



Michigan Sport Touring Riders

April 2024 Newsletter

Editor - Heidi Nagel

Club Meetings

Eastside

Saturday, April 27, 9 AM
Senate Coney Island
13359 Plymouth Rd. Livonia

Westside

Saturday, May 11, 11 AM
Alibi Bar & Grill
1394 E. Riverside Dr. Ionia

Membership

If you haven't renewed your membership, here is the [2024 Renewal Form](#).

Need an MSTR New Member Form for your buddy, sister, next-door neighbor, or father-in-law? Well, then, here you go, [2024 New Rider Membership Form](#)

MSTR Mileage Program

If you are new to the mileage program, or have a new bike for the 2024 season, send an email with your bike's make, model, and starting 2024 mileage to **Ian Orr**, at ridership@mstriders.com.

Upcoming Club Events

½ K Ride (see [March newsletter](#) for detail)

May 4, 2024

Ladies' Ride (see p. 2 for detail)

May 5, 2024

Total Solar Eclipse Ride, April 8, 2024

By Bret Van Dyke

How many times have you heard the phrase a picture doesn't do something justice? A picture from the Grand Canyon pales in comparison to viewing with your eyes. You have to visit to appreciate seeing the redwoods. Being at Stonehenge gives you a feeling you can't describe. Well, the solar eclipse was incredible, but I'll let you be the judge of whether the pictures do it justice.

I did not know what to expect with the solar eclipse. I was just looking forward to get my first ride of the year in and to test my leg out on the motorcycle after my tibia failed a test back in September at a BMX race. I was in for a major surprise and a totally unexpected treat.

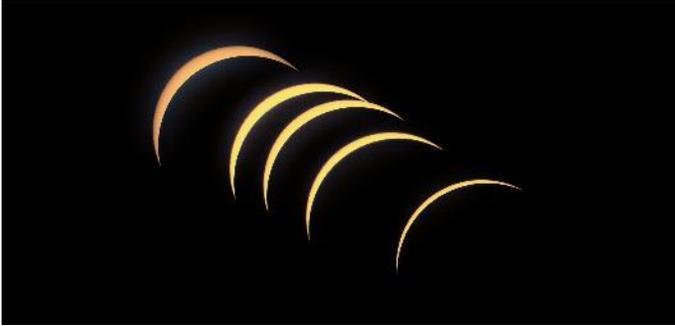
Bob Komjathy led Joe Sadler, myself, and Keith Danielson as we started in Brighton at 7:30 AM. This was my first day ride with the club and I was looking forward to a smaller group and the conversations that allow getting to know people better. Don and Jan Pennington joined us further to the south. We took the freeway down to try and get ahead of traffic. However, it was pretty smooth sailing all the way and we had a nice lunch at Lulu's Diner when we arrived in [Wapakoneta](#). This town is the home of Neil Armstrong, which was very poetic with him being the first man stepping on the moon and us here to view the sun being eclipsed by the moon.

Bob planned for a nice entrance to a local park after lunch that was not overcrowded. The residents of the town really welcomed us while at the restaurant and park. We heard multiple people thank us for coming out to see their town and participate in the event. One man rode past us before the event on a bicycle and started chitchatting. Turns out, he's the town's mayor and a great ambassador for Wapakoneta.



MSTR Crew with Wapakoneta Mayor

The eclipse began at 1:54 PM with totality occurring at 3:12 PM. It was awesome watching the progression of the moon, starting at the lower right corner of the sun and moving diagonally up to the left corner of the sun. Thank you Jan for supplying a professional procrastinator a pair of glasses for viewing. During totality you could actually take your eye protection off for about two minutes to witness the eclipse, which was magnificent – a perfect white ring. I couldn't believe how much darker it became outside and the temperature drop as well.



Time-lapse to Totality



Totality with Solar Flares

Thankfully our route back home went smoothly except for a couple 4-way intersection stops. (Later, I heard the freeway traffic was awful.) This was a great way to spend a Monday and another reason to look forward to retirement! This was such an unexpected and enjoyable event. I had done very little research on the subject and just went to enjoy the ride and got some serious bonus rounds of added enjoyment.

Special thanks to **Bret Van Dyke** for the article, **Keith Danielson** and **Bob Komjathy** for the photos featured this month!

Remember: All published articles earn 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 **2024 MOTY Awards!**

7th Annual Ladies Day Ride

Sunday, May 5, 2024, 10:00 AM

Hamburg Coney Island

9580 Chilson Commons Circle, Pinckney, MI

Event Organizer: **MJ Campbell**

vtxchick@hotmail.com

Please join us for the 7th Annual Ladies Day Ride on Sunday May 5th. EVERYONE is welcome to ride with us (MSTR membership 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 will ride in their own group, but there will also be a men's group. (Sometimes the men outnumber the women!)



2023 Ladies Day Ride

Meet in the Hamburg Coney Island at 10:00 AM for breakfast. If you prefer to skip our social breakfast, you can meet us in the parking lot at 11:00 AM.

Kickstands up & ready to ride at 11:15 AM. We will be riding a loop around the area and finish in downtown Stockbridge for the [All Clubs Ride](#).



If you plan to join, let MJ know ASAP, so she can give the restaurant an approximate number for breakfast. Even if you aren't sure, but thinking about joining, email MJ!

HUGS await all who participate!!

Upcoming Club Events

Continued from page 1

Michigan Renegade Mountain Ride (MR2)

May 12 - 18, 2024

Don & Jan Pennington's Summer Sizzle BBQ

June 2, 2024

Hocking Hills Twisty Tour (HT2) (Tentative)

June 12 - 15, 2024

Up North Camping Ride IV (UNCR, See p.4 for detail)

July 11 - 21, 2024

Barn Burn Raid (BBR)

August 15 - 18, 2024 (standard)

August 11 - 18, 2024 (add-on)

Tip Of The Mitt (TOTM)

September 12 - 15, 2024

Fall Color Ride (FCR)

September 25 - 29, 2024

Last Fall Ride (LFR)

September 29 - October 4, 2024



Scene from a past MR2 Ride, see next page for details!

2024 Michigan Attractions and Oddities Grand Tour

Presented by Keith Danielson

This year is a bit of a variation on the theme from last year, visiting some rather interesting sites, and some that might be considered “Tourist Traps” that, nonetheless, are definitely unique to Michigan.

As in past years, we have 14 checkpoints around the state, with eight in the lower peninsula, and six in the upper peninsula. The whole idea is to provide you with a destination and an excuse to go for a ride. It's quite simple really. Ride your motorcycle to as many checkpoints as you are able to do, any time throughout the year (start now and complete by December 31, 2024). You can visit them all, taking one big trip around the state, or you can visit one whenever you have a day to go for a ride. You can do it alone, or with friends.

At each checkpoint, you simply take a picture of your motorcycle with the checkpoint and the 2024 Michigan Attractions & Oddities Grand Tour sign visible, then send your pictures to Keith. At the MOTY banquet, you'll receive a certificate and award for having completed the grand tour, and for ever after all your friends will be in awe that they know a “Grand Tourer” (or maybe not).

If interested in taking in some of the scenic beauty of our Great Lake State, and seeing some of Michigan's wacky sights along the way, simply contact Keith Danielson at keithmdanielson@gmail.com or sign up at a meeting. He'll send you the information, including the official 2024 Grand Tour sign, so you can get started on your Grand Tour of Michigan. We hope to see you on the road.



An example of a Grand Tour submission and a demonstration in improvisation – The Lakeside Lion is missing, but here's the Lions pavilion! Curious? Sign up for the Grand Tour!

Michigan Renegade Mountain Ride MR2

May 12 -17, 2024

Waynesville, North Carolina

Event Organizer: **Ian Orr**, mclorr1198@gmail.com

The ride begins in Waynesville, NC at the mandatory rider's meeting at the hotel on Sunday, May 12, 8 PM to sign waivers and put riding groups together.

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 ride 5-10 minutes to one the many restaurants in Waynesville. There is an onsite BBQ grill available for our use. The hotel fills up, so **be sure to email Ian soon in order to participate in MR2.** Ian will send hotel and local restaurant information, Rider Packages, and GPS routes.

Up North Camping Ride – More Detail

July 11 - 21, 2024

Event Organizer, *Bob Komjathy*

This year's Up North Camping Ride (UNCR V) takes us to Nova Scotia's [Cabot Trail](#). This ride goes through Canada and the USA with a ferry ride from Barr Harbor, Maine to Yarmouth, Nova Scotia. We will ride the entire length of the island, up to the Bay of Fundy. Tickets for the 3:00 PM Bar Harbor departure of the CAT ferry are on sale now. Click [here](#) for Ferry Reservations.

On the Cabot Trail, we will ride 195 miles of panoramic sweeper curves cut into granite cliffs along Cape Breton's Atlantic Ocean. After a side-trip to Prince Edward Island, we will work our way back home around the north side of Maine through New Brunswick and down the St. Lawrence towards Montreal.

If you would like to camp but don't have any of the equipment I can make some suggestions for tent, sleeping bag, and cot that are very reasonably priced and compact. Many previous participants have found that more than adequate to be comfortable, dry in rainy weather, and spacious for all your gear.

If you would like to participate in this ride, contact Bob Komjathy, (810) 599-0273.



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.



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