

**ROCK RIVER
CHAPTER
NEWSLETTER**

March 2023
Volume 23
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**ROCK RIVER
H.O.G. CHAPTER
#3276**

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FROM THE DIRECTOR

Ken Kessenich

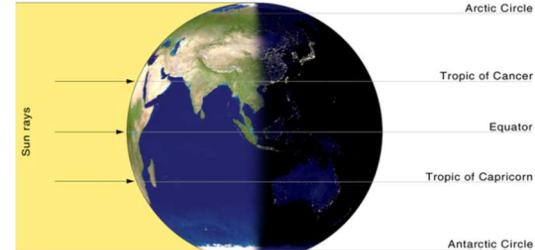


Spring into Something New this Year

Do you know what's happening today? It's the Vernal Equinox, an astronomical event



where the Sun is directly above the Earth's equator. I recalled this when I went to reset my outdoor light

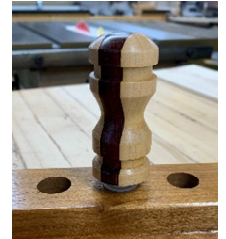


timers and needed to look up the

time for sunrise and sunset. Hmm, they were at roughly 7am and 7pm. Ahhh, equal day and night hours!

Rumor states this day and the Autumnal Equinox are the only two days of the year where you can balance an egg on its end. It's just a rumor, try it tonight, next week and the week after if you have the patience!!

Now if you have tried it, or if you haven't, I challenge you to try something new this year. For myself, I have lined up a few new woodworking projects. So far I've made some wine bottle stoppers (for those that don't finish that bottle the same night!), and I'm working on some coffee scoops for Christmas presents for my daughters, shhhh. I know Lori is looking seriously at a heated jacket liner to add to her riding comfort this spring and fall.



So, let's think of what could be new for you this year. Recently, I had the pleasure of working with some of our chapter members who tried SCUBA diving. Perhaps you have already started adding something new to your bike while it is in winter storage or maybe something will spring into your hands when browsing our dealership. Consider trying some new roads and meeting some new friends. There are a lot of new events at our dealership for you to experience. There will be many interesting places to visit and great roads to enjoy while joining a Rock Wisconsin ride. Don't miss our Road Captain day rides this year. Get involved with the 2023 Flat Rocker Challenge, details will be provided at the April chapter meeting. Additionally, H.O.G. has some great ideas and events; in the 10 rides for 23 there is one destination in Wisconsin, of course there is the 120th in July, and don't forget about their rewards (not the Visa credit card) for 2,500 miles H.O.G. will send you a \$25 gift card, and if you make it to 10,000 this year that card will be worth \$100.

Reading, trying, and doing something new keeps us fresh and opens us up to new horizons.

See you over the next horizon,

Ken

FROM YOUR SAFETY OFFICER

March Madness!!!

We have all seen it, Stupid Drivers! It can be someone who is texting while driving, driving under the influence, an inattentive driver or maybe just an idiot who drives like they own the road. No matter the reason, a motorcyclist is obviously at a great disadvantage. It can be very easy for us to forget about Emotions can impair your judgment and make it easy to hit the horn, flip them the bird, yell something at them or worse. Since we are on two wheels, none of these responses are a good idea. (Or ever a good idea) However, if you feel this person presents a real danger to you, it would be best to try to safely remove yourself from that danger rather than give them a driving lesson. If the person is tailgating you, find a way to let them by, move to the next lane over or pull off and let them pass. Retaliation will only make them angry. Have you ever seen an idiot get smarter with anger? I didn't think so. If the driver is set on teaching you a lesson, well consider your options carefully, and remember you are at a disadvantage when on two wheels. I am not advising to break any laws however; if I have someone in a 2-ton SUV trying to teach me a thing or two, I think losing them in traffic may be a safer option. If you end up having words with an angry driver, keep calm, try to get info like a license plate, a good description of the person, your location. Obviously defend your life when needed! Hopefully in the end level heads will prevail. Of course, if you feel the need, call 911 and report all the details to the police. This world is crazy and there are many reasons why people are on edge. Remember, as a motorcyclist, you are already at a disadvantage in a road rage situation. Please Keep Calm and Motor on.

Ride Safe!

Dan Stammen

FROM OUR HISTORIAN

Carl Samppala

New Members:

Dan Bemis

Kirk Toepel

February 2023 Anniversaries

2 Year:

Christopher Abel

Gary Malinowski

Mileage-stones

Rick Fauska

125,000 HOG Miles



Kirk Toepel, Dan Bemis



FROM THE MEMBERSHIP DESK

Please remember to renew your national H.O.G. membership. We have a good number of members that have let that lapse. Don't forget that in order to be a chapter member, you must be a member of H.O.G.

Log in to the H.O.G. website to renew now!

50/50

Ask and you will receive!

Thank you to everyone that signed up to help with selling raffle tickets. We have the next three months covered!!!

Our leprechaun ticket sellers for March are Barb Brooks and Mark Sterl, they may have a pot of gold waiting for you. Welcome back and have fun selling raffle tickets.



ROCK WISCONSIN

BY: Carl Samppala

Hello Rock River Chapter!

We have some updates in our Rock Wisconsin schedule for you.

The 'North Dakota Ride' is being taken on by your Rock River Road Captains. A lot of talent there, so you're in good hands.

The '3 Rings and Many Wings Ride' has a date change. Scheduling forced us to change to a Friday-Saturday ride.

Our Flat Rockers have their stops plotted out, but like the nuclear launch codes, they're under tight security until the April 'launch'. Stay tuned! Like you, when we find out, we'll try and include stops for group photos.

See you on the road!

2023 ROCK WISCONSIN RIDES				
Ride	Dates	Info Distributed at Chapter Mtg.	Sign ups taken at Chapter Mtg.	
Dream Ride (Iowa)	June 9-11	Mar 21	Apr 18	May 16
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 8-9	June 20	July 18	Aug 15

FLAT ROCKER NEWS

The 2023 Flat Rocker competition will be launched at the April chapter meeting on April 18, 2023. As in the past, handouts will be available for pick up at the end of the meeting. The information will then be available on the website as of April 19, 2023.

We are looking forward to many participants and wish everyone "happy hunting."



P.S. To those of you who were @ John's Life Celebration. Thank You. The Amount of Love felt in that Building was absolutely amazing! He will truly be missed by MANY! Thank You all for your thoughts & Prayers... I will still be around

Love Heidi

To Rock River HOG Chapter! first of all I want to say thank you for the donation to John's Favorite Ride - Next thank ALL OF YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT! This tragedy will take Time, family & friends (like all of you) to get thru!

Love You ALL
Heidi Wanka & Family

ROAD CAPTAIN CORNER

As I'm writing this article Spring will arrive in

4 days 14 hours 57 minutes.

We can only hope that all the snow and salt is gone by Sunday May 7th when we start our riding season.

Ladies and Gentlemen start your engines!

There is no better way to start than to have you and your biker blessed for a safe and sound riding season. After the blessing there will be a Road Captain lead ride to **Hi-Way Harry's** in Johnson Creek for Brunch. New members, there is no better way to meet members and experience a group ride.

Rock River Hog Chapter Bike Blessing and Brunch

When: **Sunday May 7, 2023**

(Note: Rain date May 21, 2023)

Where: Wisconsin Harley Davidson

Time: 9:30 AM for bike blessing.

KSU: 10:00 AM for the ride to Hi-Way Harry's.

We will have Sign-up sheets at the March and April Chapter meetings.

The price of the brunch is.

Adults – \$20.95

Senior Citizens (55 and up) – \$18.95

This price includes all of your non-alcoholic drinks (soda, coffee, tea, milk and juices (Excludes virgin drinks & Sprecher's Root Beer). It is a buffet style brunch, and you are more than welcome to help yourself as many times as you would like!

VFW Ride and Bike Blessing

Road Captain led Ride

When: **Saturday May 20, 2023**

Where: Hoeppner-Horn Bros VFW Post 5716

17980 W Beloit Rd New Berlin, WI 53146

Time: 10:00 AM for bike blessing and then a ride to Wisconsin Harley Davidson

More details to come when available.

We will have Sign-up sheets at the March and April Chapter meetings.

NOTE: If you haven't looked at the 2023 calendar on the Rock River Hog Chapter web site you need to do so,

especially new members. We have a ton of rides and events planned for this riding season so the calendar will be updated each month with new rides / events.

New members, if you ever have questions regarding an upcoming ride please do not hesitate to talk to me or any of the Road Captains.

Hope to see you at the next chapter meeting!

Jim "Muddy" Waters
Head Road Captain

DREAM RIDE

BY: Tim Droster

Rock Wisconsin proudly invites you to a "Dream Ride." We will be leaving Wis Harley with KSU at 8am on June 9 and returning on June 11. Friday will be a leisurely ride down to Iowa. Saturday will be loaded with stops at The Field of Dreams film location, Poopy's bar for lunch, and American Pickers. If there is time, we can check out JP cycles. Sunday will be a visit to the National Motorcycle Museum, or you can head home on your own. After the Museum you can ride back with the group, or on your own. I plan on getting back somewhere around 6ish. A deposit of \$20 will be required if you are interested in joining us. Sign up will begin at the April meeting.

Good Friday Pizza Ride

is just around the corner!

April 7th

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.



H.O.G. MILEAGE

BY: Carl Samppala

As I write this, we've had another day of snow, I guess that's part of March (and April and sometimes May) in Wisconsin. It's hard to believe in a little over three weeks it's our first scheduled ride of the 2023 season- The traditional Good Friday Pizza Ride. That's your chance to start racking up your HOG miles. Some of you may have noticed at the last couple of Chapter meetings, we've recognized members who've accumulated 100,000 miles or more. We want to call out your name also! AND, believe it or not, you can also earn \$\$ just by riding your Harley! Accumulating 2,500 miles in a year will earn you a \$50 Harley-Davidson gift card. Another 7,500 (10,000 total) and you get a \$100 gift card. To further sweeten the deal, if you have a H-D Visa card and enroll, you earn \$25 for every 2,500 miles logged.

I received my gift cards just in time to order some new shocks for our bike. Thanks to Shane at Wisconsin Harley-Davidson for helping me get those ordered. BTW-I did get our bike out on the 1st of March to test them out, so you high-milers, you're already 10 miles behind...

So, I can hear you asking " Service Department and ask them to enter your mileage. If your bike is in storage, remember to ask them to enter it when you pick it up. Do this at the beginning of the riding season and periodically over the course of the year and that's it!

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

MEET THE DEALERSHIP

BY: Ken Kessenich

Dave "English" Gillham will be our next guest at the April chapter meeting.


Dave is the Parts Manager at WISHD. He came to us from England in 2010. Dave and his wife have three bikes, two Tour Glides an 89, and 90, and a 95 Heritage. A couple of his favorite activities are tinkering with their motorcycles and cars and sleeping!! He loves spending time in his garage.

In his role he orders parts (when he can get them), schedules the counter staff who are always ready to help you, and keeps stock of the parts on the floor as well as all the parts needed by service. Additionally, he spends time finding information about new items that either you suggest or he is considering adding to our dealership.

Dave's quote: "My door is always open to you! If you don't see what you are looking for, come and talk to me."



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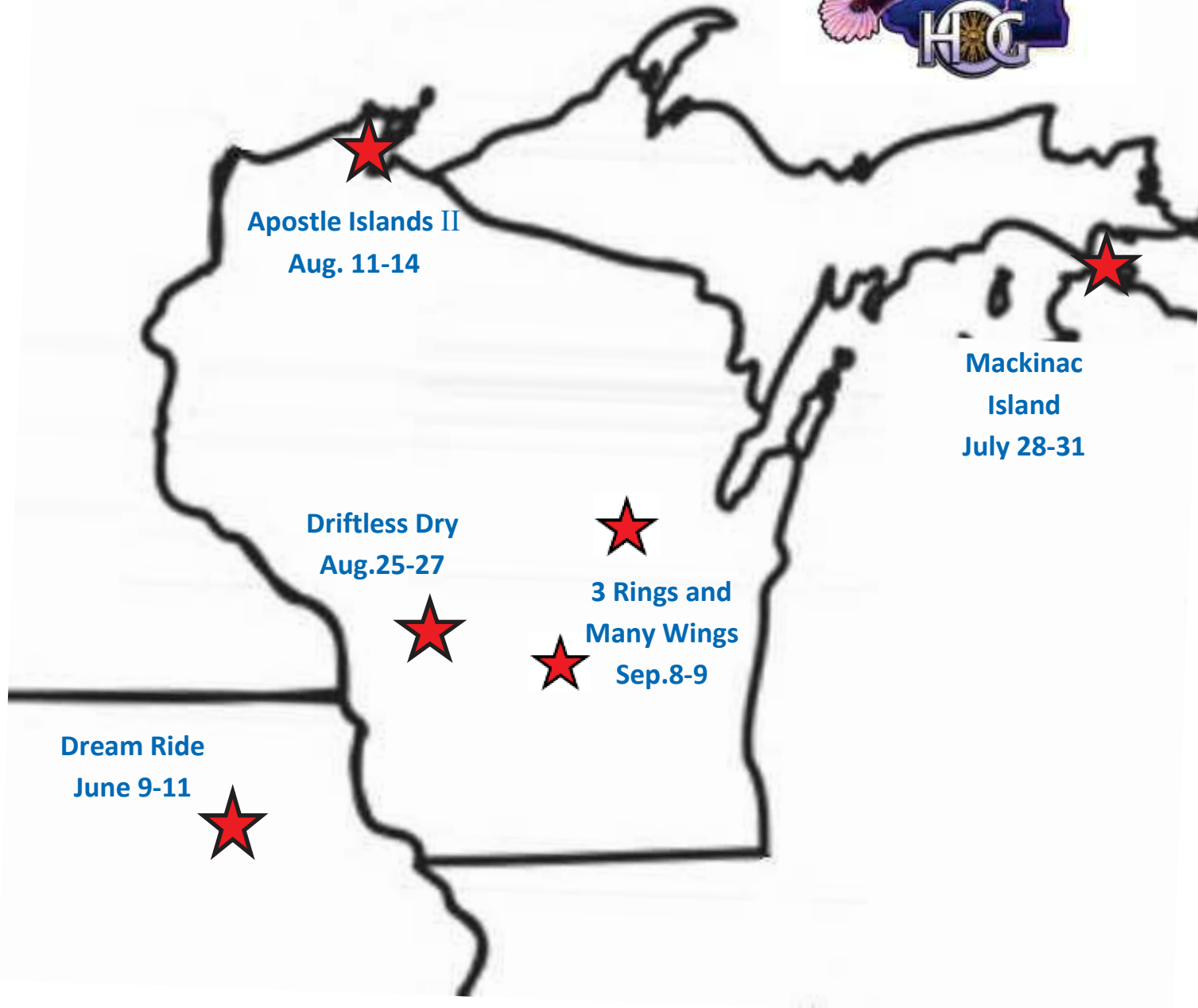
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Rock Wisconsin 2023

Come ride with us!



Camaraderie is the spirit of friendship and community in a group, like the camaraderie of soldiers at war who keep each other upbeat despite the difficulty of their circumstances. Who is a comrade? A close friend or a fellow soldier — in other words, someone who comes to mind when you say, "We're in this together." Camaraderie is a feeling of trust, a bond created by a shared goal or experience — you don't have to be best friends with everyone in the group to know you have their support.