

**ROCK RIVER
CHAPTER
NEWSLETTER**

June 2025
Volume 25
Issue No. 6
Chapter No. 3276

**INSIDE
THIS
ISSUE**

PG. 1

Board Directory
From the Director's Chair

PG. 2

Chapter News Medley and
Dockhounds game info

PG. 4

Safety and Rock Wisconsin
information



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

Rock River Board

DIRECTOR

Ken Kessenich
director@rockriverhog.com

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Rob Fehl
asst_director@rockriverhog.com

SECRETARY

Amy Dey
secretary@rockriverhog.com

TREASURER

David Urbaniak
treasurer@rockriverhog.com

HEAD ROAD CAPTAIN

Jim "Muddy" Waters
roadcaptain@rockriverhog.com

EDITOR/NEWSLETTER

Lori Kessenich
editor@rockriverhog.com

MEMBERSHIP

Betsy Boo
membership@rockriverhog.com

ACTIVITIES

Kris Droster & Theresa Leto

SAFETY OFFICER

Dan Stamman
safety@rockriverhog.com

HISTORIAN

Betsy Boos
historian@rockriverhog.com

ROCK WISCONSIN

Gary Malinowski

SHINY SIDE UP

Candy Parr
shinysideup@rockriverhog.com

PHOTOGRAPHY

Theresa Leto
photographers@rockriverhog.com

WEBMASTER

Michael Draeger
webmaster@rockriverhog.com

H.O.G. Manager/Dealer Liaison

Leslie Smith
leslie.smith@wishd.com

MERCHANDISE OFFICER

Jodi Politowski
Jodi.Politowski@wishd.com

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Ken Kessenich

Is your vision 20/20?

To be honest, or if you have seen me try to read 50/50 ticket numbers at a chapter meeting you know mine is not! I get by without glasses since one eye sees well far and one sees fairly well close; however, the doc says it is just a matter of time before I need cataract surgery. For now, cheaters keep me in the game.

Riding vision is another thing. When looking at cars coming from the left or right into an intersection or coming to the end of driveway, what do you look at? The car? I was told a long time ago to look at the hubcaps as it is the easiest way to see if the vehicle is slowing down or maintaining speed. Then plan accordingly.

Being seen or more easily seen is just as important. Acting as a sweep, having Lori wear my Road Captain safety vest helped me, us, and the column be more easily seen as cars approached us from the back. I now wonder why my leather jacket is black, my boots are black, my gloves are black I know my rainsuit has reflective components to it.

Turning and tight turning is something else I learned about early on when taking a rider safety course with my 1st Harley, a Road King. Except for accelerating to a speed and then braking hard it was all slow speed turning. I remember coming home with my clutch hand dead! I kept crushing cones, until the instructor said look ahead where you want to go and on tight turns turn your head as far and you DON'T look down. Basically, I learned if you look at a pot hole or a cone or gravel you will ride into the pot hole, crush the cone, go right through the gravel.

Group riding is yet another vision challenge. When riding with friends, a Road Captain ride, a Rock Wisconsin ride, etc. what do you concentrate on? I know the briefings remind us of a staggered formation for our safety so all riders have the whole lane if needed. Two wheelers stagger using the left and right thirds of the lane with a one second gap between the staggered bike and a two second gap between the bike just ahead of you. Trikes need to be in the middle of the lane so two wheelers can see what is coming. With the last ride, my role was "sweep" and you get to see the spacing of the column of bikes. I was trying to do some mental math while sweeping but needed to put it to paper, and here is what I found. We had 14 bikes/trikes in our column – 9 bikes and 5 trikes. Assuming a speed of 50 mph, if all held to the proper spacing our column was just short of a quarter mile (or 13 semi trucks). I tried multiple arrangements of bikes and trikes and the distance came out the same. So, it does not matter if trikes and bikes are together or interspersed; but, if the spacing goes to 2-3 seconds for some then the length of the column quickly grows to 1/3 to 1/2 mile! That made communication from front to back difficult and to me that means a safety concern. Let's keep each other safe and watch our spacing (within our comfort zones).

See you soon!
Ken



CHAPTER NEWS MEDLEY

UPCOMING CHAPTER MEETING

WHEN: Tuesday, June 17, 2025

6:00 PM Social Hour

7:00 PM Meeting

WHERE: Ingleside – Main building

50/50

Hello. Just in case there are any new members to the chapter, you may wonder about the 50\50 raffle at the meeting. 50% of what is collected at the meeting is put toward paying for hall, the other 50% is given back to the members that purchased tickets. Look for Mike Mueller and Julie Balthazor for your chance to win some cash at the upcoming meeting. Hope to see you all there. – Dawn Jean

FROM OUR HISTORIAN – Betsy Boos June Anniversaries

2 years

James Emmery

Janet Garvey

Dan Garvey

Dawn Pollock

5 years

Jim Micale

Bob Slowinski

Christine Fischer

FLAT ROCKER UPDATE

One more change/update for this year's Flat Rocker. #27 in Wisconsin Rapids has a new address and is located at 140 2nd Street North. It is on a wall on Club Meca.

LET'S GET READY FOR THE GAME!

The people that have paid for tickets for the Dockhounds vs Milkmen game on Friday, June 20th @ 6:35 pm, can pick up your tickets at the Activities table



at the June chapter meeting. If you are unable to pick your tickets up at the chapter meeting, you can pick them up from the dealership AFTER the chapter meeting. Anyone attending the game with us is welcome to "Tailgate" at Wisconsin Harley prior to the game. Park on the west side of the building. IF THERE IS NO RIDING ACADEMY HAPPENING, we may park on the concrete area north of the dealership. "Tailgating" will consist of whatever you want to bring to eat/drink. We will NOT be grilling/cooking at this tailgate. Parking at the game is \$5.00. You can stay parked at the dealership and walk over, or drive over and park in the Dockhounds parking lot. Please be aware of the park guidelines on their "BAG POLICY", and no carry ins.

Missed out on going to this game?? No worries, we will be doing another Dockhounds game on Friday, August 22. Watch for info coming out on that game in the next month, as we will do sign up for that game at the July Chapter Meeting.

PLAY BALL!!

Theresa & Kris

ROAD CAPTAIN CORNER

How can it be June already? Let me tell you about some great ride that happened last month.

May 25th – Honor Ride (Dealership Event)

The Honor ride we had on Saturday May 25th, with over 100 bikes participating. A Police Officer escorted ride from Wisconsin Harley to the Wisconsin Memorial for a ceremony for **remembrance of those who have died in service to our country**. Afterward the ride returned to Wisconsin Harley. This ride was put on by the Combat Vets group and it was a great ride.

We have so many more wonderful rides and events planned, mark your calendars for the following:

June 14th, Saturday – Veterans/ Dawgs & Hawgs (Dealership Event)

A Veterans Trivia/Poker Run with games and prizes. Leaving from Iron Ridge. End at Wisconsin Harley Davidson in Oconomowoc with: Prizes, Canine Demo, Silent Auction, Food Carts, Vendors & Live Music.

This is not a large group ride, form your own group and hunt down your trivia answers. The group will meet prior to ending our day to ride into Wisconsin Harley Davidson together.

9:00 --- REGISTRATION

Jessiffany Canine Services

W2853 State Road 67

Iron Ridge, WI 53035

1230ish -- ARRIVE AT WISHD

1:30 --- CANINE DEMONSTRATION

All proceeds go to our next Guardian Service Dog.

See Wisconsin HD web page for more information.

June 21st, Saturday Senior Ride

Take the Seniors at the Regency New Berlin for a police escorted ride on your bike.

Staging at 8:00 AM in parking lot of New Berlin Police

KSU at 8:45 AM travel to Regency

At 9:00 AM load seniors on bikes and take them on the ride, returning to the Regency for refreshments and food.

All members please look at the calendar and check out all the rides coming. If you have never gone on a group ride what a great chance to do so. You will meet new friends, see wonderful scenery, and travel down great roads. As always if you ever have questions about our rides, please do not hesitate to ask me or any of the other Road Captains to get your answers.

See you at the chapter meeting or on the road.

Jim “Muddy” Waters - Head Road Captain

NEW BERLIN 4th of JULY PARADE



Join some of your fellow riders in celebrating the 4th of July by participating in the New Berlin Parade. As we've done in the past, we'll be staging at: Pallas Restaurant located at 1657 S. 108th St, West Allis, WI.

KSU @ 11:30 am with a ride to New Berlin.

Please make plans to come early and enjoy breakfast before riding to the parade.

Have a parade flag? Make sure you're flying it!

If you have any questions, please contact:

Rob Fehl at asst_director@rockriverhog.com

Ken Kessenich at director@rockriverhog.com

WATCH OUT FOR THOSE JUNE BUCKS!

Ahh, we've finally made it! We are now entering every school aged kid's favorite time of the year, summer. Warm summer nights full of lightning bugs, swimming in the lakes or local pool, campfires and S'mores and the occasional afternoon thunderstorm that flares up to bring that smell of rain hitting the blazing hot asphalt. But for the motorcyclist, we can't help but think of the dreaded June Buck! That's right I said June Buck. May & June are statistically the 2nd worst time of year for Deer vs. Vehicle accidents in Wisconsin. This is due to the fawning season. All those little new born deer are chasing mom around and driving her crazy, and with the tall grass along the edges of those country roads, you won't see the deer until they jump out right in front of you.



Be extra vigilant when watching for wildlife while out riding especially in those early morning and late afternoon times; but honestly it can happen any time of day. In 2021 there were 231 motorcycle-deer crashes in Wisconsin which resulted 8 fatalities and 69 serious injuries. If you do find yourself riding during the peak deer movement times of near dusk/dawn, slow down! If you have a passenger, ask them to point out any deer, even if they are not right next to the road. If you see one crossing the road ahead of you, slow down! There is sure to be more than just one. If you do find yourself in a situation where you are sure to hit a deer, brake firmly, **Do Not Swerve**, and hopefully hit the deer square in the

side. If you swerve or have a glancing blow you may be more likely to leave the roadway and have to deal with whatever is in the ditch after you have just dealt with the deer. Honestly, luck plays the biggest roll in a motorcycle vs. deer. Keeping alert and ready is your best defense. I wish all of you a safe summer rides!

Oh, and watch out for those June Bugs!!
Ouch....



Dan Stammen -
Safety Officer

ROCK WISCONSIN

Name of Ride	Ride Dates	Team	Deposits taken	
<i>Where Eagles Fly</i>	July 19-21 Sat-Mon	Gary, Tom, Timmer	5/20	6/17
<i>WI Passport Tour</i>	Aug 15-17 Fri-Sun	Rob, Chris, David	6/17	7/15
<i>Crossing The Line</i>	Sept 5-7 Fri-Sun	Ken, Rob, James E	7/15	8/19

The upcoming ride of "Where Eagles Fly" has some spots that are still available. If interested in signing up, please stop by the Rock Wisconsin table at the chapter meeting to do so.

Sign ups for the "WI Passport Tour" will begin at this meeting. Information about this ride was published in the MAY newsletter, so if you want to refresh your memory about it, please refer back to that.

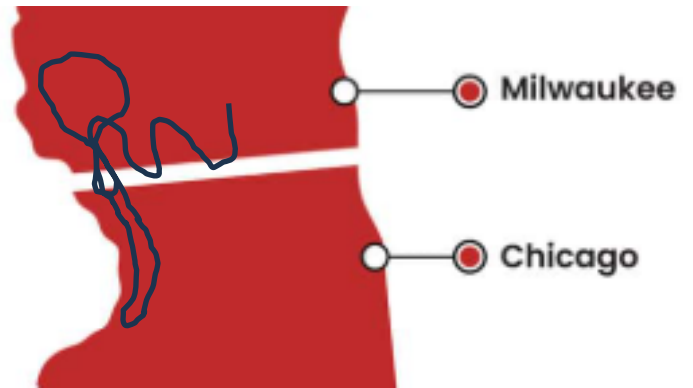
See the next page for information on the "Crossing the Line" ride.



Rock Wisconsin – Crossing the Line

September 5-7, 2025 Fri., Sat., Sunday

Enjoy several entertaining routes that take in the best of northwestern Illinois and southern Wisconsin’s scenic landscapes. Friday we will cross the border many times on the way to our hotel destination in northwestern Illinois. Saturday will offer two options, a north and a south route. The northern route will capture several Flat Rockers and enjoy the twists, turns, hills and valleys of the driftless area. The southern route will lead you to a Challenge Coin picture stop, Wiebler’s HD, and then a “lunch” stop at either Poopy’s or Savanna Station. For those riders that want more mileage – do both!



Departure Details:

September 5 – Friday

- Staging @ WI HD – 8:30 AM
- Ride Briefing 8:45 AM
- Group 1 9:00 AM

Sign-ups:

July and August (if space still available) Chapter Meeting

Cut-off Date for reservations is August 19th, 2025.

Based on available accommodations, we need to close registration at 20 rooms. A waiting list will be taken and we will try to add additional rooms to our block.

Deposit: \$20



You'd probably consider Milwaukee, WI – to be the "hog" capital of the world, but the folks of Kewanee, IL, beg to differ. After all, the city was officially designated as the "Hog Capital of the World" by the Illinois state legislature in 1949, right after Kewanee was named the nation's leading hog producer by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Each year on Labor Day weekend, the city sponsors Kewanee Hog Days, a festival that celebrates the savory swine, where you can chow down at "the world's largest outdoor pork barbecue."

4

**KEWANEE, IL
HOG CAPITAL
OF THE WORLD**

CHECK-IN LOCATION:
Check in at the "Hog Capital of the World" mascot, a black and white hog in a small brick "house" in a corner park located at the intersection of West 3rd St. and North Tremont St., Kewanee, IL 62443



MADE IN WISCONSIN Review

Two groups left on Thursday, June 5th and had cooperative weather for all three days. Our first tour was Knigge Farms in Omro, WI where the cows literally milk themselves. The farm is automated in many other ways as well, including a device which looks like a robotic vacuum cleaner that keeps the feed in line so the cows can reach it. We all instantly fell in love with this 24 hour old little guy!



Hsu's Ginseng Farm was our second tour and boy did we learn a lot here, including that ginseng takes 6.5 years before it can be harvested and it cannot be replanted in the same spot for 90 years!



At our third stop, we toured the facility at Twig's Beverage in Shawano, WI. Even though it was later in the afternoon, their bottling operation was in full swing and we got to see how that process was done. They are best known for their Sun Drop soda. The best part was the tasting counter. Who would have thought that butterscotch root beer would be so darn good?



Stop number 4 was at an alpaca farm. Again, so much learned about how they are bred, raised, sheared, etc. Aren't these little ones adorable?



Thank you to Tim Droster and Jim Micale for taking leadership on this ride, and to Ken Kessenich and Jim Waters for sweeping the groups.

H.O.G Connection

June 2025

By Rob Fehl



Message from H.O.G

Speaking of racking up the miles, participating riders in the H-D Let's Ride Challenge Ride for Heroes, which kicked off back in May, have already collectively rolled up more than 11 million miles. That means we're more than 20 percent of the way toward our goal of riding 50 million miles to raise \$1 million dollars in support of those who keep our nation safe every day. Don't forget to sign up for the challenge, not only because it's for a great cause, but also because it will enter you into the 2025 Ride 365 mileage challenges.

H-D Homecoming, July 10-13, 2025

Two exclusive events top the list of activities for H.O.G. members planning to attend this year's [H-D Homecoming](#) in Milwaukee, July 10-13.

Sign up today!

H.O.G. Homecoming Ride

Join fellow H.O.G. members for a picturesque ride through the forest, rolling hills, and historic landmarks of southern Kettle Moraine Drive. About six hours total, including a stop for lunch at Old Wisconsin—a favorite of Willie G's. \$25 registration. Lunch and commemorative T-shirt included. Limited capacity. Register [here](#).

- Location: Davidson Park, H-D Headquarters
- Date: Thursday, July 10
- Gather: 9am
- Kickstands Up: 10am

H.O.G. Breakfast with Bill

Enjoy breakfast, insider stories, and a private tour of the Harley-Davidson Museum with H-D's Global Brand Ambassador—and H-D cofounder William Davidson's grandson—Bill Davidson. Exclusive to H.O.G. members and a guest. \$75 per person. Limited Capacity. Register [here](#).

- Date: Friday, July 11
- Time: 8am
- Location: H-D Museum

Help requested from H.O.G.

Help H.O.G. Choose the 15 for '26 Ride Challenge Destinations



H.O.G.'s "15 for" destination challenge is one of our most popular Ride 365 programs. Participants can visit a variety of destinations and attractions around the country ranging from historic sites to natural wonders, plus all sorts of fun, quirky and interesting locations in between. Whether they collect one destination per year or all of them, participants experience great riding as they explore unique locations, ride great roads and collect unforgettable memories. Participants also receive an exclusive challenge coin for each destination visited.

For 2026, we're trying something new by asking our members, including you, to help select destinations for the 15 for '26 challenge. Whether it's a favorite local hangout or somewhere more distant you've always wanted to visit, we want to share the best recommendations from our riders with the rest of the H.O.G. community!

To submit your suggestions, visit the H.O.G. Stories website [here](#) and provide a short description of the destination and why you think it should be included in the 15 for '26 challenge. Please include any additional facts or history, possible photo locations, route information and anything else worth noting.

New H.O.G. Partners Enhance Your Ride

- Hilton stays get 10% off.
- EAGLERIDER discount of 10% on rentals.
- EAGLERIDER discount of 5% on tours.
- Viator discount of 10% on travel experiences.
- (NEW) Insta360 Motorcycle Kit with Action Invisible Selfie Stick (\$99 value) included with purchase of X4, X3, or Ace Pro camera.
- (NEW) KOA Rewards loyalty program annual fee exclusive discount.

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.

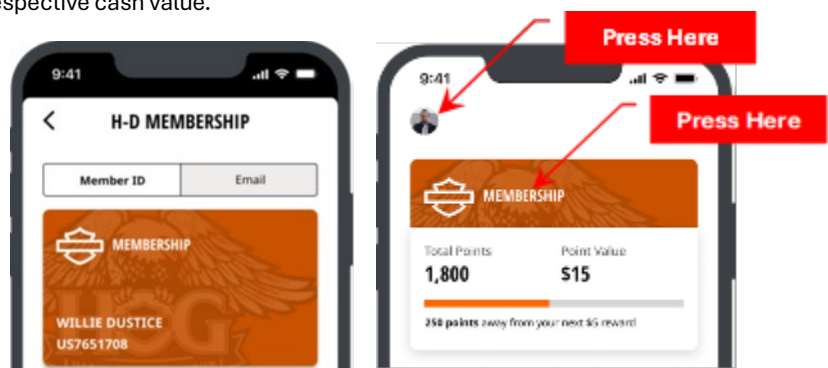
Harley Davidson Loyalty Points and Rewards

Harley Davidson also appreciates your loyalty and wants to reward you with points for everything you do.

How it works:

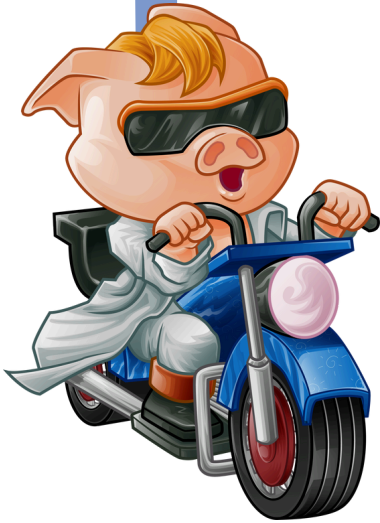
Log into your Harley Davidson App and select your account icon in the upper left corner of the screen. Then press on the orange membership card. This will show you your total points earned so far and the respective cash value.

- **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**



LET'S GO

ADVENTURE



WISCONSIN



SUMMER

RIDING IS HERE!

EVENTS

JUNE 14TH

DAWGS&HAWGS / RIDE FOR VETERANS

JUNE 21ST

WI HERO OUTDOORS VETERANS RIDE

JULY 10TH - 13TH

WISCONSIN H-D[®] HOMECOMING FESTIVAL

AUGUST 2ND

WAUKESHA SHERIFFS K9 RIDE



ALL LICENSED PURSES & BAGS ARE 25% OFF UNTIL JUNE 30TH!

LOOKING TO UPGRADE OR PURCHASE ANOTHER MOTORCYCLE!

SEE OUR SALES TEAM FOR WHAT KIND OF SHOPPING SPREE YOU WOULD EARN IN THE MONTH OF JUNE!

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**

WE'RE STILL LOOKING FOR MORE VOLUNTEERS, PLEASE CONSIDER TAKING A SHIFT OR TWO OR EVEN THREE. WE WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE IT!



[CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP!](#)



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

