

## **Report EPOT (February 17<sup>th</sup> to February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2005) European Primary Officer Training**

On Thursday, February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2005 we (Hansjörg, Erika, Richi, Armella, Peter and me) met in Kloten. After a wonderful flight we arrived at 2:30 p.m. in Lisbon where we met the first two Harley bikers named Judith and Peter from the Sun Hill Chapter Frauenfeld. We picked them up and took them to Faro which we reached with a bus after a varied 2 ½ hours ride. After some troubles with the room service we spent a relaxed evening. We discussed about bikes and bikers and helped ourselves with the supper. In the late evening when we wanted to take the bus to get back to the hotel we had to go on foot. Anyway, this is even more healthy than to be driven. Hansjörg guided us with a sketch-card perfectly through the night to the other hotel. On Friday morning the program went on with two talks about "General Things in the Chapters", "Looking for Volunteers", "Motivation of Members", "Team Spirit and Visions".

The vision for our Chapter: Well functioning, peace, team spirit and joy!

After a rich and varied lunch the first workshop started, each language part formed a group. The subjects: Risk-Management, Legal and Finance (Liability on behalf on rides for members and guests - Chapter should wave this liability, HOG are working on it), problems with members and organising of effective meetings (e.g. Tunnel-Event). After this Franky spoke about organisations of events. After this hard workshop we had ourselves a drink having discussions before we went on for supper.

On Saturday morning Del Hofer from the United States reported his Harley-story: 1961 he hardly got a loan contract in order to open his first Harley Davidson store. 1983 the Harley business went downhill. Del bought up Harleys from everywhere and everybody thought he must be crazy until 1989 the year HOG was founded. More and more Harley groups were founded and subsequently Harley Davidson became more successful. Del's motto: We have to pass on our heir, our rides are the basic to write on the story.

Next workshop: Motivation of the members ("You must burn inside when you want to lit a fire" - "not to course is praise enough" - "tell your adventures and pass them on"), rides with surprises, communication (by e-mails, dealer's newsboard, news, flyers), birthday parties. All those attending the course had some ideas and hints to give support.

After the lunch the next subject was the work with volunteers, e.g. how to involve them on formal occasions and what's important, e.g. marketplan, details, checking the circumstances, toilets, drink booth, music, registration of the members, completion and feedback.

After the workshops had been finished, we looked forward to the dinner and the live band. There was time enough left to chat and have fun with the Chapter members. More than 270 members participated from all over the world (Belgium, Denmark, Saudi Arabia, Germany, Italy, France, Netherlands etc). I think we have learned a lot, have taken with us many new ideas and found new friends. We had wonderful days.

Übersetzung: Daniel Bucklar