



SQUEAKS & SQUEALS

Mid-Maine Lewiston Ch. #1980

March 2013

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<http://www.mmlhog.org>

Hot Line: (207)758-0633

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From the Director

Counting down to spring, oh how March 20th cannot come fast enough. It's been such a pleasure to be at L-A Harley these past two Saturdays celebrating each ring of the bell. It makes you feel like riding is just around the corner. Are you ready? Well at our Riding Planning meeting we filled our calendar with a full load of rides all summer long. There are a lot of new rides and great new suggestions. So watch out for all the details to come. Thank you to all those who helped plan rides for the upcoming season; we are going to be putting on the miles!! We had a great time, some great food and just fun together.

The Chapter will be having a Family Bowling day on Sunday, March 17th at 12:00pm at Spare times in Lewiston. Bring your children and grandchildren, its open to all. It's a great two hours of pizza, fries, soda, bowling and shoes. So mark the date and let us know how many will be coming. And as always you never know what other surprises we might have up our sleeves.

We are always looking to have new members join our family at Mid Maine HOG Chapter. If you have riding friends who are not part of a Chapter; invite them to an event, meeting or ride to check us out. We want to share our fun with others.

Just a reminder the Maine State Rally is just around the corner. If you have never attended a rally, now is the time. If this is Maine's last rally you sure do not want to miss it. If they continue to have rallies then Maine is the destination state. This year's rally will be a great one in Caribou. "Your Ticket to Ride", so if you like to ride you will love this rally. There will be an escorted ride on Thursday stopping at all of the dealer locations right to Caribou. Register today at www.mestatehogrally.com and see more details on events for the entire weekend!!! As a chapter we will be purchasing t-shirts again this year to stand out as a Chapter. If you missed our neon last year, you missed some good looki

Stay warm, spring is just around the corner.

Kathi Yergin
Director



Mid-Maine Lewiston HOG, Chapter 1980

Monthly Chapter Meeting – March 2, 2013

9:00-9:20AM Social time; Official meeting opened with Pledge of Allegiance with 35 members and guests present.

Director - Kathi Yergin:

- Welcome
- Introduced Bud Caouette (See safety section below).
- New Bike Deals: None.
- Chapter meeting notes as submitted and published in the last newsletter accepted
- Treasurer reported beginning and ending balances for the month.
- Anita asked to cook April 5th. We have the next few weeks covered for cooks but can use servers. See Kathi for dates and details.
- Chapter Dinner ride, 3/20 6:00pm, Wednesday @ Peppers in Winthrop w/Legion Riders
- HOT training Raleigh April 5-6 so April's meeting has been postponed until the 13th.
- Next meeting – Carissa from the Dream Ride & Reps of the Maine State Rally.
- Ride planning meeting will start after the potluck meal following this meeting.

Membership - Lenore Charest:

- New Members:
 - Kathy Murphy
 - John Billings
- Birthdays: Lenore recognized the March birthdays
- Membership Update: Currently we have 77 paid members
- Membership card for 2013 are printed and kept by Ludger at the store between meetings.
- We ask that you provide us with your birthday (Month and Day) so we can wish you a happy birthday.

Assistant director – Cindy Rogers

- Maine State Rally in Caribou (Theme: Your Ticket To Ride)
 - Online registration is now on the Rally's website www.mestatehogrally.com...
 - We are looking for a Chapter T-Shirt design for the State Rally.
- Bowling outing March 17th at Spare Time. \$14/person gives you pizza, soda and 2 hours of bowling. Let Cindy know if you are coming. Family members and friends are invited. Eating at 12:30 and starting to bowl at 1:00.
- Looking at putting large calendar of events in the HOG den.

Merchandise- Karen Schneider

- Name Tags are in. Orders being taken for next order - \$10.
- Jacket in, T-shirts coming.
- Considering adding ball caps – any interest?
- Jackets are in, long sleeves on way. Extra stock will be sold at meetings and can order additional items with a minimum quantity. Check or cash accepted. Contact Karen or see signup sheets at meetings.

Newsletter Editor - Karen Schneider

- Please have newsletter info by Wednesday 3/6 looking for articles, letters, ride reports, maintenance tips, jokes, stories, etc.

Safety – Bud Caouette (guest speaker)

- Reviewed several handouts; T-CLOCK, Rider's Packing Checklist, Hand Signals and ten pages from the MSF training handbook.
- Key discussion points were preparation, observation and awareness.
- Left a video for us to watch when we can get the machine to work.

Note: See www.almre.com for Auburn-Lewiston Motorcycle Rider Education
Bud can be reached at (207) 782-4605 email: bcaouett@megalink.net

LOH – Jesse Poore

- Will need help at the March 15th Garage Party

Dealership – Patrick Waitt

- Remember if you bring someone in and they buy a bike in March (excluding immediate family) you will get \$500 L-A gift card. See Bert when you come in. If he is not there see John Dillingham.
- March 15th Garage Party for first time Women Riders! Get the skinny on how to get rolling on your own H-D® motorcycle. A H-D® Garage Party™ Event is a fun way to learn the basics.
- April 19th Boot Camp – This is basic training for younger riders (~18 to 34) who are ready to learn to ride. We know there are a ton of questions about how to get started, and we want to make it easy. We'll start with the basics and go headlights to tailpipes, getting you up to speed on everything from learning to ride; to gear that fits your style. If you give a referral you are entered into a \$250 gift card raffle.

Webmaster – Don Gabriel

- All current members with email address have been set up in the “Members Only” section of the website. Username and password is your HOG membership number. You should receive an email with this information.
- To have your contact information shown on the website, fill out a release form that you can get from Lenore.
- Some new content has been added to the website. Check it out, and upload your favorite bike, t-shirt and/or license plate pictures.
- If you have a suggestion, want to start a new photo gallery, or have something to post, please send an email to webmaster@mmlhog.com.

New Business:

- Volunteer of the month: Dennis Rogers for helping, cooking and his “Sunny Disposition”.

Upcoming Events:

- March 17th – 12:30 pm Spare Time Bowling
- March 20th - Dinner 6:00 pm @ Pepper’s 357A Main St. Winthrop, Maine 04364
- April 13, 2013 – Poker Run starting at 11:00
- June 2, 2013 – Host pancake breakfast after blessing of the bikes and Kiwanis’ charity run.
- June 22, 2013 Family Day, Chapter to run cotton candy, popcorn, and snow cones, etc.

Meeting closed, fun meeting activities: door prizes.

Next officer/business meeting: 4/1/2013 (to be confirmed); Next chapter meeting: 4/13 Saturday in the HOG’s Den @ 9am

Minutes by Donald Gabriel / Secretary



Happy Birthday to the following chapter members*:

* Apologies to those we missed. Please contact Lenore Charest so she can update our database

Greg Foster	March 5
Gary Parsons	March 6
Richard Partridge	March 9
Janis Tanguay	March 16
Albert Golden	March 19

From the Head Road Captain *Brent Tanguay*

Spring is almost here!!!

Time to start thinking about getting our Harley's ready to ride. Part of that is to make sure our insurance, registration and inspections are up to date. So, I would like to remind everyone of some new changes regarding inspection and registration.



Last session the Maine state legislature passed LD 221, "An Act to Make Changes to the Motorcycle Inspection Program." LD 221 changed the law to require the motorcycle inspection sticker to be displayed on the vehicle's registration plate. So, when your next inspection is due, the inspector will place the new style sticker on the plate's upper left hand corner and you will also receive a paper copy to keep on the motorcycle. In order to accommodate the inspection sticker, all motorcycle registrations (except those classes not required to be inspected) will be changed to a fixed **March** expiration.

Starting in April 2012, when a motorcycle is registered or renewed, the expiration date will be changed to expire in the next March. The registrant will be issued a combined month/year sticker, which should be placed in the **upper right** corner. In order to transition into a mandatory March expiration, registration fees and excise taxes will be prorated for the correct number of months. However, fees for delayed renewal will be calculated in accordance with existing state law, and generally full fees will be charged. That is, after the transition to mandatory March expiration is complete, anyone renewing late will be charged full annual registration fees and excise taxes, as is the case today. The standard annual motorcycle registration fee is \$21.00.

You can register and pay all fees online with the Rapid Renewal system, as long as your town participates with it. Any questions refer to www.Maine.gov website or contact: Megan Sanborn (207) 441-0501.

So, now is a very good time to make sure your registration and inspection is up to date, before the really nice weather is here and you can't ride because you forgot to register your bike. Sounds like more of a reminder to me. The inspection sticker date will remain as it was, effective from the date of inspection to the next year. And while you're at it, check your motorcycle insurance card to make sure it is up to date and has all the correct coverage.

Our ride planning meeting was a huge success! It was very well attended and everyone had great ride ideas. Our calendar is full! We have some exciting rides coming up this year, now if we can only get Mother Nature to cooperate.

That's all for now!

Remember, ***Ride and have fun.....then ride some more!***

2013 Activity Schedule

Call the HOG Hotline Hot Line (207)758-0633 to confirm all dates, times and for additional information.

March 15	6-9pm	Ladies Garage Party
March 20	6pm	Dinner - Peppers in Winthrop w/Legion Riders
April 1	6:30pm	Business Meeting (Pathway Vineyard Church)
April 13	9am	Chapter meeting
April 13	11-2	L-A Harley Poker Run
June 2	TBD	Kiwanis Charity Run (host pancake breakfast)
June 22	TBD	L-A Harley Family Day



L-A HARLEY BEACH PARTY



Limbo and Beachwear contests

**STREAM
REGGAE**

He Shall be like a tree planted by streams of water, that gives its own fruit in its season
His leaf also shall not wither, everything he does will succeed

Crazy man!



Volunteer of the Month



Thank you Dennis Rogers for helping with everything, cooking and your "Sunny Disposition"!

Family Bowling Day

Sunday, March 17th, 12:00pm
Spare Time Bowling, Lewiston
\$14 includes - Shoes, bowling, pizza, fries & soda

Bring your children & grandchildren, all are welcome!



Get your HOG Apparel Now!

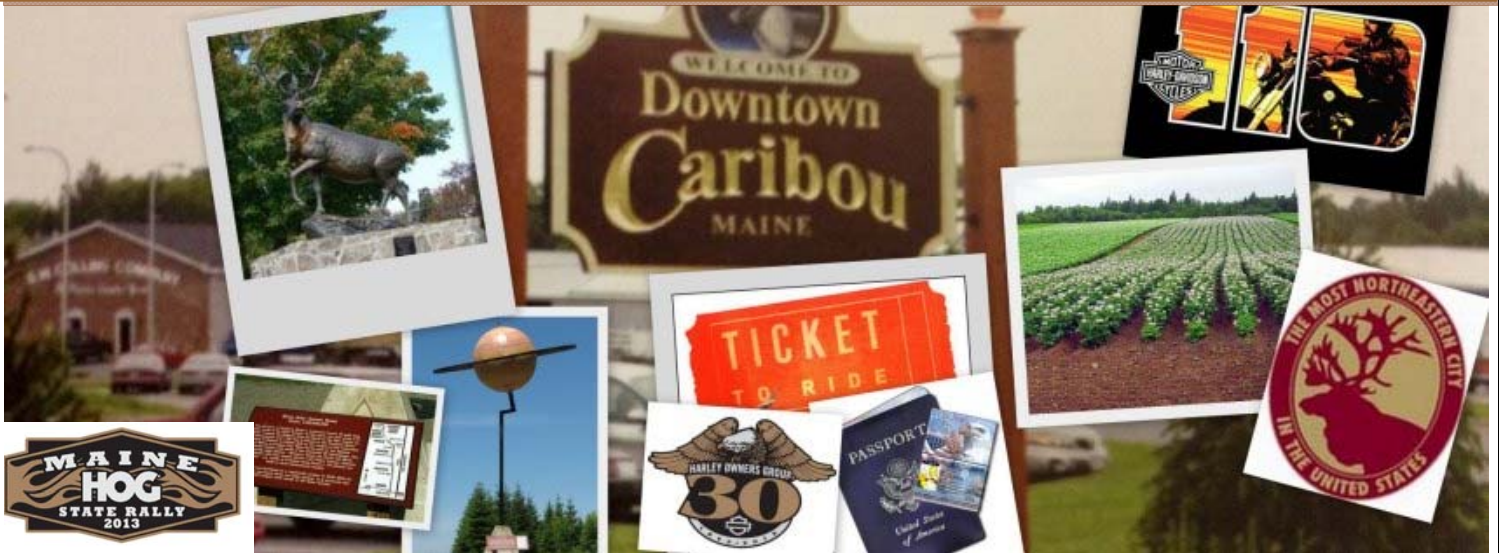


Men & Women's Chapter Jacket - \$79 + tax and s&h



Long Sleeve Chapter T-shirt, heather grey \$25 + tax and s&h

MAINE STATE HOG RALLY



Caribou...your ticket to ride! Come join us for the 2013 Maine State H.O.G. Rally on July 18 -20, 2013 in Caribou, Maine. <http://www.mestatehogrally.com/>

For 30 years the motto of the Harley Owners Group has been "Ride and Have Fun." And ride and have fun is what is going to happen from July 18- 20, 2013 at the 2013 Maine State H.O.G. Rally in Caribou. You'll definitely want to be in the group of motorcyclists arriving at opening ceremonies after a police-escorted ride that will be stopping at every Harley-Davidson dealership in the state. But if riding the length of scenic Vacationland with hundreds of your H.O.G. brothers and sisters isn't enough to satisfy your need to ride and have fun (and that's just the kick-off ride), there is plenty more.

As we all pay homage to both H.O.G.'s 30th birthday and Harley-Davidson's 110th anniversary, be ready to saddle up for plenty of guided and self-guided rides in this unique motorcycling venue. When was the last time you attended a rally where you could ride in two different countries and also be at one of the four corners of the United States? Now that's riding and having fun... and making everlasting memories. But the riding and fun doesn't end there...you'll also want to show off your Harley in the parade that will take you to closing ceremonies. Don't worry, we didn't forget that some of you like to ride in field events, or have fun by showing off your Harley in a bike show...both of these events also are included with your rally registration.

This and That... (Dennis Webb)

Here is the latest on The Helmet Bill, LD 66, in Augusta

ACTION ALERT - Helmet Bill voted out of Committee

During the work session today, February 19, for the bill LD 66, An Act to Require That Motorcyclists Wear Helmets, the Transportation Committee voted 8 to 3 with 2 absent that **the bill ought not to pass**. This means that the bill will be sent to the full legislature from the committee with a divided report. This bill seeks to make it mandatory that all motorcycle riders, operators and passengers, wear a helmet while riding a motorcycle in the state of Maine. This is not acceptable. It has been an adult's choice whether to wear a helmet or not in Maine since 1977 and there is no reason to change that now.

What needs to happen now is for everyone interested in their right to make such a personal decision to write to their state representative and senator to express their opposition to this bill. There is information in this packet to help you write an informative and factual letter so that you can let your legislators know your position on the bill and ask for their help in defeating it when it comes before the full legislature.

Today email is an expected form of communication with legislators. If you do not know who you're House Representative or Senator is or what House or Senate district you live in the easiest way to find that information is to go here: <http://www.maine.gov/legis/house/townlist.htm>.

Go down the list until you find your town and click on your legislator's names. You will find the contact information you need or directions to it.

Send a copy of the bill with your letter so they can become informed about the issue. Legislators have a lot on their plate and are not always familiar with all bills or issues.

One other thing to bring to the legislators attention is that although the bill title is for Motorcycle helmets, the bill is tied to the use of helmets by minors riding on snowmobiles and ATVs. The question that should be asked is; "If this bill is about safety, then why is it calling for removing the safety standards for protective headgear for minors?" This bill does exactly that by dropping the last part of the sentence in the existing statute that requires protective headgear to conform to the standards established under Title 29A, section 2083, sub-section 3.

Everyone needs to write their legislators. Let them hear the opinions of the motorcyclists and their family and friends. You can be sure that the proponents of the bill are writing their legislators urging them to pass the bill. If you have already communicated with your legislators, thank you. If you have written them and not received a response, send them another email. Sometimes it takes a couple times before they respond because they are busy and they forget to reply. Be respectful, but be persistent.

This whole action alert with sample letter and useful info is attached as a file for your convenience.

Use this sample letter to email or write your District Representative and Senator to express your opinion on the helmet bill. You can fill in the information needed and send it as is, or better yet, personalize it with your own thoughts, a couple of statistics or both; but be RESPECTFUL. And attach a copy of LD 66 to your email.

Sample Letter

Dear (name of your Representative or Senator),

My name is _____ and I am a resident living in your district. I am writing to ask you to not support LD 66, An Act to Require That Motorcyclists Wear Helmets. This bill would require all persons to wear a helmet regardless of age, experience or rider education. This is totally unacceptable in the way it tries to take control of a person's freedom to make such a personal decision.

Although I disagree with a law to require anyone to wear a helmet while riding a motorcycle, I understand the desire to try and protect a novice rider by requiring a helmet for minors and novice riders. The law as it is established presently requires all persons under the age of 18 years to wear a helmet and for a one year period for any rider over 17 years of age who is just attaining a motorcycle endorsement on their driver's license. This one year period has been established as a sufficient time to attain the skills needed to safely ride a motorcycle and make decisions regarding their personal safety. I do not believe that the current law needs changing.

In closing, when this bill, LD 66, comes before you I ask that you vote NO. The law as it is currently written is quite adequate for motorcycle safety.

I would appreciate a reply stating your position on this issue.

Thank you for your service to the great state of Maine.

Sincerely,

Print your name and address

Dealer sponsored:

UPCOMING EVENTS

DON'T WAIT FOR LIFE. RIDE TO MEET IT.

GARAGE PARTY
 Discover the freedom of riding your own Harley® motorcycle at the event that's geared towards women. We'll talk about how to get started and show you how to design, fit, and personalize a bike as unique as you. You'll leave ready to take the next step.
RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY BY CALLING 786-2822!
FOR FIRST TIME RIDERS OR NON-RIDERS LOOKING TO RIDE THE OPEN ROAD.



DATE: MARCH 15, 2013
TIME: 6:00PM - 9:00PM
LOCATION: L-A HARLEY-DAVIDSON

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St. Patrick's Day Celebration!

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day at L-A Harley-Davidson with the chance to get Green in your pocket from the Cash Machine every 15 minutes!

Saturday, March 16th
from 11 am to 2pm

along with Green \$1 Drafts, Irish Bangers, Irish Nachoes and Wings!



Do you know someone WHO WANTS TO learn to ride?

SEND THEM TO MOTORCYCLE BOOT CAMP TO GET THEM STARTED.

Stop in to get your Motorcycle Boot Camp referral tickets before 04/18/13. Pass them on to non-riding friends or family members.

You could win \$250 L-A Harley-Davidson® Gift Card. They'll get the H-O® experience.

L-A Harley-Davidson®
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WOMEN'S GARAGE PARTY
 Friday, March 15 from 6pm to 9pm

ST PATTY'S DAY CELEBRATION
 Saturday, March 16th from 11am to 2pm

WOLF COUNTRY BONANZA
 Saturday, March 30th from 11am to 2pm

IN-STORE POKER WALK & BBQ BACKYARD GIVEAWAY
 Saturday, April 13th from 11am to 2pm

MOTORCYCLE BOOT CAMP
 Friday, April 19th from 6pm to 9pm

Thank you to John Story, Managing Partner of L-A Harley-Davidson, for helping make our H.O.G. Chapter possible.

L-A Harley-Davidson call us: **207.786.2822**
 839 MAIN STREET, LEWISTON, ME 04240

The largest inventory of Harley-Davidson Motorcycles in Maine!