

**ROCK RIVER
CHAPTER
NEWSLETTER**

September 2021
Volume 21
Issue No. 9
Chapter No. 3276

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

Rock River Board

DIRECTOR

Dawn Makowski
director@rockriverhog.com

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Ken Kessenich
asst_director@rockriverhog.com

SECRETARY

Jean Lynner
secretary@rockriverhog.com

TREASURER

David Urbaniak
treasurer@rockriverhog.com

HEAD ROAD CAPTAIN

Bob Roscoe
roadcaptain@rockriverhog.com

EDITOR/NEWSLETTER

Lori Kessenich
editor@rockriverhog.com

MEMBERSHIP

Betsy Boo
membership@rockriverhog.com

ACTIVITIES

Tim Droester
activities@rockriverhog.com

SAFETY OFFICER

JT Greenwald
safety@rockriverhog.com

HISTORIAN

Carl Samppala
historian@rockriverhog.com

ROCK WISCONSIN

Ken Kessenich
asst_director@rockriverhog.com

SHINY SIDE UP

Candy Parr
shinysideup@rockriverhog.com

PHOTOGRAHY

Sammi Lynn
photographers@rockriverhog.com

WEBMASTER

Michael Draeger & Brandon Smith
webmaster@rockriverhog.com

H.O.G. Manager/Dealer Liaison

Leslie Smith
leslie.smith@wishd.com

LOH OFFICER

Open

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dawn "Firecracker" Makowski



Hello Fellow Rockers,

Can you feel it? Cooler temps are settling in and the change of seasons is near. It seems like it was just yesterday when I was on my last Rock Wisconsin ride and then, poof, rally was upon us and now it's September. August is my favorite and saddest month. August brings about the anticipation and excitement for the rally. Then when it's over the reality sets in that fall is upon us. I know I am not the first person, but want to say it anyway, thank you to everyone who supported Wisconsin Harley-Davidson during the rally. Whether you came and gave us some of your time or patronized us, thank you! Just a little bias, we lived up to our reputation of being the "Destination" dealership. Leslie and her team knocked it out of the park this year!

A huge thank you to Leslie and the other volunteers (mostly your board members) for setting up and cooking for our last meeting that took place at Wisconsin Harley-Davidson. Our next chapter gathering is on Tuesday, September 21st. Reminder that we are meeting at the Ingleside in the Fieldstone room. Meeting will start at 7pm, but feel free to come early for socializing.

As I am writing this the Tomahawk Fall Ride is getting ready to start. In the past week I've told the story of my first Tomahawk Fall Ride in 2004, a couple of times. I was a new rider, on an 883 Hugger, on my way up to Tomahawk with hubby, sister and a few others. Those first road trips seemed so long as new rider. Not so much anymore. Long rides are more like 500 plus miles. Here was my moment. That year, we arrived just south of Wausau midday, temps in the high 70's. As we were traveling through Wausau the anticipation was building. Construction was going on, traffic slowing down and lanes were narrowing and shifting. Up till that point bikes would enter the freeway, a few here and a few there. Before I knew it, there were hundreds of bikes all around me, heading to the same destination. Being a new rider, this was so flipping cool! I was in awe, hypnotized, and entranced by all the riders, the bikes and the rumbling sounds! Some smiled, some waved and some appeared to be feeling the exact same way I was. At that very moment I was "hooked". Seventeen years later and I am still hooked. What was your moment?

See you on the next ride ~ ride often!

Dawn

FLAT ROCKER UPDATE/ IMPORTANT INFORMATION

While the last Rock Wisconsin ride was just completed with its state park visits, there is still approximately 4+ weeks to obtain photos of state parks on your own. Please note, though, that the deadline for submission is at the October chapter meeting, which is **October 19, 2021**. If you have completed your quest ahead of time, feel free to bring your information to the September chapter meeting. If you submit real photographs, be assured those will certainly be returned to you.

FINAL DEADLINE: OCTOBER 19, 2021

NO LATE SUBMISSIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

RIDE TO EAT, EAT TO RIDE

~Jonathan Green, Sept 10, 2021

We the retired and free to ride whenever, declared the **Thursday Free Ride** this past Summer and it's working weekly...even as we are not. Let us be the inspiration for the rest of you to retire well.

"What is this guy talking about?" you ask. Well, when a similarly enabled (retired) group with mutual interest (riding) connects, it's a beautiful thing. And simple too. All we need is a weekly day, time and place to gather with our Harleys or Brand Xs:

Thursdays, 9:00AM*, WHD service lounge.

*WHD hours change in October so TFR meeting time will have to change to: 10:00 starting Thursday, October 7th.

Those gathered pick a breakfast destination, a ride leader and go. As of this writing we've had 8 rides with between 3 & 13 riders to breakfasts in Eagle, Erin, Genesee Depot, Palmyra, Ft Atkinson, Elkhorn, and Lake Mills plus ice cream stops in East Troy and Oconomowoc. And there's more. With full-fed-faces we are free to keep riding. And we do.

This is not a RR HOG nor WHD sponsored thing but we thank both for help initiating and continuing the **Thursday Free Ride**. We maintain an email & text number list to further connect the free riders. For more

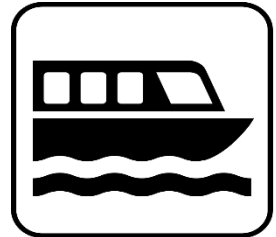
contact me at JG@GoofyGreen.com. If you're a rider who is free on any Thursday you are welcome to join us.

The rest of you...Get Back to Work!

UPCOMING CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

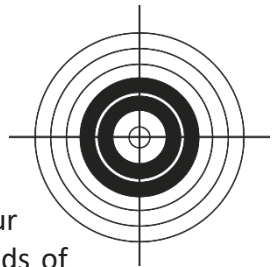
RIVER BOAT CRUISE

October 23rd 3:00 p.m. Travel through downtown Milwaukee underneath its bridges, see historical landmarks and get a front row view of the Milwaukee skyline including the Milwaukee art museum, Discovery World, Summerfest grounds and yacht clubs. This narrated tour focuses on Milwaukee's architectural treasures, famous locals, river sculptures and local businesses around the city. Cost is \$15 each. Meet at the main dock located at 2:05 West Highland Avenue on the 23rd. Sign up and pay at meeting or dealership by September 27th.



SHOOTING RANGE

Fletcher shooting range - November 13th 4-6pm. Your \$20 gets you shooting time, rental of your firearm (or you may bring your own firearm,) target, and 50 rounds of ammunition (you may purchase more if you would like to be used on site). Sign up at meeting in September or October which will be the deadline.



FROM THE MEMBERSHIP DESK

Membership enrollment begins in October and runs through December 31st. The cost is \$20 if you enroll during that time and \$30 if you enroll after January 1, 2022. Sign up is at the dealership or at a chapter meeting. Please print legibly on all forms – especially on those email addresses! Thank you.

RIDES IN REVIEW

TUGFEST RIDE

- Tim Droster

What a great ride it turned out to be! 27 bikes and 3 trikes found some great scenic roads and managed to avoid gravel (except one small stretch) and one U-turn, which made it an official ride. A few of us got some restaurant kitchen experience - thanks Pete, Sarah and Barry; while Kris got some bartending experience - thank you! We managed to sneak in a couple of state parks and we found out what the tug fest was really about, very interesting. Special thanks to my road captains - super big help with a couple of breakdowns - I really appreciate Jodie and Matt for what they did.

Great weather and always so nice to make and meet new friends.



Leader Tim



Ride briefing



Perfect parking

Tugging it out



THE GROUP!



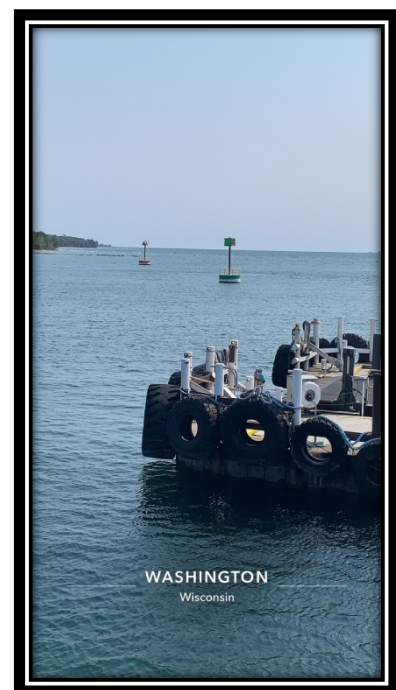
DOOR COUNTY RIDE

- Lori Kessenich

Thank you to Chuck Salamun for doing an excellent job with the route of beautiful roads, planning the logistics of the timing of the ferry rides and the state park stops, and allowing flexibility for a couple hours on Saturday and the ride home on Sunday. The weather could not have been more cooperative for not only riding but views of the lake and bay as well. The entire group observed a moment of silence to honor 9-1-1 and once again as we rode under the American flag hung in that honor on Washington Island. The wind and waves kicked up a bit on the ferry ride back, which had drivers sit on their bikes in gear and apply a brake for stability for the duration of the ride. Many experienced the iconic Door County fish boil for the first time. The group was a wonderful combination of riders that hadn't necessarily been on a ride together before and that experience was so positive that Dean said, "..."



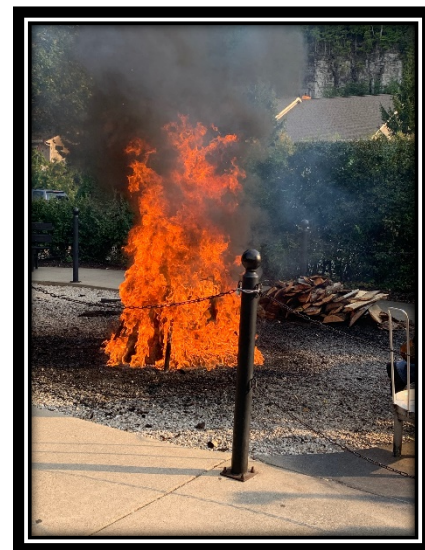
Waiting to board the ferry and the ride to Washington Island.



Solemn moment



Door County fish boil



This truly was a wonderful last ride of the 2021 Rock Wisconsin season.

From all of us here
at



WISCONSIN HARLEY-DAVIDSON

Thank you to all of the amazing
volunteers! We could not have
done it without you!



Next up Oktoberfest Oct. 9th
from
10 AM - 4 PM

ROCK WISCONSIN

- Ken Kessenich

Trikes and Bikes Ride at the end of October is coming! Fall colors and fellowship with a great day ride. Stay tuned for more details.

The committee is putting together a survey about your experiences over the last two years and your desires for next year. Please take time to fill out this survey when you receive the survey link via eblast later this month.

Want to help make 2022 a great riding season? We welcome new committee members for next year. We meet at 5PM at the dealership on the second Tuesday of the month. Your role would be to suggest ride ideas and then join a team of 2-3 committee members to plan and execute a chapter ride. See any committee member if interested or come to the October meeting!

KUMBAYA

Theresa Leto hosted our first Kumbaya. Thank you for your hospitality, the affectionate doggies, campfire and the awesome extra food items that added to our pudgy pie buffet. It was great seeing all the ladies that came out. Looking forward to doing this again next year.



SAFETY BREAK

- Carl Samppala

I hate to be the bearer of bad news, but it's September and that means the weather is about to change. Some things to keep in mind as we transition into fall.

Weather:

Fall in Wisconsin traditionally brings wet and cold weather. The concrete or asphalt you're riding on may look like a solid surface, but if you look closely, you'll see thousands of pores that trap oils. With the first drops of rain, the oil and debris in these pores rises to the surface and makes a slick surface. There's no shame in stopping for a cup of coffee or snack while the road gets washed off.

It's a good idea to check your rain gear. Make sure it fits properly and has no holes. A 'holey' rain suit may sound like just the ticket for Sunday riding, but trust me, a leaky rain suit will not promote language fit for Sunday. Some gloves, boots and such also benefit from an application of water repellent, such as a silicone spray. Clean your visor and/or glasses and apply anti-fogging compound. I've ridden in the rain more than I care to admit and the worst part has been trying to see where I'm going through fogged up lenses.

We can also get 'just' cold. If you're caught out when the weather suddenly cools off, remember your rain jacket can double as a wind breaker.

Road Conditions:

In addition to the rain, the trees will be dropping leaves- A double whammy! As if the road isn't slick enough, a few leaves in the wrong spot can be like riding on ice. Nothing wrong with slowing for that curve if you suspect a coating of leaves coming up. And whatever you do, don't ride through that pile of leaves-no telling what they're hiding. Speaking of ice, as we get later in the season, there's the possibility of frost/ice in some of the shaded areas. Keep an eye out for those conditions.

