



Michigan
Sport Touring Report

September 2021

Editor – Rachel Durling

TOTM Wrap Up

By: Peter Stephan

We had a great time at this year's TOTM. Why? Because we were able to ride our motorcycles in northwest Michigan with glorious weather to boot. Riders came from various home locations to spend their nights at the Bellaire Inn.

The ride Thursday was a splendid sunny day. No worries about rain that was for sure. Many of us took an eastern route to ride up. Pinconning, South Branch, Mio were places along the way. Doing so took the whole day but we arrived in time to freshen up and participate in the riders meeting. As a bonus for staying at the Bellaire Inn, Debbie Dailey provided an array good thing to nosh on as we had our first refreshments for the evening. Many of us took the walk into town to enjoy a meal at Shorts.



We had determined who was riding with whom on Friday. The Tunnel of Trees and Cross Village was a popular route this day. Some of us took a loop to the east. Others took a northeasterly route to Petoskey. We all found a tasty spot for lunch.

After our riders meeting at six were we resurrected introductions to get to know each other better and what we ride, and shared stories of our day. Then we split up and went to dinner. Some of us went to the Corner Bistro.

It's Saturday morning and the sun was out, a little cooler, and the birds were chirping a "good day" to us all. Some of us walked to M88 Morning Grind to have a tasty start and a good cup of coffee. Many of us took off and spent the day riding the routes provided by Bob Komjathy to Northport, Leland, Glen Arbor, and Frankfort. Our riders took most of the day to enjoy one of our best weather days we ever had in the 13 years we have had this event based in Bellaire.

We met one more time to share with the group what our day was like and then took off for our dinners. Debbie Dailey joined us for a bit. This gave us a good opportunity to thank her for kindness for our stays here. Later, some of us travelled to the Blue Pelican in Central Lake for a nice steak or a piece of fish.

Sunday we all split for home. I'm sure we all took our favorite routes to enjoy one more glorious day in Michigan. I know I did. Stopped near Stanton to get that first gallon of cider and some apples. Thank you all for participating in this year's TOTM.



UNCR II (Up North Camping Ride) July 11-15th, 2021

By: Bob Komjathy

What to do when the stifling heat makes it harder to wear A.T.G.A.T.T.? Head up to the Upper Peninsula of Michigan and take in a ride with your friends for a few days. We did a scenic run to some waterfalls and completed all the one-roomed schoolhouses in the U.P. and camped along the way. Amazingly, the weather couldn't have cooperated any more than it did on this trip. No rain day or night for the entire route. Pete Beightol, Steve Ickes, Dave Burr, Ken Snodgrass, and yours truly made up the MSTR event roster. More were signed up, but some bad local storms had some with tree damage and no power leading up to the trip. One lame rider who was still recovering from his last adventure had to also watch from the sidelines.



On the ride up we departed from our most favorite gas station, Brighton Meijers. Within a couple of miles, we were on twisty back roads and away from traffic all the way up to Saint Louis, MI. where we did get on US 127 for about 60 miles up to Grayling, Mi. A gas stop in St. Louis brought a city police officer into the gas station to check us out (he rides too) and was curious to where we were going.



Lunch was at Gobblers of Waters. For the remainder of the day it would be all backroads. Stopping at the Red School in Maple River to catch one of the lower peninsula checkpoints near our intended path. Crossing the Big Mac, we went directly to the Moran Schoolhouse, took our pics and then to the federal campground where we found our campsites and set things up. We waited for Ken Snodgrass to arrive as he departed earlier than we started out to catch all the east side northern schoolhouses on his way to meet up with us. Once Ken Arrived and set up, we all rode back into St. Ignace for dinner. The Brevort Federal Campground, although lacking showers really looks and feels like a state park including paved access and campground roads.



The longest day- Monday would take us to Tahquamenon Falls, Alger Falls, the Paulson Schoolhouse in Au Train, the Eagle Harbor schoolhouse, and Fort Wilkins State Park for our next night's stay. Lunch today was a quick stop at Miner's Pasty in Munising for one of the best pasties made in the U.P. Dinner was in Copper Harbor.



The shortest day was Tuesday, it would be an easy day. Set up camp not too far away at Ontonagon Twp. Park, do another schoolhouse and visit Bond Falls. Getting out of the Keweenaw early and no decent place yet open for breakfast, we had our saddest meal on the trip and had to settle for a McDonald, not even a place to sit down other than a sharp rock.



Later, we went over to a suburb of Ironwood in Erwin Twp. to visit the Central Schoolhouse where we met the newly elected Township Clerk Betty Perkis who was originally from Metro Detroit. She was thrilled that all these motorcycles dropped in to see the now township hall, Central School. Being a former schoolteacher, she was happy to open the school to bring us inside and give us a full tour of the building's history.



She was kind enough to direct us to another schoolhouse (extra credit) that was shortly to be moved next to the Central school. The foundation for it was curing as we arrived. Lunch in Eagle River at a local gas station/restaurant (D&S) which turned out to be a fairly decent meal before heading up US45 to Bond Falls. You know me and my camera... had to take some bridal veil shots of the falls. Back to Ontonagon Twp and a good dinner in downtown. Drinks, snacks and munchies for the campsite, we all relaxed and watched the sunset on Lake Superior.



Making the turn towards home on Wednesday, we would catch the last two U.P. Schoolhouses, Baumgartner in Caspian, MI and the Hennessey School in the Garden Peninsula. The Baumgartner school is in a historical park with several other buildings from the same period of mining towns. After the final schoolhouse was completed, Pete Beightol departed the group and headed back home to honor family commitments. The rest of us set up the last night of camp. Our last night on the road was to at the Fayette Historical State Park and campground. After dinner, we took a stroll through the old foundry town before heading off to bed.



On Thursday we became trolls again as we headed back below the Bridge. In Mackinaw City we stopped for gas and to say good-bye to Steve Ickes who was going down the northwestern Michigan coastline to get his last 2 schoolhouses. 5 of us completed the entire Michigan Grand Tour on this trip. The last stop for Ken, Dave and I was in Pinconning for lunch. We split up near US 23 and I-96. Another great camping ride in the books.



A special thanks to **Peter Stephan and Bob Komjathy** for their articles 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 **2021 MOTY Awards!**



MSTR Heads Up

Here is a listing of some of the upcoming local events and meetings within the next few months. If you know of a local motorcycle event in Michigan or Ontario the MSTR would be interested in send Rachel Durling an e-mail to Communications@mstriders.com with the details.

MSTR East "Breakfast" Meetings

Our East Side Breakfast meeting will be on September 25th, 2021, at 9:00am at Coach's Corner at Fox Creek Golf Course at 36000 W Seven Mile Rd, Livonia, MI 48152.

We will be having breakfast again so come hungry and bring cash! Breakfast is \$13 and we need to collect it at the door.

MSTR West Breakfast Meetings

Our next West Side MSTR meeting will be on October 9th, 2021, at the Keiser's Kitchen at 700 E. Main St., Lowell, MI at 9am.



MSTR 2021 Rides



Please check the MSTR website for an updated list of the rides and events for 2021. If you are interested in volunteering, please send an email to the address below. A complete list of events is on the Events page of the MSTR website (www.mstriders.com).

Note: MSTRider membership is required to attend a MSTR riding event. We will not be able to add your name to an event sign-up list unless you are a current MSTRider or until your New MSTRider Form or MSTRider Renewal form and fee are received. Go to www.mstriders.com, then navigate to the Resources page and scroll down to the **New MSTRider Form** or the **MSTRider Renewal Form** if you would like to become a member or need to renew your membership.

mr2 Redo + Fall Color Ride '21

September 25th to October 3rd, 2021

We have three options for Fall Color Rides this year. Normally we would have Fall Colors be just a long weekend ride and if that is all you have time for then you can join because you have choices on where and how long you would like to ride this year.

Option 1: MR2 Redo plus the Fall Color Ride

Ride or trailer to Waynesville, NC to participate in the MR2 Redo and stay at the Best Western Smoky Mountain Inn. Towards the end of the week ride or trailer to Lewisburg, WV via Marietta or straight to Lewisburg to participate in Fall Color Ride and stay at the Quality Inn Lewisburg. You can set the dates at each event to fit your schedule. See below for details.

Option 2: MR2 Redo

mr2 Redo

Michigan Renegade Mountain Ride
September 25th to October 3rd, 2021
Waynesville, NC

There will be two days of travel and up to five days of riding on some of the best motorcycle roads in the US. We stay at one location and, each day, chose from any one of 20 different routes. Most MSTRiders will ride 1,000 to 1,500 miles so be sure to have good tires with lots of tread.

The ride begins in Waynesville, NC at the mandatory rider's meeting at the hotel on Sunday, May 9th at 8pm to sign waivers and put riding groups together. The rider's meetings continue each evening until Thursday.

The hotel's remote location ensures a quiet and relaxing stay. Participants can bring or purchase food to make their own onsite breakfasts and dinners or drive/ride 5-10 minutes to one the many restaurants in Waynesville. There is an onsite BBQ grill available for our use.

To join us for **mr2 Redo** send an email to Ian as noted below or sign up at an upcoming meeting.

Event information including hotel & local restaurant information, Rider Packages and GPS routes will only be provided to those who have signed up. Be sure to make your hotel reservations early as there are only eight rooms blocked. MSTR room rate is \$80/night + tx.

Ride **HQ:** **All** **week**
Best Western Smoky Mountain Inn 130
Shiloh Trail, Waynesville, North Carolina 28786,
Phone: 828-456-4402

Event Organizer: Ian Orr
Email: keithmdanielson@gmail.com

Option 3: Fall Color Ride

Fall Color Ride '21
September 31st to October 3rd

This year our Fall Color Ride returns at the end of September to the beginning of October. As has been tradition, this is somewhat of a traveling event, as we will begin in Marietta, OH on Thursday evening, Sep 30 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 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, Oct 3, we'll ride a more direct route, though still with a good number of interesting roads for the return to Marietta and back home. Most people will load the bikes back into the trailers after arrival in Marietta on Sunday and arrive back home on Sunday evening.

To sign up for the Fall Color Ride, send an email to Keith as noted below or sign up at an upcoming meeting.

We'll be there along with the MSTA FCR. If you want to get the MSTA routes, you can register by mailing Syd Mayes at touringman5@gmail.com. There is no cost to register with the MSTA, and you don't need to be an MSTA member.

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. There is no block of rooms, so if you want to go, just call the Microtel directly at (740) 373-7373 to reserve your room. Use your AAA or AARP discount for their best rate.

In Lewisburg, call the number below. To get the MSTA group rate at the Quality Inn, see the MSTA FCR website at www.msta-se.com/fcr.

Quality Inn & Suites
178 Coleman Dr, Lewisburg, WV 24901 (304)
645-7722

Event Organizer: Keith Danielson
Email: keithmdanielson@gmail.com

2021 Michigan One Room Schoolhouse Grand Tour All Year

The MSTR grand tour returns for 2021 with a visit to one room schoolhouses. It is estimated that at one time there were over 7,200 one room schoolhouses in Michigan. Today, the Michigan One Room Schoolhouse Association (MORSA) has a directory of over 7,000 of these one room schoolhouses that is searchable by county or by school name. Fourteen of those have been selected as our checkpoints for 2021, though you can likely see many more as you ride through the countryside.



To sign up for the grand tour, simply send your *name, email, and telephone number*, to Keith Danielson at keithmdanielson@gmail.com, or sign up at any one of our meetings in Ionia for the west side, or Novi or Livonia for the east side to get the information package to complete the tour. The grand tour is done at your convenience as your schedule permits. The checkpoints can be done in any order between now and November 21. It provides you with an excuse to go for a ride with a destination and purpose in mind. Whether you do all 14 with a

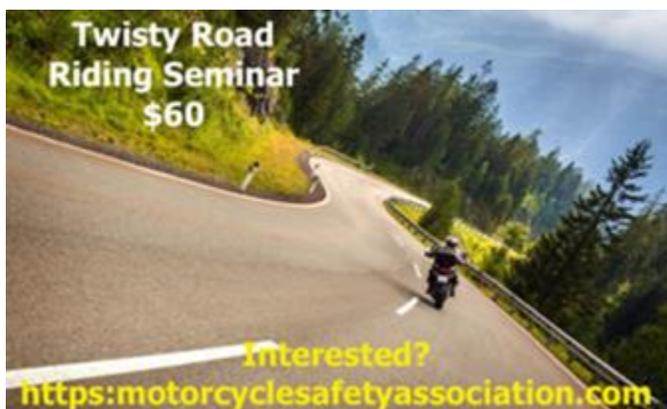
bunch of extras, or if you only do one, it doesn't really matter. The only thing that really matters is that you get out on your motorcycle and enjoy a nice ride. To qualify for a finisher's award, you need to send your picture proofs no later than November 21.

We hope you will join us this year to get out to find these 14 schoolhouses. Who knows what other sights, sounds, smells, and history you might find while doing so? You might find a few other pieces of Michigan history, culture, culinary, or scenic beauty along the way, even if your readin', writin' and 'rithmetic are a bit rusty.

Twisty Road Riding Seminar

By: *Bill Webb*

Reminder to those who have already taken the Twisty Road Seminar, one training slot in each seminar is held back for those who have taken the seminar previously who want a free refresher. That list is created on a first-to-request basis. Therefore, if you want to retake the seminar this season, send me an e-mail. webb@motorcyclesafetyassociation.com



For those not familiar with the Twisty Road Seminar program, it was started in 2019 by formation of the Motorcycle Safety Association, a non-profit corporation that has since been determined to be a charity under Section 501(c)(3) of the I.R.S. code. More information about the program and what others who have taken the seminar have said about the program can be seen at:

<https://motorcyclesafetyassociation.com/>

If you may be interested in signing-up, you can learn more about the program at the website link above and you can sign-up online at: <https://motorcyclesafetyassociation.com/sign-up-for-training>

Because of the Motorcycle Safety Association's charity status, Amazon has agreed to donate 1/2 of 1% of the Amazon purchase amounts people make. Your participation in this program is without cost to you. It is a simple two-step process, first go to: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/84-3799306> where you acknowledge the amount above will be donated to support the Association, without cost to you. Then when you make future purchases, you need only bookmark or start typing: **Smile.amazon.com** instead of Amazon.com and 1/2 of 1% of your purchases will be donated to the Association. This no cost to you way to support the program will certainly be appreciated. If you sign up on this Amazon program, please drop me a note and let me know. Thanks.

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

For Your Information

Regarding politics, the MSTR does not and shall not support any political party. Political discussions are not allowed during MSTR meetings or events.

Regarding human rights, the MSTR does not and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, gender expression, age, national origin, disability, marital status, sexual

orientation or military status in any of its activities.

You are free to have whatever political views you desire, but please leave them at home or on Facebook. Please don't bring them to the MSTR.

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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.



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

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 www.bellacorse.com



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