



## Michigan Sport Touring Report

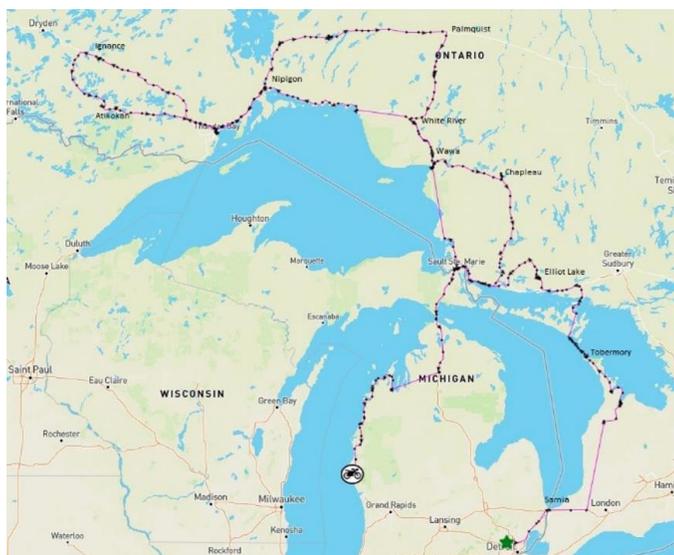
November 2021

Editor – Rachel Durling

### Roy's Color Tour

By: Ken Snodgrass

I had the great pleasure of joining our Canadian friend and member, Roy Winseck, on a 2,800-mile, 9-day color tour of Ontario. Roy and I were able to enjoy the peak of the fall color under blue skies and perfect riding temperatures. Riding in Ontario is always a delight – you will find good roads with spectacular vistas, helpful and pleasant folks you meet along the way and interesting and sometimes quirky stops.



After crossing into Ontario at Sarnia, I met up with Roy at the Timmy's in Stathroy and we headed north to Owen Sound where the entertaining riding began. We followed the Niagara Escarpment up to Tobermory where we boarded the Chi Cheemaun Ferry to Manitoulin Island where "up North" Ontario starts. Our only stop on the island was the Ten

Mile Point Trading Post where we enjoyed a remarkable view of the North Channel, and I found a gift for my wife – a beautiful quill basket. With this important task out of the way, I was able to enjoy the ride for the next week knowing my wife would be pleased with her gift when I returned home.



Our route took us to Elliot Lake which was a uranium mining boom town in the 50's. Forced to reinvent itself in the 90's when the mines closed, the town is now a retirement mecca. While each town in Ontario is unique, they all share one characteristic – a mascot proudly displayed as you enter town. In Elliot Lake it is a model of an atom; Wawa has its well-known Canada Goose; Hornepayne has its 3 bears, but my personal favorite is the world's largest snowman in Beardmore. Even as the town is suffering a slow and painful decline, their local pride shows through in the careful maintenance of this awesome attraction. In addition to a mascot, nearly every town has an indoor curling sheet and hockey rink along with some unique local foods. I wasn't brave enough to try the pizza puck and I'll leave it to you to enjoy the beavertail pastry in Tobermory.



Well enough about our trip – here are a couple of rides and a few tips that you may consider:

Windsor/Sarnia-> Tobermory-> Elliot Lake-> Sault Ste. Marie

This is a 2–3-day trip and a long way around route to get to the UP. While this section of Hwy17 is a little dull, the Hwy 108->639->546 loop to Elliot Lake is a real joy.

Wawa-> Nipigon-> Palmquist-> White River-> Wawa

A two-day ride that includes the best of Hwy 17 along Lake Superior. There is a fair amount of truck traffic as you travel back east on Hwy 11, but the scenery is striking. Hwy 631 to White River is a gem of a road you'll have all to yourself.

Thunder Bay-> Ignace-> Atikoran-> Thunder Bay

This is a long one day or a pleasant 2-day ride. While heading west on Hwy 17 is a little flat and straight, the turn south on Hwy 622 opens to big sweepers, rolling elevation changes and glorious views of crystal blue lakes. This is another road you'll have all to yourself. If you do decide to make this a 2-day trip, I recommend the Sapawe Hotel in Atikoran. The hotel hostess cooks and serves both dinner and breakfast and offers use of a canoe on the nearby lake to her guests. Ask for a cabin if they are available.



From Elliot Lake we continued to Wawa then along the north shore of Lake Superior on Hwy 17 to Thunder Bay. This city is all hustle and bustle with lots of new construction and roads. Next, we made a big loop to the northwest heading out on Hwy 17 and then returning to Thunder Bay via Hwy 622 and 11. Backtracking along Hwy 17 to Nipigon, we traveled north and east along Hwy 11 to Palmquist and then south on Hwy 631 to White River and on to Wawa.

Most all the land we crossed is part of the Canadian Shield which consists of ancient bedrock that has been scoured by the glaciers leaving large outcroppings of igneous stone and lots of lakes, rivers and swamps. Blue skies, clear lakes and peak fall color made for spectacular riding. On our last day riding together, Roy and I left Wawa on Hwy 101 heading east to Chapeau and then south on Hwy 129 – Ontario's Tail of the Dragon. Roy then headed south to Manitoulin Island and then back to Windsor. I headed west to the Soo where I crossed over to the UP and then down along Lake Michigan to pick up a few more locations for the Grand Tour.

### Sault Ste. Marie-> Wawa-> Chapleau-> Sault Ste. Marie

This is a 2-day loop that includes views that make Hwy 17 famous and Hwy 129, Ontario's Tail of the Dragon. While it isn't quite the road you've experienced in North Carolina, fall color here is second to none.

Following are a couple of tips that maybe useful in planning your Ontario ride:

### Crossing into Canada and returning to the USA

This is easy if you do your homework. You'll need your usual proof of citizenship and proof of identity, plus proof of COVID inoculation, a negative PCR COVID test given within 72 hours, and completion of the questions provided on the ArriveCAN phone app. I got my COVID test at CVS – results were available in about 36 hours. It took about 5 minutes to clear customs coming and going and there was no traffic at either border crossing.

### Make Wawa as your travel base

Wawa has several motels and restaurants and is close to some of the best roads. I'd recommend the Parkway Hotel and the Kinniwabi Pines Restaurant (you'll need reservations.) Both are located on Hwy 17 just south of Wawa.

### Late September may be the best time to make this trip

Crowds are down, days are still relatively long, the weather can be pleasant, the mosquitoes have largely disappeared, and the colors are great. Let me know if you'd like more info about our trip.

I'd like to thank Roy Winseck who did all the planning for the trip – Roy developed the routes, located hotels and made the reservations, and found gas, attraction and restaurant stops. Thanks again Roy!

A special thanks to **Ken Snodgrass** for his 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 **2021 or 2022 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](mailto:Communications@mstriders.com) with the details.

## MSTR East Breakfast Meetings

**Our East Side Breakfast meeting will be on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday, on December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021 due to Christmas at Coach's Corner, 36000 W Seven Mile Rd, Livonia, MI 48152 at 9am.**

## MSTR West Breakfast Meetings

**Our next West Side MSTR meeting will be on December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at the Alibi Bar & Grill, 1394 East Riverside Dr, Ionia, MI, 48846 at 9am.**

Please email Gala at [gschip@me.com](mailto:gschip@me.com) to let her know that you will be there for breakfast, so that she can plan to have enough food for everyone.



## MSTR 2021/2022

## Rides and Updates

Please check the MSTR website for a tentative list of the rides and events for 2022 ([www.msriders.com](http://www.msriders.com)). We have completed all our scheduled riding events for 2021.

Starting in 2022 we'll be adding local weekend day rides around Michigan and surrounding states, stay tuned for details. We're also working on our 2021 MOTY banquet which will take place in January or February of 2022.

### 2021 Michigan One Room Schoolhouse Grand Tour All Year

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.



The deadline to send your pictures to Keith is fast approaching. **To qualify for a finisher's award, you need to send your picture proofs no later than November 21. That's this coming SUNDAY!**

## 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. [wwebb@motorcyclesafetyassociation.com](mailto:wwebb@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 ½ 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.

**BMW Motorcycles of SE Michigan**  
[www.bmwmcsem.com/](http://www.bmwmcsem.com/)

---

**BMW of Grand Rapids**  
[www.bmwmcgr.com/](http://www.bmwmcgr.com/)

---

**Ducati Detroit**  
[www.ducaticetroit.com/](http://www.ducaticetroit.com/)

---

**College Bike Shop**  
[www.collegebikeshop.com/](http://www.collegebikeshop.com/)

---

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

---

**BMW Detroit**  
[www.bmwdetroit.com](http://www.bmwdetroit.com)

---

## **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)

## **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.

## **MSTR Dealer Members**

## **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.

Chip Ashton

## CJ'S HEAD & HOLE SHOP

Head & Boring Service for 2 & 4 cycle engines

248-683-6344

1140 Shady Lane ♦ Waterford, MI 48327

## BellaCorse

SEL-MOTION MOTORSPORTS MARKETING  
POB 760403, LATHRUP VILLAGE, MI 48076  
TEL: 248.569.2850 FAX: 309.422.2407  
[www.bellacorse.com](http://www.bellacorse.com)



MICHAEL SELMAN  
sales@bellacorse.com

1-248-853-4333

## Glenn V Brechner Welding, Inc.

303 S. Grey Rd  
Auburn Hills, MI 48326

web site [www.mywelder.net](http://www.mywelder.net) e-mail [gvbweldinginc@aol.com](mailto:gvbweldinginc@aol.com)

"metal welded or brazed repair or production"

# OZONE BIKE WORKS

Dave "O" Ostaszewski  
State Certified Master Motorcycle Mechanic  
We service all makes, models, foreign and domestic.

Union Lake, MI • 313.663.2836  
[daveo@ozonebikeworks.com](mailto:daveo@ozonebikeworks.com) • [ozonebikeworks.com](http://ozonebikeworks.com)

### OUR COMPLETE LIST OF PERSONALIZED SERVICES

- Mechanical repair and maintenance of all brands
- Cylinder boring and valve-jobs
- Carburetor cleaning, restoration and synchronizing
- Plastic and metal repair
- OEM, powder coating, replica and custom painting
- Accessory installations (GPS, electrical, lights, exhaust and suspension)
- Tire changing and disposal
- Free pick-up and delivery within 20 miles
- Servicing sport, dirt, touring and cruiser bikes.



WILLIAM W. WEBB, PRIVATE ATTORNEY  
248-647-9000  
Author of the The Traffic Ticket Maze  
<http://statebar.net/trafficticket.pdf>

Get a GRIP!

PETE MEYER

HAMMERGRIPS  
CUSTOM CUT TANK GRIPS

[bighammer@chartermi.net](mailto:bighammer@chartermi.net)

(231) 499-7935

1800 Nelson Rd.  
Traverse City, MI 49686





**HONDA SUZUKI**  
of Warren

**SUZUKI** **HONDA** **HONDA**  
Power Equipment

30822 Ryan Rd Warren MI 48092, Just South of 13 Mile

Parts/Sales info@hondasuzukiofwarren.com Service  
(586)751-1200 www.hondasuzukiofwarren.com (586)751-1010



**DUCATI DETROIT** 248.792.8999

MICHIGAN'S EXCLUSIVE DUCATI DEALER

33828 Woodward Ave  
Birmingham, MI 48009 [DucatiDetroit.com](http://DucatiDetroit.com)



**BMW MOTORCYCLES**

**SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN**



**CLS**



**College**  
Bike Shop



the  
**Alibi**

**BMW Motorcycles of Grand Rapids**



Blane Kamp  
General Manager

616.530.6900  
Fax: 616.530.8421  
5995 South Division Grand Rapids, MI 49548  
blane.kamp@bmwmcgr.com / www.bmwmcgr.com



**BMW**  
MOTORCYCLES  
of DETROIT

1301 S. Rochester Rd., Suite B, Rochester Hills, MI 48307  
[www.bmwdetroit.com](http://www.bmwdetroit.com) (248) 402-4010