



*Michigan*  
*Sport Touring Riders Report*

April 2023

Editor – Rachel Durling

## MoArk15 Recap

By: Keith Danielson

MoArk 2023 will go down in history as one of the best. Twenty-three riders, including one member from Ohio, showed up for a fantastic three days of riding in the Ozarks this year. The week started with two separate groups who headed down on the Sunday preceding the official start of the event to get in a bit of riding and touring in the area. Several more riders arrived on Tuesday for one extra day of riding, and the last riders arrived at the Holiday Inn Express in Farmington Missouri for the official start of our first riding event for the year. I trailered down with Paul Drewry, arriving in Farmington on Tuesday afternoon.



After our initial riders' meeting on Tuesday evening, the 12 riders in Farmington split into 2 groups for Wednesday. Joining me on Wednesday were Joe Sadler, Craig Blogin, Paul Drewry, Tom Hudson, and Mike Fischer. We set out at about 8:30 for the 225 mile local loop under a cloudless blue sky and temperatures nearing 60 degrees F. After a long winter, we

worked on getting our heads back into riding twisty roads at a nice pace, as we took Mo-C and Mo-K to Ellington where we stopped for gas and a break. From there, we enjoyed the sweeping turns on Mo-106 on the way to J&B's Olde Tyme restaurant for lunch - the lunch special of BBQ meatloaf, mashed potatoes and corn was delicious. After lunch, we started up Mo-19 and stopped about 13 miles later to visit the Round Spring. Shannon county is rife with springs that feed the numerous streams. Round spring is in a sink-hole that is nearly perfectly round – go figure. It has an average flow of 26 million gallons of water per day. The water comes out of the ground and goes into a natural tunnel, emerging a short distance away before flowing into the Current River. After visiting Round Spring, we remounted the motorcycles and continued up Mo-19, and Mo-A over to Bunker, then Mo-KK, Mo-32, Mo-DD, Mo-C and Mo-P to Potosi for fuel and to hydrate, before returning to Farmington.

Thursday proved to be another perfect day for riding. My group gained Rick Wilder and Tim Horton, and lost Craig, Tom and Mike. We chose the 305 mile route, which took us back to Potosi, Mo-P, Mo-C, Mo-DD, and Mo-32 out to Salem, for our morning fuel and rest stop. From there we headed south on Mo-19, through the most entertaining section of curves on Mo-19 to Eminence, then the vertical curves further south, on our way to lunch at the Riverbend restaurant in Mammoth Spring. There we were able to watch the muskrats swimming in the river as we ate another great lunch, before heading south on Ar-9. After our gas stop in Salem, Paul set off for Mountain Home and some trout fishing on the White River, while the rest of us continued down Ar-9, and Ar-14 to Ar-

341 (A.K.A. Push Mountain Road), for the final push into Mountain Home. These roads provided every bit of the fun expected with tight twisties, sweeping curves, a perfect surface, and very little traffic into Mountain Home to complete another superb day of riding.



For Friday, Kelly McCrystal joined the group for the 342 mile loop, while Paul took a shorter ride and did a bit more fly fishing. Once again, we were graced with clear blue skies and balmy temperatures for the whole day. We headed out of town and back south on Push Mountain Road to start the day, with many other great roads that followed. Our only difficulty was a flat rear tire for Tim Horton as we arrived at the morning gas stop, but the tire shop across the street was able to remove the offending piece of wire and plug the tire. We continued on to Jasper and lunch at the Cliff House Inn, overlooking the Grand Canyon of Arkansas. After lunch, Joe and Rick took the short route home, while Kelly, Tim and I continued on the route back to Mountain Home, ending the day on Push Mountain Road. Just to keep things interesting, and so we don't take all that great weather for granted, Saturday dawned overcast, with the threat of rain for the ride back to Farmington. Most of my group from the previous days left Kelly and me to fend for ourselves for the day. We headed south on Ar-5 to Calico Rock, then north on Ar-56, and Ar-223, then east on US-62 to Salem, where we backtracked north on Ar-9 and Mo-19. The weather held off for most of the morning, only giving a little bit of rain just as we approached our gas stop at Winona. After fuel and a break, we continued north on Mo-19 as the damp roads

gave way to dry, and the sun came back out for the ride east on Mo-32 back to Farmington, where we loaded up the trailers and headed back north to Michigan.

All in all, MoArk 2023 will have to go down in history as one of the best ever for the weather, and the great friends to ride with on some of the best roads in the Ozarks and east of the great plains. If you have never been to MoArk, you need to consider making it to MoArk for 2024. Hopefully the weather will be equally good for you.

**A special thanks to Keith Danielson 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 **2023 MOTY Awards!**



## MSTR 2023 Rides

Here is a listing of the next few MSTRiding events for this year. For a full list of our 2023 events, please check the MSTR website ([www.mstriders.com](http://www.mstriders.com)) and go to the **Events** page. If you are interested in volunteering, please send an email to the address above.

Note: MSTRider membership is required to attend an 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](http://www.mstriders.com), then navigate to the Resources page and scroll down to the **New MSTRider Form** or the **MSTRider Renewal Form**.

## **2023 MSTR Michigan That's... Unique Grand Tour**

The grand tour returns for 2023. The theme this year will be unique things to see in Michigan and will be called the *2023 Michigan That's... Unique Grand Tour*. It will once again take you all over the lower peninsula and the upper peninsula, to give you a good chance to enjoy some of the things that Michigan has to offer. As in the past, this is an event to do at your own pace, on your own schedule, alone or with one or more friends. You can visit as many of the checkpoints as your time and energy permit. When visiting a checkpoint, you will simply take a photo of your motorcycle with the Grand Tour sign and the checkpoint behind as shown in the photo, and then send your photos to me for proof of your visit.



Basically, the grand tour is simply 14 destinations, and an excuse to get out on your motorcycle and ride around our great lake state. If you think you might like to participate but don't know if you will find the time to do all 14 checkpoints, sign up to receive the information packet anyway. There's no obligation to visit any checkpoints, just a lot of great places to go and things to see if you do.

At the end of the year, we'll tally up the results, and give awards at the MOTY banquet to participants who completed the grand tour.

The grand tour will run from Saturday, March 25 to Sunday, November 19.

If you have participated in the past, I'll send out all the information with rules, a list of checkpoints, the sign to hang on your motorcycle, and a .gpx file with all of the checkpoints. If you haven't participated in the past, you can sign up at any meeting, or send an email to [keithmdanielson@gmail.com](mailto:keithmdanielson@gmail.com), and I'll send the information out.

See you out on the road.

## **1/2 K Ride**

**Saturday, May 6, 2023  
Brighton, Michigan**

The ride departs the Brighton Meijer gas station at 9 a.m on Saturday May 6th. Be ready to go with a full tank.

The route has been drawn up and reviewed by Ian. Lunch at the Alibi in Ionia, Mi. In the next week or so I will fly the route looking for construction. 3 of Keith's That's Unusual Grand Tour are part of the route so you can do two things at once. Once I have checked out the route by air, any changes will be applied and we will have the final route available as GPX files. Send me an e-mail if you want to be on the list to receive the files. As always, your membership dues have to be paid up to go and to get the GPX files.

**Event Organizer: Bob Komjathy**

**Email: [Rx\\_Mich@yahoo.com](mailto:Rx_Mich@yahoo.com)** for gpx files and any other questions.

## **6th Annual Ladies Day Ride**

**Sunday, May 7, 2023  
Pinckney, Michigan**

**ATTENTION, ATTENTION!!!**

**Please note there has been a change of venue for our Ladies Day Ride. Zukey Lake has stopped serving breakfast as of last**

**Sunday! We will instead be meeting at the Hamburg Coney, 9580 Chilson Commons, Pinckney, MI 48169-9598.**

Please join us for the 6th Annual Ladies Day Ride on Sunday May 7th. EVERYONE is welcome to ride with us - membership in the Michigan Sport Touring Riders is not required. This event is to recognize and honor the Ladies in our club who either ride solo or as a passenger. The Ladies ride in their own group, but there will also be a men's group (sometimes the men outnumber the women!).

The New plan is to meet at Hamburg Coney at 10 am for breakfast. If you prefer to skip our social breakfast hour, just meet us at Hamburg Coney at 11am kickstands up & ready to ride at 11:15.

We will be riding a loop around the area & finish in downtown Stockbridge for All Clubs Day.

Please, Ladies & Gentlemen, if you plan to join us, let mj Campbell know ASAP. She would like to give Hamburg Coney an approximate number for breakfast so they can plan accordingly. So, even if you're not sure, but thinking about joining....please email mj! HUGS await all who participate!!



**Event Organizer: MJ Campbell**  
**Email: [vtxchick@hotmail.com](mailto:vtxchick@hotmail.com)**

# mr2

## **Michigan Renegade Mountain Ride** **May 14<sup>th</sup> to May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023** **Waynesville, NC**

There will be two days of travel and 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 14<sup>th</sup> 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. About one week before the event starts, we'll select one or two warm and dry evenings to have an onsite group cookout. Those who want to join can either bring their own food for the cookout or pick it up at a local grocery store.

To join us for **mr2** send an email to Ian as noted below. 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.

**Event Organizer: Ian Orr**

**Email: [mclorr1198@gmail.com](mailto:mclorr1198@gmail.com)**

**Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**Don & Jan Pennington's**

***Summer Sizzle Bar-be-Que.***

*(MSTR, BMWTC, & Invited Guests)*

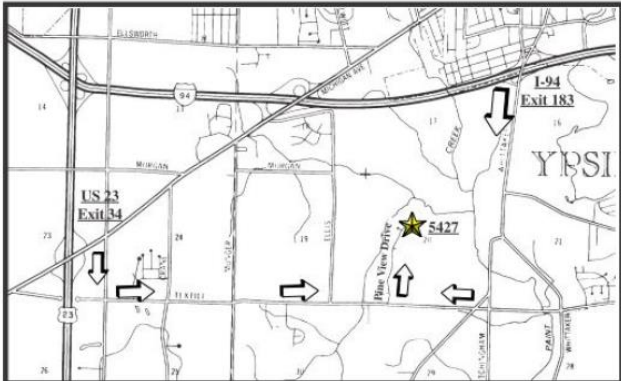
**Festivities Begin At 2:00 p.m. (Rain or Shine)**

Bring drinks and dish to pass.

Bar-Be-Que will be provided.

An occasion to see: Cycle Movies, Plan Trips, Tell Stories,  
Socialize, Garden Walk!!!

Don: (734) 645-4961 Jan: (734) 645-4963  
[donpennington@comcast.net](mailto:donpennington@comcast.net)



5427 Pine View Drive Ypsilanti Michigan 48197

**HT2**

**Hocking Hills Twisty Tour**

**June 15 – 18, 2023**

**Logan, Ohio**

June is a time when people are busy with family activities, and it is sometimes a little hot and humid. So, the idea was to put together a weekend ride as close to home as possible. Hmm, a ride in the Hocking Hills seems like a good idea.

Based in Logan, Ohio, the hotel is about 260 miles from Livonia by freeway or about 60 miles closer than Marietta. That's close enough that you could even work Thursday, slab it down to Logan Thursday evening, and get 3 days of good riding for the cost of only 1 day off. Since the ride home is only 4 hours, you can ride for a while on Sunday before heading north.

What's old is new again.

Back in the day, Don and Jan Pennington ran a ride in the Hocking Hills, so we are keeping the name, Hocking Hills Twisty Tour, in their honor. The routes cover the Hocking Hills and down around the southern tip of Ohio. They only briefly touch the edge of the roads we ride around Marietta, so for most of us, the roads are all new.

Most of the routes go down to the Ohio River and one route has lunch at Miller's Chicken in Athens. That's a really cool local joint that is not to be missed. I'm hoping to get points from Dave and Lee Ann Marcotte for that one. Going further with the relaxed weekend idea, most of the rides have really good lunch places and are less than 250 miles, so you can get back to the hotel, have a shower, and relax before dinner.

We will be staying at the MainStay Suites/Sleep Inn in Logan, Ohio. This is a 2-in-1 hotel with the MainStay rooms a little cheaper. It's also a newer hotel with a friendly staff and a decent breakfast. For dinner, we have 3 tasty restaurants in walking distance.

I don't know why, but room blocks seem to be unpopular with some hotels these days. Your plan should be to sign up for the Choice Hotels rewards program and book your room as early as possible. I booked my room in March and got a rate of \$110, but this area is a place that folks from Columbus come for the weekend. I have seen summer rates for this hotel and the next-door Holiday Inn Express in the \$250 to \$275 range, so book early.

I will be bringing sign-up sheets to meeting or you can email me to be put on the list.

**Event Organizer: Jac Brown**  
**Email: [jac.brown999@gmail.com](mailto:jac.brown999@gmail.com)**

I look forward to seeing you there. It is a beautiful area with some great roads and it's always good to discover someplace new or rediscover someplace that you haven't been in a while.

## **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)

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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.

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