

**ROCK RIVER
CHAPTER
NEWSLETTER**

November 2024
Volume 24
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Chapter No. 3276

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ISSUE**

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

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Open

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ROCK WISCONSIN

SHINY SIDE UP

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FROM THE DIRECTOR

Ken Kessenich

Well, it's obviously time to adjust. Riding out to the dealership last Saturday for a great Cardo demo, I wanted a leisurely ride on Hwy. 18 to 67. I thought the demo might be crowded and I had a few specific questions that I wanted answers to so I planned to be early. Enjoying the sun on my back working my way around Waukesha, I momentarily freaked out when I looked at my Boom screen and saw the demo started in 10 minutes (with still 30 minutes of riding to get there!). Then I realized I did not adjust the clock with the Daylight Savings Time change. I quickly calmed down and backed off the throttle.

I'm currently helping my mom move from her house of 65 years to an assisted living facility. At 90 she now sits at a lunch table where she is the youngest! I'm an only child, hopefully you never could tell that from my behavior; however, leaves me to sell the car, clear the house, sell the house..... This whole process has brought a number of new adjustments for both my mom and me.

Tonight, I have a Rock Wisconsin meeting tonight at 5PM and I'm thinking of leaving the house around 3:30 so I'm not heading out in the dark! I really don't like waking up to the dark and then having the darkness only come too soon. Yet another adjustment.

When I leave the WISHD tonight I'll be leaving without Maverick, our bike. I'll adjust to the extra space in the garage, but the thought of another nice day coming and not being able to ride is tough. Yet, adjustments will be done over the winter. The 10,000 mile service, adding a WHIM module, and maybe a new light? That will provide a fresh start to 2025 and allow me to cut the cord from my headset and enjoy a Bluetooth or Mesh communication system.

A previous Rock River chapter member is making an adjustment as well. He is moving out of state, heading for the warmth of the south. He was clearing his home of a lot of his Harley gear and did not want to just donate it to Goodwill. He reached out to me and I offered to set up a chapter auction when the proceeds would go to charity. I CANNOT believe some of the items he has given us. Take a look at the sample provided later in our newsletter.

Happy Thanksgiving, Ken



ROAD CAPTAIN CORNER

Wow how did November get here so quickly? It is that time of the year that we put our bikes away for the winter. This is always the time to reflect on all the great rides, wonderful places, and awesome people we had the pleasure to be with. How great is it that we get to do these things. The following are some Pie Puns I wanted to share with you for the occasion:

- *Get rich or pie trying.*
- *Pie, pie Birdie!*
- *Do or pie.*
- *Don't pie over spilled milk.*
- *Family may not see pie to pie, but we sure do love Thanksgiving.*
- *Pie really love you.*
- *You're the apple of my pie.*
- *I only have pies for you.*
- *I like big bundts and I cannot lie.*
- *You want a piece of me?*
- *Sorry, I'm occu-pied.*
- *No more Mr. Nice Pie!*
- *You bake the world a better place.*
- *In pie we crust.*
- *Piece out.*
- *Hap-pie Thanksgiving!*
- *I'm filling pretty full!*
- *Pie am so grateful for dessert.*
- *I have a crust on you!*
- *Whip, whip—hooray!*

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

Jim "Muddy"
Waters



FROM THE MEMBERSHIP DESK

Time to renew your membership is quickly upon us. If you want to renew at a chapter meeting, you can begin to do so at the **November and December** meetings. You may also do so at the dealership.

\$20 for returning members

\$30 after January 31, 2025

Please remember to print clearly so emails and contact information will be sure to recorded correctly.

50-50



I would just like to give a big thank you to Don Paulus for checking to see if I needed any help with 50/50 for the September and October meetings. It just so happened I only had one person selling tickets for both of those meetings. Thanks Don!!

Our ticket sellers for the November meeting are Kris and Tim Droster, make sure you keep them busy. Following the November meeting I have no more volunteers. Please consider helping for about an hour prior to any of the chapter meetings. I will have the sign-up sheet next to the raffle drum.

Hope to see you soon,

Theresa

HOLIDAY HOEDOWN

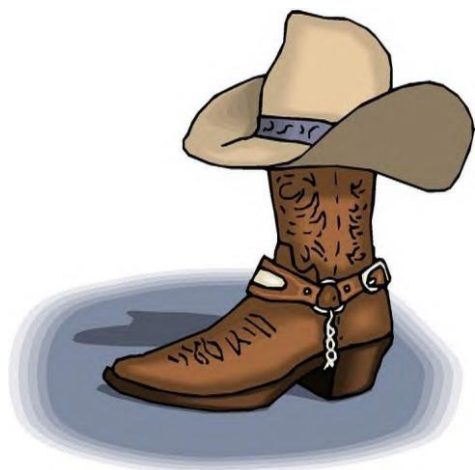
SADDLE UP PEOPLE AND LET'S GO!



Time to don your favorite pair of jeans, cowboy boots or hat if you have them, and let's Giddy Up for loads of fun.

- WHEN:** Saturday, February 1, 2025
- 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 Hoedown fun!
- COST:** \$25 for chapter members
\$40 for non-members

Sign ups and payments will be taken at the November and December chapter meetings. Be sure to reserve your spot early as attendance is filling up fast!



OPERATION SHOEBOX

Just a reminder to everyone who picked up a name or names to participate in Operation Shoebox, need to bring their boxes (unwrapped) to the November meeting. We will deliver to Wellpoint at their open house tour on December 9th at 5pm. You are invited to join us.

Thank you for your continued generosity. Janet Sam

SILENT AUCTION TO BE HELD AT THE UPCOMING NOVEMBER CHAPTER MEETING

A former Rock River chapter member, who wishes to remain anonymous, has donated many wonderful items in the hopes money raised could bring benefits. His desire was to not donate these things to a thrift store, but hoped that the chapter could benefit from the items and then a charity from the proceeds. At the end of the newsletter, please see an index of the items with pictures, descriptions and starting bids. The auction will be held from 6:00 to 6:50PM at the November 19th meeting. Cash or checks accepted.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING



2025 BOARD MEMBERS

On the following pages, biographies of chapter members interested in running for board positions can be found. Because there is no position being contested by two or more chapter members, there will not be an election held at the November meeting.

DIRECTOR – Ken Kessenich

In a previous chapter I took over the lead of their Discover Wisconsin committee creating and organizing chapter rides. I also served as Assistant Director of that Chapter. Upon coming to Rock River I helped to organize and create our Rock Wisconsin committee, again planning multi-day rides for our chapter members. I also applied and became a Road Captain; leading, sweeping, and helping to organize events for our Chapter and our Dealership. I served as the chair of that committee for three years and simultaneously filling the leadership position of Assistant Director for two. The last two years I have served as your Chapter Director and would again appreciate the opportunity to fill that role and work toward even more chapter rides and event opportunities. Thank you, Ken

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR – Rob Fehl

Hello Rockers! I am looking forward to our upcoming elections in November and am asking for your consideration as Assistant Director. My name is Rob Fehl and I have been a HOG member since 2007. Prior to joining the Rock River Chapter I had been involved with another HOG chapter and I now consider Rock River home. I joined the previous HOG chapter back then looking for more reasons to ride. What I found was, it was more than just riding. It was social events, fund raising, community service and a chance to meet new people. I have met so many people over the years, some of you have become great friends and some of you I consider

family. I might not know your name, but I'm sure we have run into one another on many of the events or rides that we have done over the last few years.

I have been an active Rock River Road Captain for the past couple of years and have had a hand in planning and running some of the rides in the past few years. I volunteer at events when needed and thoroughly enjoy my time doing this. During the rides or events, I try to make sure I say "hi" or answer any question you may have on that day's activity.

My job as a board member, our job as a board, is to provide you with as many options throughout the year to ride and have fun! As one of your board members, not only will I work at keeping the chapter running smoothly, I will also work on the lines of communication between you as members and myself as a board member. I will listen to your ideas, criticisms, comments and stories, all in the hopes that I can make your experience as a Rock River member, a great one all year round.

On a personal note, my better half, Tracey and I ride a 2021 Ultra Limited. We have probably ridden over 75,000 miles together over the last 12 years. I work as product manager at Badger Meter where I have been employed for over 30 years.

I feel that I bring valuable skill sets such as being organized, preparedness, level thinking and an open mind into all situations. My past experiences over the years will play a key role in my position.
- Rob Fehl

MEMBERSHIP – Betsy Boos

I have been the Membership Officer for five years. I enjoy meeting all the chapter members both old and new!

HISTORIAN - Betsy Boos

I feel the positions of Membership office and Historian work together so I would be a good fit. But – I'd love the opportunity to work with someone else!

PHOTOGRAPHER – Theresa Leto

My name is Theresa, and I have been around motorcycles and the biker community since 1996. I was a passenger for 9 years and began riding my own Harley in 2005. I started out on a soft tail deluxe, then a street glide and I now have a road glide.

For the last year or so, I have also acted as the chapter's photographer. I hope you have enjoyed the pictures in the newsletter as well as some of the videos being played prior to the chapter meetings in recent months. I have certainly enjoyed meeting new people and capturing memories that may be cherished for years to come.

I hope to continue serving as photographer and would appreciate your vote at the November chapter meeting.

ACTIVITIES – Kris Droster and Theresa Leto

Hi, I'm Kris Droster. I've been riding since 2020. I currently ride a 2008 Heritage Softail. I joined Rock River Chapter 5 years ago. I love traveling to all of the amazing places in our wonderful state and country with our chapter members.

I'm Theresa Leto. I have been riding since 2005. HOG member for 26 years. My first ride I was a passenger in 1996. I was hooked. I have had some great experiences with my fellow riders and look forward to many more.

We would love to share our sense of adventure with you.....

Oh, the things we can do and places we can go. What would you like to do? Maybe travel to a destination that would be more fun with your fellow biker peeps. Maybe an activity right in your neighborhood. Either way, let us help you bring that idea to fruition.

We have a lot of great ideas for fun and exciting things to do on- and off-season. (Mostly off-season – just to help the winter months pass a little faster.) But we are also open to suggestions from chapter members and look forward to growing our friendships and relationships with the many fun activities we envision together.

See you and your ideas at the next chapter meeting.

Kris Droster and Theresa Leto

EDITOR – Lori Kessenich

Hello, I'm Lori Kessenich. I've been your editor for the past few years and would be willing to continue to fill this position. I am open to any suggestions you may have for additions, new ideas or changes you may want for the newsletter.

SAFETY OFFICER – Dan Stammen

Hello Rock River HOG Chapter Members, I have been your Rock River Safety Officer for the past couple of years. During this time, I have informed you on innovative riding gear, some of today's Harley Davidson safety features and a few maintenance tips to help keep your bike in tip top shape. I enjoy researching all aspects of motorcycle safety and believe practicing your riding skills while wearing the latest riding gear will lead to a more enjoyable riding experience. Thank You for all the support you have given me these past couple of years, and I hope to serve as your Safety Officer through another great year of riding.

SHINY SIDE UP – Candy Parr

In 2022, I restarted RR to “**Shiny Side Up**” (SSU) with a more positive name change from the formerly “Biker Down”. This is where we can show support, respect & encouragement or cheer on 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 for 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 Rock River family (aka friend+family=FRamily); please contact me via text or 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 on the RR Officers board under HD HOG Hospitality and as a chapter ambassador. Let’s “make a difference” and **Rock in 2025** !

Shine on! Be Kind! Shiny Side up!

Do Advancements Breed Deterioration?

So, my newest bike is now going on 12 years old. I have been doing a little window shopping for a new ride and also doing a few demo rides when I can. Remember when bikes had ABS (Anti-Lock Braking System) as an option? Now ABS barely makes its way onto the spec sheet because it is so common. Today’s motorcycle technology is rapidly advancing!

Something that Harley has had since 2020 is the RDRS Safety Enhancements system. The RDRS system utilizes what’s called the IMU, (Inertial Measurement Unit). The IMU is a device that uses

gyroscopes and accelerometers to accurately measure acceleration in nearly every direction and combines that info with wheel speed sensors, engine ignition, fuel injection and more to create a picture of what the motorcycle is doing. This info can help the IMU inform other systems on the bike like ABS, Engine Management, and suspension, to name a few, of where the bike is within a specific set of parameters. Sometimes those parameters are adjustable, like traction control, or ride modes, or even suspension.

With this technology it is “possible” to enter a rain soaked corner and mid corner pin the throttle to wide open and watch the computer figure out how much acceleration to let you have and still maintain the corner exit. (I don’t recommend testing this on purpose).

I think this is a great direction that technology is taking us however, it is my opinion that we still need to be vigilant with fine tuning our riding skills and judgment on every ride. If at any time you are riding a motorcycle equipped with such safety features and you feel it kick in, like a NUN slapping down a yardstick on your desk, let that be a reminder that you just messed up. Think about how you got into that situation and learn from it. Next time you may find out the computer cannot fix everything. Always strive to be a better rider and think of today’s motorcycle technology as a great teacher, guiding you to be a better rider. Ride Safe! - Dan Stammen

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to new members Geno Ganiere and Norb Tausch!

2 Year Anniversaries

Kathy Kietzke
Dana Schmitz
Stephen Schmitz



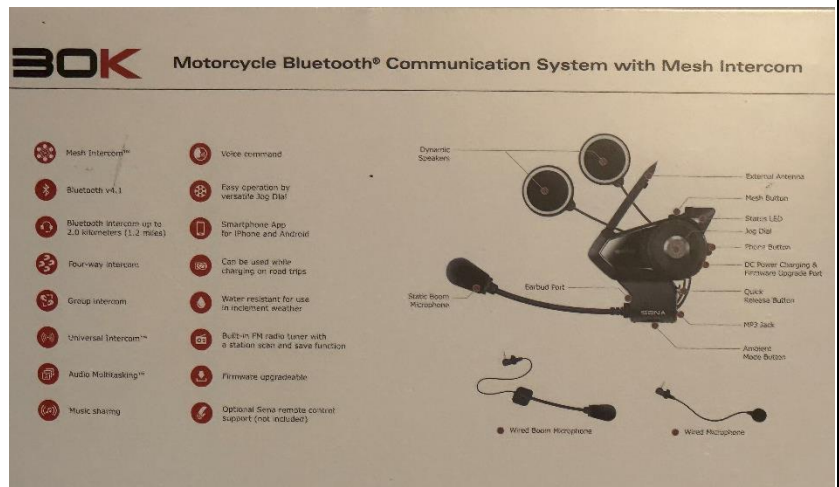
Norb Tausch

Item Description: Men's leather vest signed by five of the Davidson's. Size medium.



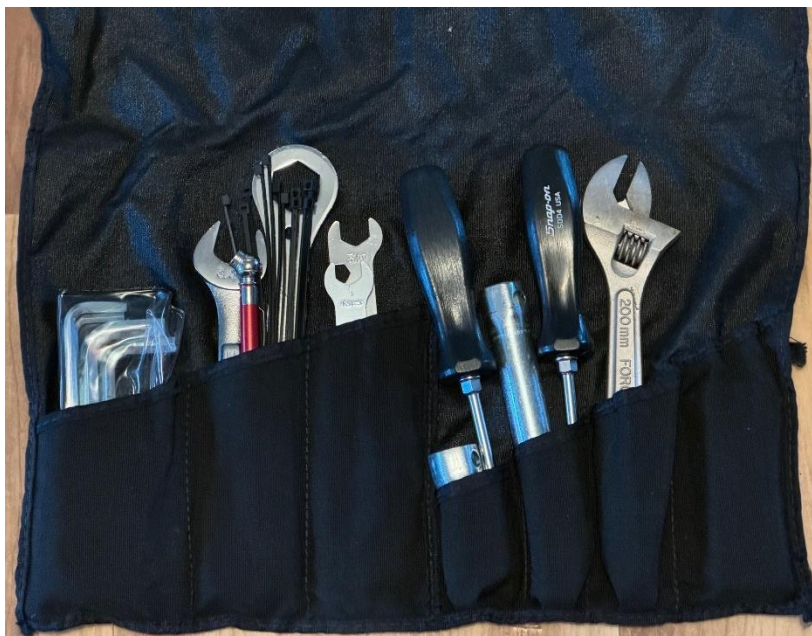
Opening Bid for Charity: \$125

Item Description: Sena Bluetooth Communication System. Brand new, unopened and still sealed packaging. Currently priced on Amazon at \$539.00



Opening Bid for Charity: \$200

Item Description: Complete Harley Davidson motorcycle tool kit.



Opening Bid for Charity: \$25

Item Description: Framed and matted Harley Davidson trio print entitled "Perfect Memories."



Opening Bid for Charity: \$20

Item Description: Framed and matted *limited edition* print. 1996 "Evening Memories" by George Robach. Print #120/200. Comes with a Certificate of Authenticity.



Opening Bid for Charity: \$20

Item Description: Men's adventure biking pants. (size short)



Opening Bid for Charity: \$20

Item Description: Men's (size medium) 2 in 1 leather jacket. Zip in, zip out lining.



Opening Bid for Charity: \$125

Item Description: Men's adventure jacket – 3 layered jacket with protective pads



Opening Bid for Charity: \$75

Item Description: Men's (size medium) mesh riding jacket.



Opening Bid for Charity: \$30

Item Description: Men's (size large) riding jacket with snap chest closure for extra warmth.



Opening Bid for Charity: \$30

Item Description: Women's (size small) brand new, never worn (still tagged) mesh jacket.



Opening Bid for Charity: \$20

Item Description: Women's (size medium) black and tan leather jacket.



Opening Bid for Charity: \$20



UPCOMING
EVENTS

NOV. 29TH & 30TH BLACK & ORANGE WEEKEND
(BLACK & ORANGE SPECIALS WILL BE RELEASED SUNDAY,
SO WATCH OUT FOR SOME FUN)

DEC. 7TH OCONOMOWOC CHRISTMAS PARADE

(we'll be riding if weather cooperates, if interested in more info please email me)

DEC. 14TH PICS WITH SANTA

DEC. 21ST VENDOR MARKET & GIFT WRAPPING

DECEMBER WILL BE FULL OF WEEKLY SPECIALS, SO BE SURE TO WATCH
OUR FACEBOOK PAGE & EMAIL BLASTS

HOLIDAY HOURS

NOV. 27TH CLOSING AT 3 PM

NOV. 28TH CLOSED *Happy Thanksgiving*

NOV. 29TH 10AM - 6 PM

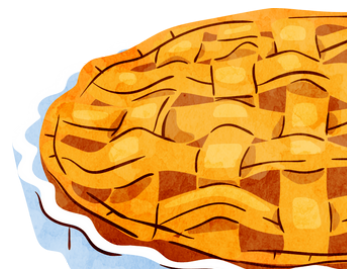
NOV. 30TH 9 AM - 4 PM

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**

LOOKING FOR ONE MORE VOLUNTEER FOR GIFT
WRAPPING FOR DEC. 21ST FROM
10 AM - 12 PM

The December meeting is at the dealership on
Dec. 17th! If you're available around 5 pm to help
set up tables and chairs it would be greatly
appreciated! Please let me know by email if you
can help!

PLEASE EMAIL LESLIE.SMITH@WISHD.COM



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