

**ROCK RIVER
CHAPTER
NEWSLETTER**

August 2025
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H.O.G. CHAPTER
#3276**

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FROM THE DIRECTOR

Ken Kessenich

Sightings

This year's Flat Rocker has again given me another new appreciation for Wisconsin's communities and artists. I've only made the middle category for "competition" so far, but there is still plenty of riding time left to either finish strong or maybe for you to just get started. As Lori and I hunt for the murals we now see so many more that are not even part of the list.

The different techniques and focus of creating them has really been something to see up close. The sponge application in Lakewood (did you know the same artist did the mini-murals in the bathrooms of the nearby gas station?), painting the historical depiction of the founders of Stockbridge (and what was going on in and around Stockbridge during the time of its founding), and those that beautify the cities and neighborhoods to name a few.

Over the past five years my appreciation for Wisconsin has really grown. In 2021 we explored our State Park system. When our kids were younger, we did a lot of camping and these were a go to, yet there were a bunch we had never seen, so we took a ride through seeing the differences that each offered. Finding the different murals this year, we frequently drive past and often stop in at one of the drive-ins that were featured in 2022. If we don't stop, we always think about the ice cream available knowing Jim M. has been there many times!

Now we are seeing sooooo many more murals that never made the list, we also see more "Big Animals" that could have been added to the 2023 competition. When seeing some of them in people's yards, I have to think – what were they thinking! If it's not seeing new things, it's learning more about places and people. Back in 2024 we were looking for the "firsts" or the oldest things in Wisconsin. Did you stop by the oldest 10 pin bowling lane which was also the first in the United States? Every time I see a bowling lane I always think of my parents and grandparents. My Grandpa Kessenich ran a major bowling tournament in Milwaukee and my dad always said he met my mom in the gutter (aka a bowling alley).

One of the great opportunities when motorcycling is butt breaks. Sometimes you just need one, but many times we are not on a tight time schedule and can take one anytime anywhere. That gives us the opportunity to explore, learn, and appreciate the wonders of Wisconsin and beyond.

See you on the road, at staging, and at the Chapter meeting,

Ken



CHAPTER NEWS MEDLEY

UPCOMING CHAPTER MEETING is the Annual Outdoor Picnic

WHEN: Tuesday, August 19, 2025
6:00 PM Social Hour
6:30 PM Food is service

WHERE: WISCONSIN HARLEY DAVIDSON

Please consider helping by bringing a dessert to share!

50/50

A reminder that the Aug chapter meeting is at the dealer. That means that 50/50 will 100% paid back to the members. WOOO HOOO!! But I do need one more person to sell tickets. If you can help, see Janet Sam at the 50/50 table. Also, no one has signed up for the Sept meeting. If you can help out, please sign up with Janet Sam this coming Tuesday.

Although I am not able to be at the August meeting, you can still message me at "Mark Knackert" (that`s my husband, we share the account) or text me at 414 416 6772.

Dawn Jean

FROM OUR HISTORIAN – Betsy Boos

New member:
Vance Benton

Anniversaries:
5 years:
Bob Woods
10 years:
Matt Dawson
Chris Lundall



ROAD CAPTAIN CORNER

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 (Where Eagles Fly) to La Crosse, WI July 19-21. Very enjoyable ride and it was enjoyed by all. We had 24 bikes and 30+ people and went to several Flat rocker stops. We, a big group, went for a one hour talk about the eagle and there was a live eagle there. We learned a lot of facts that most of us did not know.

I went on Road Captain Breakfast /meat market ride on July 27 planned by Mark Makowski. We had 21 bikes and 30 people that rode some awesome roads. Great weather, great folks, and great food. If you did go on the ride, you missed a good one.

Attention to all new members, if you have never been on a Rock Wisconsin Ride you are missing out on some great rides. Consider going on one of the rides to meet new people and enjoy some great riding experiences. 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.

NOTE: Brunch Ride

August 24th, Sunday – Mineshaft in Hartford, WI

This will be a Road Captain (Tin Droster) lead ride for brunch. **(Note: No ride if raining)**

Have you ever been to the Mineshaft in Hartford? Great food and very reasonable. You are invited to join us on Aug 24th to take a nice, backroads, road captain-led ride for our August brunch ride. **We will stage at the dealership at 9am, with kickstands up at 9:30.** It will take us just a couple of minutes more than an hour ride to the Mineshaft. The brunch cost is \$12.99 for seniors, and \$14.99 for adults and includes chef's choice of entrees, bacon, sausage, scrambled eggs, mashed potatoes & gravy, vegetables, assorted salads, bread

pudding, fresh fruit, homemade bakery and assorted desserts and Pancakes made to order. **The ride ends there, so you may go play in their million-dollar game room or go on riding to another destination after brunch.** As always, this is weather dependent - dark skies, sad eyes.

August 23rd, Saturday - Roar to Rock Springs Ride
Note: Road Captain 1-day ride

Ride to: Wisconsin Big Cat Rescue

From: Wisconsin Harley Davidson

Date: Saturday August 23rd

Staging

Time: 8:30am

Staging Location: WI HD

KSU: 9:00am

Led by: Road Captain (James Emry)

*Admission: \$10 (Donations Appreciated)

*Guided Tour included.

*Weather Permitting.

*Late Lunch stop at Station 136 Kitchen and Cocktails (BBQ) after visiting the cats.

*ALL DAY RIDE. It is approximately 107 miles to get to WI Big Cat Resue with scheduled stops.

*We will take a more direct route home, but the ride officially ends at lunch, so feel free to find your own route home or follow James and Caitlynn.

*Additional questions can be addressed to James Emry or Caitlynn McKara.



I've been trying to break up with an optician recently, but it's really hard!

Every time I tell him I can't see him anymore, he moves an inch closer and asks, "How about now?"



I never thought that orthopedic shoes would work well for me. But after trying on a pair, I stand corrected.

See you on the road or at the Chapter Meeting.

Jim "Muddy" Waters

Head Road Captain

Leather, Levers and Letting Go....

Go, or No Go. As a Pilot I have been trained to make the Go/No Go decision before taking any flight. To decide, I must consider topics such as the current weather, the airworthiness condition of the plane, are my maps up to date and is my navigation equipment working properly. Have I checked the forecasted weather for my destination airport and enroute flight path? I must also check for any Temporary Flight Restrictions on my route. As a pilot and motorcyclist, I see many similarities between the two sports. Much like aviation, motorcycle riding is very unforgiving to carelessness, incapacity and neglect.

One item I left out of the list above is, **yourself**. To make the proper decision of Go/No Go, the pilot/rider HAS to consider themselves. Are you fit to ride? Do you have the physical ability? This means having the strength and reaction time if you need it. Do you have the mental acuity? This means things like can you maintain focus and concentration when dealing with traffic or other riders if you are on a group ride? Can you keep a general awareness of your surroundings or do you

find your mind wandering while riding? Can you physically deal with riding, like on hot days, riding in the rain, big temperature changes, on rough roads?

The decision to Go/ No Go when riding a motorcycle is personal and based on individual factors like physical and mental abilities, comfort levels, and perceived safety. No matter what your age, if you feel you may be experiencing a gradual decline in skills, reaction time, or confidence, that may signal the need to reassess riding habits or the type of motorcycle you are riding. At some point, you may even have to consider giving up the ride, if not for your own safety, then for the safety of others on the road.

A couple ways to help make these types of decisions would be to talk to fellow riders who you trust, or if that still makes you uncomfortable, consider taking a motorcycle riding class. Hearing about your level of riding skills from an unbiased instructor may be the perfect way to evaluate your skills and make a well-informed decision on your riding future.

Until you are faced with this decision, get out there and enjoy the ride!

Ride Safe Everyone.

Daniel Stammen, Safety Officer.

ROCK WISCONSIN

“Crossing the Line” is the last ride of this season. There are **3 rooms left** in the block at the hotel. If you are interested in going, please see Ken Kessenich at the upcoming chapter meeting. Information about this ride was published in the JUNE newsletter, so if you want to refresh your memory about it, please refer back to that.

WHERE EAGLES FLY Recap

Thanks to all who joined us on the Where Eagles Fly ride. We had some rain to dodge when we left Wisconsin Harley, but with a little creative route change for the morning, we missed most of the rain and we were back on course for the rest of the three day trip with great weather. We did get to see some bald eagles in the wild as well as some at the National Eagle Center. With good friends, good roads, great scenery in the driftless area and riding along the Mississippi River, we had a lot to see. It was good to hear from several of you that joined us that you very much enjoyed the trip. Thank you for coming along. Gary, Timmer, and Tom



Pictures continue on the next page . . .





BRUNCH RIDE
JULY 2025



H.O.G Connection – August 2025

By Rob Fehl

One of my responsibilities is to keep you informed on all things HOG related and I would like to use this column to do just that! With Labor Day fast approaching, here are some other Harley/HOG things going on after you visit Wisconsin Harley Davidson.



Wisconsin Harley Davidson

Friday, August 29th, 6 pm - 9 pm:
Metal Men bring the heavy rock!

Saturday, August 30th, 3 pm - 6 pm:
Almighty Vinyl turns it up with the classics!

Plus: vendors, food, and ice-cold drinks all weekend long. Let's kick off Labor Day weekend in the loud way!



H-D Museum

Ladies Bike Night

Thursday, August 28, 5 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Join us for a night of music, community, and celebration. We are turning up the energy with live performances by Dandy Freling and Big Heart Kind Band. Plus, meet the inspiring women of The Litae Milwaukee and connect with riders who share your passion.

MOTOR® Bar & Restaurant's NEW Smoker

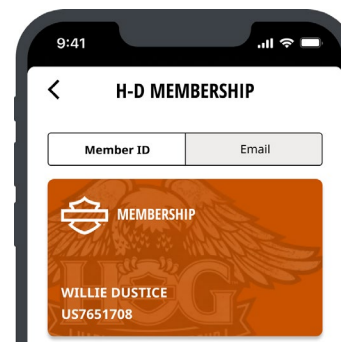
August 28–31

Step outside for smoked specials and outdoor concessions, served up fresh all weekend long. Follow MOTOR on social media and stay up to date on all Motor Bar & Restaurant offerings and events.

MKE Labor Day Weekend Challenge

August 28–31

Check in at five of seven local H-D spots, including the H-D Museum—to earn 500 Membership & Loyalty Points! Use points for apparel, parts & accessories, or service orders.



H.O.G.® Member H-D Museum Special

You always ride free with us! Flash your valid H.O.G.® membership card and photo ID at the ticket counter for free same-day admission to the H-D Museum.

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

2025 Harley Davidson's Let's Ride Challenge

Open to all Harley-Davidson riders, the challenge runs from March 28 to October 31, 2025, and offers collectible rewards at various milestone check-ins. The challenge culminates with five riders winning new 2025 Harley-Davidson motorcycles. Let's ride and make every mile count!

- **H.O.G. membership exclusive:** Any H.O.G. member who wins a motorcycle will receive an additional \$5,000 cash bonus!
- Let's Ride Challenge™ Sticker after first mileage reading.
- Let's Ride Challenge™ Coin after accumulating 1,000 miles.
- **H.O.G. membership exclusive:** H.O.G. collectible hat plus 2,500 bonus points after accumulating 5,000 miles.

How to Enter:

- **Register:** Stop at Harley-Davidson® dealerships to register and get your first odometer reading. The process is simple:
 - **Scan** the in-store QR code, **Enter** your odometer mileage, Get **validated** by a dealership employee.
 - You'll need to use this process to enter the challenge even if you have already entered the 2025 H.O.G. Ride 365 challenge.
 - **Once you've registered, miles recorded as part of the Let's Ride Challenge will start counting toward your H.O.G. Ride 365 balance.**
- **Ride:** Hit the road and rack up miles.
- **Engage:** Interact with dealers and build your Rev Score.
- **Win:** The highest Rev Scores will ride away on a new Harley.

2025 H.O.G. Ride 365 challenge

With H.O.G.'s Annual Mileage Recognition program, members earn valuable rewards for the miles they ride. Participants earn 1,000 H-D Membership points and a digital recognition badge on their online membership profile when they log 1,000 miles for the year, a \$10 value. Additional points and rewards, including certificates, patches and challenge coins are earned as miles are accumulated.

- Have your mileage checked in often at **Wisconsin Harley Davidson** by a salesperson.
- Every 500 points earned equals \$5, up to a maximum of 15,000 points (a \$150 value).
- Membership points can be redeemed electronically for purchases on H-D.com and at participating Harley-Davidson dealerships and are valid for three years from the date issued. See below on how to redeem your points.

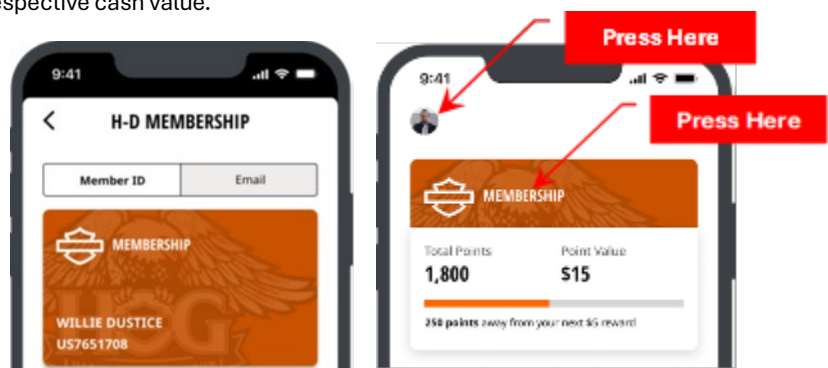
Harley Davidson Loyalty Points and Rewards

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
- Manage your points in the H-D App.
- 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**





THANK YOU!
♥

WHETHER IT WAS FOR AN HOUR OR SEVERAL HOURS. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT IN HELPING MAKE THIS YEARS HOMECOMING FESTIVAL A SUCCESS!

AUGUST SALES

20% OFF RIDING GLASSES

*EXCLUDES PRESCRIPTION GLASSES

5 TIMES THE WISHD REWARDS WHEN YOU PURCHASE ANY NEW 2025 H-D® MOTORCYCLE



UPCOMING EVENTS

- AUG. 29TH & 30TH**
THE NOT RALLY RALLY
- SEPT. 13TH**
RIDE FOR RECOVERY -
THE BETHANY RIDE
- SEPT. 27TH**
FALL FEST



WATCH OUT FOR SOME AMAZING DEALS DURING OUR NOT RALLY RALLY EVENT AUGUST 29TH & 30TH



AS ALWAYS BE SURE TO FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM FOR ALL UPDATES AND ADDITIONS TO OUR 2025 CALENDAR!

