

PITTSBURGH H.O.G CHAPTER #2224

(HARLEY OWNERS GROUP)
WWW.PITTSBURGHOG.COM*Sponsored by: Three Rivers Harley-Davidson, 1463 Glenn Avenue, Glenshaw, PA 15116; 412-487-3377*
www.threeriversharley.com*From the Director*

Greetings.

Its Spring and time to start thinking about the coming riding season! Because Vince has been pre-occupied these past few weeks it's fallen to me to kick off this month's newsletter. And what an easy month to get. With winter hopefully behind us it's time to dust off those big two wheelers (or three wheelers) and get ready to ride. We are hoping that riding schedule will include a few events with the club. We have three rides this month. The first on the 16th will be the annual Angie Berkey Memorial ride to Silvionis. Then on Sunday the 17th the club will be gathering for our annual ride over to the blessing of the bikes in Murrysville to officially kick off the riding season. Finally, on the 30th we will ride to the VA hospital for a bike display and bingo event that we have done now for three years in appreciation for those vets. This April schedule has become our traditional way to start the riding season. I'm also hoping that along the way you will each find the time for a spring maintenance checkup and also some time to stop by an empty parking lot to practice those riding skills that got rusty over the winter. Spring has sprung! Let's ride and have fun.

Todd Havekotte, Assistant director

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

From The Director	1
Spring Open House and Food Drive	2
In Praise of Engine Guards	3
Rolling Thunder Activities	4
Rides and Events	5
PA HOG Rally info	6-7
Pictures from March 2016 Events	8
Life on a Trike by Lori Jones	9-10
Birthdays, Anniversaries and New Members	11
Chapter Officers and Club Information	12

THREE RIVERS HARLEY-DAVIDSON® 1463 GLENN AVE. GLENSHAW, PA (412) 487-3377 THREERIVERSHARLEY.COM

1ST PARKING LOT PARTY OF THE NEW YEAR!

THE BIG OPEN HOUSE APR 23

LIVE MUSIC BY SOURMASH RIDE SAFE. RIDE SOBER.

ADULT BEVS BY KNUCKLEHEADS BAR

PLENTY OF FOOD Smith's

DYNO PULLS ALL DAY LONG!

LIVE2RIDE MILEAGE CONTEST STARTS 11AM-3PM

H.O.G.® FIGHTS HUNGER BRING YOUR CANS! JUST ASK OUR HOG® CHAPTER

MS. TRH-D® PHOTO SIGNING

VENDORS & MORE FUN!

THUNDER ROADS

HOG

WILK'S

MOTORCYCLE SAFETY COUNCIL

community food bank

Knuckleheads Bar

CLOUD

PROVIDER PITTSBURGH

Three Rivers HARLEY-DAVIDSON®

HOG Fights Hunger at the TRHD Spring Open House

Please help support the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank and their efforts to feed the hungry by donating non-perishable food items at this event. Help us help others! We will be collecting items throughout the day.

GREATER PITTSBURGH
community
food bank



In praise of engine guards!!

The good news is I'm all right with only a stoved finger, and my bike will be fine too after I replace the handlebars and engine guard! The bad news is that after logging over 97,000 miles since I re-started my riding activities in 2011 I had my first serious accident. Now for the rest of the story and the lessons I've learned.

The accident occurred on McKnight Road down by Out Back Steakhouse. I was in the right lane and the cars in front of me were driving badly. I had good following distance and my speed was well within the speed limit. When the cars in front looked like they were going to stop in the middle of the road I needed to make a move. I did not want to do an emergency stop because I was concerned I would be hit from behind. I did not want to pull off the road on to the shoulder as the situation did not appear that bad. The best move looked to be a lane shift to the left. I checked my mirrors, shifted my head to take a quick glance, put on my turn signal and proceeded to move to the left lane. Bang! Right into the side of a car which I bounced off of about 3 times before we got separated and I got to the side of the road. Fortunately, I was able to keep the bike upright and the driver was smart enough to keep going straight until I was clear. We both got to the berm OK. Then came the paperwork, and the blemish on my pride and on my insurance policy and finally the lessons to be learned from what happened.

Lesson one I already thought I knew. My full face helmet provides great protection for my chin but its blind spot is much bigger than my open face helmet view. I'm not suggesting that the full face is bad, on the contrary I love it and plan to continue wearing it. It does however have a much bigger blind spot and I need to remember to fully turn my head before making a move. The second lesson and the reason for this article is to sing the praises of having an engine guard installed on your bike. I thought a lot about it before I had mine installed back in 2012. I thought it would make my clean sleek springer look clunky. Putting it on was my big compromise for safety. Boy am I glad I made the right choice! When it came time for my accident the engine guard saved both my leg and the bike. I hit that car so hard it needs a new rear bumper, a rear side panel and two new doors! My engine guard bent in over two inches! But everything else was un-damaged! It won't be a hard decision to continue riding with one. If your bike does not have lowers for protection I would strongly recommend you consider installing one. We all know the dangers of riding a motorcycle. In the end preparing for safety is the best thing that can be done to plan ahead for that incident down the road which inevitably comes when you put on a lot of miles. If I can pass on any benefit from this experience to others it would be to consider safety over looks and prepare your bike as best you can in case you get into trouble down the road.

Todd Havekotte, Assistant Director.

2016 Rolling Thunder Activities

This year as a participant in the Rolling Thunder Weekend, you have several choices of activities on Saturday May 28th. We have a choice of day rides that are short, medium and longer or you can just sit by the pool and get your first tan of the season.

Short Ride Great Venue:

Ride 35 miles to Quantico, Virginia and visit the Marine Museum. The museum is currently hanging a WW II Douglas SBD Dauntless Marine bomber flown in the Pacific from land bases and aircraft carriers. It will hang in the Leatherneck Gallery of the museum. There is also a new tableau depicting a Sikorsky UH-34D helicopter in operation during Viet Nam. We will spend 2 to 3 hours in the museum before heading to lunch. Admission to the museum is free.

Short Ride Beautiful Scenery:

Ride 28 miles to Great Falls Park on the Potomac River overlooking Washington DC. Great Falls Park, an 800-acre park located along the Potomac River, is one of the most spectacular natural landmarks in the Washington DC metropolitan area. More than 150 different species of birds can be seen at the park including whitetail deer, fox, box turtles, squirrels, coyotes, bats, and chipmunks. Admission is free.

Day Ride Adventure:

Ride 75 miles through the Virginia countryside to Luray Caverns in the Shenandoah. Visit the caverns and see many various underground rock formations created over thousands of years. A paved and lighted walkway winds through magnificent cathedral-like chambers and around abundant examples of stalactite and stalagmite ornamentation. Admission is \$23 for adults and \$21 for seniors. A group of 20 would be \$17 each with a prior reservation.

Hotel Barbeque:

The hotel is sponsoring a poolside cookout at 5:00 PM. They are increasing the offerings this year and are looking forward to seeing us again. Admission is free. BYOB.

APRIL 2016 RIDES AND EVENTS:

Saturday 4-16 Angie Berkey Memorial Ride to Silvioni's
Contact Scott Jones for more information scott_and_lori@live.com
Or call: 724-8980-8038

Sunday 4-17 Blessing of the bikes in Murrysville.
Ride departs from the GetGo on Route-8 Leaving at 9am
Ride leader: Vince Capane.

Thursday 4-21 6-9pm 1st Annual Western PA Motorcycle Safety
Symposium the Greentree Holiday Inn Express/ Parkway Center Mall
Pre-registration is required - Space is limited!
Email to reserve your space - jslifkin@padui.org
Questions and information contact Hal Deily - hal@StayinSafe.com

Saturday 4-23 Spring Open House, Bake Sale and Food Drive at
Three Rivers Harley Davidson

Saturday 4-30 Veterans Hospital Ride:
Ride will meet at Three Rivers Harley Davidson with the ride leaving
promptly @ 11:30am
Ride leader: Todd Havekotte
For questions please email at trharchitect1@verizon.net
(412)486-4350 Office or (412)965-5707 Cell.

On Saturday April 30th our chapter will be doing a return ride to the Southwestern Veteran's Center at 7060 Highland Drive, Pittsburgh PA 15206. We will leave from Three Rivers at 11:30 A.M. and ride to the Veteran's center arriving at 12:00. As in the past we will put our bikes on display in the parking lot and have a free lunch of hot dogs and burgers in the cafeteria. After lunch we will run a bingo until about 3:00. Some of our trike members may even give a few unofficial rides around the parking lot. After our visit I will lead a ride to dinner at a location to be determined.

As you might expect the residents look forward to our spending a little time with them as a return for their life of service on our behalf. We hope you can join us for this entertaining event. This event will happen rain or shine. If the weather is too poor to ride we will have an alternate plan to meet at Three Rivers and car pool over to run the



DATES - Jul 28 - 30, 2016

REGISTRATION DEADLINE - Jun 9, 2016

<http://www.pastatehogrally.com/registration.php>

LOCATION - Williamsport, PA

Contact Steve Krchnavy if you have any questions – 412-979-2055
hdssoftail@zoominternet.net

Hampton Inn Williamsport Downtown
140 Via Bella - Williamsport, PA 17701
Phone: 570-323-6190

\$115.00 per night + Taxes

PA HOG RALLY RATE

King/Dbl Queen non-smoking

Hot breakfast included, free Wi-Fi

bike wash area, indoor heated swimming pool, whirlpool, and fitness area.

There are 35 rooms at this rate available. If you think you are interested, reserve a room now! Hotel Reservations can be cancelled by July 26th, 2016.

We will leave the Pittsburgh area the morning of July 28th taking a very scenic ride through the Central PA Mountains with a stop at Hyner View State Park & returning Sunday, July 31st

It looks like the organizers have some great rides planned for Friday & Saturday. The registration includes a Pig Roast at Horsepower Harley Davidson.

April 2016

RALLY PHONE NUMBER

814-406-9680



Still thinking about registering for the Pennsylvania H.O.G. Rally? Know of someone on the fence? Now's the time to get the word out, pass along all the information you can to your Chapters, your H.O.G. friends, and to your dealers. Let's get our Registration Coordinator so busy she doesn't have time to even think about riding!

We've got a great Rally planned and we're looking forward to seeing you in beautiful Williamsport, Pennsylvania on July 28-30th. Registration closes on June 9th. Let's blow this thing up! The Historic Genetti Hotel is rally headquarters. We've taken a lot of time getting the special rally rates at Genetti, Hampton Inn, Holiday Inn, Holiday Inn Express, Towne Place Suites, and others. All hotel links are on the Rally website:

www.pastatehogrally.com. Please take full advantage of them all.

This year we'll be "Rollin' On The River" in beautiful Williamsport, PA. Williamsport is nestled in beautiful Lycoming County in the heart of Pennsylvania. Lycoming is the largest county in the state, and one of the

most rural. It has plenty of room for some of the best motorcycle rides in the state. We have plenty of rides scheduled to keep everyone ride happy. A scenic paddle boat ride on the Susquehanna River might be what you would enjoy to just take in a breath of fresh air and relax. A wine tour is scheduled as well, and this is always a favorite, so make sure you sign up on the preregistration page (space will be limited, first-come first-served). All preregistered H.O.G. members will receive a unique one of a kind Challenge Coin. These coins are not for sale; you must be preregistered to receive one. Non H.O.G. members and onsite registrants will not receive this unique Challenge Coin.

The Poker Run this year is being sponsored by the Pennsylvania H.O.G. Rally! You will have an opportunity to win a cash prize of \$500 for completing the Poker Run. In case of a tie, there will be a draw off with highest card winning.

A unique Scavenger Hunt is in the works and it's going to be a lot of fun. You won't have to go far to do it, but remember, there is only one

winner! Only those that complete the Scavenger Hunt will be eligible to win, and a winner will be drawn at random from those. So get out there and have some fun, take some time to learn about your local surroundings (oops hint there), and let's see who wins (winner announced at closing ceremonies).

There is a wonderful Ice Cream Meet n' Greet following Opening Ceremonies scheduled for Thursday evening in the Grand Ball Room. There will be French Vanilla, Chocolate Chip Ice Cream, and nine different toppings to indulge your sweet tooth. We will serve as long as ice cream is available, first-come first-served.

On Friday evening there will be a Pig Roast dinner at Horsepower Harley-Davidson from 6:00-8:00 p.m. This is free of charge and is available to Rally Attendees only. You must have a meal ticket and show your wristband in order to eat. Another great reason to preregister and attend the Pennsylvania H.O.G. Rally.

The Bike Show will be Friday evening at Horsepower Harley-Davidson. You can register for the bike show on Friday at the Genetti Lobby from 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. only. The judging will be 7:00-7:45 p.m. Winners will be announced that evening. I'm also pleased to announce that this year we were fortunate to be selected to have a **Harley-Davidson Demonstration fleet truck.** The famous Harley-Davidson black and orange tractor-trailer will be parked in The Genetti parking lot. There are 16, 2016 model year Harley-Davidson motorcycles for not only your viewing pleasure



East Central AAA



Chapter #2224



1st Annual Western PA Motorcycle Safety Symposium

Sponsored by the GPMSC
Greater Pittsburgh Motorcycle Safety Council

Thursday, April 21, 2016

Greentree Holiday Inn Express / Parkway Center Mall

6 - 9 PM

Join us as we 'kick-off' the 2016 Riding Season with a night devoted to motorcycling and featuring a number of local and nationally recognized Motorcycle Safety Experts speaking and answering YOUR questions on making this year the best ever!

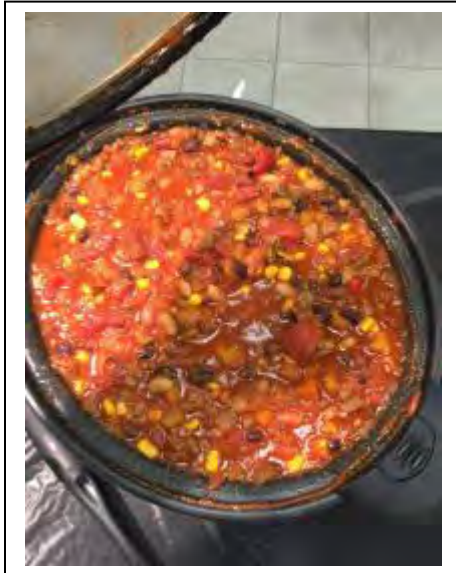
Schedule of Events

- 6:00 – 6:30 **Meet & Greet**
Meet the members of the GPMSC and rub elbows with our guest speakers and other sharing your riding passion
- 6:30 – 7:30 **Open Buffet-Style Dinner**
Sponsored by the GPMSC / Pre-registered guests ONLY
- 7:30 – 8:10 **Speakers Featuring:**
Pam Wahal – Founding Member of GPMSC, Opening Remarks
Hal Deily – President GPMSC, Motorcycle Safety Foundation Instructor, Media rep for PAMSP
BJ McMullen – Pgh MotoOfficer Instructor, owner of ProRiderPgh., 'Police-style' training for all riders!
Eric Trow – Writer/Rider magazine, Owner/Lead Instructor of Stayin'Safe, considered the premier 'on road' motorcycle training program in the country!
- 8:10 – 8:30 **'Round Table' discussion / Q & A with the experts...DOOR PRIZES and MORE!**
- 8:30 – 8:35 **Cathy Tress** – Founding Member of GPMSC, Closing Remarks

Pre-Registration is required – SPACE IS LIMITED – Register TODAY!
Email to Reserve your place – jslifkin@padui.org
Questions for more information contact Hal Deily – hal@StayinSafe.com

Pictures from March 2016 Events

Chili Cook-off at Three Rivers Harley Davidson



Bourbon & Cigar Event at Three Rivers Harley Davidson



Life on a Trike by Lori Jones, Activities Officer

Scott and I always rode on a 2 wheeler: first a Honda Shadow, and later a Dyna Wide Glide. While I loved the feeling of the wind and the freedom of 2 wheels, I discovered that 2 wheel bikes are not conducive to my singing and dancing along the way. Scott complained about me rocking the bike at stoplights, and I was always afraid I'd see a squirrel or some other distraction, and knock our bike off balance. Additionally, while Scott had a smooth ride in the driver's position, he wasn't really cognizant of the effect of bumps on the back seat passenger. I can't even count the number of times I almost flew off the back, or at least it seemed like that to me.

So when we were offered the Trike by Scott's dad, I was thrilled! Finally, I had floorboards to rest my feet on instead of little pegs. I had a comfortable seat that even had armrests! I had a stereo to listen to so I didn't have to depend on the little songs always floating through my head. And best of all, I didn't have to worry about those distracting squirrels anymore! Life was great!!!

Since getting the trike, we have ventured on longer rides, with none of the ill effects that I sometimes experienced on the Dyna. My back has never felt better, and my feet no longer hurt when I dismount. While we aren't super riders yet, we have enjoyed actually taking overnight trips on the trike, and found the bike to have plenty of room for packing necessities.

A couple of Octobers ago, we met a group of friends up in Warren, PA for a weekend ride. We all stayed at different locations, Scott and I at a bed and breakfast, but we met up at 7:00 AM Saturday morning, ready to ride. Unfortunately, because the day before when riding up to Warren had been so sunny and lovely, Scott and I had failed to take our leathers. So while everyone else was somewhat prepared for the cold, dressed in leather or with heated gear, we weren't prepared at all. Imagine flying along at 65 MPH in 42-degree weather. Not exactly a joyful experience. I believe hypothermia may have been setting in, as I ended up falling asleep on the bike until we finally stopped at a restaurant for breakfast around 9 AM. But I really can't complain too much – one of the other riders in our group was on a much smaller bike, and by the time we stopped for breakfast, we all wondered whether he would even be able to continue on! He was in rough shape, but kept on going.

After that brief stop, allowing the temperatures to rise to a balmy 47 degrees, we set off again – destinations Grand Canyon of Pennsylvania and the Elk Center at Benezette. If you haven't been there, both are a must-see! The Grand Canyon was beautiful that October day – leaves weren't quite all the way changed, but it was still a fabulous view. It was also climbing up in temperature to an even warmer 55 degrees by that point. Hypothermia was no longer a problem. I was just thankful we were on the trike so that my shivering wouldn't knock us off balance.

Benezette was awesome. We saw so many elk along the roadways, just checking us out as we checked them out. And when we were finally leaving the area, we were lucky enough to see the largest bull elk I have ever seen, even compared to the ones I saw in Yellowstone. His regal stance was only surpassed by the largest rack I've ever seen. Of course, I'm not like my dear

friend Linda Capane, who is always prepared, so I didn't have my camera out to catch it. Still, it was amazing.

Taking scenic routes, the entire way, we finally stopped for a steak dinner in some small town, whose name I can't remember. By that point, exhaustion was setting in, but I was still smiling and picking the bugs out of my teeth. The dinner was amazing, and gave us all the second wind we needed to finish our trip. We parted ways about 9:00 PM and Scott and I returned to our B&B. I don't remember too much of the ride back to the B&B, but I do know that even on a trike, 400 miles in one day is a bit much for me – I'm still such a lightweight! We rode back home alone, and it was such a peaceful setting, riding through Tidioute and Tionesta, etc. What a great trip!

Since that trip, we have enjoyed our trike more and more. Scott doesn't have to deal with my fidgeting and waving to everyone I see, or me being so easily distracted by squirrels. I can sing and dance to my heart's content. It's such a pleasure even to come home from work and jump on the trike for a quick dinner somewhere.

For anyone considering a trike, JUST DO IT! Sure, you don't get to lean like you love to do, but your passenger will thank you for the comfort you are providing. People tease us about getting old and needing a trike, but to them I say, "Life is beautiful!" Whether 2 wheel or 3, just get out and enjoy. We have plenty of time to sit around when we are no longer able to have fun. In the meantime, I'll take my life on a trike any day, even in 42-degree weather!





Birthdays and Anniversaries

We would like to wish the following members a [Happy Birthday](#)

April 1 Carol McDonald
 April 1 Victor Jason
 April 2 Steve Brosky
 April 4 Cynthia Krchnavy
 April 5 Wilai Gould
 April 11 Karen Cassidy
 April 12 Will Demshar
 April 12 Larry Szramowski
 April 20 Gayle Loehr
 April 22 Rich Ehrardt
 April 30 Lori Jones

And



[Anniversaries in March](#)

Bob and Karrie Hoffman
 Robert and Regina Martin
 Ed and Jan Varasse

[Welcome New Memebers](#)

Bridgett Burns
 Sandra Poole
 Mary Ann Finkbeiner
 Roger Peterson

You can view photos from a variety of Chapter Activities by visiting:
<http://hogchapter2224.shutterfly.com/>
Or see video by searching PGHHOG 2224

We would greatly value input from the members regarding the newsletter. Please feel free to send photos, suggestions for articles and comments to the editor's email.
soylentgreen67@gmail.com

[Chapter Stats](#)

As of March 1, we have 139 Active Members

Please note! Events listed in the calendar are subject to change. All information contained in this newsletter, calendar, or website is accurate and complete at the time of publication. Since much of this information is subject to change at any time for a variety of reasons it is recommended that you check your e-mail account frequently especially prior to leaving your home to participate in a Chapter Ride. If you do not have an e-mail account, information may also be verified by contacting the Road Captain for that particular Chapter Ride.

2016 Chapter Officers

Director: Vince Capane
ruler818@comcast.net
412-758-0869

Assistant Director: Todd Havekotte
t2249havekotte@verizon.net
412-486-4350

Treasurer: Linda Szramowski
szramowski@prodigy.net
412-486-8105

Secretary: Chyrel Klaas
Chyrel883harley@msn.com
412-931-3542

Activities Officer: Lori Jones
Scott_and_Lori@live.com
724-898-8038

Safety Officer: Greg Haus
ghaus1@comcast.net
412-486-1903

Ladies of Harley Officer: Pat Donovan
pjdonov@zoominternet.net
724-443-7298

Head Road Captain: J.J. Donovan
jjdonov@zoominternet.net
412-443-7298

Editor: Robert Loehr
Soylentgreen67@gmail.com
412-952-7100

Webmaster: Bill Kerr
bkerrone@gmail.com
412-370-1619

Photographer: Larry Szramowski
szramowski@prodigy.net
412-486-8105

Historian: Georgene Szymanski
gszymanski2@verizon.net
412-781-9456

Membership Officer: Cari Moore
Cari01s1lmoore@yahoo.com
412-427-4565

Media Officer: Karrie Wood
kdubpgh@icloud.com
412-667-0356

Events Officer: Alicia Suess
Asuess81@gmail.com
412-235-7473

Monthly HOG Chapter

Regular monthly Chapter meetings are scheduled for the second Thursday of each month beginning at 7:30 pm. The meetings are held in a private room at, Monte Cello's, 2198 Babcock Blvd., Ross Twp., 15209, 412-821-8177. Food and refreshments are available before, during, and after the meeting at your own cost. There will be a 50-50 drawing each month with proceeds benefiting the Pgh. H.O.G. Chapter.

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS AND GUESTS:

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRINT YOUR NAME ON THE ATTENDANCE SHEET WHEN YOU ENTER THE MEETING ROOM

Everyone in attendance will receive a door prize ticket. Prizes may vary from month to month. All Pittsburgh H.O.G. Chapter members that are present and signed in are also eligible for the monthly rollover drawing. The drawings will take place at the end of the meeting. Good luck!



*Let's Ride and Have
Fun!*