



Michigan Sport Touring Report

December 2019

Editor – Rachel Durling

Restored Faith in Humanity

By Lynn Higbee

I do realize that there are many great people out there but Curt and I were able to experience a pay it forward from some very amazing people that restored our faith in humanity.

When we went on the Fall Color Tour ride, we decided to take the long way home. We weren't that far from Florida and it is one of the few states we have not ridden our motorcycles in yet so we decided that we would pop down for a quick visit. Since we had never been to the Keys we thought why not head down, we were right there. Let me say what a beautiful ride, we learned that October is the off time for the Keys so much to our elation there was very light traffic. We dealt with rain but didn't mind because it was 80/90 degrees. In fact when we were driving past the 'Welcome to the Sunshine State' sign it was pouring.



We stayed at a Best Western that was two blocks off Duval Street and it was our little slice of paradise for a few days. There is a free

transit system that takes you a block away from Duval Street all the way around Duval Street with 16 stops where you can be dropped off and picked up at any of the stops day and night. We had a great time; we even stayed a day longer than we planned because we enjoyed it so much. The trip out of the Keys was just amazing sunshine but enough clouds so the sun was not in our eyes. Let me say it's a good thing Florida is so nice because it is, as you all know, a very long state.

When we got to our hotel in Tallahassee Florida Curt's bike smelled hot. He checked it out and all the fluids were fine so we decided to keep an eye on it. We left in the morning and things went well for the first hour then Curt asked if the road felt really bumpy, I said I didn't think so but I looked at his bike and it was smoking. We were one mile from an exit so we limped it slowly to a gas station just off the exit.

It was 8:00am Saturday morning and the BMW dealers in Pensacola and Jacksonville both around 150 miles away did not open until 9:00 am so we left messages and waited with no response then found out they were in a different time zone and were an hour behind us so we waited another hour. Once we got a hold of them both advised we were too far away so they would not come and tow us to their dealership. Plan B got out the MOA Anonymous book and found 3 names within 20 miles of us. We got a call from one person; he would be back later that evening if we needed a truck and trailer. Onto plan C, we got a call from another MOA member he said he was 20 minutes away he would hook up his trailer and come get us. He took us to his home where he actually had a motorcycle shop with two lifts, so we unload the bike and put it on the lift

where Curt started tearing it down. He was pretty sure it was the drive shaft and it was. The only problem was the places he wanted to order the part from were closed until Monday.



Good thing we were five miles from a Holiday Inn because that was our home for the next five nights. While the weather at home got down into the 30's and got the first frost, we were able to enjoy the 90 degree weather around the pool at our hotel, bummer huh!



We got our part Wednesday evening put it on and were back on our way Thursday morning because of the generous hospitality of our new friends Chris & Susan Smith. They were so nice to have picked us up and taken us to their home shop with a motorcycle lift and additional tools, which ended up saving us about \$4,000! They would not take any money; all they asked is that we pay it forward. We do have and have had our number in the MOA book and will gladly pay it forward

anytime. We also did order and send them a nice Made in Michigan gift basket with a bunch of Michigan made goodies in it. All in all it was a great 3700 mile adventure.



A special thanks to **Lynn Higbee** for the article and pictures featured this month.

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 **2019/2020 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 with the details.

MSTR EAST Breakfast Meetings

Saturday, December 21st, 2019, at 9:00 am
Note: the next meeting is ACTUALLY a week early due to the Holidays

Saturday, January 25th, 2020, at 9:00 am
East breakfast meeting is at
COACH'S CORNER, 36000 W. Seven Mile
Road, Livonia, MI 48152.

MSTR
WEST Breakfast Meeting

Saturday, January 11th, 2020, @ 9:00 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. Keith Danielson will be moderating this meeting. Breakfast will be available for \$11 plus tax & tip.

*MSTR 2019 Member of the
Year Banquet*

The 2019 MOTY Banquet will be held on **Saturday, January 18 at Karl's Cabin** in Plymouth. Social Hour (cash bar) starts at 6:00 pm with dinner served at 7:00 pm followed by presentation of the awards for the year.

Dinner will be full service, with your choice of one of four entrées, followed by a dessert table provided by one of our dealer members. When dinner is complete, we'll be presenting the awards for the season just completed, culminating with the MOTY award. There will be door prizes throughout the evening. There will be room for 100 attendees in the banquet hall. Overflow can be accommodated in the regular dining room, but you join the festivities in the banquet hall during the meet and greet as well as during the awards. Make your reservation soon so you can be seated with all of your friends.

Please reserve your place soon, see a few pages below for your reservation form. Please RSVP with full payment by December 15. You can mail your reservation to the address shown on the form, or you can bring your completed

reservation form and payment to any of the remaining meetings this year. We'll also have a limited number of forms at each of the breakfast meetings. We hope to see you at the banquet on January 18.



For more information on this year's 2020 IMS shows and ticket prices see <https://motorcycleshows.com/>.



MSTR 2020 Rides

Unfortunately the 2019 rides are done for the year. Please check the MSTR website for the list of the rides and information for upcoming 2020 rides. (www.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 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)

MSTR Dealer Members & News

BMW Motorcycles of SE Michigan
(www.bmwmcsem.com/)

BMW of Grand Rapids
(www.bmwmcgr.com/)

Ducati Detroit
(www.ducatidetroit.com/)

College Bike Shop
(www.collegebikeshop.com/)

Honda Suzuki of Warren
(www.hondasuzukiofwarren.com)

BMW Detroit
(www.bmwdetroit.com)

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.



MICHIGAN SPORT TOURING RIDERS AWARDS BANQUET

RESERVATION FORM



Date: **Saturday, January 18, 2020**
 Time: **6 - 7 PM - Cash Bar / Meet and Greet**
7 PM - Dinner Service
8:15 PM - Awards Presentation

Location: **Karls Cabin Restaurant**
6005 Gotfredson Road
Plymouth, MI 48170

DINNER MENU

Each entrée includes vegetable, potato, tossed salad w/ choice of two dressings, bread and butter, coffee and /or tea
 Tax and Tip are included in the pricing shown

	# Req'd	Each	=	Subtotal
A Filet Mignon <i>8oz center cut, cooked medium, zip butter</i>	_____ X	\$36.00	=	_____
B Salmon Chardonnay <i>7oz salmon, topped w/white wine, lemon & caper beurre blanc</i>	_____ X	\$24.00	=	_____
C Pork Chops <i>Twin 6oz boneless pork chops marinated in olive oil, minced garlic & spices</i>	_____ X	\$21.00	=	_____
D Chicken Picatta <i>6oz breaded natural chicken breast, piccata w/artichokes, capers, lemon</i>	_____ X	\$21.00	=	_____
		TOTAL		_____

DINNER CHOICE

(Circle one letter per name - see choices below)

FIRST and LAST NAME

	Filet	Salmon	Pork Chops	Chicken
_____	A	B	C	D
_____	A	B	C	D
_____	A	B	C	D
_____	A	B	C	D

The MSTR will provide a \$10 cash discount, paid at the banquet, for every MSTRider who attends the banquet and purchases one entrée

Due to limited seating, dinner service is limited to the first 100 submitted reservations. If we exceed 100 these attendees will be notified, their payment refunded and are welcome to join us at the Cash Bar/Meet & Greet plus the Awards Presentation and will be seated in the main restaurant area during the dinner service.

RESERVATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED PRIOR TO DECEMBER 31ST, 2019

Please send your reservation form with payment to:

Ian Orr
 420 Summit Boulevard
 Lake Orion, MI 48362

If paying by check - make the check out to Ian Orr



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

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CJ'S HEAD & HOLE SHOP

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248-647-9000

Author of the The Traffic Ticket Maze
<http://statebar.net/trafficticket.pdf>

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