

**ROCK RIVER
CHAPTER
NEWSLETTER**

August 2023
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**ROCK RIVER
H.O.G. CHAPTER
#3276**

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FROM THE DIRECTOR

Ken Kessenich



For most of us we are now starting the second half of our riding season. That led me to think about the scale of our riding season. When I think of that I get sad as this enjoyment is half over for the year. Then I get jealous of those that live in other parts of the country that can ride all year long. I do have a friend who now lives in Las Vegas whose season is waiting to begin again. For them the summers are too hot and dangerous to ride on the roads with their tires so they must "take the summer off." You may or may not know that I'm a very competitive person and when I think of the H.O.G. mileage program I think it is unfair for our chapter to have to compete with the chapters that can ride all year long.

Then again, let's think about the scale of our riding! Now that I'm "retired" and only working three jobs, I still find time to get on the bike and take a solo ride. Time to think, enjoy the country side, take in the smells – be it the dairy farm or the slow cooking brisket smoker, and just get lost. A little bigger scale is riding with Lori to somewhere, anywhere, like finding a new Wisconsin Badger (not a legal Flat Rocker!). We all have our "friends riding with friends" rides where we add a few bikes in a line and have a great time. With our chapter we can participate in dealership rides, Road Captain rides, and of course Rock Wisconsin rides. These can scale up from a dozen bikes to maybe as many as 50 or more!



Talk about BIG scale!! And then there was the 120th. Volunteering for parking and seeing different bike after different bike roll into our dealership with most riders and passengers having smiles on their faces was great. Certainly, I cannot forget the experience of riding with thousands of bikes during the 120th Rally. Representing our chapter in the Sunday parade was an amazing experience. Walking the Miller Park (yup can't get over that naming) parking lot, speaking with riders from Ireland to Malaysia, riding next to them, and sharing a common bond – enjoying riding and the company that comes along with it. One couple from Poland shipped their bike to Columbia, road around S. America, then shipped it to Panama and road around Mid-America, finally shipping it to the west coast and riding here! They have been gone almost 18 months! I wondered what they do and how they could have the time off and afford this?

Enjoy each and every opportunity this riding season, no matter the size of the scale.

Ken

ROAD CAPTAIN CORNER

Wow, we are off to a great start to our riding season. The Hometown rally was great. I hope you were able to attend and if you volunteered, I want to thank you for supporting the dealership. July was a great month for riding. I went on the Rock Wisconsin Ride to Mackinac Island, MI on July 28-31. On day three we crossed over the Mackinac bridge and rode the tunnel of trees. The Mackinac Bridge is currently the fifth longest suspension bridge in the world. The bridge opened to traffic on November 1, 1957. There was an accident on the bridge causing a huge traffic jam on the side we needed to cross over. After about 45 minutes of stop and go we finally got off the bridge. The ride was very well planned, and we were on some awesome roads. If you have never been on a Rock Wisconsin Ride you are missing out on some really great rides.

I plan on going on the Apostle Island Ride August 11 – 14 and the Driftless Ride August 25-27. These rides are also awesome with great routes and scenery. I stated on the last ride how fortunate we are that we are able to do what we do on our bikes. Thank the Lord. Being retired allows me to go on these rides which I know is hard to do when you're working. Been there, done that.

Did I ever tell you that I lead from behind? Yes, that is true, I get asked to be the sweep (the guy way in the back) making sure everyone makes it. I've also been accused of telling jokes on the CB. With that being said.

A man was admitted into the hospital because he swallowed eight plastic **horses**. His condition is now **stable**.

I stepped on some **cornflakes** this morning. I guess I'm a **cereal** killer.

See you on the road or at the Chapter Meeting.

Jim "Muddy" Waters

UPCOMING ROAD CAPTAIN RIDE

Join us for a Scenic Fall Day Ride – Saturday October 7th

This will be a beautiful ride on country roads for a trip to Stoughton, WI where all things Norwegian/Vikings are celebrated.

Stoughton offers a great deal of places to enjoy and learn some of the history the large population of Norwegian descendants here hold dear.

This will be a relaxing ride on mostly 2-lane blacktop with a rest stop along the way. I will be making reservations at restaurant/Bar & Grill to be determined, however once there, there are plenty of lunch options.

Tentative staging 10:00 at WI HD, KSU at 10:30. Please remember to arrive with a full tank. Hope to see you join us.

Dennis and Jean Lynner

FROM OUR HISTORIAN

Carl Samppala

New Members:

(pictured at right)

Caitlynn McKara

Brian Berndt

Anniversaries:

Jeff Bruch 2 years

Lisa Starbuck 15 years



UPCOMING CHAPTER MEETING

The August chapter meeting will be held on **Tuesday, August 22, 2023. Social hour at 6:00PM, food to follow.**

Location: Wisconsin HD for the annual chapter picnic.

Can you please help us by bringing an appetizer or baked good to share? These items would be greatly appreciated.

50/50 Raffle Tickets will have a 100% payout at the August meeting.



50/50 RAFFLE TICKETS

Just a little reminder to purchase your raffle tickets at the table next to raffle drum.

100% payout for August meeting.

Thank you to everyone that has come forward to volunteer to sell raffle tickets. We are fully staffed for the rest of the year.

If you haven't helped out yet there is always next year, I will have a signup sheet for 2024 next to the raffle drum.

K9 RIDE WRAP UP

By: Candy Parr

The Waukesha County Sheriff Annual K-9 Ride had a beautiful last weekend. After the ride, the U.S. Project Band played at Wisconsin Harley Davidson.

The Canine (K9) Unit is funded entirely through financial and in-kind donations. As the Canine Unit is not funded with tax dollars, donations are always accepted at the police department. Checks can be made to out to Waukesha Police Department Canine Unit. Donations can also be made with Venmo.

K9 Wilko

K9 Wilko is a Belgian Malinois, who was born in Hungary. K9 Wilko is trained in searches, tracking, suspect apprehension, Narcotics detection, handler protection. K9 Wilko was made possible by an anonymous donation to the Waukesha Police K9 Unit. K9 Wilko is handled by Officer Jeremy Bousman.



Wilko was introduced to the crowd with a demo of his command to take down a suspect and his handler answered questions from the audience.

PLEASE NOTE: There will be no newsletter for September.



Communication and Safety

As a Road Captain I am required to give a pre-ride briefing to everyone involved in the ride. During this meeting we talk about many important topics like, where we are going, how long to the first stop, where to get gas, when do we get ice cream.. etc.

Communication between riders on a group ride is vital to achieve a safe group ride. During this briefing, the Lead Road Captain will remind everyone of the common hand signals for left, right turns, slow down, stop & road hazards.

Most (but not all) Road Captains utilize CB Radios to communicate with other Road Captains which helps control the ride. CB Radios have been an optional tool for many years on Harley Davidson Touring Motorcycles. However, the CB Radio is no longer an available option from Harley Davidson. Harley Davidson has recently decided to let the consumer turn to aftermarket products for motorcycle-to-motorcycle communication from companies like Sena, Cardo, Lexin and more. These communication devices mount in most helmets (Full or Half). Probably the most popular system right now is the Cardo brand. Like others, they offer the latest in Mesh Technologies which can link up to 15 riders and at a distance of just over a mile. You can also use Cardo for more than bike to bike communication. You can listen to music, make phone calls, listen to GPS Navigation, even listen to FM Radio. Best of all you can do this all while keeping both hands on the bars. Most units are completely hands-free operation.

If you ride with friends/ family I highly recommend looking into these communication systems. I use the Sena products and have found it works awesome even when I get separated from my friends while stuck at a traffic light. I can still communicate perfectly for several blocks while they find a spot to wait for me. And I can get GPS directions in my ear rather than looking at the screen and taking my eyes off the road. I have even

made hands free phone calls while doing 75 down the interstate and my wife said she couldn't even hear the bike or wind. (Full Face Helmet).

Technology has come a long way from the CB radios. Two benefits I see, cheaper ways to communicate (HD CB's were expensive!!) and people might buy a helmet and have great conversations with their riding buddies.

Ride Safe!!

Dan Stammen

THERE'S STILL ROOM TO RIDE

Three Rings and Many Wings still have spots available. But hurry – sign up ASAP before the hotel block closes.

Join us for an adventure into your childhood with a visit to Circus World in Baraboo. Meet at the dealership at 8:00, KSU at 8:30 for an overnight trip on Friday September 8. There will be a 90 mile leisurely ride and stop for lunch followed by a tour of the museum. See the ornately designed antique wagons used to transport the circus acts and animals. There will be a 90 mile ride to Oshkosh where we will spend the night.

Saturday morning after a leisurely breakfast at the hotel, we will go to the EAA Museum to see the many aircraft on display. The museum opens at 10:00, so we can socialize in the morning until it's time to go. Spend as much time as you want and then it will be time to head home. There will be plenty of time to hit some flat rockers on the way home.

Please call or email Dwight Lehman to sign up:

414-630-3735 // Dwight-lehman@att.net

ROCK WISCONSIN

By: Carl Samppala

Hello Rock River Chapter!

We're just back from the Ride to Mackinac Island. We've gotten a lot of positive feedback. Weather cooperated, although it was a bit invigorating on some of the mornings. The majority of our participants choose to go over to Mackinac Island after our arrival at the hotel, late Saturday morning, while a few chose to do some riding. We were treated to an abundance of fudge during our Corn Hole Tourney that evening. Just a bit of advice, watch out for Barry & Sarah Phillips-I think we found a couple of ringers.

Sunday found us crossing the 'Mighty Mac' (Mackinac Bridge) on our way to the Tunnel of Trees - a beautiful ride following the shore of Lake Michigan. Tim Droester did a magnificent



job leading the group through here. We were also treated to the sight of a bald eagle soaring along the beach. Truly inspiring!

A stop for lunch in Mackinaw (yes, different spelling) City and we were headed out. Unfortunately, here we had one downside to the trip. Traffic was backed up across the bridge, so what normally would take 8-10 minutes max, had us on the bridge for 45! There were some tired and sore clutch hands after that. But, we survived and continued onward.

The Apostle Islands ride will be underway by the time you read this. We have a full house and everybody's looking forward to it. Look for our report next time!

The Driftless Dry is next up, August 25-27. We rapidly filled that one up at the last Chapter meeting. I'm eagerly awaiting this one.

3 Rings and Many Wings ride will end our season. As of this writing, there are still some slots open.

We've heard from some of you with suggestions and ideas for future rides. Please feel free to share your thoughts and ideas with any of the Rock Wisconsin Committee members, Chapter Officers or Road Captains. They don't have to be a complete ride, maybe a destination or attraction that can be incorporated or combined into a ride. If you're interested in planning rides, to paraphrase the Marine Corps., we're always 'looking for a few good bikers' to join us.

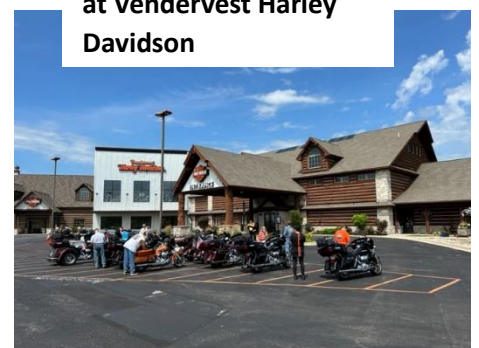
See you on the road!

The Grand Hotel was the setting for the movie, "Somewhere in Time"



Upcoming Rock Wisconsin Rides	
Ride	Dates
Driftless Dry	Aug. 25-27
3 Rings and Many Wings (Circus World-Baraboo and EAA-Oshkosh)	Sept 8-9

The group also stopped at Vendervest Harley Davidson



2023 ANNIVERSARY RALLY WRAP UP

120th HD Rally WHD visitors from around the world

By: Candy Parr – “Shiny Side Up/Hospitality”

Malaysia H.O.G. Chapter was so fun! They have over 700 chapter members! They stopped by our Rock River H.O.G. Chapter table inside the dealership.



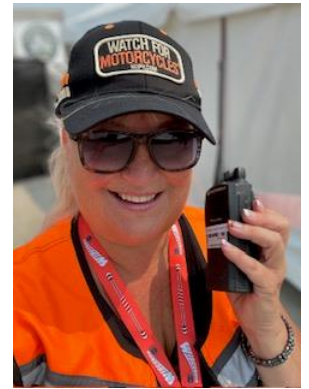
The owner of their dealership asked if we could take a photo together holding up our chapter flags! JT had a belly laugh!

They asked how “do you say OCONOMOWOC” and we tried out loud all together a few times! “OH-Kon- No- Mo- WOK! Hence the BIG laughs!



Thailand

Rally volunteering for Security at North Gate. Please volunteer at least 1 or 2 TIME slots to help at dealership events! This makes our WHD a must go to for our visitors! And you meet cool people too!



Live your best life!

Director Ken Kessenich and Assistant Director Carl Samppala proudly display the Rock River Chapter flag prior to the beginning of the 120th anniversary parade



The Wisconsin HD parking lot at night

**DON'T WORRY SUMMER ISN'T OVER YET
WE'VE STILL GOT TONS OF RIDES AND
EVENTS TO KEEP YOU BUSY**

DEALERSHIP FUN

AUGUST 19TH

CARPENTER'S UNION CAR & BIKE RIDE

10 AM - 2 PM

MUSIC FROM RANDOM MAXX FROM 12 - 3

AUGUST 23RD

BIKE NIGHT WITH CHERRY PIE

6 PM - 9 PM

AND BECAUSE WE COULDN'T GET ENOUGH

SEPT. 2ND WE 'LL HAVE OUR FIRST

THE NOT RALLY RALLY

9 AM - 4 PM

STAY TUNED FOR MORE DETAILS

**WE MAY BE LOOKING FOR SOME PARKING AND BARTENDERS FOR THE
DAY**

**WANTED TO SAY IT AGAIN TO
ALL THAT HELPED DURING
HOMECOMING THIS YEAR!
- LESLIE**



LIMITED TIME

**GIFT WITH
PURCHASE***

WITH QUALIFYING
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**THANK
YOU!**

SUNRISE RIDE
SATURDAY AUG 26th, 5:30 AM



SATURDAY, AUG 26th
DEPART 5:30 AM SHARP!!

OLD HARDEE'S PARKING LOT
ON 83 AND I94

WATCH THE SUNRISE FROM THE BEACH!



(ACTUAL SUNRISE PHOTO BRADFORD BEACH)

WE ARE HEADED TO BRADFORD BEACH FOR ONE OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL SUNRISES OF THE YEAR!

LATE SUMMER BRINGS GORGEOUS HUES OF BRIGHT COLORS AS THE SUN RISES OVER LAKE MICHIGAN.


THIS IS AN EASY RIDE, NO TRAFFIC AND THE BEACH PRETTY MUCH ALL TO OUR OWN!

BRING SOME COFFEE, A BLANKET, BAG CHAIR OR JUST YOURSELF!

AFTER, JOIN US FOR A BREAKFAST BUFFET AT ONE OF MILWAUKEE MOST WELL KNOWN IRISH PUBS McBOBS.

NO SIGNUP REQUIRED - JUST SHOW UP OR JOIN US IN ROUTE ON I94. DO NOT MISS THIS RIDE!!

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