



## Michigan Sport Touring Report

September 2019

Editor – Rachel Durling

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### Our First Adventure at Tip of the Mitt

By: Rachel Durling

This year was Max and I's first Tip of the Mitt ride and even with the weather forecast not being the greatest, it did not disappoint. Max had to work a half day on Thursday so we were not planning to do the ride up with everyone. We left Brighton at Noon on Thursday and went 75N until we got to Standish where we planned to get on the route to Bellaire that Bob Komjathy made. We stopped for gas at the exit in Standish and there was a Jerky store attached. We had to get some meats; we ended getting some delicious smoked garlic hunters sausages. We also saw Bob Komjathy's group ride by us at the gas station, we thought we might see them again on the route.

Max and I headed out on the route to Bellaire but the GPS wanted us to turn down a dirt road; it had rained most of the morning so it was quite muddy. We made our way around the dirt road and back on route. We ended up deciding to punch in our GPS to go straight to Bellaire with no freeways so that we would not get there too late. It ended up being a beautiful ride.

We arrived at the Bellaire Inn at about 4:30pm on Thursday evening along with many others. Bob's group showed up about an hour later. The Bellaire Inn is a quaint little inn that is very clean and super comfortable. I now can see why everyone loves going up there. We met Debbie the owner of the Bellaire Inn, checked

in, she offered us snacks and she had a cooler of water and beers to share. We ate dinner at Toonie's in downtown, which is a nice walk from the hotel.



The next morning the weather forecast showed rain until later morning so most people planned to sleep in a bit. We ended up having a good time with friends Thursday night. Slept in and had a great late breakfast in town at the Lunch Box. Max and I ended up doing our own little ride up to the Old Mission State Park at the top of the "ring finger" up 37 north of Traverse City. We saw signs for at least 20+ wineries, Jolly Pumpkin brewery is up there and many very beautiful homes. We rode along both coasts of the peninsula that had beautiful views of Grand Traverse Bay. We ended up getting back to the hotel pretty early on Friday and chatted with JT Pedersen for a while, it was good to catch up. We walked up to town again for dinner and all the restaurants were quite a bit busier. We grabbed a drink at Mammoth Distilleries. If you like this sort of thing, their spirits were amazing, I highly recommend it. We ate dinner with a group of our friends at the Corner Bistro; they have great food.



Final Destination. We headed back to Bellaire stopping to take photos along the way and we got back about 6:00 pm.



Saturday we rode with Bob K., Keith D. and Tom H. up to Drummond Island through the Upper Peninsula. It was quite windy that day so my first experience of riding over the Mackinaw Bridge was interesting. We rode along the shore of Lake Huron to get to DeTour Village in the UP to catch the ferry to Drummond Island. We did not time catching the ferry very well. It runs once an hour (kind of, they were not really following the schedule that they had posted) but it came a little sooner than that. It was \$7 round trip for a motorcycle to take the ferry.



We just ate at Subway Saturday night because the restaurants in town get so busy but we did end up at Mammoth Distillery again.

Sunday we took back roads to Stockbridge for All Clubs Day. It was a good turnout despite the rain forecast. It started raining in Stockbridge and we were rained on getting back to Brighton but that was the only rain that we got the whole weekend. It was a great long weekend riding motorcycles with amazing friends. We cannot wait to do it again.

We ate at the Port of Call Restaurant or the other sign said Gourmet Galley. It was a very interesting lunch stop; they had a little bit of everything not just food. They had a restaurant with Zingerman's sandwiches and coffee, delicious homemade soups, smoothies, a full bar, beer cooler, shoes, hunting gear, souvenir's, model airplanes, fudge and a lot more. The service was really good. I ended up buying 1.5 lbs. of fudge, they were good salespeople and the fudge is wonderful. On the ferry back we noticed a huge log truck waiting for the ferry as well. It felt a little like the movie

## A Hot-Rod Ducati Built From Spare Parts

*By Nick Ienatsch from Cycle World*

“Racebike evolution plus perspiration equals a street-smart masterpiece.”

Carol Zimmerman wanted to share this article that was featured in Cycle World on August 13, 2019 about her brother Brian Smith.

Please click the link below to read the full article.

[Hot rod Ducati built from spare parts.](#)

The article talks about how Brian started road racing with AHRMA (American Historic Racing Motorcycle Association) at age 56. After building a racebike, he noticed that he had most of the essential parts to build another street bike so he did just that.



“Do we ride for breakfast, or have breakfast so we can ride? Would you like some more coffee? No thanks, bikes are waiting, the sun is shining, pavement is curving, and we hope the highway patrolmen are still enjoying their donuts!” Brian Smith

A special thanks to **Rachel Durling** for the article and **Bob Komjathy** for some of his beautiful pictures featured this month. Also thanks to **Carol Zimmerman** for sharing her brother’s article in Cycle World.

**Remember...** All published articles earn a free breakfast, entry into the year-end newsletter drawing AND your fellow members and the newsletter editor will appreciate your articles. You will also earn points toward the **2019 MOTY Award!**



## MSTR Heads Up

Here is 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 Rachel Durling an e-mail at [Communications@mstriders.com](mailto:Communications@mstriders.com) with the details.

### MSTR EAST Breakfast Meeting

Saturday, September 28th, 2019, @ 9:00 AM

East breakfast meeting is at **George Murphy’s at the Creek (Now called COACH’S CORNER)**, 36000 W. Seven Mile Road, Livonia, MI 48152.

### MSTR WEST Breakfast Meeting

Saturday, October 12th, 2019, @ 9:00 AM

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

## MSTR ROUGHRIDER 1000 VIII

“Cumberland Mountain Bootleggers  
Run”

**Notice:** Please be advised that the Awards and T-shirts will be given out **first thing** on **September 28th** at the East MSTR meeting.



## MSTR 2019 Rides

Most 2019 rides are listed below. Please check the MSTR website for the list of the rides and events for rest of the year. The dates for the events have already been set and are listed on the Events page of the MSTR website ([www.mstriders.com](http://www.mstriders.com))



This year Keith Danielson's Grand Tour will take you on a Michigan journey to see some of our state parks at your own leisure throughout the spring, summer and fall.

You must have your pictures in to Keith by November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Please see MSTRiders.com under events for more information.

## Fall Colors Ride

October 3-6, 2019

This year our Fall Color Ride will return to Lewisburg, WV. As in the past, this will be a bit of a traveling event, as we will begin in Marietta, OH on Thursday evening with dinner and a rider's meeting. On Friday we'll split up into groups, and head south into West Virginia following some of our usual assortment of twisty bits of tarmac, and maybe some slightly

different ones, too arriving in Lewisburg on Friday afternoon.

Once there, you can remove some of the excess baggage from your motorcycle, because Saturday we'll enjoy some of the twisty treats that West Virginia and Virginia have to offer and return to the same place at the end of the day.

On Sunday, we'll ride a more direct route, though still with a good amount of interesting roads for the return to Marietta and back home.

Our Marietta accommodations will be at the Microtel Inn & Suites. They have a large parking area behind the hotel where we can leave trailers and tow vehicles. Most people will load the bikes back into the trailers after arrival in Marietta on Sunday and arrive back home on Sunday evening, though if you would like, you could stay another night in Marietta and make a more leisurely return home on Monday.

We have a block of rooms set aside at the Quality Inn & Suites. Call the hotel directly at (304) 645-7722 and tell them you're with the MSTR. Rooms will be \$88 per night for 1 King, or \$91 per night for 2 Queen beds. Don't delay if you want to attend, as the block of rooms will be released on September 4.

The Microtel Inn & Suites, Marietta telephone number is (740) 373-7373. We will have a block of rooms under 'MSTR'. The rooms will be available for booking after August 15. Call the hotel direct to book your room (or you can book though one of the online booking sites and may get a better rate)

## MSTR Newsletter & Website

The MSTR Newsletter and Website ([www.mstriders.com](http://www.mstriders.com)) belong to you, the riders. They both can only be as good and as interesting as you make them. If you have something to say about a ride, your bike,

perhaps a trip you are planning, whatever, send it in for the newsletter and/or website to:

Rachel Durling:

[communications@mstriders.com](mailto:communications@mstriders.com)

## MSTR Dealer Members & News

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**Ducati Detroit**  
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**Honda Suzuki of Warren**  
[www.hondasuzukiofwarren.com](http://www.hondasuzukiofwarren.com)

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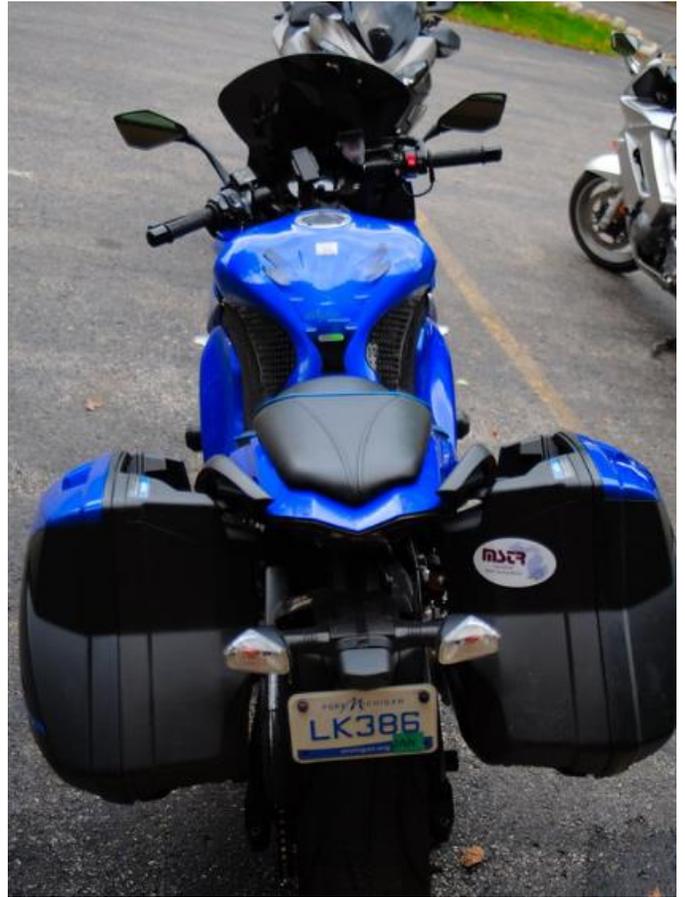
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## MSTR Photo Gallery

The MSTR maintains a Smug Mug 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.

### Pictures from Tip of the Mitt





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

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