



Michigan Sport Touring Report

August 2017

Editor – Ian Orr

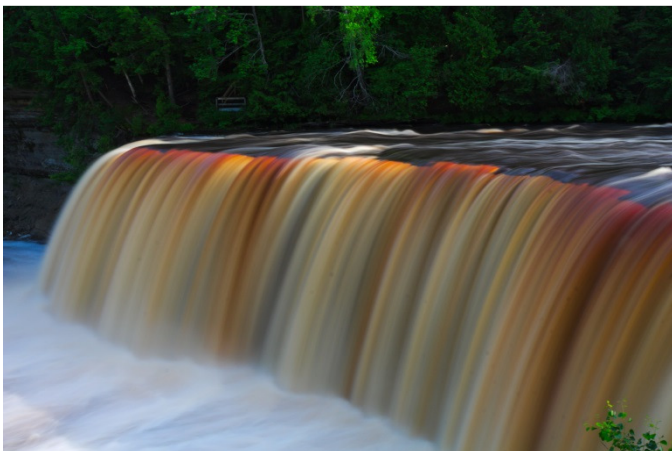
Around the Big Lake

By Bob Komjathy

Finishing the U.P. train stations in late June I continued around the north side of Lake Superior for an enjoyable journey back home.

The trip was timed to coincide with a new moon because one of the highlights of the trip is to see the stars at night without city lights interfering with the view.

The first night was at Tahquamenon Falls State Park. It would give me starting point to kick off my run through the U.P. If you have never been, it is one of the nicest waterfalls in the eastern peninsula.



Tahquamenon Falls, MI.

Wednesday was going to be a long run to Newberry, Marquette, Munising, Iron Mountain and ending up in Menominee, Michigan at Wells State Park.



David Burr at Wells State Park

I ran into fellow MSTR member David Burr setting up camp just a few sites down from mine. It was a bit of difficulty finding a dry one since the area had just spent the past 4 days in the rain. Spent some time with Dave before it got dark and decided to change my riding plans for the next day a bit so we could ride together for a couple of hours. We separated company after a hearty breakfast in Iron Mountain just down the street from the train depot checkpoint. He headed off to Ironwood and I made my way up to Copper Harbor. We would run into each other again at the Fort Wilkins State Park. This time, I asked if he just wanted to share the campsite. That decision saved him some daylight to set up his tent.

On the way up to Copper Harbor, I stopped off in Ahmeek, Mi. for a treat at an old train station not on our list of required points. Stop if you have time in your ride. They make their own ginger ale and root beer. On a hot day, that Boston Cooler just hit the spot with homemade lemon and French vanilla ice cream.....yum!



Streetcar Station in Ahmeek, MI



Lupine Blooms

Thursday a.m. we were both off down M26 to Eagle River. Probably one of the nicest stretches of motorcycling road in the whole state. Rapid turns like US41, but along the coast, so there's always something to see.

Friday's ride was leisurely on the M61 Scenic Bypass along the shore of Lake Superior. Lupine blooms covered the shoreline and Great Lakes Freighters headed east laden with ore. Split Rock Lighthouse State Park has one of the nicest perches for a positioning light anywhere on the Great Lakes. It's worth a stop if you ever pass through.



David Burr at M26 rest area

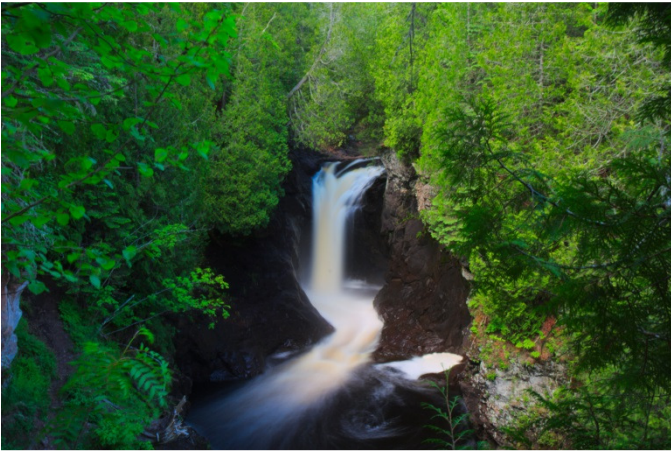


Gooseberry Middle Falls, MN.

After reaching Houghton, Mi. and a quick lunch downtown, Dave was off to do the rest of the U.P. and I was headed to Ironwood and Duluth, MN. I ended up staying there for the night. I needed a new front tire as the chip seal was chewing through more tread than I had expected. R.J. Cycles of Duluth were nice enough to charge just \$20 over the cost of the tire to put it on the rim and balance, letting me take it off and install back on the bike. They provided all the tools needed. A BIG thanks to them for their assistance.



Gooseberry Lower Falls, MN.



Cascade Falls, MN.



Fresh fruit, smoked trout, salmon and herring, with horseradish and cranberry dip, cheese and crackers, and raspberry iced tea. \$15



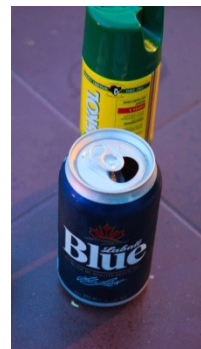
Split Rock Lighthouse



The salads were colorful and delicious as well.

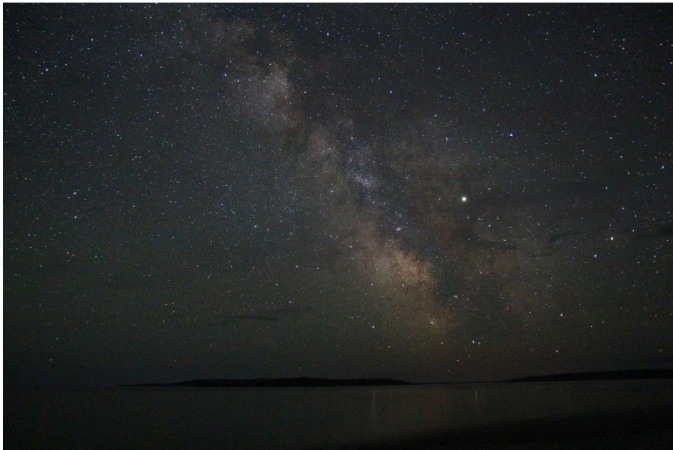
A late lunch in Grand Marais, MN. I look forward to The Angry Trout restaurant whenever I am in the area. No disappointments ever.

A stop in Grand Portage, MN for water, a snack and gas. This fill-up would last till Marathon, Ontario and that would be the only gas purchased in Ontario. I made it a little past Rosport, Ont. And saw an interesting provincial park right on Lake Superior. Shadows getting long, might as well stop for the night. Moose and motorcycles don't mix very well. I was glad I did, out in the middle of nowhere, not going to find a better look at the stars than here.



Camping neighbor invited me over for hot and fresh French onion soup made by his girlfriend and a couple Labatts and a can of black fly spray while sitting at a campfire. Life is good! We talked till about 12:30 a.m. when it started to get dark.

THIS is the reason I love to come home this way!



Starry night

You will not have a better view of our neck of the universe than from these shores at night with nothing to obscure the horizon and only fireflies instead of city lights.



My tent glowing under the stars



The walk along this shore to the petroglyphs in motorcycle boots is an experience

The next day (Saturday) is a long day in the saddle even with a few stops. One was in Lake Superior Provincial Park where I stopped to see native North American Indian petroglyphs.

First time seeing them this close to home.



Some of the petroglyphs along the shoreline

Another 2 hours and back to Sault Saint Marie, Mi. A quick bite to eat and a race for home, clearing Deerville, Michigan (north of US10) before dark. All-in-all a great time mixed with a wonderful ride, old haunts, photography and new sites to explore. What more can you ask for?

A special thanks to **Bob Komjathy** for his article and great photographs featured this month.

Remember... All published articles earn a free breakfast and your articles will be appreciated by your fellow members and the newsletter editor, and you will also earn points toward the **2017 MOTY Award!**



MSTR Heads Up

Here's a listing of some of the upcoming local events and meetings within the next few weeks. If you know of a local motorcycle event in Michigan or

Ontario the MSTR would be interested in send Ian Orr an e-mail at Communications@mstriders.com with the details.

ALL CLUBS DAY

Sunday September 17th, 2017
12 Noon to 4pm

The Village of Stockbridge

"A Great Place To Ride To"

Nestled in the corner of Ingham, Livingston, Jackson & Washtenaw Counties



Come and enjoy a day of Vintage, Classic and Remarkable Motorcycles displayed around The Village Green by clubs & individuals invited to show their best. Clubs are invited to showcase club activities & member motorcycles.

Individuals with unique, rare or historic Motorcycles are invited to contact Suzi
(Participation in the show by invitation only)

SPECTATORS WELCOME!

Breakfast 8-12 at the Presbyterian Church
Stockbridge Lions Club Pulled Pork Lunch
Noon onwards behind Town Hall

For more information contact Suzi: 517-851-7437

MSTR EAST Breakfast Meeting

Saturday, August 26, 2017, @ 8:30 AM

East breakfast meeting is at **Doc's Sport Retreat** in Livonia, MI. Doc's is located at 19265 Victor Parkway. East of I-275, north of 7

mile road and across from Dave and Buster's. Augie Fernandes will be moderating this meeting.

MSTR WEST Breakfast Meeting

Saturday, September 9, 2017, @ 10:00 AM

West breakfast meeting is at the **Alibi Bar & Grill**, 1394 E. Riverside Drive, Ionia, MI (www.alibionia.com). Please send an email to Gala (gschip@me.com) so she can plan on providing breakfast for everyone who attends. Breakfast will be available for \$11 plus tax & tip. Bart Reiter will be moderating this meeting

MSTR 2017 Rides



One of the goals of the MSTR is to organize a few multi-day rides each year specifically for our members in some of the premier riding areas in the Midwest and Southeast. All MSTR rides are limited to those who are current MSTRiders. The dates for most events have already been set and are listed on the Events page of the MSTR Website (www.mstriders.com).

2017 MSTR

Deposed Depots Grand Tour

March 25 – November 19
Michigan

Keith's 2017 Michigan Deposed Depots Grand Tour is in full swing. There are 14 checkpoints, with 8 in the Lower Peninsula, and 6 in the Upper Peninsula. Additionally, you can earn up to 3 extra credit points for each checkpoint (42 extra credit points total) for stopping to see other Michigan attractions. These can be other depots, museums, historical points of interest, scenic attractions, tourist attractions, and unique

Michigan restaurants. All photo proofs of your visits will be due to Keith by Nov. 19.

Organizer: Keith Danielson
keith.danielson@wowway.com

BBR 2
Burn Burn Raid 2
August 17–20
Marietta, OH

The ride hotel has agreed to hold a block of rooms at a reduced rate and recommended booking these rooms now to ensure availability due to other (non-motorcycle) group bookings.

Ride HQ: All week
Best Western Plus Marietta Hotel
701 Pike St, Marietta, OH 45750
Phone: 740 374-9660

A block of 40 rooms are being held as follows:

- Check-in: On or after Wednesday, August 16, check-out: Sunday, August 20. \$76/night + tax. Same rate for King and Doubles. Request the MSTRiders rooms and rate
- I requested ground floor for all the rooms, which they will try to meet
- After July 19 the blocked rooms will be released to the general public. If there are rooms available AFTER July 19 we'll still get the \$76 rate. If we need more than 40 rooms we'll still get the \$76 rate
- As with all MSTR events with a pre-arranged reduced rate room these are ONLY available to MSTRiders.

The sign-up sheet for BBR 2 will be available at the July West and East meetings. The routes will be similar to last year's BBR event. There will be two pre-rides on Thursday and Friday for those who are riding down.

A pre-event, white water raft trip on the New River has been arranged for adventurous MSTRiders on Wednesday, August 16th. The

trip begins near Fayetteville, WV at 9:00am and ends around 4:00pm. The \$140 per person cost includes transportation to and from the New River and a lunch on the river. Eight riders have signed up, filling up one raft and we have room for more. It's about 500 freeway miles from southeast Michigan to Fayetteville, WV so we're staying at the Quality Inn New River in Fayetteville on Tuesday, August 15th to be ready for the raft trip the next morning. You can check out [Adventures on the Gorge](#) on the web and look up the Canyon Rim Lower New River day trip. If you're interested send an e-mail to Ian Orr for more information and how to book on the same raft trip.

Organizer: Ian Orr
Communications@mstriders.com

Reiter MSTR Picnic
Sunday, September 3rd
Haslett, Michigan

Join your MSTR riding buddies for an afternoon of laid-back relaxation, darts, bean bag toss and some wicked potato gun action. Food and drinks will be provided but feel free to bring a dish to pass and your own favorite beverage. The picnic starts at 2pm.

Bart and Marian Reiter Residence
9777 Missaukee Lane
Haslett MI 48840

Organizer: Bart Reiter
banjobart@aol.com

TOTM
Tip Of The Mitt
September 14 – 17
Bellaire, Michigan

Come and join us in Bellaire, Michigan for some of the best scenic riding around northwest Michigan. We have routes available

from last year or you can make up your own. We'll be staying at the following motel:

Bellaire Inn
728 E Cayuga St, Bellaire, MI 49615
Phone: 231 533-7777

If you want to participate - here's what you do:

1. Call Debbie, at the Bellaire Inn, to make reservations. Most rooms are double beds, so line up a partner if you wish. Please be patient. The property is managed by one person. You may have to leave a message initially. Make sure you mention you are a member of the MSTR. NOTE: there are cancellation charges if cancel several days before the event. Make your reservations soon since the Inn fills up quickly.

VERY IMPORTANT!

2. John Cirner will be sending out a separate email with a Rider Roster of everyone signed up to go AND the GPS routes for TOTM 9. In addition to confirming your attendance John and Pete would appreciate knowing what day you plan to arrive in Bellaire, if you are riding up with a group (or independent), and who you are rooming with or if you are looking for a roommate.

There will be mandatory riders meetings on Thursday and Friday night held in the parking lot of the Bellaire Inn before the group walk into Bellaire for dinner.

Organizer & Ride Coordinator: John Cirner
jcirner@charter.net
248-396-5882 (cell)

WVR
West Virginia Raid

October 5 – 8
Lewisburg, West Virginia

Consider joining your fellow MSTR members on this, the last organized out of State ride for

2017. The schedule and details for this ride are as follows:

Thursday, October 5. Trailer or ride to Marietta, OH. We'll be staying at The Microtel Inn and Suites. A group dinner at 7:00 PM is being arranged for those who arrive in time to take part. Following dinner – around 9:00 PM there will be a mandatory Rider's Meeting at the motel, where we'll discuss the next days' ride and arrange our riding groups.

NOTE: We are looking for a volunteer(s) to coordinate a breakfast and a "Ride Down" to Marietta for those who may wish to form up groups to ride down together.

Friday, October 6. Our groups will ride a twisty, turn filled route from Marietta, OH to Lewisburg, WV. We will be staying there Friday and Saturday evening at the the Quality Inn in Lewisburg, WV. At 9:00 PM there will be a mandatory Rider's Meeting at the motel, where we'll discuss the next days' ride and make any necessary changes to our riding groups.

Saturday, October 7. Our groups will ride one of several routes/loops from and back to the hotel in Lewisburg, WV

Sunday, October 8. We will ride a 250 mile route, returning to Marietta, OH. From there everyone will either continue riding home or load up their trailers in Marietta and drive home.

If you're interested in joining us, you need to get the following done – **without delay**

1. Make your **Thursday night** reservation at:

Microtel Inn & Suites
506 Pike Street, Marietta, OH
Phone: 740 373-7373

2. Make your Friday and Saturday night reservations at:

Quality Inn
Lewisburg, WV
Phone: 304 645-7722

3. Contact Ian Orr to get your name on the distribution list for Route Maps and further

information regarding the trip. There will be a sign up sheet for this ride at the August and September monthly meetings.

Organizer: Ian Orr
Communications@mstriders.com

MSTR Newsletter & Website

The MSTR Newsletter and Website (www.mstriders.com/) belong to you, the riders. They both can only be as good and as interesting as you make them. If you've got something to say about a ride, your bike, perhaps a trip you're planning, whatever, send it in for the newsletter and/or website to:

Ian Orr: Communications@mstriders.com

MSTR Photo Gallery

The MSTR maintains a SmugMug photo gallery (<https://mstriders.smugmug.com/>) to allow riders to upload and download pictures of various club events. Upload and download passwords are sent out to participants for each event. Click on the above link or visit the MSTR website and select the MSTR Photo Gallery link to check out all the event pictures.

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BMW Motorcycles of Grand Rapids



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Fax: 616.530.8421
5995 South Division Grand Rapids, MI 49548
blane.kamp@bmwmcgr.com / www.bmwmcgr.com

Midwest Motorcyclist
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The Complete Guide to Motorcycling in the Midwest

August 2017
FREE



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2017 Harley-Davidson Tri-Glide trike

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- Book Review: Stealing Speed
- Classifying the Polaris Slingshot




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