

**ROCK RIVER  
CHAPTER  
NEWSLETTER**

February 2023  
Volume 23  
Issue No. 2  
Chapter No. 3276

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



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# FROM THE DIRECTOR

## Ken Kessenich



Lori and I took the opportunity to join Rock River Chapter members traveling to Cancun,

Mexico. In many ways this trip reminded me strongly why I enjoy our chapter and riding so much. We chose not drive to Cancun and end up like this!

There is a strong similarity of being immersed (no pun intended) in your environment between exploring the oceans and lakes and riding down the roads we all so much enjoy. When traveling to new destinations, especially those that have water I feel like you only see the 30% of what's available if you do not look Under the Sea!

One amazing sight was 2 Caribbean Porcupine Pufferfish courting. Usually shy and quick to swim away from divers, the male kept chasing the female left and right, around in circles, and up and down in the water. Lori nor I have ever seen this behavior before so it was quite exciting to see.



When riding, we all see birds and animals doing these things and sometimes the bikes have to chase each other!

This time of year you are very likely to see Spotted Eagle Rays in the area. We saw one immediately after entering the water. On a deeper (80') wreck dive I was again lucky and saw 6. This one is about 8' from wing tip to wing tip and about 20 feet from nose to tip of tail. They swim so effortlessly and can easily hold position in the



water with the current. I'm so jealous of them! One of my favorite things in a group ride is seeing the column from the back and watching all the bikes ride effortlessly on country roads, all maintaining a perfect position.



Some of the most colorful organisms on the reefs and wrecks are the sponges. This yellow tube sponge was just growing off the side of the reef about 60' down. This is like riding also, as some of the most colorful items can be seen on the side of roads and houses. Above the

water were some of the best times with all the friends that came along and those we met along the way. Similar to our rides where we have lunch stops and hotel evenings that make for great conversation, learning, and laughing we did plenty of that too! (Continued on next page)

And now my advice for riding our Harleys in Cancun. **Just Don't!!** Traffic is a bit scary. Pot holes were frequently over 18" in diameter and 6" deep. Then there are the mopeds with at least 3 people riding on one; however, in the past we have seen as many as 5!

Can't wait for our next Chapter adventure!

*Ken*

## FROM OUR HISTORIAN

Carl Samppala

### **New Members:**

Michelle Fassbender

Amy Hoefer

Valerie Marek

Tom Morgan

James Konkell

Dawn Tolson

### **December 2022 Anniversaries**

#### **2 Year:**

Kitty Knight

#### **5 Year:**

Jeff Rebholz

Caroline Tindall

### **January 2023 Anniversaries**

#### **2 Year:**

Brian Blankenheim

Samantha Boos

John Hein

Jeffrey McSwain

Karl Cumblad

Bonnie Braun

Perry Kohorn

Sara Phillips



*New Members*

*Valerie Marek, Tom Morgan, Amy Hoefer*

## ROAD CAPTAIN CORNER

Wow! What a bummer. On Groundhog Day both Groundhog Gordy in Milwaukee and Groundhog Jimmy in Sun Prairie did see their shadows. Both of their prognostications mean six more weeks of winter in Wisconsin. The tradition is simple for both: if they see their shadow on February 2, it means six more weeks of winter. In Sun Prairie, Jimmy the Groundhog has a great track record for accuracy.

I am here to tell you; it was a good thing we were not riding during this last month because our pipes would REALLY have been rusty from all of the salt on the roads. My bike will come out of storage when we have had A LOT of rain to wash all the salt away.

With spring just around the corner, riding season will be here before you know it, and we have a wonderful year of rides and events planned for you. So, snuggle up and stay warm!

In Memory: We lost one of our Road Captains last month. Speaking for all the Road Captains, he will be missed greatly. He was a gentle giant - RIP John Manka.

Happy Valentine's Day!

Hope to see you at the next chapter meeting!

Jim "Muddy" Waters



## Good Friday Pizza Ride

**is just around the corner!**

**April 7<sup>th</sup>**

**Gather at Wisconsin Harley @ 10 a.m.**

**KSU @ 10:30 a.m.**

We will be limited to **40** people so sign up early!

Sign up at the chapter meeting.

# FROM YOUR SAFETY OFFICER

Dan Stammen

Why does your motorcycle have a kickstand?  
Because it is two tired.

Motorcycle tire technology has come a long way. Unlike tires of yesteryears, today's tires are made with amazing compounds that have not only increased grip in rain & cold temps, they are also better constructed to carry the heavy loads of today's touring bikes.

Some of today's tires for the heavy cruisers are capable of traveling 15-20K miles before wearing out. One way to check tire wear is by looking at the [wear bars](#) in the tread. If the surface of the rubber is even with the bar, they are worn out! Today's tires also have a "shelf life" that should be considered when determining the overall health of your tires. Most of today's motorcycle tires are constructed with multiple compounds. A soft compound on the sides of the tire tread to increase the grip while cornering, and a harder compound in the center of the tire tread for high mileage endurance. These compounds can dry out and become less effective with age. Most motorcycle tire manufactures recommend changing out your tires every 6 years. The tires are marked with a [Date Code](#) to help you determine when your tires were manufactured. If you buy your tires from a reputable shop, they are probably pretty fresh however, if you are buying tires from someone who had them sitting around a while, you may want to check that date code. You may be buying dried up and dangerous tires.

Tires are arguably the most important part of your bike and are easily neglected. If you have a hard

time crawling around under your bike to check your rear tire pressure, find a friendly service center to check them for you or better yet, think about getting a [Motorcycle Tire Monitor](#) system. Keep your tire pressure set to the pressures called out on your bike or your motorcycles owner's manual. Never use the pressure called out on the tire's sidewall. Tire pressures called out on the sidewall are determined by the tire manufacture for what the structural integrity of the tire can handle. Those pressures may not be ideal for your motorcycle. Regularly check your tires for road damage like cuts, bulges or puncture damage from nails or screws. If you use a flashlight, the end of the screws or nails can reflect the light back at you helping you see something stuck in your tire. Check those tires regularly. Keep it Wheel!

- Dan



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## February 50/50

**Our raffle ticket suppliers for February chapter meeting are Malkin Wallace and Marianne Modl. Thank you ladies 😊**

**We are in need of one volunteer for the March meeting and two volunteers for April. If you usually get to the meeting a early and would like to help out sign up sheet is next to the raffle drum.**

## IN MEMORY

Our Rock River Chapter has lost two of its members in the past month. Please keep the families and friends of Lisa Stockhausen and John Manka in your thoughts and prayers. May they rest in peace.

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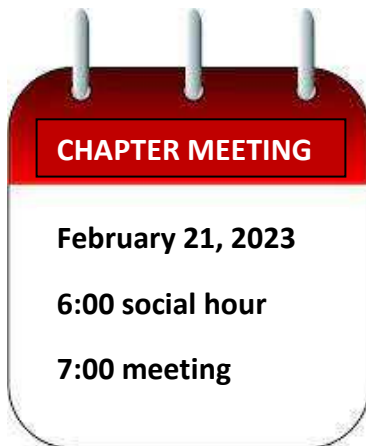
## MANY THANKS



A huge thank you to the group of ladies that orchestrated all aspects of the Rock River Chapter Holiday Party:

Amy Dey, Kris Droster, Kim Jalalian, Theresa Leto, Dawn Makowski and Janet Sam. The decorations,

food, music, the game and the prizes were fantastic. A “roaring good time” was had by all!



## Meet the Dealership!

This month meet Robert Moakley, owner of Wisconsin Harley Davidson and sponsor of our Rock River chapter.

## GET YOUR FEET WET!

Our chapter has secured a fantastic deal from Underwater Connection, <https://uwconnection.com/courses/discover-scuba>, for you to learn safety basics and then be trained and use full SCUBA gear in a warm pool. Starting in the shallows to get comfortable and if you would like to go the “deep” (12 ft.), your instructor will safely guide you there. The normal cost of this is \$75, but if we have enough “divers” the cost will only be \$45 per diver and we can have our own group! Signup at the February chapter meeting; student/instructor ratio limits us to 8 spots. If there are slots open and you cannot make the chapter meeting just email Ken at [director@rockriverhog.com](mailto:director@rockriverhog.com).



## ATTENTION CHAPTER BUSINESS OWNERS

A new feature will be added to the newsletter starting in March. If you are a business owner and would like to advertise in our monthly newsletter, you can do so by turning in a business card (so all ads will be equal) to be placed on a separate page for members to see. The cost will be \$75 per calendar year. If you are interested, please see Lori Kessenich at the chapter meeting or email her at [editor@rockriverhog.com](mailto:editor@rockriverhog.com).

Members – Refer to this page for needs you may have that can help patronize fellow members.

# ROCK WISCONSIN

Hello Rock River Chapter!

Your Rock Wisconsin Committee has our fourth meeting under our belt.

You can see from the list we have a full schedule ahead of us. Hotel rooms have been reserved and routes are getting roughed in.

Remember, for those participating in the Flat Rocker contest, we try and include stops for group photos. Like you, we're waiting for the list to be announced (April Chapter meeting- Can hardly wait!).

See you on the road!



2023 ROCK WISCONSIN RIDES				
Ride	Dates	Info Distributed at Chapter Mtg.	Sign ups taken at Chapter Mtg.	
[Grab your reader's attention with a great quote from the document or use this space to emphasize a key point. To place this text box anywhere on the page, just drag it.]  Dream Ride (Iowa)	June 9-11	Mar 21	Apr 18	May 16
North Dakota group	June 16-19	May 16	N/A	N/A
Mackinac Island, MI	July 28-31	May 16	June 20	July 11
Apostle Islands II	Aug 11-14	May 16	June 20	July 11
Driftless Dry	Aug. 25-27	June 20	July 18	Aug 15
3 Rings and Many Wings  (Circus World- Baraboo and EAA- Oshkosh)	Sept 9-10	June 20	July 18	Aug 15

**REMINDER:** An updated yearly calendar can be found at the chapter website at <https://www.rockriverhog.com/> Click on Events and Meetings



## **HOUSE RULES**

- 1. Members Only**
- 2. No Bootlegging**
- 3. No Gambling**
- 4. No Loitering At The Bar**
- 5. No Snitches!**

**The Hangover  
Only Lasts A Day  
But The  
Memories  
Last A Lifetime!**

# WISCONSIN



SPRING

&

120

## ARE JUST AROUND THE CORNER

BE SURE TO WATCH OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR THE  
MOST UP TO DATE INFO!

### DEALERSHIP HAPPENINGS

MARCH 18TH

LUCKY COIN SATURDAY

9 AM - 4 PM

APRIL 1ST

COOKIE CLASS

11 AM - 1 PM

(MORE DETAILS COMING)

APRIL 8TH

FIND THE EGG

9 AM - 4 PM

INVITATIONS FOR THE  
VOLUNTEER BANQUET WILL  
BE GOING OUT NEXT WEEK!

WE'RE ADDING MORE DAILY  
SO STAY TUNED!

