



Michigan
Sport Touring Riders Report

July 2023

Editor – Ian Orr

Up North Camping Ride IV

By: Bob Komjathy



I look forward to this ride every year. Where else can you wear all your protective gear in comfort not sweltering to the point of dehydration, mountains, curves, landscapes to awe at, spending time with great friends with a common interest in riding motorcycles?

This year's ride was designed to be adjustable based on the time you had to get away from home or work... a 4 day weekend, 6 day trip, or a 7 day excursion to take in Keith Danielson's *That's Unique Grand Tour* U.P. check points. There were some long days of 300-mile rides broken up into getting there with extra curves through the rides to wake people up and shake off the dust.

We had 19 people on the ride out of 21 that signed up. 6 did the short version and 11 did the 6 day ride and 3 braved another 560 miles on top of the last day to catch 6 checkpoints. My total was 2,630 miles and each mile was met with grins of joy.

Day 1- We all got to Tobermory in plenty of time to catch a good meal and wait for the ferry. One new member Mario Bahri who signed up at the

last minute couldn't get on our 5:30 departure but was able to get on the 1:30 p.m. departure. Like a trooper, got out the hotel door in Marysville at 6 a.m. and made it to Tobermory in time to meet us at the Manitoulin Eco Park Campground. A relaxing 1 1/2-hour ferry ride to South Baymouth, Manitoulin.



Day 2 -The campground is also a dark sky preserve so I was able to catch a little Northern Lights activity as well as the Milky Way. The next day was Trans-Canada 17 and Ontario 129. I cautioned everyone to completely fill up with gas at the designated gas stop in the town of Iron Bridge, Ontario. Fortunately, everyone complied. The gas stop mid-way through the ride had a sign that read "Gas Soon" so other than go out of the way for gas at Chapleau, what they had in their tanks is what they were going to need to complete the journey. Kinniwabi Pines for dinner was outstanding.

Day 3-Hump day... getting around the north shore of Lake Superior. Fog and some rain made for some spectacular vistas. Lunch was at Serendipity Cafe in Rosspoint, Ontario. As good as I remembered... everyone loved what they chose. Mine was the Superior Lake Trout...enough fish to feed two.... But I managed.... then no dinner... still too full. The

last 30 miles of the route before U.S. Customs was a couple of back roads. Ontario 588 and Ontario 593 were absolutely a joy to ride. 35 miles of Tunnel of Trees type roads with no center line and nor side lines. Short, twisty, and elevation changes to boot. I have a new route I will insist on including in future rides!



Day 4- A non- motorcycle day other than a short ride to the docks to take us to Isle Royale. One incident with another camper who had some mental issues that security and U.S. Customs (since these are Indian lands) and deputy sheriff officers help to escort the individual off the property. David Marquette has been promoted from Pie Trailer Dave to Asshole Security Dave. Good Job!!! I have to mention that the bathrooms/showers had a code for entry.... the code was easy to remember "2-4-6-8, we are ready to urinate".

Isle Royale was just gorgeous! It's worth the time to visit the island. In our back yard and first time for me in my 70 years here in Michigan.

Day 5- Leaving Minnesota heading back to Michigan. Down Mn-61 to Duluth, I saw a black bear cross the road ahead of me near Cascade Falls. On the route was a possible visit to the Aerostich motorcycle clothing factory in Duluth. Lunch in Ashland, Wisconsin and some more back roads to Iron Mountain that were very curvy as an alternative to US-2. Hiawatha statue checkpoint in Ironwood was captured before heading onto this night's stop point. The end of the day ended up at the River's Bend Campground just down the street from the Ski-jump checkpoint.

Day 6- Option to head home after a brisk ride down some good roads, head home directly, or

continue to capture the final 4 U.P. checkpoints.... The Naughty Cow, Keweenaw snow gauge, Lakenenland Art Park, and the Tower of History in Sault St. Marie. (560 additional miles over the return from the Mackinac Bridge). Got-em done! Dave Burr, Mike Gouin, and yours truly got the U.P. in the bag!

Day 7- Head Home. Went with Dave Burr to do Paul and Babe since it could be worked into our path. I had done it already, but it made it easier to get it done for him rather than go back and pay for real estate twice. My rear tire found a nail on I-75 near Flint. Exited the freeway and wouldn't you know it across from the exit... a tire store. (just lucky) I repaired the tire in 20 minutes filled with air and checked with soap solution for leaks ...arrived home near 5 p.m.

I think everyone who went will have fond memories of this trip for quite some time. Thank you all that came along. It was a pleasure to arrange this ride.



Lucky Thumb M/C Racing

By: Jeff Anderson

This June 9 & 10 event was Classic D14 AMA Flat Track racing at its finest. Multiple classes of both late model (modified 4 stroke motocross bikes both 250 & 450cc), vintage class (Triumphs, Yamahas and Hondas) and youth class on small KTM's and Hondas.



The track is a 1/4 mile oval and the TT expands this with a couple of jumps. Spectators have complete access to the pits and can walk right up and talk to the mechanics and riders. The really fast riders were hitting the rev limiter as they crossed the start finish line. In several spots you can get really close to the track.



Pictures show a Yamaha 650 (mid 70's), Honda FT500 Ascot, and what was once an early 80's Yamaha YZ motocross bike with a Harbor Freight "predator engine" and a snowmobile trans configuration (the most unusual bike that night!).



The track is located about 25 miles north of Imlay City and has upcoming races if you're interested in attending.



A special thanks to **Bob Komjathy** and **Jeff Anderson** 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 **2023 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 Ian Orr an e-mail to Ridership@mstriders.com with the details.

MSTR East Breakfast Meetings ***NEW LOCATION***

This month's east side breakfast meeting will be held on Saturday, July 22nd, 2023 at 9:00am at Senate Coney Island in Livonia, located at 34359 Plymouth Road, Livonia, MI 48150

MSTR West Breakfast Meetings

Our next west side lunch meeting will be on Saturday, August 8, 2023, at 10am at the Alibi Bar & Grill, 1394 East Riverside Dr, Ionia, MI 48846.

Twisty Road Seminar

MotorcycleSafetyAssociation.com




*What a Professional rider
says about the Seminar*

"The Twisty Road Seminar offers sound advice to all street riders, regardless of experience level"
Mark Miller, Isle of Man TT – 1st Place Winner

About us

The Motorcycle Safety Association is a State of Michigan Non-Profit corporation. The U.S. Treasury Department has determined the Association is a charity under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Donations are therefore tax deductible to the extent the law allows.



info@MotorcycleSafetyAssociation.com

Scan the above QR code with your smartphone to learn more about the Twisty Road Seminar.

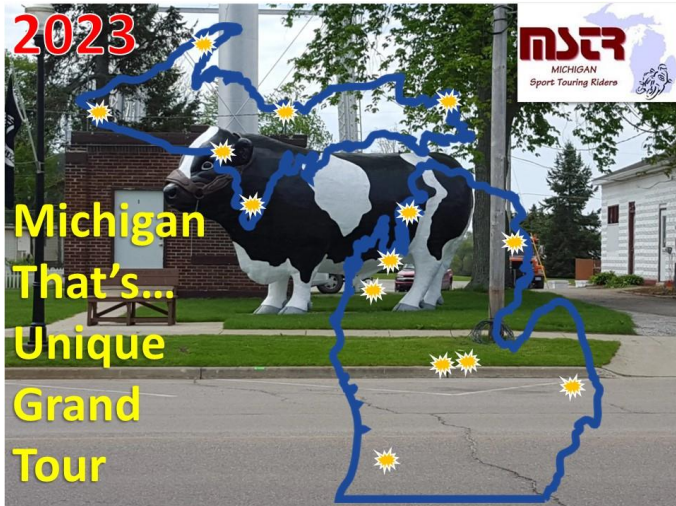
MSTR Upcoming Rides

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) 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, then navigate to the Resources page and scroll down to the **New MSTRider Form** or the **MSTRider Renewal Form**.

2023 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 until November 19.

If you would like to do the 2023 Michigan

That's... Unique Grand Tour, you can sign up at any meeting, or send an email to keithmdanielson@gmail.com, and I'll send the information out.

See you out on the road.

BBR 2023

Barn Burn Raid

August 13th to August 19th, 2023

Marietta, Ohio



Schedule your vacation, service your motorcycle, and make sure you have good tires, because the 2023 edition of our annual Barn Burn Raid (BBR) returns August 13-19. We've been doing the BBR since our first year as the MSTR in 2016. Based in Marietta, Ohio, this event offers some of the best riding you will find anywhere within a day's ride away from Michigan. Roads in Ohio like state routes 26, 314, 255, 536, 555, 556 and 800, and West Virginia routes 5, 16, 20, 31, 47, US-60, and many more; places like the Beallsville Diner, Big Muskie, Hillbilly Hot Dogs, Holly River State Park, The New River Gorge Bridge, and... well, you get the picture. They're all there for you to explore and enjoy. Bottom line is we have many routes to choose from with many great destinations for lunch and interesting things to see.

If you are unable to stay for the whole week, you are welcome to arrive and depart any time that works for you during the week. We don't have any opening or closing ceremonies or banquets, so the only thing you will miss is some of the great roads, and the camaraderie of your fellow MSTRiders. Whatever you can fit into your schedule, do it. You won't regret it, and you will have the riding time of your life.

We have a block of 20 rooms reserved Saturday, August 12 through Sunday, August 20 for those

who may wish to arrive a day early and/or stay an extra day to enjoy the area. 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. Rooms will be held until July 12. To sign up and get hotel booking information send an email to the organizer, Keith Danielson. There will also be sign-up sheets at each of our meetings between now and when the event begins.

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

MSTR Newsletter and 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:

Ian Orr: (ridership@mstriders.com)

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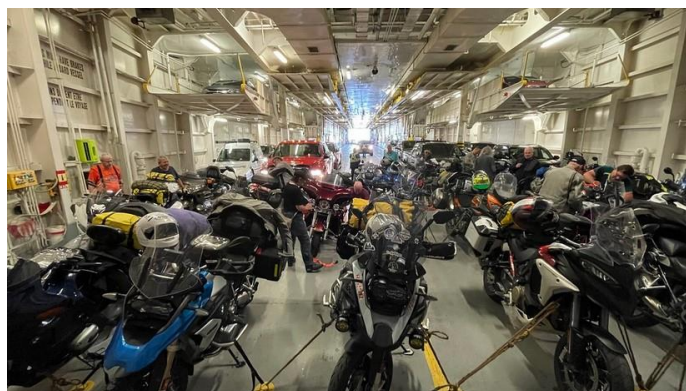
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MSTR Photo Gallery

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.

Photos from the Up North Camping Ride IV



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