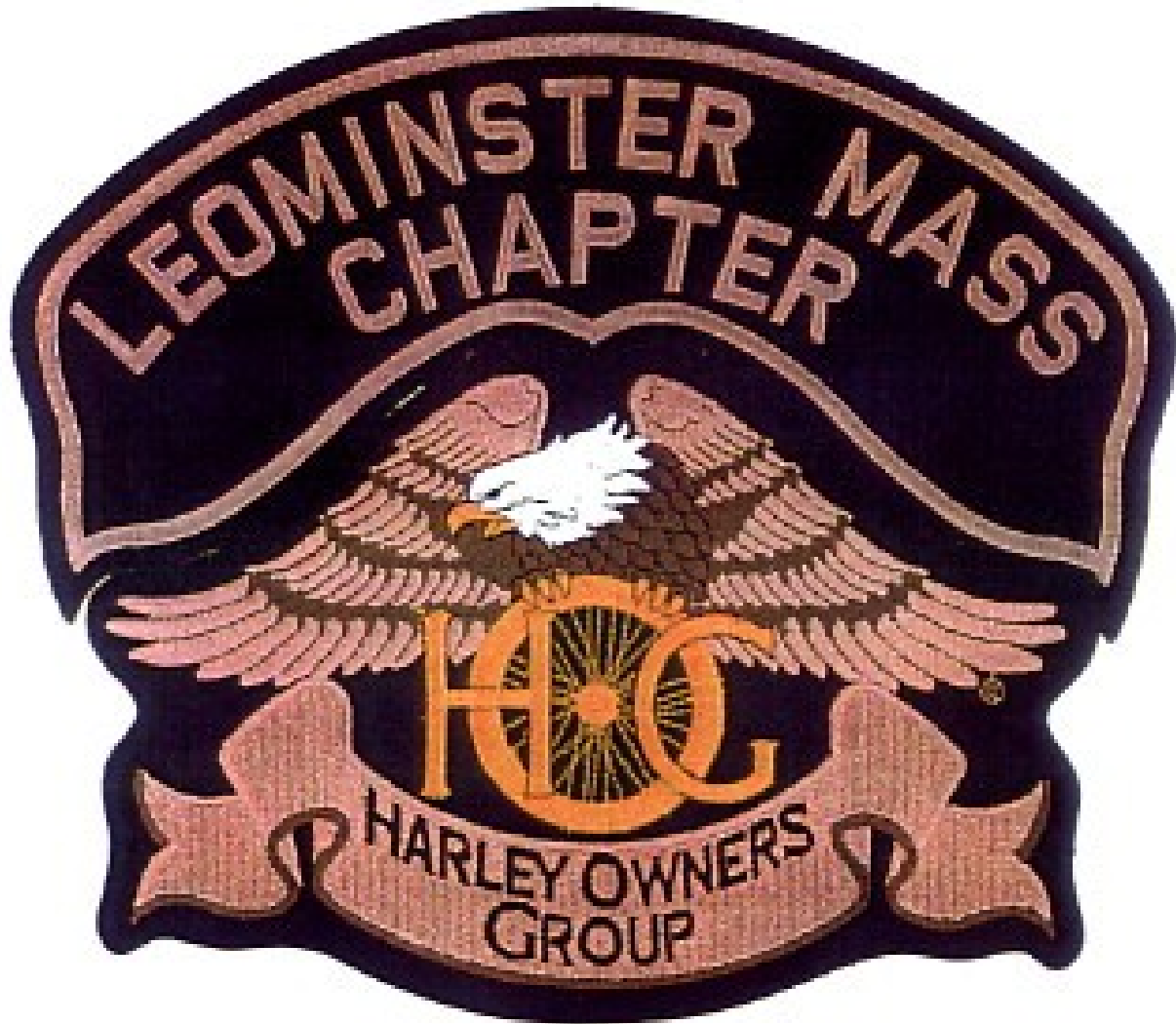


2007  
A YEAR IN REVIEW



Richard Washington  
Chapter Historian

## IN REMEMBRANCE

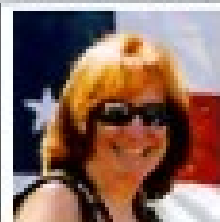
This year the chapter lost a long time member. In March chapter member JOHN SINIAWSKI, died after a long fight with Leukemia.



During his membership, he continually displayed excitement, enthusiasm and esprit in support of chapter activities. He was always ready to mount his Softtail Custom and could often be seen riding the various highways and byways of our Commonwealth

God speed John as you ride the roads beyond the sunset.

2007 Executive Board



**DIRECTOR**  
Flo Neumyer  
978-840-2594  
neumyer@lycos.com



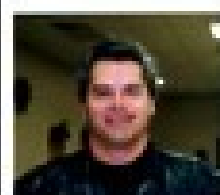
**ASSISTANT DIRECTOR**  
Don Desmarais  
978-939-5395  
tweetibiker@aol.com



**TREASURER**  
Pete Rezuik  
508-963-4792  
apandb@charter.net



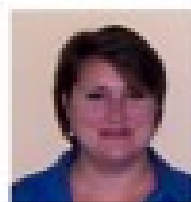
**SECRETARY**  
Ginger Thompson  
978-249-7183  
geniunehd@aol.com



**HEAD ROAD CAPTAIN**  
Ed Neumyer  
978-840-2594  
neumyer@lycos.com



**SAFETY OFFICER**  
Al Rana  
978-422-7262  
ajrana1@mindspring.com



**EDITOR**  
Beth Thompson  
978-464-2875  
beth1123@comcast.net



**WEBMASTER**  
George Davis  
978-549-4418  
georgekarendavis@comcast.net



**PHOTOGRAPHER**  
Buzz Hawes  
978-365-6078  
buzzhawes@accuconlabels.com



**LADIES OF HARLEY**  
Sue Rezuik  
508-829-0311  
apandb@charter.net



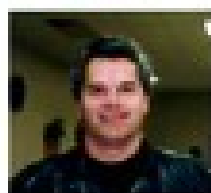
**ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR**  
Dennis Thompson  
978-249-7183  
dwtsweep@aol.com



**MEMBERSHIP OFFICER**  
Dave Labossiere  
978-632-0638  
dave88.1@juno.com



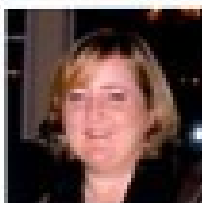
**HISTORIAN**  
Dick Washington  
978-772-2579  
richardwashington@comcast.net



**MERCHANDISE DIRECTOR**  
Ed Neumyer  
978-840-2594  
neumyer@lycos.com



**ASST. ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR**  
Ginger Thompson  
978-249-7183  
geniunehd@aol.com



**NEW MEMBER LIAISON**  
Karen Davis  
978-897-9184  
davis-karen@comcast.net

# 2007

## HISTORICAL REPORT

A New Year begins. We face the road that stretches before us with anticipation and expectation. No one can foresee what the future shall bring, whether the roads we travel are free of bumps and detours, or we encounter unexpected pitfalls or roadblocks we are undaunted and unconcerned. We have the optimism and resolve to overcome whatever the obstacles that attempts to divert us from the roads we travel. So lets us pack our saddlebags, grab a road map, ensure the gas tank is full, don our helmet, hit the start switch and begin a new adventure.

### January:

On an unseasonable warm January Sunday, over 100 members turned out for our first breakfast meeting of the New Year. The unexpected and unusually warm weather we have been experiencing during the past several weeks saw nine members ride their bikes to the meeting.



Who Says January is to Cold to Ride?

Again, as occurred last month the kitchen crew arrived early to prepare the breakfast only to ignite a grease fire that tripped the fire alarm system and in short, order four Leominster Fire Department vehicles were on the scene. No damage incurred and the eggs, bacon, sausage, pancakes and toast were ready when the hungry horde arrived.



Time to Make the Pancakes.



Let's Feed this Hungry Mob.

At 10 o'clock, the E-Board called the meeting to order. Chapter Director Brian Langrille announced to the chapter members in attendance of his resignation as Chapter Director. Brian then informed members that the E-Board after consulting with our sponsor Phil Desmarais agreed that the Assistant Director should and would assume the position as Director. Members present approved this action unanimously.



I'm Now the Head Honcho

Flo then informed members she has asked Don Desmarais, the Chapter's 2006 Assistant Director if he would consider reappointment to the Assistant Director position. During the election for 2007 E-Board officers Don and Flo got the same number of votes. During a special election held in December, Don lost the position to Flo by one vote. Don agreed, and members by voice vote approved this action. Flo announced that our Safety Officer Henry Boudreau has also submitted his resignation. She said she has

asked Al Rana, who had challenged Henry for this position and asked if he will accept appointment as Chapter Safety Officer he agreed. Again, the general membership approved this appointment.

Flo, made a motion that Ginny's Helping Hand again be the chapter charity for 2007. No members put forth any other charities. Members unanimously approved this motion.

Pete Rezuke, Chapter Treasurer gave members a recap of the chapter finances for the past year. Although the Christmas Bike Raffle did not make as much money as hoped, the chapter still has sufficient monies to defray anticipated expenses.

The Chapter Ladies of Harley Officer Sue Rezuke, announced that on Feb 24, a trip to Foxwoods Casino being planned. She reminded members that everyone who went on last year's trip all said they had a great time.

Doug Gilmore, Director of Central Mass Safety Counsel was a guest and gave members a briefing of the motorcycle training courses offered. Ed MacDonald, Worcester Chapter Director was also present. He announced that he is attempting to have more interaction with our chapter.

Dave Labossiere, our Membership Officer reported that at the end of 2006 our membership is 273. At today's meeting the chapter welcomed two new members.

February:

On a COLD Sunday morning, over 75 members showed-up for our monthly meeting. Our kitchen crew had a hearty breakfast prepared for the hungry mob.



February is the chapter's annual clothing drive for Ginny's Helping hand and many members brought various articles of clothing for her shop. Ginny was on hand to receive these articles.

Don Desmarais our representative to the MA/RI State Rally committee gave an up-date on the State Rally, scheduled in August out at Chimmy Peak.

In December, Don had sent his son who is a crew chief on an Air Force C-130 aircraft serving in Iraq 30 American Harley-Davidson T-shirts donated by Phil. He also sent a chapter banner and a photo of the chapter.



His son along with the aircraft crew had their picture taken with the banner. A copy of the photograph is on display at American Harley-Davidson and on our Chapter Web Site. He also displayed to the members a T-shirt his son sent him from Iraq with the names of members of his squadron.



Richard Washington, informed members of the Check Twice – Save a Life Project initiated by the Massachusetts Motorcycle Association. Last year forty-eight Bay State motorcyclists were killed last year in accidents on our highways. This project is an attempt to enlist all 351 cities and towns in the Commonwealth to display the Check Twice – Save a Life Banner.



This project is in conjunction with the annual issuance of the Governor's Proclamation declaring the period from the last week in March to the last week in April Motorcycle Safety Awareness Period.

Sue Resuke, reminded members of the trip down to Foxwood on Saturday the 24<sup>th</sup>. She said she had 25 people signed up and hoped more will come.

On the 13<sup>th</sup>, the chapter learned that Bob Taylor, was admitted to the hospital and is scheduled to under go triple bi-pass surgery. Flo received word on the 14<sup>th</sup>, from Bob's daughter-in-law that the surgery was successful and Bob was resting and is expecting a full recovery.

This month we welcomed two new members to the chapter.

### March:

In like a Lion. On a cold 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month, over 100 members met for the last breakfast meeting of our winter hiatus.

On a sad note, the chapter learned of the death of long time chapter member John Siniawski. John who had Leukemia died on February 23<sup>rd</sup>. As members will note this Historical Report is dedicated in John's memory.

Members were reminded that our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Chili Challenge for Charity will be held at American Harley-Davidson on March 24<sup>th</sup>. So far, seven chilies have been entered. Last year there were 17 entrees. Flo urged members to consider entering this event.

Flo displayed to members a Proclamation the chapter was presented by Jennifer L. Flanagan, Leominster's Representative to the Legislature. The Proclamation issued by the Great and General Court of the Commonwealth in recognition of the chapter's outstanding support of Ginny White's Helping Hands. This Proclamation is on display at American Harley-Davidson.



Pete Rezuke, introduced a motion relating to determining the date, venue and format regarding the Chapter Anniversary Party. In the past, our September meeting, which is also our anniversary month, we hold in the evening on the second Saturday of the month. We have a chapter business meeting followed by dinner and dancing. It is proposed that rather than an evening event, the chapter will have a fun ride followed by either a Bar bar-q or a catered meal. Chapter members voted and accepted this motion. The chapter also voted to have Fat Boy as our Christmas Raffle Bike.

The chapter welcomed two new members Bruce Koble, of Townsend and Tom Mullen from Maynard.

On Sunday the 18<sup>th</sup>, 24 members took the Accident Scene Management Course. This course is an 8-hour course conducted by a certified EMT husband and wife team. It gives attendees training in the initial life-saving steps and procedures to perform in the event an accident occurs during a ride.



On Saturday the 24<sup>th</sup>, we held our Second Annual Chili Cook-off. There were 14 entrees which tickled and teased the palates of over 125 individuals whom tasted and voted upon which was the best. The chili voted best of the bunch was cooked-up by Rich LaFrance from the Worcester Chapter. Dave Nelson took second. At the end of the day, the chapter raised \$645 for Jenny's Helping Hand. A local individual informed the chapter at he would match this amount.



## April:

A large number of members showed up on April Fool's Day for our monthly meeting. Nine members arrived on their bikes in anticipation of heading down to Sheldon's for the Worcester Chapter Annual Ice Breaker Ride.

Flo announced a couple of changes to the chapter E-Board. Due to an employment conflict Doug Burelle, submitted his resignation as Head Road Captain. Ed Neumyer agreed to accept this position. The chapter approved this change.

Flo informed members that our NewsLetter Editor Joy Clark has also submitted her resignation, and that the E-Board has asked former editor Beth Thompson if she would again be our chapter editor. Beth accepted and the members agreed with this change.

A highlight of the meeting was the presentation of a check for \$1,000 dollars, to Ginny White, of Ginny's Helping Hand. This is money raised from our Christmas Party Pictures with Santa and our Chili Fest. It was also announced that this amount will be "matched" by Mr. Alan Feinstein a local supporter of Ginny's efforts to assist and help local individuals in need.



Al Rana, our Safety Officer, commented on the Accident Management Course that 23 members completed. He also gave a "special" chapter thanks to Mike Careau for donating a First Aid Kit to the chapter. This will be on every chapter ride. He also encouraged all chapter members to consider enrolling in an Experienced Rider's Course, to update and refresh their riding skills. National H.O.G. will give all who complete an ERC a \$50.dollar dealer voucher.

An extra delight was the return of Bob Taylor whom several weeks ago under went triple by-pass surgery. Welcome Back Bob.

On Sunday the 22<sup>nd</sup>, over 30 members meet to head down to Webster for the Worcester Chapter's Charity Ride. Prior to heading down to Webster, member gathered at the Shirley American Legion for breakfast. After everyone had enjoyed breakfast, Ed led the group on a 40-mile ride on Central Massachusetts country roads to Webster. It being the first good weekend for riding over several hundred riders signed up for the ride.

## May:

On Sunday the 6<sup>th</sup> over 80 members gathered for our monthly meeting. Even though, the temperature was in the mid-50's there were over 25 bikes in the parking lot. Don Desmarais, our Assistant Director, chaired the meeting. Several of our E-Board members including our Director were attending P.O.T out in the great city of Pittsburgh, PA. The chapter welcomed two new members, Jake Hannon and Dave Hamilton.

Head Road Captain Ed Neumyer, announced that after the meeting there were two chapter rides planned. He was going to lead a group up to Parker's Maple Barn for brunch and Dave Hatch would lead any members who were interested on a new group rides orientation ride. Eight members went on the brunch ride and a half dozen went on the group orientation ride.

On Saturday, the 12th, George Davis, led half-dozen members to Ipswich to Wolf Hollow. This was a route recon ride for the planned Wolf Hollow ride on the 26<sup>th</sup>.



On Saturday the 25<sup>th</sup>, George led 26 members to Wolf Hollow in Ipswich where they attended the show. Everyone had a good time. Prior to heading over to Wolf Hollow, the group stopped for lunch at the Clam Box for a hearty seafood dinner. Great job and kudos to George for this chapter ride.



## June:

On Sunday the 3<sup>rd</sup>, fifty plus members arrived for our monthly meeting. Flo announced that now that the riding season was at hand, she was in hope that the meetings could be conducted expeditiously so that members who were going on rides could be on their way. She also announced that to expedite this process, rather than having various and sundry items on the raffle table the chapter will give each raffle ticket winner a \$25.00 gift certificate from American Harley-Davidson. Members concurred with this decision.

Flo also reminded everyone that our annual Chapter Charity Ride & BBQ for Ginny's Helping Hand would be next Sunday the 10<sup>th</sup>.

Phil will also be hosting his 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Open House at American this coming Saturday. Flo also announced that last month nine members took the Central Mass Safety Council Experienced Riders Course, congrats to these individuals.

Pete Rezuke, Chapter Treasurer announced that our Christmas Bike Raffle tickets were available and encouraged each member to pick up a book or two. There is a change to this year's bike raffle. The winner will have their choice of either the bike that this year would be a Fat Boy or \$16,000.00 cash. Additionally, Pete presented Bob Breu with a plaque in recognition for selling the most Christmas Bike Raffle tickets last year.

Our Head Road Captain, Ed Neumyer, gave Kudos to George Davis, for his efforts in setting up and leading members on the Wolf Hollow ride. Ed also announced that at the completion of our formal meeting for anyone interested he would be leading a ride up to Vermont for lunch.

The chapter welcomed Pat McKee as our newest member.

Sharri Tuttle, won the gift certificate for unscrambling the Secret Word, that was in the June News Letter.

On the 9<sup>th</sup>, members joined our sponsor Phil Desmarais in celebrating his 31<sup>st</sup> Anniversary as a Harley-Davidson Dealership with an open house. Chapter members staffed the grill serving up hamburgers and hot dogs to all whom visited the dealership.



On Sunday the 10<sup>th</sup>, the chapter held it's annual charity ride for Jenny's Helping Hand. There was a bit of concern on Saturday as local weather forecasters predicted the weather for Sunday to be cool, overcast with intermittent showers. As dawn broke on Sunday morning the sky was clear and blue, no rain in the forecast and temps in the mid-70's. Over 120 riders from various H.O.G. Chapters participated in this event. Everyone whom attended had a good time.



After expenses, the chapter raised over \$1,500.00 for Ginny.

On a more somber note, two of our members went under the knife for major surgery. Carol Desmarais, underwent back surgery and Bob Jarmulowicz underwent hip replacement surgery.

On the 24<sup>th</sup>, fifteen members led by our Safety Officer Al Rana, went down to Pawtucket, Rhode Island to Blackstone Valley H.O.G. Chapter Charity Ride.

A forty-mile police led ride through the back roads of Rhode Island and Massachusetts ended at the North Attleboro Elks Lodge where a steak dinner awaited the riders. Sue Rezuke, Ginger Thompson and Karen Davis all won a raffle prize.



What a way to end a month! On the 30<sup>th</sup>, Pete Rezuke led 17 bikes up to Fitzwilliam, New Hampshire, to the Harley Hero's' gathering. This event sponsored by various Veterans Organizations to support local veterans programs. After spending an hour at the event, Pete led the group to Kimbell's Ice Cream Emporium in Jaffery where everyone enjoyed an ice cream. Everyone who came on the ride had a good time.

## **July:**

On Sunday the 1<sup>st</sup> we held our monthly chapter meeting, with over 45 bikes in the parking lot. Traci Paquin a member of Ginny's Helping Hand Board of Governors represented Ginny's Helping Hand and the chapter presented her with \$1,650.00, which we raised at our Charity Ride. The chapter welcomed two new members. After the meeting, Ed Neumyer led a ride out to the Brookfield area to several Yankee Run establishments.

On Saturday the 21<sup>st</sup>, several chapter members led by Denis Thompson headed up to the Keene area to participate in Monodnock Harley-Davidson Charity Ride for MS.

On Sunday the 22<sup>nd</sup>, Ed Neumyer led 21 bikes and 26 members down to Framingham to participate in Metro West's Charity Ride. A high lite of our ride was watching Alan Favreau attempt to turn off his bike security

alarm system. After over 20 minutes and numerous attempts to turn the system off, Flo Neumyer suggested Alan, try entering an alternate 5-digit code. Lo and be hold this turned the system off. With this bit of comic theater over, everyone was ready for some ice cream.

On Sunday the 29<sup>th</sup>, our Asst Director Don Desmarais led a group of chapter members out to Deerfield on our annual Yankee Candle Ride. Taking a scenic route through the back roads of Central Massachusetts, with a pit stop in the village of Wendell the group arrived at the Yankee Candle store. After hour and a half at Yankee Candle, Don then led the group over to the Deerfield Polish American Club, where we joined residents and club members for their annual Steak Roast. We partook of steak, baked potato, salad, and con-on-the-cob. Everyone had a good time and all enjoyed the Polish Oomph Band.

### **August:**

On Saturday the 4<sup>th</sup>, members help Phil host an Open House. Members manned the grill serving up Hamburg's and hot dogs.

On Sunday the 5<sup>th</sup>, the chapter participated in the Annual Memorial Ride. Over 45 bikes and 50 members' rode down to Sheldon's Harley-Davidson where we met with other chapters. The Worcester Chapter was the host chapter for this year's memorial ride. An 82-mile ride through the southern Massachusetts and Central Connecticut ended at Purgatory Chasm State Park where a remembrance service was held for those chapter members, whom have died.



On Thursday the 9<sup>th</sup>, Pete Rezuke led a half-dozen members whom were heading out early to the MA/RI Rally. After a three-hour ride thru the back roads of central and northwest Massachusetts, the group arrived at Ronnie's Harley-Davidson in Pittsfield just in time to connect with the multi-chapter ride out to the rally site at Jiminy Peak. This is the second time with-in four years Jiminy Peak was the venue for the MA/RI Rally. Not to be denied, Mother Nature made her presence felt, on Friday the rain came in early in the morning and remained throughout the day. Although the inclement weather curtailed most of the day's riding activities, attendees knew Saturday would be better. It Was! At the closing ceremonies, the Harley-Davidson Regional Director announced that this would be the last individual MA/RI Chapter Rally, as there is a proposal for consideration to have multi-state rallies starting in 2008. New Hampshire is to be the host state for this combined rally. Site has yet to be determined.

On Saturday evening the 25<sup>th</sup>, Ed Neumyer led over a dozen members on a supper ride up to Seabrook, New Hampshire to Brown's Lobster Barn. Members enjoyed an evening repast of Crustaceans, Bivalves, and Fish and Chips. Everyone enjoyed the evening.

## **September:**

September is our Anniversary month. In the past the chapter has held it's monthly meeting on the second weekend of the month and coupled it with an anniversary party to include a free catered dinner. This year because of a lack of chapter participant, only 35 members bought tickets, which were redeemable for the party. Alas, the caterer said he could not cater an event this small and make a profit. It was with reluctance that our Chapter Director and our Activities Officer decided to cancel the event. It is a sad commentary on chapter members when with a membership of over 270 you can only get 35 members to show up for a free meal.

On Saturday the 22<sup>nd</sup>, chapter members participated in Phil's Harley-Davidson National Open House. Members again manned the grill serving up hamburgers and hot dogs.

## October:

The waning month of the riding season, October has arrived. The month that many consider is the best riding month of the year. If it is, than one of the annual chapter's rides is to West Dummerston, Vermont to their annual Apple Pie Festival. On Sunday the 7<sup>th</sup>, over thirty bikes led by Dave Hatch headed up Route 119 towards the Green Mountain State. This annual ride is one of the most attended by chapter members. Upon arrival at the festival, members partook of a succulent plethora of ice cream or cheese atop a large slice of apple pie. As usual, no ride to the festival is complete without stopping in Jaffrey at Kimball's Ice Cream Stand on the way home.

On Saturday the 13<sup>th</sup>, the chapter held it's first Baked Bean cook off to benefit Ginny's Helping Hand. A five-dollar donation allowed individual to sample a selection of Baked Beans cooked up by chapter members. Individuals then could vote on which pot of beans they thought were the best. The count of the vote resulted in a tie between Pete Rezuke and Beth Thompson.



At the end of the day, we raised \$107.00 for Ginny's Helping Hand.

On Sunday the 14<sup>th</sup>, we held our first monthly meeting since August. Fifty members were on hand and Flo announced that next month is our chapter election for the 2008 E-Board. All positions are open and any member can vie for one. H.O.G. by-laws require that the four primary officer positions be elective. Other positions i.e., Road Captain, Safety Officer, Photographer etc can be appointive. Next month we also start our winter breakfast meetings and we need kitchen crew volunteers.

After the meeting, Ed Neumyer led a dozen riders up to Nashua where we stopped for lunch at the Pine Street Eatery. This is a Yankee Run Stop.

## **November:**

On Sunday the 4<sup>th</sup>, we began our winter breakfast meeting. As happened during our first breakfast meeting last year, the stalwart members of the Leominster Fire Department again showed up to wish us well. Even though the temperature was in the 40's, over a dozen members rode their bikes to the meeting.

Our kitchen crew volunteers for this breakfast are: Steve Robichaud, Val Pruneau, Mark Pruneau, Dan Lablanc, Bruce Newell, Kathy Ganczarski, Marilyn Coskie and Ed Neumyer. Members enjoy these breakfast meetings and are well attended by our members.

November is also the month in which we elect our E-Board for the upcoming year. Although all positions are on the ballot, only two had challengers. These were Treasurer and Membership Director. Both incumbents were running for reelection. Harry Schlegelmilch challenged Pete Rezuke the current Treasurer and, Sue Rezuke challenged Dave Labossiere for Membership Director. Both incumbents retained their positions. There was an additional ballot question to raise the yearly dues from the current \$15.00 to \$20.00. The membership voted in the affirmative and effective beginning 2008 our dues will now be \$20.00.

Also on hand as an invited guest was Ginny White, of Ginny's Helping Hand. Again, this year she was asking the chapter to help make Christmas a bit brighter for individuals whom might face Christmas morning without a gift. Through her "Give a Gift" program, members were able to select one or several children for whom to purchase a gift. The member selected a "hand" on which the child's first name was given, their age, gender and what they wished for. For those children whom wanted clothing they listed their size. Many members stepped forward to select a child for this "Give a Gift" program.

## December:

Over 100 members attended our last membership meeting of 2007. It was our second breakfast, which everyone enjoyed. Our kitchen crew enjoys preparing it and our members enjoy eating it. During this meeting, as a token of appreciation for their labors the chapter presented the kitchen crew with individual aprons.



Pete Rezuke, announced our bike raffle tickets were selling well. He is hopeful that we will sell most of the tickets by the day of our Christmas party. Giving the winner the choice between the bike or \$16,000.00 has been a big incentive for ticket buyers.

Flo, announced a change to what is usually held during our Christmas party and that is the presentation of a gift of thanks from our Director to members of the E-Board. This recognition she gave during this meeting. She had each E-Board member come forth and she presented them with her gift and her thanks for all their work and effort making 2007 a successful and enjoyable year.

One hundred ten members gathered on Saturday night the 15<sup>th</sup>, for our annual Christmas Party. Members enjoyed a night of music, fun and a great buffet.



Santa and two of his elves arrived joining members in this annual celebration. We also had a surprise visit from two icons from the 60's, Elvis and The Village People. Their rendition of "YMCA" brought down the house.



The highlight of the evening's festivities was the bike drawing. The winner of the bike is Dave Bergeron from Leominster. Dave not being a motorcyclist opted for the \$16,000.



Congratulations to you Dave.

And so, another year has passed. For many members they will have found memories of a rides taken, State Rallies attended, our support of Ginny's Helping Hand, Wednesday night ice cream rides and our great winter breakfast meetings. May the pleasure that riding a motorcycle along the highways and byways of the Commonwealth brings each of us remain such that in the years ahead we can say we held true to The H.O.G Mission Statement "Let's Ride and Have Fun."