

**ROCK RIVER
CHAPTER
NEWSLETTER**

June 2023
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Rock Wisconsin Information



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

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FROM THE DIRECTOR

Ken Kessenich

Did you go on the Dream Ride? Lori and I did! We added some great new friends and experienced amazing roads planned by the Rock Wisconsin committee. While I "drive" Lori takes pictures and then does some research while we ride. This ride she found this poem that I think really speaks to us.

June is "The month of leaves and roses, When pleasant sights salute the eyes, And pleasant scents the noses." -
N.P. Willis (1807-67)



I love seeing how our state comes alive after a stark and seemingly lifeless winter. Riding through small communities with the hanging flower baskets just taking hold, and passing through the scent of lilacs coming into bloom reminds me of new beginnings. While we were cruising down some small Iowa "highways" we ended up behind a sprayer with a metal placard that stated "35 mph". That farmer's foot pressure knew exactly where the 35 mph was. We had to practice patience almost 10 miles. I really thought that Barry might have been able to make it under, but with the hilly twisty roads there was no way we could make a pass. It did give me the chance to be a little more observant to my surroundings. Many of the smallest roads were tree covered at times. Seeing the well-developed stream drainage systems, untouched hills, and bedrock exposed, I came to the conclusion that this part of Iowa is similar to the Driftless Area of Wisconsin. We saw a LOT of another thing. Did you know that Iowa is the number one pork producing state in the U.S.? Nearly one-third of our nation's hogs are raised in Iowa. Between the hogs and the cows you know the scent I'm talking about. I really like it, in small quantities; however, I think chicken is the worst! In the morning rolling over small streams and the coolness of the morning air the freshness rejuvenates that day for another great day of riding.



On Sunday, a smaller group explored Wisconsin cities using the backroads collecting four Flat Rocker stops. I must say our sense of touch with 55 degrees, misty air, and clouds all day confirmed a heated jacket and heated grips are not a luxury, but a necessity. Fennimore, Belmont and more confirmed using our senses of not just sight but hearing and smell make the ride all the more enjoyable.

Take the road in with all your senses.

Ken

ROAD CAPTAIN CORNER

How can it be June already? Let me tell you about two great rides that happened last month.

The Bikes, Blessing & VFW ride was held on Saturday May 20th with well over 100 bikes participating. The ride started at the VFW post in New Berlin where there was a blessing then a one-hour ride on great roads ending at Wisconsin Harley.

The Honor ride we had on Saturday May 27th had over 200 bikes participating. A police officer escorted ride left from Wisconsin Harley to the Wisconsin Memorial for a ceremony for **remembrance of those who have died in service to our country**. Afterward the ride returned to Wisconsin Harley. This ride was put on by the Combat Vets group and it was a great ride.

On June 1st there was a Road Captain ride led by Barry Phillips to Edwin Brix Vineyards in Dodge County. KSU up at 4:30 pm with 12 bikes and 27 people (some chose to meet the group at the winery by car). The group was welcomed by Jocelyn, who is a 5th generation granddaughter of the original winery owners, who began the business 30 years ago. She gave a history of the winery and commenced with the wine tasting. The event got good feedback from many participating. Thank you, Barry!

All you new members please look at the calendar and check out all the rides coming. If you have never gone on a group ride what a great chance to do so. You will meet new friends, see wonderful scenery, and travel down great roads. As always if you ever have questions about our rides, please do not hesitate to ask me or any of the other Road Captains to get your answers.

See you at the Chapter Meeting.

Jim "Muddy" Waters

FISH BOIL RIDE

July 22, 2023

Mark your calendars! We're planning a ride to Fitzgerald's in Genoa for a delicious fish boil. Please join us for a pleasant Saturday afternoon ride through Southern Wisconsin. Fitzgerald's features an all you care to eat fish boil and also your choice of chicken or ribs.

We will take sign-ups at the June Chapter meeting. A \$10/person deposit will be collected.

WINO RIDE WRAP UP



Edwin Brix Vineyard



Eager guests gathering for the next taste!



Hostess Jocelyn explains and describes vineyard operations to a captive audience.



LANCE'S YOUNG AT HEART RIDE



Yes, we want you! On **Saturday July 8**, the Rock River HOG Chapter will be visiting the Regency Senior Communities in New Berlin

to provide rides to the residents. This ride is rapidly becoming a favorite for the residents of the community. It has proved so popular that they have asked about doing this event for some of their other facilities. As of last month's meeting, they have over 30 seniors signed up and ready for a police led ride through the wilds of New Berlin. So, WE WANT YOU, we need volunteers with their bikes or trikes to chauffeur the residents.

KSU 8:30AM SHARP from the New Berlin Police Department (16300 W. National Ave.). If you have a spare helmet, please bring it.

This year, there will be music and a barbeque. It's always a great time and this year promises to be even better. Don't miss out, we'll be doing sign-ups at the June meeting.

Questions? Can't make the June meeting? Call Tom 'Barney' Greco at (414) 324-6940 and tell him you're in!



GREAT AMERICAN CONVOY

By: **Vivian Jorgensen**

In 2014, Adam Sandoval traveled to every Harley Davidson dealership in the lower US and collected funds for veterans' charities with his dog Scooter as his traveling companion. Mark and I met Adam and Scooter at a dealership somewhere in Wisconsin, don't remember which one, but we were pretty impressed with his travel plans. Recently we had an opportunity to meet him again; and again, we were impressed!

This year in honor of Harley Davidson's 120th anniversary, Adam is leading the Great American Convoy traveling to 120 dealerships in 48 states raising funds for the Wounded Warriors Project. He started the convoy on April 22 at Pigtail HD in Arkansas and his last dealership stop will be on July 14th at Uke's HD in Kenosha, WI before heading to the HD Museum for the anniversary party. At each dealership, HOG members and other supporters of his cause have been greeting the convoy at the dealerships. When he heads out, some riders join the convoy escorting the group to the next dealership on the route. Riders can choose to ride along for just one stop or travel to multiple stops. Two wheels, three wheels, four wheels...any make or model of vehicle is welcome to join the convoy.

On July 7th, the Great American Convoy will be stopping at Kegal's HD in Rockford, IL with a stop at Wisconsin Harley Davidson. The convoy is scheduled to be at WIHD from 2pm-4 pm. Wouldn't it be great if some of our Rock River HOG members were there to support and greet the convoy when they arrive at WIHD?!? We plan to ride to Rockford with a group of friends to meet the convoy and ride with them to WIHD. We also plan to ride with the convoy to West Bend HD.

Here is a link to view dates, stops, etc

<https://adamsandoval.com/great-american-convoy/>

FROM OUR HISTORIAN

Carl Samppala

New Members:

Mystery member to be introduced next month

Mileage:

2022 Ride 365

74 members of Rock River Chapter participated

Chapter total 280,166 miles

Average 3786 miles/participant

4th Place among Wisconsin Chapters

15th Overall in Plains Region

2022 10,000 mile Club

Jim Wasilewski	17,741
Carl Samppala	11,630
Pete Puetz	10,917
Bonnie Braun	10,012
Jodi Howland	10,001

SHINY SIDE UP

Hello Fellow Rockers!

As riding season gets gears up & we come out of hibernation, I wanted to remind RR of **“Shiny Side Up”** (SSU). This is where we can show support, respect & encouragement or cheer to our fellow Rock River HOG Chapter members & family, for their milestone celebrations and other life events such as an illness, accident or death; by sending a card, text, email, good vibes, prayers, dates/location of a funeral or fundraiser in their memory or honor. You too can be part of the *“Kindness Squad”*. So, if you hear of any news where we need to support our RR family (aka friend+family=FRamily); please contact me at the email listed in our newsletter under the Rock Leaders.

“Let’s encourage one another, as life is too short not to enjoy & support our RR family”

As we see our RR chapter grow, I look forward to serving my 3rd season on the RR Officers board under HD HOG Hospitality and as a chapter ambassador. -- **Candy “Sunshine” Parr**

FLAT ROCKER UPDATES

- 1) Reminder that #39 is a freebie for all
- 2) #7 – This is a horse statue on the St. Norbert campus. It is on the corner of Third and Reid. Thanks to a fellow Rocker, getting this picture is safest by parking your bike on the diagonal grid lines on **Reid Street**. Otherwise there is no parking nearby.
- 3) #35 - Flirtie the Cow is apparently off flirting somewhere! There are two signs for the Crazy Cow Saloon (for which Flirtie was the mascot) you can use for the picture instead.



WISCONSIN PASSPORT

PROGAM

Do you have your Passport? You won't need a true passport to participate in this year-long contest.

It's easy! All you need to do is pick up the passport at one

of the fourteen participating Harley-Davidson dealerships (you can start with our own Wisconsin Harley-Davidson) across the state. Then ride your Harley to the various dealerships and ask them to stamp it. That's it. You get to ride and enter for prizes.

Hurry, you need to complete the passport by October 31, 2023.





Practice Makes Improvement

I would like to thank those who came out to the Dealership on the evening of May 19th for the “Knock the Rust Off” Safety Session. During our two hours of “practice” we talked about Group Ride Etiquette for those that are new to group riding or are maybe a little nervous when riding around people. After a short discussion, we utilized Wisconsin Harley’s Motorcycle Playground behind the dealership where we used orange cones to create a little obstacle course. The course started with an immediate 90-degree left turn that entered into a slow speed tight slalom, followed by a 24 ft U-turn, a quick acceleration to approx. 35 mph and finally end with an emergency stop. Success was achieved if you missed all the cones, kept your feet up and had the bike in first gear and ready to go after the emergency stop. Everyone did a great job!! To end the evening, we then rode to “The Kiltie” for some Ice Cream. Here is a link for a quick video of our Knock the Rust off session. [Rock River- Knock the Rust Off](#)

I was not only impressed with everyone’s riding abilities, but I was also impressed with Harley Davidson’s Anti-Lock brakes. To actually see the attitude of an ABS equipped Harley Davidson motorcycle when it’s in full stop mode compared to a non-ABS motorcycle was impressive. The ABS bike squats and stops in a more level attitude rather than nose diving the frontend. The level attitude under hard braking only enhances the rider’s ability to maintain control and move to avoid an obstacle. That ability is just the tip of the iceberg. Harley Davidson’s RDRS system (Reflex Defensive Rider System) became available in 2020 and is now known today as “Rider Safety Enhancements/ Cornering Rider Safety Enhancements”. I could probably write a small book trying to describe all this system can do, however I think I will leave that to Harley Davidson. Check out this link if you are interested in learning more about this great technology. [H-D Rider Safety Enhancements](#)

Ride Safe Everyone!

Dan Stammen

ROCK WISCONSIN

By: Carl Samppala

Hello Rock River Chapter!

As I write this, I've completed packing for the kick-off Rock Wisconsin ride, the *Dream Ride*. At last count, there were 30 participants signed up.

We will start sign-ups for the Mackinac Island and Apostle Islands rides at the June Chapter meeting. A \$20.00 deposit will be collected. Don't be left out!

On the horizon are the Driftless Dry and 3 Rings and Many Wings rides. We'll have information at the June Chapter meeting and begin sign-ups for these at the July meeting.

We start sign ups two Chapter meetings prior to the ride, with information available the meeting prior to beginning sign ups, so stay tuned!

See you on the road!

2023 UPCOMING ROCK WISCONSIN RIDES				
Ride	Dates	Info Distributed at Chapter Mtg.	Sign ups taken at Chapter Mtg.	
Mackinac Island, MI	July 28-31	May 16	June 20	July 18
Apostle Islands II	Aug 11-14	May 16	June 20	July 18
Driftless Dry	Aug. 25-27	June 20	July 18	Aug 15
3 Rings and Many Wings (Circus World-Baraboo and EAA-Oshkosh)	Sept 8-9	June 20	July 18	Aug 15

DRIFTLESS DRY RIDE

By: Gary Malinowski

Rock Wisconsin invites you to ride the Driftless area of Wisconsin on Friday August 25th – Sunday August 27th. The Driftless area has some of the most twisty, scenic, challenging, and fun roads in Wisconsin. There is also the opportunity for a few Flat Rocker stops.

We will leave Friday at 8am from Wis HD. Some highlights will be the Merrimack Ferry, riding thru Devil's Lake State Park, a lunch stop, twisty scenic back roads, then stopping at S&S Cycles headquarters for factory tours. Tours are 45 minutes long. Dinner is on your own for Friday night. Local suggestions will be provided.

On Saturday we have a long day of very scenic, curvy, hilly roads in the driftless area. Some highlights will be riding through the Minduro Cut, views of the Mississippi river, Bucknuckles biker bar for lunch, and riding near Wildcat Mountain State Park. Saturday night will be a catered dinner at the hotel in a private conference room. Your \$20 deposit will cover the cost of dinner.

Sunday we will head home on more scenic roads either with us or ride with friends. Signups will be at the July and August chapter meetings. \$20 deposit at time of signup.



DREAM RIDE WRAP UP

By: Tim Droester and Theresa Leto

The Dream Ride took off in two groups Friday morning with 32 people, 26 bikes and 2 trikes. We enjoyed some great weather with a busy ride.



At the Field of Dreams some enjoyed a “catch” and some of the girls sat in the stands and cheered for whoever was at bat. Lol. They even had a car show with dune buggies.



We went to 2 Harley dealerships and did some “picking” at American Pickers. We had two ‘biker’ lunches; one at Sledgehammers and the other at Poopies. We had time at the end of each day to circle some chairs and share some laughs.



Sunday morning weather was cold and a few sprinkles. We headed over to the National Motorcycle Museum. What a great place with a lot of history. If you have a free day, be sure to check them out. It is about a three hour ride from Waukesha. They are closing this year so don’t wait too long.

Thanks to all who helped and all who participated .



AT THE JUNE CHAPTER MEETING

June 20, 2023 At the Ingleside
*****ROOM CHANGE NOTICE*****
OAKTON BALLROOM
6:00 PM Social Hour
7:00 PM Meeting

TIME TO ROCK A ROCK RIVER CHAPTER

T-SHIRT!

See our NEW Chapter T-shirt! A purple long sleeve that will be excellent for spring and fall riding and also provide good sun protection in the summer. \$25 (cash or check) for any size. Stop by and see Candy Parr to place your order at the chapter meeting. T-shirts already ordered will be available for pick up at the June chapter meeting.

ROCK RIVER CHAPTER TENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Do you have 2 hours to give to help our chapter raise our activities' awareness and help benefit local charities? Of course you do, please see Carl at the meeting to sign up for just one spot. It's indoors too!
THANKS RRC!

SOS!!!

By: Theresa Leto

50/50 Volunteers Needed

Lori Kessenich will be our raffle ticket seller for this month's meeting. If you would like to help out on Tuesday, please see me at the front next to the raffle drum and I will get you set up.

50/50 continued

We could use a couple of volunteers to help with 50/50 for the July and August meeting. If you are arriving at the meeting early, we sure could use help selling 50/50 tickets.

50% of the raffle sales go back to you, the chapter members; the other half helps to pay for the hall that we have our monthly meeting.

Again, please find me at the front by the raffle drum if you can kindly help.

SAVE THOSE CAN TABS

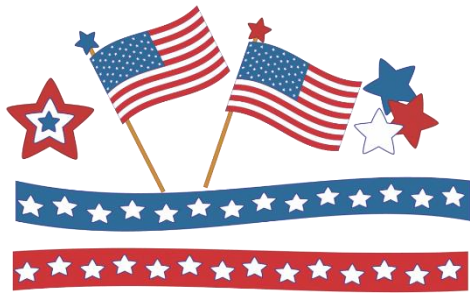
You can help The Ronald McDonald house in such an easy way. Save your can tabs and bring them in to the dealership and deposit them in the service area lounge. Chapter member Janet Sam will then take them to the Ronald McDonald House so they can continue their valuable service and work.



ROCK RIVER MAKES IT TO AUSTRIA



Dawn and Mark Knackert proudly display our chapter flag during their current European trip.



JULY 4TH PARADES

Independence Day Parade – Franklin

We have been invited to the Franklin Fourth of July Parade. It is on **SUNDAY JULY 2nd at 1:00 pm**. We will meet at the North Shore Bank's parking lot, 7151 S. 76th St. (on 76th St just south of Rawson) at 12:00 pm with KSU at 12:15. Please contact Amy Dey at secretary@rockriverhog.com for questions.

Have a parade flag? Make sure you're flying it!

I hope you can make it.

Independence Day Parade – New Berlin

Join your fellow riders in celebrating the 4th of July by participating in the New Berlin Parade. We'll be staging at the Kwik Trip, corner of Rogers and Moorland (next to the former Hal's location). **KSU promptly at 12:00 pm** and riding to check in. Parade goes off at 1:00pm. Due to road construction on Moorland, the parade must start west of Moorland, not the usual location. Please join us at the Kwik Trip so you're not left out!

Have a parade flag? Make sure you're flying it!

Questions? Contact: Carl Samppala (414)217-1368 or email: asst_director@rockriverhog.com

SAVE THE DATES TO PARTICIPATE . . .

TUESDAY, JUNE 20, 2023 – Chapter Meeting

SUNDAY, JULY 2, 2023 - Franklin 4th of July parade

TUESDAY, JULY 4, 2023 - New Berlin 4th of July parade

FRIDAY, JULY 7, 2023 – Great American Convoy from Rockford and greeting at the dealership. See previous article.


SATURDAY, JULY 8, 2023 – Young at Heart Ride See previous article.

SATURDAY, JULY 22, 2023 – Fish Boil Ride

JULY 28-31 – Mackinac Island Ride



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WISCONSIN

OCONOMOWOC, WI



EVENT SCHEDULE

**JULY 21ST BIKE NIGHT WITH
ALTERED STATE
6 PM - 9 PM**

**BE SURE TO STOP BY
HEMP FEST AT STEEL TANK
BREWING CO.
JUNE 24TH 12 PM - 6 PM**

**JULY 7TH ADAM SANDOVAL
2 PM - 4 PM**

**JULY 8TH FIRE & IRON BURN
CAMP RIDE**

**WE'RE STILL IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS FOR RALLY
PLEASE CONSIDER HELPING US THIS YEAR
IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE
FEEL FREE TO CONTACT ME BY EMAIL AT
LESLIE.SMITH@WISHD.COM**