

**ROCK RIVER
CHAPTER
NEWSLETTER**

November 2025
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**ROCK RIVER
H.O.G. CHAPTER
#3276**

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FROM THE DIRECTOR

Ken Kessenich

Not just your fall colors! (part 2)

R • O • Y • G • B • I • V

This month I'll finish the color commentary by taking you deep.

Lori and I took a break from Wisconsin after turning in the Road Glide and headed back to Mexico. Cozumel is one of our favorite dive destinations. We completed 22 dives, ate some amazing food and just might have stopped at one of the "beverage" stands.

Last month I was appreciating the fall colors coming upon us. Last week I had illuminating experiences. Can you see the Octopus in this Night Dive shot when using only red LEDs? Octopi are skittish yet very intelligent animals. Using red light lets me observe them and yet not unnerve them.

If I remove the red lighting, I think you can see him well now, even though his camouflage ability keeps him almost invisible to ocean creatures.



As we passed through this swim through 80' down you can see how most things look bluish. This is because the sun's red light is long

wave low energy and absorbed in the first 30', whereas blue is higher energy and can penetrate up to 650'!

Yet if we add some canned light from my photo floods, you can quickly enjoy the ocean's beauty. Notice in the distance my flood light energy does not go that far and we are back to the "blues" of the ocean depths. Most divers carry some form of flashlight or flood to reveal the true nature of what is around them on day dives and certainly on the night dives!



Remember the color you see may not be the color it is!

Ken



CHAPTER NEWS MEDLEY

UPCOMING CHAPTER MEETING

WHEN: Tuesday, November 18, 2025
6:00 PM Social Hour
7:00 PM Meeting

WHERE: Ingleside

FROM OUR HISTORIAN

– Betsy Boos

Anniversaries

2 years:

Ellen Wollen
Bob Tieberg

FROM THE MEMBERSHIP

DESK

Membership renewal for 2026 will begin in November. Please make sure your ride waiver has 2026 on the top and paper work is signed. Thank you. You can sign up at the chapter meetings or at the dealership.

We will be implementing the sign waiver only. If ALL your information is current, no changes in anything, you may skip the member application. If you have changed anything, fill out the application.

Thank you

OPERATION SHOE BOX

All shoe box donations will be collected at the upcoming chapter meeting on November 18th. Look for Janet Sam at a table to drop them off. Remember not to wrap them but be sure to attach the tags you chose so it is clear who the box is designated for. Thank you to all who are participating in this wonderful charity.

HAPPY DAYS HOLIDAY



Get out those cuffed jeans, white t-shirts and poodle skirts for it's time to "twist" into lots of fun.

WHEN: Saturday, January 31, 2026

WHERE: Elks Lodge in Waukesha

TIME: 6:00PM Arrival – Appetizers

6:45 – Dinner

10:30 – Last call for the bar

WHAT: Music, games with prizes, and just plenty of 50s fun!

COST: \$25 for chapter members

\$45 for non-members

(Cash or Check)

Starting at the **NOVEMBER** meeting, sign ups and payments will be taken. Look for the Activities Table to do so. This is a limited in number event, so be sure to reserve your spot early!



FLAT ROCKER NEWS

Flat Rocker prizes will be drawn and handed out at the **December** chapter meeting.

ROAD CAPTAIN CORNER



How did November get here so quickly? It is that time of the year that I put my bike away for the winter. As I was cleaning my bike, I had a lot of time to reflect on all the great rides, wonderful places, and awesome people I had the pleasure of being with. How great is it that we get to do these things. Being the Head Road Captain, this last year has been very challenging but so rewarding. I have such a great group of people that have volunteered their time to plan and lead rides with safety in mind as Road Captains. I can't thank them enough for what they do. We have already started the planning process for new rides next year.

With Thanksgiving coming soon, we all have so many things to be grateful for.

Happy Thanksgiving to you and yours!

What do you get when you cross a turkey with a banjo? A bird that can pluck itself!

What did the turkey say to the turkey hunter on Thanksgiving Day? "Quack, Quack!"

See you on the road or at the Chapter Meeting. 😊

Head Road Captain

Jim "Muddy" Waters

NEWS FROM ABATE

A Happy Thanksgiving RR from your friends at ABATE 1F Waukesha. Thanksgiving is a time to count our blessings and be thankful for family and friends we have on our journey through life. As

you're feasting on turkey or whatever family meals you're eating, remember to save some leftovers for the next week!

As you know, ABATE fights for your rights to ride free. We have the freedom of choice for what model and color motorcycles we want. Some models have an option as to what engine size as well. Which brings me to this point. ABATE has been working on Senate Bill 184. This bill would have given We The People a freedom of choice when it came to what propulsion we wanted to power our vehicles. Either electric motors or gas powered engines. SB 184 passed both houses and was waiting for Governor Evers to sign it into law. Unfortunately, Governor Evers voted against it. In his written statement he said "I object to legislation permanently preventing state agencies and local units of government from taking steps to limit certain types of devices based on energy source.

So much for freedom of choice. ABATE doesn't give up fighting for our freedoms. Next year is midterms for our lawmakers, including Governor Evers who has decided not to run. So we will start up again contacting our lawmakers and drafting legislation and trying to get a law giving us freedom of choice when it comes to electric vehicles or gas powered vehicles. With a new governor in office hopefully we can get this bill passed and signed.

This is why Lobby Day, Tuesday, February 17th is so important to ABATE and all motorcyclists. We gather at the capitol and meet our lawmakers and inform them about what freedom of choice will mean for us.

Upcoming event.....

December 2nd ABATE 1F's Christmas Party.

It's at Fox View Lanes 2440 W Sunset Dr. Waukesha. Social gathering at 6:30pm dinner/meeting will start at 7:00pm.

Please bring a dish to pass. Hope to see you there.

BuellBob.

The MVP every year!!

Last month I let everyone know I would not be running for the Safety officer next year and encouraged anyone with an interest in sharing the safety side of motorcycle riding to please step up and run for the position. Since this appears to be my last article on motorcycle safety for now, I'd like to talk about what I feel is the most important topic when it comes to motorcycle safety.

I have been on two wheels for as long as I can remember. Over the years I have met many people who love to ride and shared the same feelings about how great it feels to just wander around the backroads and see the beautiful countryside. Most of us have ridden long enough to also know someone who has crashed their bike for one reason or another, whether it was blowing through a corner, dealing with a car driver who didn't see you, or perhaps another deer in rut crossing your path. Many riders have been lucky and made it home, but most of us know someone who hasn't.

When it comes to riding gear, there really is only one MVP, (Most Valuable Protection), The Helmet. I know there are several reasons people say why they don't wear a helmet. Some say, "I can't see well enough" or "it's too heavy", or "it messes up my hair..." I love that one! I know people have fought to keep it our right to choose if we want to wear a helmet or not and I respect and appreciate that right!! When I became your Safety officer, I wanted to show my respect for that right, but I also wanted to talk you into changing your mind and see you choose to wear a helmet.

I know some of the chapter members have been riding for many years and have opinions of helmets based on the helmets they tried in the 1970's and 80's (Maybe even the 60's). I want my last article to be informing you that those helmets are no longer! Today's helmets are made of much stronger and lighter material and are designed with much better airflow and visibility and, most of all, better crash protection than ever before. It is however, very important to get a helmet that fits you properly so you can not only enjoy the comfort but gain the best crash protection.

So, my last request of you is this, go out and try on some helmets this winter. Go to someone who knows how to fit you with the proper helmet for your head

size and shape. Wear it around the house and get used to it. Splurge and put a Cardo Communication system in it and enjoy your favorite tunes while you sit in the big chair watching it snow. After a while you won't hardly notice you're wearing it. It will be like your seatbelt that you hated to wear but now put on automatically without noticing.

Show your friends and family that you care for them and are willing to wear the helmet while you enjoy your motorcycle. Give the Most Valuable Person in their life, the best possible protection if the unthinkable ever happens. Be safe everyone and have a short and pleasant winter!!

Ride Safe!

Daniel Stammen.

TIME TO BE A ROCK STAR

The Rock Wisconsin Committee is always looking for members to join and help plan rides. If you have enjoyed day or overnight rides in the past, please consider joining us. There are SO many ways to contribute – thinking of destinations, planning routes, calling for information, looking up restaurants, contacting hotels, and many more. Just doing one of these things for any given ride is such a welcome help.

We meet the 2nd Tuesday of every month. The next meeting is Tuesday Dec 9th at 5:15pm at Wisconsin Harley Davidson. Stop and talk to Gary Malinowski or any member to find out more.

SPEAKING OF ROCK STARS ...

On behalf of the Rock River Board and all members, we are most very thankful for Dan Stammen's leadership in the role of Safety Officer. His insights, research, Knock the Rust Off offerings and riding stories were so appreciated. Thank you again, Dan!

H.O.G Connection – November 2025

By Rob Fehl

Hot Off the Press: 2026 H.O.G. Rally Calendar

The 2026 Harley Owners Group rally calendar is locked and loaded and it's shaping up to be another incredible year of epic roads, magnificent scenery and unforgettable memories as we crisscross the United States from coast to coast. Check out the list below and start packing your saddle bags! More information and registration links for 2026 H.O.G. rallies are available on the [H.O.G. Rally site](#).

2026 H.O.G. Touring Rallies

- Run to Daytona H.O.G. Touring Rally, Virginia Beach, VA to St Augustine, FL, February 23-27
- Spring Heat H.O.G. Touring Rally, Santa Clarita, CA to Chandler, AZ, April 3-7
- Route 66 East H.O.G. Touring Rally, Milwaukee to Amarillo, TX, May 16-22
- Open Road Posse Ride, Durango, CO to Mandan, ND, June 10-22
- 10 State H.O.G. Touring Rally, Lakeville, MN to Bossier City, LA, August 17-22
- Tour of Valor H.O.G. Touring Rally – Mobile, AL to Madison, WI, TBD
- Route 66 West H.O.G. Touring Rally, Amarillo, TX to Marina Del Ray, CA, September 22-28
- Ride Home H.O.G. Touring Rally, Hickory, NC to H-D Museum, Milwaukee, WI, October 14-19

2026 H.O.G. Regional Rallies

- Cajun Country Regional H.O.G. Rally, Scott, LA, April 16-18
- Smoky Mountain Regional H.O.G. Rally, Maryville, TN, May 27-30
- Great Lakes Regional H.O.G. Rally, Chippewa Falls, WI, June 11-13
- Rocky Mountain Regional H.O.G. Rally, Durango, CO, June 11-13
- Blue Ridge Rumble Regional H.O.G. Rally, Winchester, VA, June 17-20
- Iron Adventure Regional H.O.G. Rally, New England, July 16-18
- Cruisin the Catskills Regional H.O.G. Rally, Hunter Mountain, NY, July 23-25
- H.O.G. National Rally, Branson, MO, September 9-12



Wisconsin Harley Davidson Rider Bucks

Wisconsin Harley Davidson appreciates your loyalty and wants to reward you with points for everything you do. Please talk to a sales associate to get signed up for the Rider Bucks rewards program. **Rock River HOG members receive an additional 10% discount at the time of checkout. Certain restrictions apply.**

- Each dollar spent on eligible parts/service/vehicle accessories is equivalent to a single reward point (service labor excluded).
- Customers must spend \$250 to start redeeming coupons.
- Points earned for bike purchase are capped at 1000 points.
- You even earn rewards on sale items which means sale or discounted items can earn reward points.
- Maximum points that can be earned are capped at 5000 points.
- Reward points expire annually every January 31st.

Points	Coupon Description
250	\$25 Gift Certificate
500	\$50 Gift Certificate
750	\$75 Gift Certificate
1000	\$100 Gift Certificate
1250	\$125 Gift Certificate
1500	\$150 Gift Certificate

Harley Davidson Loyalty Points and Rewards

Harley Davidson also appreciates your loyalty and wants to reward you with points for everything you do.

How it works:

Log into your Harley Davidson App and select your account icon in the upper left corner of the screen. Then press on the orange membership card. This will show you your total points earned so far and the respective cash value.

- **RIDING REWARDS – Get points simply for riding!**
- PURCHASES – Earn 4 points per dollar spent at participating dealers and online.
- Every 500 points = \$5 voucher
- Redeem your points online or at participating dealers for gear, accessories, bike service, and more.
- Wisconsin Harley Davidson IS NOT a participating dealership.
 - **PLEASE SEE Wisconsin Harley Davidson Rider Bucks Program**



With Thanksgiving just around the corner, we're giving you a sneak peek of some of our Black & Orange Specials!

Think: Double Points on all purchases

Maybe cleaning supplies

Or \$10 - \$20 items

Be sure to watch for the reveal, the day before Thanksgiving! Plus, the first 40 guests get a pretty cool surprise gift!

Store Hours for Thanksgiving Week:

Nov. 26th 10 am - 3 pm

Nov. 27th Closed

Nov. 28th & 29th Regular Business Hours

Happy Thanksgiving to you and your family

EVENTS

DEC. 6TH OCONOMOWOC CHRISTMAS PARADE

DEC. 13TH PICS WITH SANTA NOON - 2 PM

VENDOR MARKET 10 AM - 3 PM

DEC. 20TH GIFT WRAPPING 10 AM - 4 PM

VENDOR MARKET 10 AM - 3 PM

*if interested in being in the parade, whether riding or handing out candy, please email leslie.smith@wishd.com

BE SURE TO WATCH YOUR EMAIL NEXT WEEK REGARDING RSVP FOR DEC. CHAPTER MEETING



As always be sure to follow us on Facebook and Instagram for all updates and additions to our 2025 Calendar PLUS what we're adding for 2026!!

