

**ROCK RIVER
CHAPTER
NEWSLETTER**

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Rock Wisconsin Information



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H.O.G. CHAPTER
#3276**

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FROM THE DIRECTOR

Ken Kessenich



Wow – Do we have a lot to celebrate!! I hope you had a happy 4th of July. We are now in the middle of a month that celebrates our independence, the 40th anniversary of H.O.G. and the 120th anniversary of Harley Davidson. Having our independence allows us many privileges. Our chapter had the privilege of riding in the Franklin fourth of July parade on July 2nd (we will work with Franklin to understand what being “first in the parade” means so there are not feet down moments), we also led the fourth of July parade in New Berlin on the 4th, and 20 of us provided a special 25 miles for seniors at the Lance’s Young at Heart ride. There were so many seniors looking for a ride that after the police escorted ride, we needed to take a second trip with our Road Captains leading the way. Did you see us on Channel 12??

We have the freedom to purchase a Harley Davidson motorcycle (with so many great choices and all the personalization we desire) to ride around our great state enjoying the roads, taking pictures at Flat Rocker stops, and of course getting some ice cream! Extending our freedoms, we travel across state lines never having to produce papers or not being allowed in. We can gather in large groups in public places celebrating our similarities. Think of where you all traveled and with whom during Rally week. The roads, dealerships, bands, and foods all are part of our freedom to enjoy life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Riding a motorcycle to me is one of my ultimate freedoms and my senses remind me so much about my many freedoms. Rolling through curves, feeling the pull of gravity and yet the forces that keep me up as I lean into the turns, experiencing the smells of the country side and the cooking in some small towns, and as I leave those small towns, rolling on the throttle and hearing that engine roar. Each time I get to ride with friends or friends-to-be on a chapter ride, I feel so fortunate.

To earn our freedom and gain our independence, a long time ago many future “Americans” stood up and fought for their beliefs with many giving their lives for our freedom. Today we still enjoy that freedom because there are men and women who are ready, willing, and able to do the same. Consider the next time you see someone in the service or a veteran to thank them for how we are able to live our lives today.

Celebrate your independence,

Ken

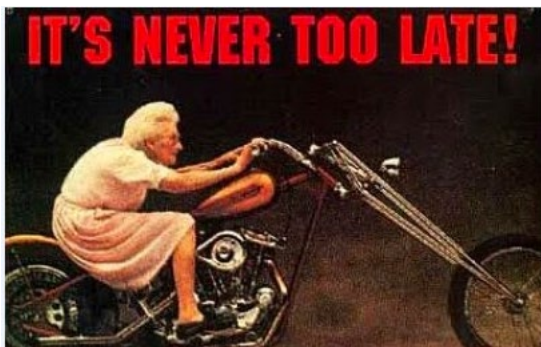
ROAD CAPTAIN CORNER

July is here and the heat is on. We started the month off with the following rides that are always big hits and enjoyed by many.

July 2nd: The Franklin 4th of July Parade was held on Sunday July 2nd.

July 4th: The Rock River Chapter rode in the New Berlin Independence Day Parade with an optional breakfast. What a delight seeing the faces of the children as we rumbled down the street.

July 8: Regency Senior Harley Davidson Ride. We met at the Regency of New Berlin as a group. We had 20 bikes and 40 riders, so a second ride had to be done. From the Regency we went on a police-escorted ride with the Road Captains' assistance. The police-escorted ride is a "get out of a ticket ride" for blowing stop signs and red lights and the seniors LOVE IT. If they had it their way, the ride would be much longer and a lot faster. For some of the seniors this was the first time they had ever been on a motorcycle. It truly was a neat experience to witness men and woman in their late years having so much fun.



There are so many more events like the Hometown Rally July 13 – July 16 at the dealership. New members I hope you're looking at our chapter calendar for upcoming rides and events. Great time to meet new people and go on rides and attend events you have never done before.

See you on the road or at the Chapter Meeting.

Jim "Muddy" Waters

Fish Boil Ride

July 22, 2023



A reminder to all-We will continue sign-ups at the July Chapter meeting. On July 22, 2:00 pm staging at Wisconsin Harley-Davidson. KSU 2:30 pm for a pleasant ride to Fitzgerald's in Genoa City.

- Fitzgerald's offers: All you care to eat fish, chicken or ribs. Meals include sides of boiled potato, onion, cole slaw, bread and dessert

Don't miss out on this ride! A \$10/person deposit will be collected.

IN MEMORIAM

Chapter member, Jeff Bruch, (JR Badger), was killed in a tragic motorcycle accident on July 4th. His life partner, Denise Runyan was seriously injured and is recovering at the UW Madison Hospital. Please remember Jeff's family and friends in this sad time and pray for Denise's continuing recovery.

Rest in Peace, Jeff.

CHAPTER MEETING

Tuesday, July 18, 2023 – The Ingleside Pavilion

Pick up your Chapter T-shirt! They are ready to be picked up at the chapter meeting. We have some extras, so purchase one for spring and fall riding comfort while providing good sun protection in the summer. \$25 for any size.



If you don't ride in the rain, you don't ride.

Most of us have been caught in the rain while riding. Some have even left home on the bike while it is raining. If you ride long enough, the rain will get you. During the "Young at Heart" ride on July 8th I needed to ride through some fairly moderate downpours to get to the staging point. Which made me wonder, when was the last time I rode in the rain? I think it was the Rock Wisconsin Ride around Lake Michigan 2 years ago. I definitely felt a little uncomfortable especially since we haven't had much rain to wash the oily buildup off our roads either.

So, I looked up some tips on how to deal with riding in the rain (there are a lot of them) and thought I'd share what I feel, are the top 5.

1. **BE SMOOTH** – We are used to great traction (Except for those gravel filled corners). But much like walking on ice in the winter, you have to slow your movement down. Accelerate slower, keep your engine power lower (short shift) brake earlier and softer. Drive like you're on ice....
2. **GIVE YOURSELF MORE ROOM** – You cannot make quick moves so you need more room. Leave more distance between you and the vehicle in front of you.
3. **BE MORE VISIBLE** - Rain drops visibility so even if you think it looks stupid to you, I recommend you buy the blaze orange or green rain suits. Don't add to the visibility issue by looking cool in your black rain suit.
4. **RAILWAY CROSSINGS** – (and Tar Snakes) I like to think of them as the black ice in summer. They are beyond slippery. Neutral throttle when you cross them. (Meaning you are neither accelerating or decelerating)
5. **RELAX** – Don't give the bars the death grip. Breathe! Keep loose! Ride your own ride. Take more side roads if needed. The bike doesn't want to go down either so let it do its thing. If you are gentle with your bike, it will be gentle with you.

Ride safe everyone!!

Dan

FROM OUR HISTORIAN

Carl Sampपाला

New Members:

Left to Right:

Daniel Garvey

Janet Garvey

Dawn Pollock

Chris Pollock

James Emry

Ron Russell

Kevin Stowell (not pictured)



Anniversaries:

Joy LeClair	2 years
Mike Draeger	10 years

Lifetime Mileage:

100,00 to 125,000	Janet Sam
	Stan Urbaniak
	Gary Malinowski
	Earl Carawan
	Carl Sampपाला
	Jay T. Greenwald
	Daniel Sedlachek

125,000 to 150,000	Pete Puetz
	Rick Fauska

150,000 to 200,000	Amy Koenen
---------------------------	------------

200,000 to 225,000	Dawn Knackert
	Mark Knackert
	Jeff Koenen

300,000+	Andy Blackburn
	Jonathon Green

JUST TRY ONE NEW THING

By: Candy Parr – “Shiny Side Up/Hospitality”

We all have our comfort zone, and most do not like change. But how about just trying one new thing: Drive a new route to work, eat at a new restaurant, sit on the other side at church, write in a gratitude journal, try a new career, volunteer, if angry-count to ten before speaking, call someone you have not seen in a while, try a new food, try something you fear.....

With the **120th HD Rally** almost here we have the opportunity to meet new friends from around the world and bikers in our own backyard that have no idea what our Rock River H.O.G. Chapter is all about.

We are blessed to have the 120th HD Rally in our backyard! **I challenge you to introduce yourself to one person/couple each day of the rally.** Buy a few Rock River H.O.G. Chapter or dealer coins to exchange.

See where they are from, what they ride, for how long...who knows you may be in their State/Country someday.

When we are at our monthly meetings make sure you **welcome our new members** and introduce them to others that may live in their area or where they are at in life...single rider, ride as a couple, with kids, without kids etc or where might their riding style match up with others. **Remember back when at your FIRST meeting...what made you keep coming back?** And when you are out riding, introduce yourself to a rider and see if they belong to H.O.G. and educate them on our local H.O.G. chapter and activities. Encourage them to join their local chapter.

Here's a good book about dealing with change in your life: **Who Moved My Cheese?** by Dr. Spencer Johnson.

ROCK WISCONSIN

By: Carl Samppala

Hello Rock River Chapter!

By the time this reaches you, we'll be in the ending stages of the 120th Celebration. Hopefully, you've been able to participate in many of the activities around the area, particularly events at Wisconsin Harley-Davidson!

In the meantime, we're rapidly approaching the heart of our Rock Wisconsin season.

Next up is the Mackinac Island Ride, July 28-31. We have 33 participants signed up.

The Apostle Islands ride (Aug 11-14) is nearly full (we still have one or two open slots). If you're interested, you may still be able to sign up at the July Chapter meeting. A \$20.00 deposit will be collected.

Sign-ups for the Driftless Dry and 3 Rings and Many Wings rides will start at the July Chapter meeting.

We start sign ups two Chapter meetings prior to the ride, with information available the meeting prior to beginning sign ups, so stay tuned!

As we approach the heart of our season, it's hard to believe, but we need to start looking ahead to next year. We've heard from some of you with suggestions and ideas for future rides. Please feel free to share your thoughts and ideas with any of the Rock Wisconsin Committee members, Chapter Officers or Road Captains. They don't have to be a complete ride, maybe a destination or attraction that can be incorporated or combined into a ride.

See you on the road!

THREE RINGS AND MANY WINGS

By: Dwight Lehman

Join us for an adventure into your childhood with a visit to Circus World in Baraboo. Meet at the dealership at 8:00, KSU at 8:30 for an overnight trip on Friday September 8. There will be a 90 mile leisurely ride and stop for lunch followed by a tour of the museum. See the ornately designed antique wagons used to transport the circus acts and animals. There will be a 90 mile ride to Oshkosh where we will spend the night.

Saturday morning after a leisurely breakfast at the hotel, we will go to the EAA Museum to see the many aircraft on display. The museum opens at 10:00, so we can socialize in the morning until it's time to go. Spend as much time as you want and then it will be time to head home. There will be plenty of time to hit some flat rockers on the way home.

2023 UPCOMING ROCK WISCONSIN RIDES				
Ride	Dates	Info Distributed at Chapter Mtg.	Sign ups taken at Chapter Mtg.	
Mackinac Island, MI	July 28-31	May 16	June 20	July 18
Apostle Islands II	Aug 11-14	May 16	June 20	July 18
Driftless Dry	Aug. 25-27	June 20	July 18	Aug 15
3 Rings and Many Wings (Circus World-Baraboo and EAA-Oshkosh)	Sept 8-9	June 20	July 18	Aug 15

RIDE WRAP UPS

Lance's Young at Heart Ride

The weather on Saturday, July 8th wasn't looking very promising, but after some frantic phone calls, poring over the weather radar and discussions, the decision was made. The ride was on! We met at the New Berlin Police Department, and had an escort consisting of motor officers from New Berlin, a deputy from Waukesha County as well as a New Berlin squad to watch our backside.

Nearly 40 residents of the Regency Senior Center had signed up for the 2023 edition of Lance's Young at Heart Ride. We pulled into the parking lot and were once again greeted by residents on their balconies waving and residents lined up three and four deep in front of the entrance. These seniors would make some formidable bikers; they wouldn't let a little moisture dampen their enthusiasm.

20 Chapter members justified this zeal and lined up to provide the residents with 'The Ride of a Lifetime'. (Side note-If you watched the Channel 12 news, you would have seen a story about the event). Since we had so many riders, we needed to do two runs. Unfortunately, our escorts had another commitment, so we were on our own for the second round. Our Rock River Road Captains stepped up and away we went. It wasn't quite the same, having to obey red lights, but a good time was had by all.

As a remembrance, our passengers were presented with a certificate to commemorate the occasion. We were also treated to a pizza lunch with the residents.

Thanks to Chapter member Tom (Barney) Greco for stepping up and organizing this event. This event was a favorite of John Manka and we're sure he's looking down with a smile on his face. Also a special thanks to the New Berlin Police and Waukesha County Sheriff's departments for helping to make this a safe and enjoyable outing-For both the riders as well as the residents! The only issue was the BMW (What's up with that Waukesha County?) as part of the leaders.



Left: Chuck Solomon and his guest getting ready to take off.



Right: Ken Kessenich and his guest, Donna.

Thoughtful decorations to add to the festive morning.



4th OF JULY PARADES

FRANKLIN




NEW BERLIN



Thank you Dawn and Mark Knackert, for bringing our Chapter to Europe!



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