



Harley Owners Group

Chapter 3811

December 2016

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Thank you Chet for your service and leadership in support of the Worcester H.O.G. Chapter, a job well done!! There's no doubt you will continue to be a positive influence in our Chapter going forward.



Worcester H.O.G. members supporting the **Tim Jackson Memorial Ride** on 10/16 with proceeds going to the Worcester Veterans Shelter (top) and the **Dummerston VT Apple Pie Run** on 10/9 (bottom).



Chapter Meeting Information

Worcester H.O.G. Chapter meetings are held on the *first Tuesday* of the month at 7:30pm at the [Auburn Elks Lodge](#).

Come early and socialize! The typical agenda includes Officer reports, door prizes, 50-50 drawing, info on upcoming events, rides, guest speakers, and new member acknowledgments. **Please join us** and see why we have such a great following and have so much fun!

Be a part of our newsletter!

Email your stories and pictures to:
editor@worcesterhog.com

All submissions become the property of Worcester H.O.G. We reserve the right to edit submissions for length and content.





From your Director

Hello to all our members and Happy Holidays,

It is said that time flies, and it is definitely true when you're having fun. I know that as a fact in my lifetime.

I have been a Chapter member for eleven years and have memories from this H.O.G. Chapter that will keep me laughing for a long time to come.

My (3) years of being involved in the chapter as Assistant Director and then as Director for two years have been at times a challenge yet also a pleasure, and never a regret.

When you're a member of this H.O.G. Chapter you become part of the "family". You meet so many good people who you click with because of the same interests and values you have. We ride well and have fun *together*, it's never a dull experience when you're with "family" on a ride or a Friday Night Dinner, or doing an event for our sponsoring dealer *Sheldon's Harley Davidson*.

We have had many proud moments this past year doing rides for the benefit of others, starting with the Boston Ride for Wounded Vets, Officer Tarentino support Ride, Ellington MDA Ride, Heart to Heart Ride, The Smart Bear Ride for the children at the Guild of St. Agnes, Thompson Fire Department BBQ Ride, Dummerston Apple Pie Ride, and the Tim Jackson Memorial Ride.

As a HOG group we not only did charity rides we also did many weekly rides that were mapped out and led by our Road Captains to places of interest and fun. Let's not forget all the fun we have in the off season with the FND (if you don't know what that stands for you're missing out).

Our L.O.H. has kept us quite busy as well with all sorts of activities to keep us on the go. Well done Ladies!

The Members of this Chapter have pulled together to make us one of the best H.O.G. Chapters around and we are the most active HOG in the state. No one person did it all, it was all done by many volunteers. I thank you all.

This being the last month as your Director I want to say to Ken Karey, Mark Zibel and Scott Johnson Sr "Thank you". You have supported and worked with me to make

this Chapter successful.

I have also had the pleasure of working with our other Officers; Richie Smith, Tammy West, Karin Karey, Roy Mikkelsen, Andy Foster, Ken Corey, Jay George, Paul Gunnerson & Kevin Colbath. "Thank you all".

I want to welcome LaDonna Sanetti as our new *H.O.G. Manager*, Ken Karey as our next *Director*, and Jim Evans as *Assistant Director*. They are very capable people with a passion for our Chapter. *We are in good hands!*

I am not going anywhere, I am remaining with the Chapter as a *Past Director* and Road Captain, doing what I love to do, riding and having fun with our Chapter.

Chet McDonald

Director

Worcester H.O.G. Chapter #3811

Worcester H.O.G Officers

Director	<i>Chet McDonald</i>
Assistant Director	<i>Ken Karey</i>
Treasurer	<i>Scott Johnson, Sr.</i>
Secretary/Membership	<i>Mark Zibel</i>
Activities Officer	<i>Richie Smith</i>
Ladies of Harley Officer	<i>Karin Karey</i>
Head Road Captain	<i>Roy Mikkelsen</i>
Editor	<i>Andy Foster</i>
Safety Officer	<i>Ken Corey</i>
Photographer	<i>Jay George</i>
Historian	<i>Paul Gunnerson</i>
Events Coordinator	<i>Kevin Colbath</i>

Worcester H.O.G Road Captains

Head Road Captain: *Roy Mikkelsen*
Assistant Head Road Captain: *Bill Zambarano*

<i>Alan Berthiaume</i>	<i>Ken Corey</i>
<i>Alan Froslic</i>	<i>Ken Karey</i>
<i>Alan Shea</i>	<i>Kevin Colbath</i>
<i>Arthur Pond</i>	<i>Mark Zibel</i>
<i>Chet Chludenski</i>	<i>Paul Gunnerson</i>
<i>Chet McDonald</i>	<i>Peter Bogren</i>
<i>Dave Eaton</i>	<i>Ray Robidoux</i>
<i>Ed McDonald</i>	<i>Richie Smith</i>
<i>Jack Grzyb</i>	<i>Tammy Lee</i>

Yankee Run Committee

*George Gilligan, Ray Remillard,
 Janice Fiske, & Sue DiPilato*



Assistant Director

I first became a member of H.O.G. in 2003 when I joined the MetroWest Chapter out of *Paramount Harley - Davidson* in Framingham. This group helped my riding skills and confidence grow, offered me many riding opportunities, and introduced me to a great group of people. It wasn't long before I became a Road Captain and stepped-up to help run their annual fundraiser. When Paramount closed and the chapter dissolved I wasn't able to find the kind of HOG "family" I had with MetroWest.

Missing the camaraderie and having tried another chapter that never "clicked" with me, I joined *Worcester H.O.G.* in 2013 but decided "I just want to ride and NOT get too involved". You all know how well that worked out! As soon as it was recognized that I was an experienced Road Captain, I was handed a rocker. Not long afterwards I was asked to serve as your *Assistant Director*. And as you read this, I'm just a few weeks away from becoming your *Director* in 2017. I'm pretty good at sticking to my plans and saying "no", but I'm not good at standing idly by and not contributing where I have passion and feel I can make a difference.

But Director? Can I do this??

I've led organizations of all sizes as part of my job but this is different. Can I find the time with a demanding career? I'm not a retired guy with lots of time on my hands... though I long to be one! Do I know what needs to be done, how to do it, and when to do it? Insurance, legacy rides, financials, etc.? It didn't take long for me to realize that the support of those around me would make this very possible. Chet has served as my mentor and offered his support (though he has also set the bar *VERY* high). Other officers, past & present, have offered their support as well. And honestly, I'm counting on each and every member to help me run *OUR* chapter.

I want to hear from you. I want to know what's working and what's not. I want to know what you want and what you'd like to see changed. I will be honored be your *Director* and I'm flattered by the confidence expressed in me. But remember, this will always be *YOUR* chapter.

While Jim Evans will be taking-over as your *Assistant Director* and serving as our representative to the *Iron Adventure Run*, I did want to close with a reminder about that event. Rooms are limited and going fast. It's a great event and I'd strongly encourage you to register ASAP. Check things out at www.ironadventure.com.

Ride safe my friends. Let's make 2017 a great year of riding and having fun!

Ken



Secretary/Membership

The pessimist says I can't believe the riding season is almost over while the optimist (especially those with heated gear and yes, it's a great investment that can significantly extend your riding season) looks for any opportunity to grab just one more ride no matter how long or short. I don't know about you but I'm not quite ready to wash, wax and put my baby to bed for the long and cold winter. Nope... not yet. Nope, not ready indeed.

For me, the battle ends once *Mother Nature* unleashes her fury and blankets our playing field with ice, snow, sand and salt! Until then however, I'll be posting and watching *Facebook* to communicate rides with any one of the 117 participants who monitor the page or gladly connect with any one of our 203 *Worcester H.O.G. Chapter* members.

Speaking of membership, no need to wait. Get those 2017 applications in early! Please send them to:

Worcester H.O.G. Membership

C/O Sheldon's Harley-Davidson
914 Southbridge Street
Auburn, MA 01501

Getting them in early is a huge help, not just to me but to all of our Officers. It's the best \$20 you can spend! Where else can you meet a vast array of people, ride to amazing places, discover new roads, zip-line, bowl, help a charity or two or three, go to the Karey cookout, support our veterans, sponsoring dealership, make great fiends and much, much more! So much fun, so little time!

A lot of hard work and effort lies ahead in preparing for 2017 and ensuring that, like 2016, it is every bit the success and then some! But we need *YOU*! We need your input, your ideas, your thoughts, and your rides! None of this works without *you*!

As always, "RIDE SAFE & ARRIVE ALIVE"

Mark Zibel

Secretary/Membership Officer/Road Captain



Ladies of Harley

Season's Greetings!

This time of year is a very special time for me. Having just celebrated Thanksgiving with my family, I am reminded of the many things I have to be thankful for. As I reflect on the many blessings in my life, I include my H.O.G. family on the list. I have made friends I would never have met were it not for the love of riding. In my life before Ken (and Harley-Davidson) I could not imagine that I would be involved in a motorcycle group. I take great pride in my HOG affiliation. I know that my HOG family looks out for each other, on and off our bikes. I am part of a brother and sisterhood where we come together to celebrate our joys, and to share our sorrows. We worry and we care about each other, just like family.

I am proud of the charitable work we do. Whether it is riding for the Veterans, raising money to buy children's pajamas, bringing a friend a meal, or supporting our dealership by flipping pancakes, we get the job done with laughter and love! Like all families, we have that crazy uncle (ok, maybe more than one), favorite cousin, and beloved grandpa. We could not be family without them! We don't always agree or see eye to eye, but we love them and always have their back. We make sure we are safe and that no biker is left behind.

In this season of Thanksgiving and celebration, I want to thank my H.O.G. family for enriching my life. I am proud to be part of this Chapter. What an amazing group of folks! So many backgrounds, such diversity, and a wealth of talent and skills; all sharing our passion, having fun and doing good. Please reach out to your brothers and sisters in our non-riding season. Check in on *Facebook* or join us

for some fun Friday night dinners.

I'm looking forward to 2017 and more fun! I can't wait to see what adventures are in store for us.

Merry Christmas! Happy Hanukkah!! Happy New Year!!!

Karin



From the Editor

It's been about two years now since I've been on this job. What started out as a question here or there turned into me being a piece of the participation puzzle for our chapter. Like Ken K mentioned in his article, my intentions were just on riding and having fun. Yet somehow I'm doing something to help out and I didn't even see it coming. And I am having fun with this, so thank *YOU* Chet!

I am losing my "boss" as I kiddingly call Chet from time to time. I've had several bosses over the years, one who I actually called "Paw" because we were so close. But this time it's different, this boss has never paid me any money! But seriously, Chet has paid me a higher wage than money can buy in working with him for our chapter.

Chet has been a mentor to me as well (even at my age), I didn't see that coming either. Through his calm and keen demeanor, he has showed me that patience and thinking things through just a bit longer can provide a much better solution than immediate reactions. Oh sure I have heard this, but his *demonstrating it* made it sink in. Less seldom will you regret a decision if you take time to make it.

This is just one example from my perspective, no doubt Chet has influenced you in a positive way... and perhaps you didn't even see it coming.

Andy



Safety Officer

Reasons why you should not to tailgate!

We all know we should not tailgate because of stopping distance, but that is only part of the story. While returning

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from a trip to Great Lakes, IL (our grandson 'passed in' from Navy boot camp) we encountered a number of things that got me thinking.

First, we were going through deer and elk country during the dusk hours. Getting behind another vehicle seemed like a good idea to avoid hitting an animal (or even a road gator) but getting too close could result in a surprise coming out from underneath or over that vehicle should they hit something.

Second, we came up on a truck on a highway that had its load cover on so we thought all was well. Wrong, we got bombarded by small pebbles, and that would have been brutal if we were on the bike.

Third, we saw a cooler fly out of a boat that was being towed. At least it was empty! Made us think of all the stuff that has come off vehicles on the side of the road, such as lawn chairs, trash cans, and even mattresses.

Fourth, we were behind a truck and realized that we could not see if the light had changed. We came through one that had turned yellow and the car behind us ended up running the red light.

In addition, we hit a rainstorm that made visibility near zero. Tail lights were the only thing you could see, which led to wanting to tailgate but then stopping distance is increased and puddles, potholes, etc come in to play.

All this just shows how much you always need to be aware!

Ken



Historian's Article

Saying Good-Bye to our 30th year as a chapter.

Greetings fellow HOG members.

We are now getting ready to put our bikes away for the winter, somehow this year seemed to go by quickly for me. As we enter December our chapter closes another chapter, that being the end of our 30th year as a H.O.G. Chapter, January 1986-December 2016. We'll begin our 31st year soon in January 2017 with new adventures, new

members, new everything!

I just want to once again shout out a *Big Thank You* to the people who started this chapter for us, and in particular to the two major people who made that happen and who are still with us today. If it had not been for them, you wouldn't have this chapter to enjoy as you do in so many different ways.

Keep in mind that HOG was created in 1983 as a marketing division of the *Harley-Davidson Motor Company*. There were no chapters in 1983 nor 1984, the first chapter came on board in 1985. Our chapter started in January 1986, making it one of the oldest HOG chapter's in the world.

We are a historic chapter. In the #1 position of a National H.O.G. join date is our own *Mark Ziemba*, join date of February 1983. In the #2 position is Orville Sheldon, with a National H.O.G. join date of April 1983. They are still with us now, and we owe them a debt of gratitude for starting this chapter for us. If you happen to see them while at Sheldon's, please take a moment to shake their hands and say *Thank You*.

I wish all of you a very Happy Holiday Season and a Happy New Year. We still have history to make!

Paul Gunnerson
Historian

Yankee Run Stop

Well it's really tough to get out riding lately... there are some nice days, but some not so good. We're busy putting next year's book together, and we hope it is as successful as 2016.

The *Yankee Run Party* at the Elk's was a great success; dancing, fun games, food, cash prizes (\$2k), fantastic raffle table, plus cake and ice cream, all in one night. We hope everyone who attended enjoyed themselves. If you missed it, put next year's date in your calendar; *Saturday, November 11, 2017, 6 - 11pm*.

I'd like to thank all of you that bought books this year, you helped make a great year end party. The sponsors are greatly appreciated for supporting the book as well.

A big *thank you* to our Road Captains, Officers, and Sheldon's in selling the book. A special thank you to Sheldon's who always comes through with gift cards and

items for the raffle table, it is greatly appreciated!

And let's not forget Ray, Jan and Sue (and their spouses) who put this whole season together from the stops, gifts, book sales, party arrangements, raffle table, etc. We could not have succeeded without everyone's support.

Next year please make a note to visit the stops on the short list. They come through every year for us and I'd like to see a few visits go their way.

George for the Yankee Run Committee



Sheldon's Corner

Hello Everyone,

I would like to spend a few moments and give everyone some pointers on how to get the best deal on pre-owned Harley-Davidson motorcycles.

1. Do your research online if you wish, but in order to get the best price, you have to come on in and talk with us. There are many aspects to buying a motorcycle and over 85% of the buyers are payment conscious. So, we need to gather as much information from you as possible so that we can structure the deal with the bike that fits your budget. Simply asking on the showroom floor "how much is that bike" isn't going to get you the best deal. Sitting down with a sales associate will get you the best value. We are in the business of selling motorcycles and we don't want you to have to waste your time running around for the best price when we are very motivated to sell bikes.

2. Most buyers, depending on credit worthiness, will need some sort of down payment. This can either be in the form of cash or equity in an asset that has a VIN. We can roll over some negative equity from your asset into the new loan, if you choose. The higher the down payment, the lower we can go on the interest rate for you. We specialize in financing and offer several different lending sources at your convenience.

3. Find the exact bike that you want. Settle on a model, color, options and accessories. Come on in and speak with a sales associate who will ask you questions to make sure the bike fits your riding needs. The worst thing you can do is buy a bike that you think looks cool, but isn't comfortable

to ride. Our sales associates are trained to ask probing questions to gather information so that you will ride away on the perfect ride for you.

4. Test ride a few bikes. Everyone can test ride any bike every day. We have a designated 10-mile loop that offers different varieties of riding for you to experience. You can also rent a bike for an extended test ride. If you end up purchasing a bike, we will refund you the cost of a one-day rental.

5. Be ready to make a purchase. The more serious you are about buying, the more serious we can be on pricing. Negotiations cannot happen if one side is not ready to come to terms, even if the other side is extremely motivated to make a deal.

6. If you really want to save money, invest in a Priority Maintenance Package. This will save you thousands of dollars on the maintenance of your Harley-Davidson. This program addresses "k" services, tires, batteries, bike washes, winter storage, fuel and pickup/delivery. Our best customers who are interested in saving money invest in this program. You can also purchase a plan even though you did not purchase your Harley-Davidson through us or at the time of sale. It is never too late to save money.

Chad & Bryan

Tail Pipes

From Ed McDonald:

Hello all,

If anyone is interested in going to Lake George with us during [Americade](#) week please let me know. We stay at a place called [Stony Creek Ranch Resort](#) in Warrensburg, NY. It is being remodeled as we speak. It is kind of like a dude ranch, with horseback riding if you like. Paulette goes, I don't. They are keeping the prices at last year's rate until Dec. 15th, just for us. After that they go up 15%.

For those of you that have never been there, they have a restaurant and bar on-site. We do not register for the rally, we just go for rides on our own. You can register if you want. Paulette likes to go to the vendor's for a day, which costs \$10 each to get in. This is a Harley pin stop and we get our pins while we are there.

We are leaving on Sunday June 4th and staying until Thursday June 8. The cost is \$99 per night +tax and fees, it comes out to \$118.43 per night. Price includes a full country

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Tail Pipes

breakfast for two. Everyone is welcome to join us. Ask around, those that have come in the past will tell you what a good time it is.

[Stony Creek Ranch Resort](#): Phone # 518-696-2444 - ask for Alice and tell her you're with Cookie Boy from the HOGs. Their website: www.stonycreekranchresort.com

Any questions or to let me know if you're coming please email me at: ed671@msn.com.

Thanks,

Ed McDonald

Members with [The Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall](#)



*The winner of this year's **F.N.D.** Halloween Costume Contest is Jim Evans! There's an inside joke here...*



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