



Michigan Sport Touring Riders

June 2024 Newsletter

Editor - Heidi Nagel

Club Meetings

Eastside

Saturday, June 22, 9 AM
Senate Coney Island
34359 Plymouth Rd. Livonia

Westside

Saturday, July 13, 11 AM
Alibi Bar & Grill
1394 E. Riverside Dr. Ionia

Membership

You can download the forms for renewing or new members on our website's [Membership/Resources](#) page.

Upcoming Club Events

Up North Camping Ride V
(UNCR – See the [April 2024 Newsletter](#) for more 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

Look at how these opportunities are dwindling! Sign up for a ride now!

Two Birthdays and a Cow: Hocking Hills Twisty Tour Ride Report *By Jac Brown*

A few years ago, the most memorable sight on 7R2 was a statue of a giraffe, maybe 15 feet tall. You just come around a corner and there is this giraffe standing on the outside of the next curve. Not nearly as dramatic, but this year's memorable moment was a black cow. First of all, it was in a strange place having clearly escaped its fence. It stood there on a slope a few feet above the outside of a curve. The grass there was long and very green so it was an understandably good place to eat. When I came around the corner it was stock still and I thought it might be another statue, but as I got closer it started to chew its cud. After that it lost interest in us, but everyone was surprised by this big, black cow standing so close to the road.

We had 14 attendees at this year's HT2 ride, although one ran out of tire and, not finding one nearby, headed home at the end of the first day. We only had a few drops of rain the entire weekend. The mornings were fine but it did get a little hot in the afternoon. Lee Ann Marcotte found a nice spot outside of the hotel to relax in the shade on a hot afternoon and soon many of the other riders had adopted it as a nice place to hang out. Sorry Lee Ann if we stole your private spot, but thanks for finding it!

On Friday, most of the groups headed to the Hocking Hills and met up at Miller's Chicken for a great fried chicken lunch. Tom Hudson was excited to find his favorite online guitar and luthier supplier next door. The roads were good and riders ended the day hot but satisfied.



Is this the correct ratio of Supervisors to Worker? Asking for a friend.

On Saturday, the groups spread out over routes to the south in order to avoid the hikers and tourists invading Hocking Hills. (That's where we found the cow.)

Most riders passed up dinner or walked to one of the several choices nearby. One group went over the bridge to a pub in the old town. There are certainly a number of eateries to try in Chillicothe. Bob Komjathy took his camera to the truck parade and he will hopefully upload a few pics onto [Smugmug](#). Kenworth has a semi-tractor plant in town so lots of beautiful tractors were on display.



Sweet treats enhance rider rejuvenation

Finally, we were able to toast a rider's birthday on both Saturday and Sunday. I'm sure each of them wishes they had kept that information secret, but we won't out them here. After all, each of us is hoping for yet another birthday, even if we don't celebrate it.



They don't call it the Twisty Tour for nothing!

Barn Burn Raid 9 (BBR)

August 11-18, 2024 (long version)

August 15-18 (standard version)

Marietta, Ohio

Event Organizer: [Ian Orr, mclorr1198@gmail.com](mailto:mclorr1198@gmail.com)

The Barn Burn Raid (BBR) is one of our most popular and best attended events. It takes its name from the iconic Mail Pouch Tobacco barns seen throughout rural Ohio. We'll be riding along some of the best twisty roads in and around the rolling hills and valleys of southeast Ohio and West Virginia. We'll visit favorite sites like the [Big Muskie](#) in Ohio and the [New River Gorge Bridge](#) and [Holly River State Park](#) in West Virginia.

Of course every route includes a great lunch stop such as the [Beallsville Diner](#), [Boondocks BBQ](#), [Hillbilly Hotdogs](#), [Maxwell's Pizza](#), and [Pies & Pints](#). BBR is headquartered in Marietta, Ohio making it a comfortable one-day ride from many Michigan locations. MSTRiders can choose to attend for the entire week or for any portion of the week, whichever fits their schedule. To join us for BBR 9 send an email to [Ian](#).

Event information, including the event hotel information GPS routes, turn-by-turn directions and route maps will be made available to everyone who signs up.



Note: Membership in the Michigan Sport Touring Riders is required to attend one of our riding events. We will not be able to add your name to an event sign-up list unless you are a current member or your New MSTRider Form or MSTRider Renewal form and fee are received prior to the event start. Go to mstriders.com then navigate to the Resources page and scroll down to the New MSTRider Form to join, or the MSTRider Renewal Form to renew.

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.

2024 Grand Tour

If interested in taking in some of *Michigan's Attractions and Oddities* contact Keith at keithmdanielson@gmail.com or sign up at a meeting. See the [April 2024 Newsletter](#) for more detail.

Michigan Renegade Mountain Ride (MR2 9) Wrap-Up

By Ian Orr

44 MSTRiders attended this year's MR2. As always, the roads were spectacular, with 20 routes to choose from, plus the possibility to create your own custom route by combining two or more different routes.

One favorite road, *The Dragon*, was in the process of being patched and repaved end-to-end. Several groups endured long waits and crawling behind a pilot car in the hope of a spirited few miles of riding. For the most part it was all for naught. Once free of construction vehicles, there were a dozen or more cars and big twin touring bikes to pass. The ever-present photographers were limited to two diehards. On the bright side, next year the Dragon will be a seamless ribbon of blacktop from the Deals Gap gas station to the Fontana Dam.



Is this the start of a Dance-Off?



"The Dragon"



If so, the prize goes to this spectacular FlashDance move!

Unlike some year's past, the weather wasn't perfect. During breakfast many riders peered intently at the weather app on their phone, trying to figure out where the rain wasn't. One morning we all stood under the motel eaves, staring forlornly at dozens of wet motorcycles, which were getting wetter by the minute. We were never "rained out" since the weather in and around the Smoky Mountains is ever changing. Several riders left early on Friday due to a wet forecast, only to find out later they missed an almost perfect day of riding - it didn't start raining until 3 PM. (Hey, folks, it's called a "forecast" for a reason.)



Good looking group shots from MR2




For many of us, one of the best parts of MR2, is the social gathering. Whether it's filling the breakfast area to overflowing, going back to favorite lunch spots, finding new lunch spots or gathering together at the end of the day we are one big family. Afternoons and evenings typically find many of us sharing that day's riding stories and then preparing for dinner in the parking lot. We have every room at the back of the motel booked and, in essence, we OWN the entire back of the motel for our own use. Flat top grills, table of snacks (healthy and unhealthy) and bottles of every imaginable beverage are everywhere. The grand finale is the group BBQ, with all 44 MSTRiders in attendance. The motel owner provides one cooler full of premium Angus beef hamburger patties and huge, top grade, chicken breasts plus a second cooler full of salads. Our own Clyde (aka Bret Van Dyke) cooked everything to perfection.

All in all, despite some damp weather, MR2 9 was perfect. See you next year, same time same place.

Special thanks to *Jac Brown* and *Ian Orr* for the articles and 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!**

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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