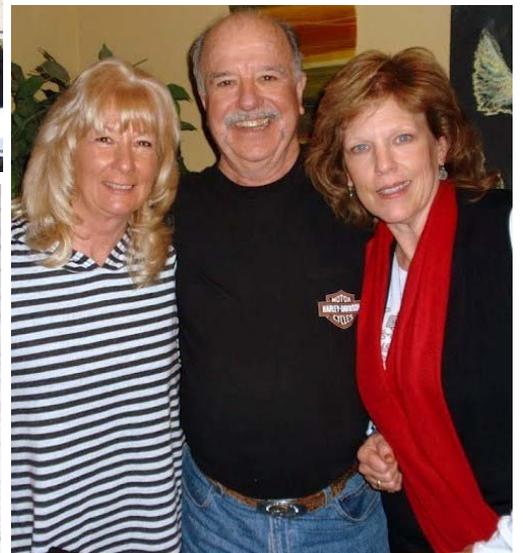
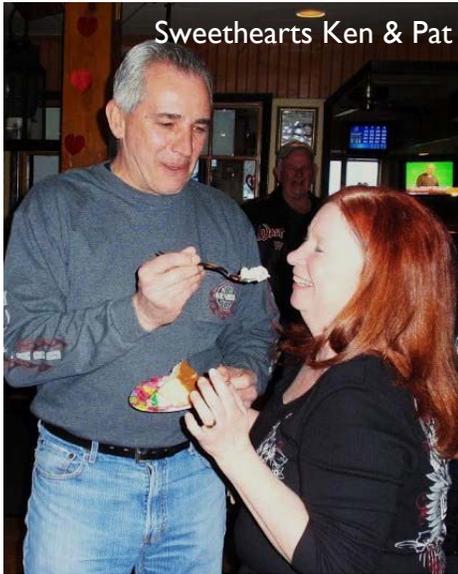

Coming in April ... Our Annual Winthrop Hospital Bunny Ride
Saturday, April 7th

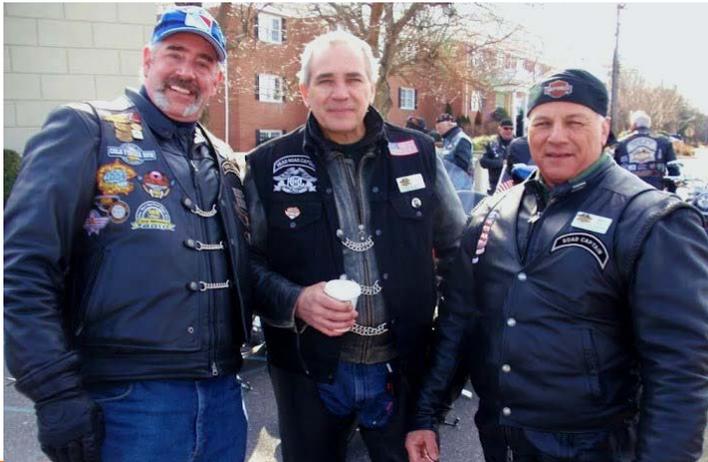
Charter rides that begin and terminate on Long Island are officially over when the destination is reached. If a Charter Ride leaves Long Island, the ride will officially end upon returning to Long Island. Official charter rides are "dry" rides, no alcohol. Helmets are required on all club rides.

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

Full tank of gas and empty bladder required for all Rides

Watching the Long Beach Polar Bears





We would like to thank Dan Mattais from National HCG for speaking to the group at our final Lighthouse Chapter meeting and for being the judge of our Chili Cook-Off.

FEBRUARY MEETING



The winners were ...
 Third Place—Annette Greco
 Second Place—John Locascio
 ... and for the honor of having their face framed in the Toilet Seat, First Place was awarded to
NADINE HARTMANN

The People's Choice Award went to
JODI STOLPER
 Congratulations to all!



Poker Run
 Congratulations Winners!
 Best Hand: Bob Read
 Worst Hand: Elaine Farquhar



... LOL

Designated Drunk

There were a bunch of bikers hanging out at a bar and, after many complaints from the neighbors, the police were sent down to stake out the bar for drunken bikers. One biker walks out of the bar staggering around the parking lot looking for his bike. He tries his keys in about 10 bikes but none of them would start. The cops are sitting there watching him as he sits on the curb and passes out.

Thirty minutes later, the bar closes and all the bikers get on their bikes and leave. The biker the cops are watching wakes up and finds only one bike in the parking lot. He walks over to his bike, puts in the key which starts the bike and he takes off after his friends. The cops pull out after him and immediately pull him over for DWI. After some field sobriety tests, they were disappointed to find out that he was sober. They asked him why he was staggering around the parking lot, to which he replied that he was the designated decoy tonight.



New Membership Applications for the L.I. Harley Riders, Inc. Available online NOW!

or send an email to Chris at Membership@LIHarleyRiders.com to request one

Are you a member of the American Motorcyclist Association (AMA)?
Learn more about it at: 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
March 25, 2012
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



15 East Deer Park Rd., Dix Hills
631-262-0600
www.readyriders.com

Walt from Ready Riders is offering a 10% discount to members of the L.I Harley Riders.

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

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.

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10% Discount to Lighthouse HOG Members

Joseph Bonura is a financial advisor with Bethpage Financial Strategies and is offering members a complimentary financial review of your 401ks, IRAs, mutual funds and other investments. Joe has offices in Mineola, Massapequa and Riverhead. For your complimentary review, please call Joe at 516-349-4252.



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