



Chapter 3431

ERIE CANAL CHAPTER HARLEY OWNERS GROUP

CANALSIDE

www.eriecanalhog.com

SEPTEMBER 2006

Letter from the Director

The motto of our club is "To Ride and Have Fun". We have been doing that since the kickoff with the Blessing of the Bikes. It seems like every ride there is at least one new member joining us on some adventure.

I would like to thank every one for all the hard work in planning rides, breakfasts, dinners, overnight trips and fundraisers for the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation.

In case you did not hear the news, Erie canal HOG TOOK FIRST PLACE for the most money raised by a club. We are starting again for next year. So far we have had two successful cookouts and are looking for other ideas or other fundraising ideas. Steve and Ginny Davis ran with the Nursing Home Ride idea and we have made many seniors happy with our visiting. Kevin, Peggy and Pete headed up the Toy Ride in August and we will be delivering the Toys and Money to the Neighborhood Center of Utica on Columbus Day. Once again thanks to all the volunteers who made the ride so successful. Even though I haven't made a Sunday ride I have heard that they have all been great going to new destinations with new leaders from time to time. In closing I would like to remind all members that the monthly meeting is the 1st Wednesday of every month at 7:00 and I hope to see you there.

Lesley Grogan

Director

HOLLOWEEN COSTUME PARTY

October 28th, from 7:00 to 11:00 PM at the Clonan Legion Post in Chadwicks will be "Party Central" for what is destined to become an annual event. Cost per person will be \$5.00 IN costume and \$10.00 if NOT in costume. Feel free to bring your ADULT friends or relatives as long as you explain to them what kind of people they will be partying with and they promise not to hold it against you later. All proceeds from the event will be donated to PBTF "Ride for Kids.

We're asking you to bring a dessert to share and your favorite music in CDs. Please be sure to label your music. Snacks and chips will be provided and Adult beverages will be available from the Legion's Cash bar.

Clonan American Legion Post is on Oneida St. Chadwicks and there is plenty of parking in the rear of the building.

Please join us for our first attempt in a while to enjoy the dark holiday of Halloween. Costumes, although encouraged are not required. There will be prizes awarded for best costume, etc. NO BIKER OUTFITS! I think we have all seen enough leather for one season.

We hope to see all of you there for fun and games and great homemade desserts. Adults only please, 21 and over. NO weapons NO colors and NO attitudes (except for fun!)

CHRISTMAS PARTY

ERIE CANAL HOG 2006 CHRISTMAS PARTY
Saturday, December 16th at Dibbles Inn, Vernon
Registration 6:30 PM, Dinner 7:00 PM
Tickets on sale October 1st Watch for Details
\$15.00 Members \$20.00 Non Members

Ladies of Harley

The past few months have been very productive for the Ladies of Harley.

We had a Baked Goods Sale, hosted by Susie Wightman, which raised \$130.00. The Ladies also raffled off and Pink Swarovski Crystal and Ivory Pearl Bracelet, raising \$154.00. With the purchase of that bracelet, \$10.00 went to Breast Cancer Research. The winner of the bracelet was Dale Vibbert. The proceeds of both sales went to Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation. Thank you to everyone who has supported our cause.

We will, for the first time this year, have a dinner meeting at Mario's in Oriskany Falls. The meeting is at 6:30. Weather permitting, we will meet at Utica Harley, leave at 5:30, and ride our bikes down. Mario's is on Route 12B and Main Street, in the heart of Oriskany Falls. The guys are welcome and we'll make arrangements for them.

This year, because there are so many other bike events, we haven't been able to have any exclusive ladies ride. Hopefully, next years riding season will see that change. We would like to have rides for the ladies whether two show up or 10. If you have any suggestions please let us know.

We would like to see more ladies at the meetings. The meetings are at Utica Harley @ 6:30 PM on the last Tuesday of every month, unless it's on the Forum. Remember, Ladies of Harley is for ALL female motorcycle enthusiasts, whether you ride on the front or the back of the bike.

Patricia Divens

ROAST PORK DINNER BENEFITTING THE PEDIATRIC BRAIN TUMOR FOUNDATION

Oct. 22, 2006

Location: Oriskany Legion Hall
on route 69 in Oriskany

Time: Serving starts at 3:00
P.M. and continues until all
food is gone

Price \$7.50

Menu: Roast Pork with all the
fixings, salad, dessert,
coffee, tea, water

HOG WILD WEST - June 24 to July 8, 2006

By: Steve Davis

On June 24th, 12 Erie Canal Hog members on 11 Harley's left for what would become a 5800-mile trip. They rode everything from Sportsters to Ultra Classics and 1994 to 2006 model year bikes. During the trip we experienced temperatures from the low 30's to well over 100, and winds that were strong enough to blow the unprepared rider off the rode.

It is hard to say what was the high point of the trip, but for Ginny and I it was experience of seeing the look in our fellow HOG riders eyes when they saw the beautiful western US for the first time. We all enjoyed the trip, but all agreed that we needed to come back and spend more time than we had available this time.

The trip was a hit for all of us, and was made even more so by all of us making it with no major mechanical problems or accidents. The following is a summary of the trip. We hope to show a slide presentation at HD UTICA this Thursday.

Billings MT Trip Information

Duration: June 24 to July 8, 2006 (15 Days)

Distance traveled: Approximately 5886 miles

Approximate fuel usage: 150 Gal.

Tire usage: 50%

States visited: Total of Nine:

New York, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, South Dakota, Wyoming, Montana

National Parks, State Parks, or Memorials Visited

Badlands
Mount Rushmore
Custer State Park
Little Big Horn Battlefield
Yellowstone Nat. Park
Grand Teton Nat. Park
Devils Tower
Crazy Horse Monument
Upper Mississippi Wildlife and Fish Refuge

Scenic Roads and Byways

Beartooth Highway Scenic Byway
Big Horn Scenic Byway
Chief Joseph Scenic Byway
Cloud Peak Skyway
Wyoming Centennial Byway
Wind River Canyon
John D. Rockefeller Memorial Parkway

NURSING HOME VISITS

By Steve Davis

Since May we have been visiting area nursing homes and meeting with the residents for an hour or so. We have visited a total of seven facilities, and have awarded an attendance prize of a HD Utica T-shirt to a lucky resident at each facility. It is hard to tell whether the residents or we were more entertained.

Without exception at every facility we visited, we met former motorcycle riders, and usually they were HD riders. ALL in all, it has been a fun and rewarding time, and an activity I think we should continue in future years

Safe Riding: By Steve Davis (Ha, HA)

From Dale: Don't try hunting Deer with your motorcycle!

From Steve: Hugging the center line of the road on a 90 degree left turn lets you get to know the soft shoulder of the road on a real personal basis!

From George: If you tangle with the Rumble Strip, you will lose!

From Steve: If you apply both brakes hard on a downhill curve, you will get to test how good your leathers will protect you from the asphalt!

Fall is here and there will be many great rides as the weather cools and the leaves change color. However, we need to continue to ride defensively, and I offer these thoughts to that end:

1. Tires / brakes may be well worn after a season of heavy riding. Failure of either of these components while you ride might be disastrous. Check both systems and replace as necessary.
2. In the area we live in wildlife is plentiful and often on the move. Be particularly alert for wildlife on or near the road, especially in the early morning or evening hours.
3. Watch out for those leaves. Blowing or wet leaves are a possible hazard that we will usually encounter only in the fall of the year.
4. Protect your body. On any given day we may be riding in temperatures that will range from the low 30's to the high 70's. Dress to provide the comfort and protection your body needs throughout the weather conditions you might encounter.

Have fun and Ride Safe!

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