

**NORTHERN
CHAPTER
H.O.G.**

CLASSIC LEGEND TIMES

Volume 10, Issue 2

February, 2004

SAFE RIDERS!

Our Chapter received a plaque for having safe riding skills for 2003. To receive this honor, you must have a certain number of members who take (and pass) the motorcycle safety class—both beginners and advanced. It is hanging in our area at the dealership—stop by and see it.

Paul Jarboe has graciously volunteered to set up another Chapter only Advanced Riders Course. All the Road Captains took it last year and those guys have been riding for years! There wasn't one of them that didn't find it useful. If you are interested in this, give Paul a call at 935-3771 or drop him an e-mail at pjarboe@shrr.com.



1st ANNUAL NORTHERN CHAPTER POOL TOURNAMENT

FEBRUARY 7th — 2 P.M.

@ G.T.'S

**The game being played is
"Ragg's Rotation"**

With Ragg's rules, everyone has an equal chance of winning, regardless of their skill level! The cost of the tournament will be determined by the number of players and how long it lasts since the tables are rented by the hour.

All Members Welcome!



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January Chapter & Business Meeting Minutes

Chapter Meeting 01/08/04

As of today's date we have 101 paid members. If your dues were not paid by January 1st you will not receive a newsletter until they are. *If you received the newsletter by email and did not respond if you wanted to receive a hard copy by mail you will not get one.*

If anyone is going to be in Florida for the gathering at the Hogs Breath Saloon on March 8th and would like a list of cell #'s for others that will be there – contact Raggs.

The subject of the picnic at Peterson Park was brought up – still a maybe – need a chairperson.

The Ladies of Harley are organizing a "Progressive Dinner Ride" for Saturday, April 3rd. We need to have eight or nine people who would like to have their home be one of the stops for a course. We will eat one course at each home. We will be discussing this at our next LOH meeting. Please contact Paula, Cheryl or Jeanette if you would like to be a stop.

On Saturday, February 7th at 2:00 we are having a pool tournament at GT's Pool hall. You do not have to be a good player to participate. 17-18 people attending the meeting are interested. The game we will be playing is called "Rotation". Rules will be explained at tournament.

Regarding the 2003 Christmas party: no negative feedback from membership. Paul Jarboe said that it was one of the most well planned parties he has attended - it was good that everyone received a gift, layout was great, silent auction was great – a quality job. Kudo's were given to Paula; Cheryl and everyone involved for their hard work. The HOG group rented 32 rooms at the Mainstreet Inn that night.

For the record, Bob Oliverius has officially stated that he will chair the Christmas party for 2004.

We are still looking for suggestions for our dinner rides. If you have any please let Raggs or one of the Road Captains know. The first six months of rides will be decided and available by the next chapter meeting in February. The second six months will be released after May. Remember – this is your group – we all can put in suggestions!

The UP trips were a HUGE success in 2003. We will be trying to plan more for 2004.

There are a few members who are interested in the Advanced Rider course again this year. Paul Jarboe will handle getting this organized again. He will try to get it for approximately the same time of year as last. The Road Captains attended last year and highly recommend it. Sandy Oliverius stated that even though she has always felt confident with Bob's riding ability, the safety course made her feel even better about it and thinks that those of you who have a rider would greatly benefit from it.

The group received a plaque for those that attended the advanced rider course in 2003. It will be hung at the dealership.

Regarding the custom Northern Chapter t-shirts: If you signed up

December Chapter & Business Meeting Minutes—cont'd

for one at the Christmas party you still need to fill out an order form and send in your money by **January 22nd**. This will be the only time you can get a 20th anniversary shirt. After this they will be available as the Northern Chapter shirts only.

The Father Fred Ride that will be held July 24th – 25th will be known as the NORTHERN CHAPTER HOG – 12TH ANNUAL BENEFIT RIDE. All proceeds will go to the Father Fred Foundation. We are going to go back to following chapter guidelines, which are to “ride and have fun”. We are going to keep it simple – Saturday will be the poker run, which we hope to have end up downtown on Front Street. Sunday after the ride we will have a breakfast at the VFW Hall like last year. The response to this was very positive last year. We hope to have the price of admission lowered substantially. Mike Cole is the Chairman for this event. We are meeting with some of the downtown organizations (like the U&I) to create a coupon booklet for dollars off on different things.

The quality of the newsletter is getting better and better thanks to our great Editor Cheryl Fischer – keep up the good work!

We had an exceptionally good group last year and hope to improve upon it this year. Any input is welcome.

Our first official ride is Saturday, April 24th for the Kalkaska Trout Festival. We had a great turn out last year and it was great fun. Dress warm though!

Our group has never been in as good of financial shape as we are now. Our income last year was \$10,255.00. Our expenses were \$8,309.00. If anyone has any ideas on how to raise money this year please let us know. Try to keep them simple.



"That company credit card was for business purposes only. So would you kindly return that Harley you bought?"

We Need Your Input



No matter how much we pray to the weather gods, riding season is still a few months away. We are spending our time in the planning stages for our fabulous summer rides. While we have a lot of good ideas, we are looking for new destinations for dinner rides and week-end rides. If you have any places you think might work, please let us know. Keep in mind that it has to be a place that can accommodate 40–50 people on a Thursday night in the summer and can't be too expensive. Remember our motto is “keep it simple”. We are also looking for volunteers for the house BBQ's which were such a big hit. We need a house to have a BBQ at each month on a Thursday dinner ride and we would like to add some week-end ones, as well. We are planning on having a week-end ride every week-end through the summer so we need more places to journey to then. If you have any ideas, please call Tom French at 941-7289 or e-mail him at frenchie@teamelmers.com.

January Chapter Meeting Drawings

50/50 Drawing – Donna Weber

Jim Kavalar won the \$25 Classic Gift Certificate, because he was wearing a Classic Shirt. Next month the drawing will be for a \$25 gift certificate.

Membership drawing would have been won by Jim Munson, but he wasn't at the meeting. Next months drawing will be for \$140

You could be the Next Lucky Winner!

Chapter Website

With the new format the newsletter is in, Mark is now able to put it on the website. We are changing the username and password at the beginning of each year to prevent non-paying members from accessing it.

New Username: newsletter

New Password: 2360HOG

A great big THANKS To Mark for all his hard work this past year. The website is awesome, check it out if you haven't lately.

www.northernchapter.com



WE NEED YOUR RECIPES

Ladies of Harley are putting together a cookbook of favorite family recipes. Bob Kling—send us your jambalaya recipe! Neil Akey—send us one of your award winning chili recipes (we know you have more than one!). Did your Grandmother always make a special cookie? Your Aunt Suzie's pie recipe? Your mothers favorite tuna noodle casserole? (just kidding on that one!) Send it to us. Just type it up and send it to Cheryl via e-mail to efisch@chartermi.net or mail a copy of it to Paula at the Chapter address on Blue Star Drive. Deadline to get your recipes in is March 1.



JANUARY & FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Cathie Szasz	January 7
Jerry Mattison	January 11
Bob Kling	January 12
Eileen Heck	January 13
Dave McLeod	January 15
Rich Ostholm	January 15
Deb Widrig	January 15
Mike Rodgers	January 16
Sandy Wing	January 24
Tom Handley	February 10
Rich Baesch	February 11
Pam Dow	February 17
Reg Fischer (# 80 !!)	February 19
Jim Johnson	February 22
Dick Culver	February 26
Steve Snider	February 27

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU...



John making a motion!



SPARK PLUGS—A WINDOW INTO YOUR ENGINE

Spark plugs are not interesting. Spark plugs are not exciting. Spark plugs are not glamorous. In fact, pretty much the only time we think about spark plugs is when they stop working...and even then we only think of them long enough to mutter bad words under our breath and search for a new pair. However, despite their humble looks, spark plugs offer the rider a surgeon's view into the inner workings of a Harley-Davidson or Buell engine, and can often allow the rider to pinpoint engine trouble before it causes permanent damage to the motorcycle's power plant.

Of all the components in a Harley-Davidson, two of the most overlooked items are the spark plugs. Spark plugs not only deliver the necessary jolt to ignite your fuel and air mixture, they also enable you to look inside your motorcycle's engine and determine if it is running properly.

Once you remove your spark plugs from the engine block, check the tip of each of the plugs. If the tip of the plug has a light tan coloring and has no significant deposits on the electrode, this is an indication that you are getting a complete burn of fuel and air in your combustion chamber and that your motorcycle's engine is running properly.

If the tip of the plug is black or if there are large black deposits on the electrode, this is a signal that your motorcycle is running too "rich"; that not all of the fuel in your combustion chamber is burning. This can be due to a number of factors. Your spark plugs may be old, your fuel/air mixture may be off, or you may have simply left your enricher on too long. This not only robs your motorcycle of performance, but can also lead to carbon deposits on your pistons and heads, poor fuel economy, and, in extreme cases, the excess fuel may even contaminate your engine oil and cause your oil to lose its lubricating properties.

If the tip of the plug is gray or looks like there is ash deposited on the electrode, this tells you that your motorcycle is running too "lean"; that there is not enough fuel in your combustion chamber. This can also be due to a number of things, from an improper fuel/air mixture (often caused by adding a high-performance air cleaner to your motorcycle) to a leak in your intake system. This situation will rob power from your motorcycle, and will also cause your engine to run hotter than is recommended and possibly damage your engine in the process.

Finally if the tip of the plug is wet, try to determine if the fluid on the plug is fuel or oil (the smell should tell you). If the fluid is fuel, this may be an indication that you are delivering far too much fuel to the combustion chamber. If the fluid is oil, this signals that you may have a leaky gasket in your engine.



CHILI COOK-OFF WINNERS

Neil Akey took 1st place (AGAIN!) with a different recipe than last year. I guess when you've got it, you've got it. Maureen McLeod won 2nd place. With 16 entries, the competition was tough this year. But what fun we had!!

(sorry this entry is so late)





SPONSORING DEALER:

Don & Nancy Pishney
3939 S. Blue Star Dr.
Traverse City, MI 49684
Phone: (231) 943-9344

**NORTHERN CHAPTER
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CHAPTER ADDRESS:
3939 S. Blue Star Dr.
Traverse City, MI 49684

We're on the Web!
www.northernchapter.com

Welcome New Members!

Mary Nelson (sorry I forgot you last month Mary!!)

Michael & Sandy Wing

Gary Sievert Paul Stocki

Kathy Kaiafas Bruce DeCoster

Terri Isaac

**FEBRUARY CHAPTER
MEETING:**

Thursday, February 5
The Elks Club—7 p.m.

**FEBRUARY BUSINESS
MEETING**

February 17
7:00 pm
South City Limits Restaurant

ALL MEMBERS WELCOME!

**FEBRUARY DINNER
RIDES**

Thursday, February 5

Chapter Meeting

The Elks Club

Thursday, February 19

Big Easy Fish Market & Blues Co.

(used to be T.C. Traders)

There is no March Membership Meeting—Director & Asst. Director are going to be in Florida.

Meet at the restaurant at 7:00.

Dinner Ride Questions?

Call Tom French @

(231)218-4971

