



Michigan Sport Touring Report

May 2016

Editor – Ian Orr

Circuit of America Moto GP Races & the “Three Sisters”

By John Gazette

I have always wanted to go to a Moto GP race and this year finally ponied up. A good riding friend of mine, Tom Wells and I flew down on Wednesday afternoon of race week to meet a local friend, Chris Dempsey, in San Antonio for a little riding as well. Thursday morning, we rented what we could get – Harley Street Glide’s from Caliente Harley Davidson, and headed to the Texas Hill Country to the well-known “Three Sisters” Country Ranch Roads, 335, 336 and 337 - known throughout Texas as the Twisted Sisters!



After not riding for a couple of months, any motorcycle ride was a great one and this turned out to be a pretty good couple of days! Roads were decent, very little traffic and no cops.... Temperature was perfect and the scenery was not at all like the Texas I was expecting – significant elevation changes, nice clear flowing streams, lots of curves and plenty of sunshine. Stopped for

lunch at a cool, pole barn like bar – Frio Canyon Motorcycle Stop in Leakey.

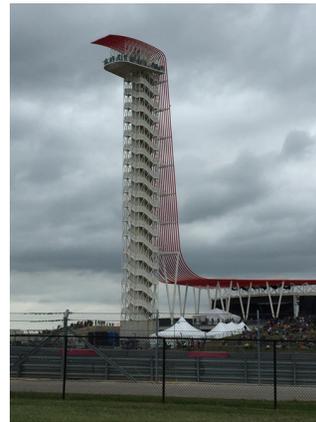


There were a few bikes but Chris says on the weekends, in the summer, the place is nuts. Nice views of the countryside out the open back end of the covered area and some pretty cool t-shirts and other local rider apparel. Ended up doing about 250 miles on the day and met up with friends for dinner at the JW Marriott - San Antonio TPC resort (stay there if you can afford it)! Friday was another ride day up towards Luckenbach

(never actually made it) with some really interesting scenery. Cool lunch stop at the Shade Tree in Blanco. These photos were taken near Kendalia off what was a driveway width ranch road that traversed all kinds of beautiful stream crossings and vast fenced-in ranches with animals including llamas, gazelles and free range cattle (got to be a bit careful when they are running along the side of the road with you). Chris's selection of roads was perfect - Enjoyable couple of days of riding!



Circuit of the Americas



The thing you notice first as you approach the racetrack is the very unusual tower – given Texas is fairly flat you start to see this a couple miles from the Track – 250 ft. tall with a glass floored observation deck near the top.

We paid the \$20 on Saturday and go up the tower to the glass floor observation deck – amazing and a must do if you go to the track. You have a 360 degree panoramic view of the track – we were up there for the Moto 2 qualifier and saw a whole new perspective of racing (pic below from the tower)



The track was opened in the fall of 2012 and has hosted a variety of car and motorcycle races since. It's a 3.48 mile track with 20 turns and a big hill coming off the front straight into the hairpin turn 1. It's a beautiful track to see a race as you have many vantage points (lots of grassy hills around various parts of the track as well as several grandstand sections) to watch the races unfold. We had seats between turn 15 and 16 with a great view of the back straight and turns 12-16.

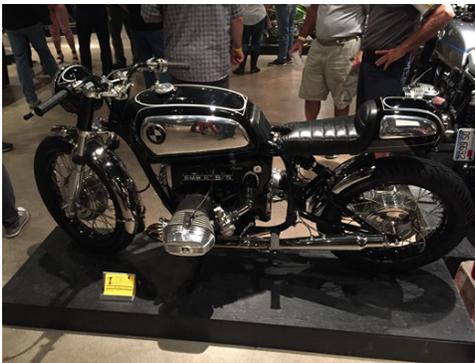
All the major Motorcycle brands had large product line displays with demo rides available but Ducati was over the top – huge area, music stage, gorgeous Ducati red clad women....

Motorcycle Insurance

By Maury Feuerman

This was my first Moto GP race and the one thing I absolutely loved was the sound of the bikes! It is loud and when they were racing, I did put earplugs in - special!

Saturday night we had a chance to go into Austin and attend one of the many events happening in the city – The Hand Built Motorcycle Show had many amazing one of a kind creations (was partial to a couple below) and the unbelievable “Wall of Death” carnival like fun....Nothing like a go cart and a motorcycle traveling around the inside wall of a giant wood barrel while we all hoot and holler from the top... Had a blast.....



For those of you who don't know me, my name is Maury Feuerman. I'm the guy that Gregg is always making fun of during our meetings! I currently run a division of the Ralph C. Wilson insurance agency in Southfield, Michigan that deals with commercial insurance.

During the past few years, as an avid motorcycle rider, I have been called upon by dozens of our fellow riders including a number of our current MSTR members to help them with insurance issues. Although personally I am not in a position to write motorcycle policies, I am always happy to be of assistance to a fellow club member.

Interestingly enough, from time to time, a handful of the same questions are asked of me from fellow riders. I thought for purposes of this newsletter you may find some of these questions and the commensurate answers interesting.

Let me give you a few examples of questions that have come up:

1. How do I get the best price for motorcycle insurance?
2. What is the Michigan Catastrophic Claims Association (MCCA) and why am I being charged \$150 every year for this on my insurance?
3. If I let someone else ride my bike am I covered?
4. In the event of an accident who's insurance pays for what?
5. What is Medical Coverage for and do I need it since I already have health care coverage provided by my employer?
6. Am I covered under my insurance while riding my bike during a track day?
7. What happens if want to test ride a motorcycle from a dealership am I covered under the dealers insurance?
8. Can I allow my son or daughter to ride my motorcycle under my insurance coverage?

For purposes of this newsletter I will select a topic or two each month and give you my thoughts regarding the answers. For example:

1. How do I get the best price?

When asked this question I usually turn to the rider and ask them to clarify if they are looking for the “best price”, “best insurance” or “best value”? Usually, but not always, best price is simply a function of getting what you pay for. Insurance is a contract to transfer risk. If you pay me something I am willing to protect you in the event of a loss up to a certain amount under very specific circumstances. Go around the table and ask each person what they are paying for their motorcycle insurance. I guarantee every answer will be different! Every risk is different, the age and driving record of the rider, the value of the motorcycle, and the type of motorcycle they are riding, and the amount of liability coverage they have and so on.

What most people don't know is that even from the same company with the same risk the pricing can vary considerably. Allstate, State Farm, Nationwide, Geico and Progressive all have their own unique ways of rating and underwriting motorcycle risk. Some will offer one price up to 45 days before your renewal and then a higher price if they quote closer to your renewal date. Some will offer one price online from their website but allow an agent for the same company to sell the same insurance for considerably less that is unless you have already registered online. Foremost insurance for example has a fondness for Ducati's and will rate them differently than Progressive or Geico and offer a much better rate considering the bike. In some cases as much as 50% less.

Bottom line, ask around and find others that have a similar bike. Find out who they are doing business with or talk to an agent. Buying a specific part for your bike or pair of gloves or tires online is easy because you know exactly what the product is that you are buying. Insurance is very different. I

have yet to find someone that has purchased motorcycle insurance online through a website that could not have received substantially better value dealing with a real person!

Be advised that the information contained in the above article is for entertainment and general informational purposes only and should not to be considered as legal or professional advice! If you act on it without seeking professional assistance for your specific problem your only recourse will be to contact the newsletter editor and bitch at him!



MSTR Heads Up

Here's a listing of some of the upcoming local events and meetings within the next few weeks.

With thanks to Bob Slobin he has setup an MSTR web page where he works at Continental Linen Service. Members can purchase embroidered logo wear with the MSTR logo. Visit the website here:

<http://www.clsimage.com/customwebsites/mstr/mstr.html>

MSTR EAST Breakfast Meeting

Saturday, May 28, 2016, @ 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. Gregg Mitchell will be moderating this meeting.

MSTR **WEST Breakfast Meeting**

Saturday, June 11, 2016, @ 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. "Banjo" Bart Reiter will be moderating this meeting. Breakfast will be available for \$11 plus tax & tip.

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.

20th annual Vintage Motorcycle Show @ Gilmore Car Museum

The Gilmore Car Museum, well known for its world class collection of nearly 400 historic automobiles, will shift its focus entirely to motorcycles on **Sunday, June 12th**. The date marks the 20th annual consecutive Vintage Motorcycle Show and Swap Meet held at the Museum and is considered one of the largest events of its kind in the Midwest.

Spectator admission to the Motorcycle Show is only \$12.00 per person and includes all museum exhibits at no extra charge – those under 11 are FREE! Located just 20 minutes northeast of Kalamazoo on M-43 and Hickory Road.



MSTR **2016 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. With the exception

of the MoArk and MR2 events all MSTR rides are limited to those who are current members of the MSTR. The full 2016 schedule is still in development. There are many rides scheduled and a few still being planned. Others will be posted here and on the MSTR website as the year unfolds.

2016 MSTR Mileage Program

All year

The MSTR will run an informal mileage program for MSTR members to track and compare their yearly miles with other members. To participate you need to do nothing more than record your motorcycle's starting mileage(s) for 2016 and then periodically send a mileage update to Ian at Communications@mstriders.com with the subject "Mileage update". Every time you send me an update I'll send an acknowledgement. If you don't hear back within a couple of weeks then I didn't get your e-mail. Go to the MSTR website (www.mstriders.com/) and visit the Events page for additional details.

2016 MSTR **Life's a Beach Grand Tour**

April 1 – December 1
Michigan

Get your motorcycle ready: oil change, new tires, scheduled maintenance completed and recreation pass on your Michigan registration. The Life's a Beach Grand Tour, has been open since April 1.

All of this year's checkpoints are at public beaches on the great lakes in Michigan. As in the last 2 years, I have 8 checkpoints in the lower peninsula and 6 in the upper peninsula. I have also picked 1 or 2 nearby points of interest as suggestions for extra credit. Those can be visited for 1 point each, or any other unique Michigan tourist trap, business, museum, point of interest or restaurant will also qualify for extra credit, with a maximum of 3 extra credit points per checkpoint. Additionally,

since this is the Michigan “Life’s a Beach” grand tour, I’m offering 10 extra credit points for anyone who gets a photo of him/herself relaxing on the beach (sitting in a collapsible camping chair, holding a camping cup, while wearing his/her riding gear). I will also organize a ride to a local beach for a group photo of same after a Saturday breakfast meeting during the summer. And, if we include a group photo of everyone who wears an Aerostitch in that repose, I have no doubt it would qualify for a cover photo for next year’s Aerostitch catalog.

Keith Danielson, the event organizer, will be making the official announcement and circulating a signup sheet at the April 23 breakfast meeting. If you can’t attend you can e-mail Keith at keith.danielson@wowway.com or if you signed up for Keith’s Grand Tour last year, he’ll send you the rider information packet via e-mail. If you’re not able to make the ride this year you can just delete the e-mail.

Rough Rider 1/2K

30+ riders and co-riders enjoyed a day of riding around Michigan visiting various covered bridges. Visit the MSTR photo gallery (<https://mstriders.smugmug.com/>) and navigate to the 1/2K gallery to view pictures of the day’s ride.

MR²

Michigan Renegade Mountain Ride

Despite dire predictions of days of soaking rains 56 riders spent four to six days riding on some of the best roads in the US. The weather witches were vanquished, with only a few spotty showers and one washed-out morning. Lesson learned? The Smoky Mountains force most weather to the north and south and 30% precipitation typically means all day sun. It was unseasonably cold at the beginning, which caused several riders to go searching for heavier clothing. Visit the MSTR photo gallery (<https://mstriders.smugmug.com/>) and

navigate to the 2016 MR2 gallery to view pictures from this year’s event. Come to this Saturday’s breakfast meeting to hear stories about great rides, good food, tired riders and worn out tires.

MSTR Roughrider VI

Washington Bound

Saturday, June 4, 2016

Riders, it's that time of year again. For the sixth time the annual MSTR Roughrider 1000 will begin at 4:00am the morning of June 4, 2016, and continue thereafter until completion of 1000 miles of continuous motorcycling, within 24 hours, less gas and a dining stop. The ride is approximately one month later than in previous years. We anticipate warmer weather and riding conditions more suited to your long distance riding pleasure.

This year’s ride, “Washington Bound” is a eastern foray to Frederick, Maryland, located at the Northwest boundary of our nation’s Capital, Washington, D.C. We will be riding from Michigan, through Ohio, West Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania. The outbound leg is generally to the east and the return route from the Capital in a Northwesterly direction.

The roads and scenery are beautiful especially on the eastern half of both legs. The route is approximately 1,065 miles and should be completed in about eighteen hours, including all stops. There will be a dining stop in Frederick, Maryland before the return leg.

As customary, the ride will meet IBA (Iron Butt Association) rules so that all riders who complete the ride may apply for a IBA Saddle sore Certificate and membership in the IBA. This ride does not require participants to speed for completion. A safe ride should be every participant’s first priority and riding goal.

Upon completion of the ride, as required, each participant will receive a MSTR Roughrider 1000 Certificate and commemorative shirt provided by John Horner of BMW of Southeast Michigan.

To assist in ride preparation and planning (certificates, shirts, etc.) I would appreciate, as soon as possible, the emailed name, address, t-shirt size and cell phone

number of all riders who intend to participate on the ride. In addition, there will be a "sign up" sheet available at the April and May breakfast meetings.

MANDATORY RIDERS MEETING:

There is a mandatory riders meeting on Wednesday, June 1, 2016 at 6:00 pm, at BMW of Southeast Michigan; pizza will be served and all details of the ride reviewed at that time.

If you have any questions, please contact Terry Odom at tjopc1@gmail.com

MSO

Mid South Odyssey

**Middlesboro, KY
June 16–19**

Cat Herder – Gregg Mitchell

Join us in Middlesboro, KY to ride some great roads in SE KY and NE Tennessee on Friday the 17th and Saturday 16th. The following hotel will be ride headquarters:

Sleep Inn & Suites

**Address: 1260 N 12th Street
Phone:(606) 576-7829**

Should they fill up, the following hotel is nearby.

Holiday Inn Express
Address: 1252 N 12th St
Phone:(606) 248-6860

There will be a **Mandatory "Rider's Meeting"** held at the Sleep Inn every evening, beginning on Thursday 16th at 9:00 PM, where we'll set up the riding groups, review the routes and prepare for the next day's ride.

If you want to participate - here's what you do -
1. Make your hotel reservations at one of the hotels without delay. There is NOT a block of rooms being "Held".

VERY IMPORTANT!

2. Let me know that you're planning on being there – Maps and directions will be distributed

by email ONLY to those whose name I have on record as attending.

Contact Gregg Mitchell at the following:

[1 of 4@mstriders.com](mailto:1_of_4@mstriders.com)

Phone 248-760-0841 (Cell)
248-377-8170 (Work)

BGB

Blue Grass Boogie

Morehead, KY

July 14– 17

Cat Herder – Gregg Mitchell

Join us in Morehead, KY to ride some great roads in Eastern Kentucky on Friday the 15th and Saturday 16th. I expect everyone will be homeward bound on Sunday the 17th. We'll be staying at the following Motel:

Hampton Inn

**500 Hampton Way
I-64 Exit State Route 32
Phone: 1-606-780-0601**

Should they fill up, or if you want a little less expensive room, there are plenty of other motels nearby.

There will be a **Mandatory "Rider's Meeting"** held at the hotel every evening, beginning on Thursday 14th at 9:00 PM, where we'll set up the riding groups, review the routes and prepare for the next day's ride. If you want to participate - here's what you do:

1. Make your hotel reservations at the hotel without delay. There is NOT a block of rooms being "Held".

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248-377-8170 (Work)

MSTR Newsletter & Website

The MSTR Newsletter and Website (www.mstriders.com/) belong to you, the members. Both of them 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 Dealer Members & News

BMW Motorcycles of SE Michigan
www.bmwmcsem.com/

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

We will be closed Saturday May 28, Sunday May 29 and Monday May 30 to observe Memorial Day. Please join us as we remember those who have served to ensure that we can enjoy the freedoms of our country. Freedom is not Free!

AN EVENING WITH NATE KERN

BMW Factory racer Nate Kern will be at our dealership on Wednesday June 1 to talk about his season and his race bikes. On Thursday evening he will join us for Bike Night in Royal Oak. That weekend he will be racing his competition R9T at Gingerman Raceway. Join us for as many of these events as possible. Wednesday evening's event starts at 6:30PM at the dealership.

BMW of Grand Rapids
www.bmwmcgr.com/

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

We will be closed Saturday May 28, Sunday May 29 and Monday May 30 to observe Memorial Day.

VINTAGE MOTORCYCLE SHOW AND SWAP
MEET

Join us at the Gilmore Car Museum, Sunday, June 12th! We'll be there with our demos, so stop by to take one for a ride. See you there!

Ducati Detroit
www.ducatidetroit.com/

XDIAVEL XPERIENCE TOUR



We are excited to announce that Ducati Detroit has been chosen for one of the locations to host the Ducati XDiavel Xperience Tour 2016! Join us on June 3rd, 4th and 5th for your opportunity to ride the new XDiavel and XDiavel S. We are still working on securing a location but will be announced as soon as possible. Check back as we continue to work on the details.

Fox Powersports
www.foxpowersports.com/

We are excited to announce our Fox Powersports Customer Appreciation Track Days for 2016. Each year we have seen more and more riders join us for their first time on the track to get the ultimate two wheel experience

CUSTOMER APPRECIATION DAY
Groups: Novice, Intermediate and Advanced
ONLINE REGISTRATION WILL BE AVAILABLE APRIL 1
 REGULAR TRACK DAY IS \$170
 FOX DAY \$110 INCLUDES LUNCH, DRINKS AND GATE FEE
 2 FOX TRACK DAYS \$200 - 3 FOX TRACK DAYS \$290

GRATTAN RACEWAY 7201 Lessiter Rd NE, Belding, MI 48809	FRIDAY JUNE 10 FRIDAY JULY 15
GINGERMAN RACEWAY 61414 Co Rd 388, South Haven, MI 49090	FRIDAY AUGUST 19 TRACK FEST WEEKEND!!!

Our customer appreciation track days are not only a great value, but they are a great way to make new friends and take your riding experience to the next level and do it in a safe and fun environment. Our team of experienced and passionate staff members are on site to ensure a remarkable experience and get you ready to roll whether you need help prepping your bike or need some one-on-one coaching to refine your skills.

In addition to purchasing our customer appreciation track days, we will cover the gate fee, lunch, drinks throughout the day and raffles. So whether you are new to the track or are experienced and passionate about the sport, join us this season for another round of heart pumping, adrenaline rushing two-wheel thrills with Fox Powersports!!!

Genthe Honda Powersports
www.genthehondapowersports.com/

Please patronize the following businesses owned by your fellow MSTR Members, whenever possible.



June 2016
FREE

Midwest Motorcyclist
Celebrating 18 Years
The Complete Guide to Motorcycling in the Midwest

Test Ride:
2016 Harley-Davidson Street Glide
Smooth, Cool & Fast

Also in this issue:
Destination Ride
Nelson Riggs
Tank Bag Review
Handlebar Tech Talk

Exclusive First Ride:
2016 Indian Springfield, Giant Killer?

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WELCOME TO CLS

CLS is a family owned business founded in Kalamazoo, Michigan in 1899. From then forward we have striven to be the best provider of linen services which was soon followed by uniform services, mats, mops, custom apparel, and facility products. We offer both rental and purchase options for all of our products as well as a range of laundry services for our linens and uniforms. Our goal is and always has been to provide the highest level of customer service with integrity.