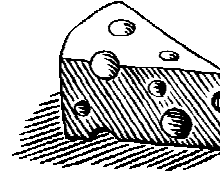
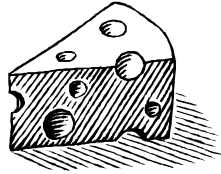


The Cheese Kutter

December



2010

Swiss Valley Chapter 1274

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NEWS FROM THE DIRECTOR

Welcome to December! WOW, where has the year gone? I guess they say "Time flies when you're having fun", but damn, I'd like to remember the fun we've had. The year has gone bye so fast. I am sure everyone has experienced the same thing, between family, friends, and work, time goes past so fast that in the blink of an eye, you are busy doing something else. I hope 2010 has been a great year for everyone and you have gotten in as much riding as you planned. I think we might be done for the 2010 riding season. December is always a busy month for everyone. Once Thanksgiving is over, we have a couple of Open Houses with Kutters in Janesville and Monroe, our bake sale at the Open House is always a great time too. Then there is the shopping, wrapping, cooking, and cleaning to get ready for the upcoming Holiday Season.

At our monthly meeting in November, Chapter members chose the charities and the amounts that we will be donating to for the 2010 season. Since I was not at that meeting, I do not have the total list, so we will have all contributions listed in one of our next newsletters. Thanks to everyone in the Chapter for helping to raise this money throughout the year. I am so proud of the amount of money such a small Chapter can raise with the few events that we do have. People that don't think bikers have a big heart don't know what the hell they are talking about. THANKS! It was also decided at the November meeting that the Holiday Party will again be at the First National Bank in Monroe on January 15, 2011. This year we will be having the entire meal catered, so please sign up ahead of time so we aren't paying for extra food we don't need. We will be deciding the menu at the December meeting. We will also be discussing the cost of the meal if any. We are trying to split the cost between the Chapter and possibly Kutters, and also trying to get the dollar amount from whomever will be doing the catering. More details in the upcoming weeks on this event. Plan on attending, it is always a great time. Between the great food, games, and camaraderie, you can't have any more fun for the money. Mark your calendars for January 15, 2011!!

NEWS FROM THE DIRECTOR – continued.....

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Speaking of calendars, we held a planning meeting on November 28 to plan most of the events and rides for 2011. Those details will be sent out via e-mail when they have been finalized, but as always, they are subjected to change. If you have an idea, or would like to help with a ride, please talk to an officer or road captain, we are always looking for new ideas and help. There is a lot of planning that goes into these rides, so please show your appreciation to those that take the time to plan these, they are always fun.

As most of you know, I am stepping down as Chapter Director at the end of this year. I just don't have enough time to donate to the Chapter as I would like to right now. So for the health of the Chapter, John Deackman will be taking over beginning in January. Please help me in welcoming John as your new Director, he will do as great of job leading the Chapter as he has done with our website. Thank you John for taking on the extra leadership duties, it is a great bunch of people to be associated with. I plan on staying as active in the Chapter as time allows. I want to thank everyone for the past 2 ½ years that I have been your Director. I have really enjoyed working with all of you and have many fond memories to look back upon. Thanks Kutters and all of you for those experiences.

Please remember membership renewals are due by January. We will again be offering everyone that renews in December to be entered in a drawing for a free membership, so get signed up before the end of December. We will draw the winner at the January meeting.

Open House: 12/4 @ Janesville's Kutter H-D

Next meeting: 12/8 @ Turner Hall

Open House: 12/11 @ Monroe's Kutter H-D

Holiday Party: 1/15/2011 @ First National Bank

Wishing everyone a Safe and Happy Holiday Season!!

Hokie, Chapter Director
Swiss Valley Harley Owners Group

Minute by Minute.....

Swiss Valley HOG Meeting – November 10, 2010

Asst. Director Steve Jacobs opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. Steve talked about Kutter's Open House to be held on December 11. The HOG Chapter will be hosting a bake sale and will wrap gifts. A sign up sheet was passed around. Check the HOG bulletin board for openings.

Store Manager Scott Golackson announced that Director Dennis Holcomb will be stepping down from his directorship for 2011 as his work schedule is conflicting with his fun schedule. The new director who will be stepping up as of January 2011 will be John Deackman, with the support of his wife, Deb. Scott thanked Hokie & Diane for all their hard work and support of the HOG chapter over the past few years.

Calendar of Events:

2-Months at a Glance

2010 Calendar of Swiss Valley Harley

Owners Group

Chapter Events available online at

www.swissvalleyhog.com

--January newsletter deadline--

December 25, 2010

--December--

4th **Holiday Open House – Open**
Kutter Janesville

8th **HOG Meeting - Closed**
7:00p.m.
Turner Hall - Monroe

11th **Holiday Open House – Open**
Kutter Monroe

--January--

11th **HOG Meeting - Closed**
Tuesday - 7:00p.m.
Bullet's / Bonnie's - Monroe

15th **Holiday Party – Closed**
6:00p.m.
First National Bank
Monroe



Minute by Minute.....continued

Scott said Kutter is going to be celebrating Christmas in a big way this year. They are going to have a huge tree in the lobby and will be giving out pink piggy banks as children's gifts. He also reminded everyone the Apparations is having their annual Toys for Tots toy drive at The Den on December 4.

Kutter will be placing a box at their store for the month of December for anyone (HOG members & Kutter customers alike) to donate an unwrapped toy to be donated locally for Christmas.

Treasurer Barb Smith reports \$4,019 in checking. A motion was made by Ron Smith and 2nd by Leroy to donate \$2,500 from our treasury to charities. The group made thoughtful considerations about which charities we wished to support this year.

Those charities & amounts are as follows:

\$500 to Big Brothers/Big Sisters; \$300 to Toys for Tots; \$200 to Shop with a Cop; \$400 to Christmas Stocking Fund (hosted by Monroe Women's Club); \$400 to Food Pantry (to be given in the Spring when food supplies will be lower); \$250 to Green Haven Battered Women; \$200 to Turner Hall roof replacement; \$250 to military families (we will be giving 2 donations of \$125 each in the form of gift certificates). Jody made a motion to accept & Ron Smith 2nd motion.

Activities Coordinator Diane Updike was thanked for her awesome job planning the Sat. Oct. 30 Halloween Party. She is already working on plans for the **Holiday Party**. Mark you calendars for **Saturday night, January 15**. Alternative ideas were discussed for the party ie. potluck at the bank community room; cater a meal at the bank community room or go out for dinner at a restaurant. It was unanimous that the group enjoys the "potluck at the bank" option. Those helping with the party should arrive at 5:30 for set up, 6:00 for happy hour (come prior to 6 if you need to get 'happier') and our meal at 6:30. Dawn Golackson volunteered to help out with the party.

Ron & Barb Smith will be hosting the Friday night dinner ride on November 19.

Road Captain Leroy Rindy talked about gathering ideas from members for 2011 rides. Ideas for a possible 3 day overnight ride were talked about.

Winners of the drawings at the meeting were: 50/50 raffle – Curt Moyer (\$17.50). Kathy Rindy & Diane Holcomb were each winners of the \$10 Kutter gift certificates.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Rindy, Secretary
Swiss Valley Harley Owners Group

MERRY CHRISTMAS

CHEESE KUTTER SPONSORS



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NEWS FROM THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

The white crap is back so the bike is all tucked away for the winter. A few quick storage hints are:

- 1) Find a good safe spot where it won't be damaged for winter. If your in need of a storage location, see Scott.
- 2) Fill the tank with fuel and add fuel stabilizer.
- 3) Keep your battery charged fully.
- 4) If storing in an area where animals such as mice are around, stuff your muffler with steel wool and cover the end with a plastic bag to reduce moisture coming in through exhaust.

Think Spring!

Steve Jacobs, Assistant Director
Swiss Valley Harley Owners Group

Road Captain Report

Hi everyone! I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving and didn't eat too much. Unfortunately, I did eat too much again. Today we had our 3rd Thanksgiving at our house. I think the diet and exercise better start tomorrow!

I would like to thank the Road Captains for a great job this year in leading and helping with our rides. We had another safe year, with a lot of great rides. You can't ask for more than that. We will be getting together on Sunday, November 28, to plan rides and activities for 2011. Hopefully, looking forward to next year's rides will help us get through the next 5-6 months! Hope to see everyone at the December meeting.

Ride Safe.....

Leroy Rindy, Head Road Captain
Swiss Valley Harley Owners Group

December Birthdays

12-18 Tracy Meier
12-24 Curt Updike

Meeting Changes!

Starting in January, the meeting night and location is changing.

The Swiss Valley Hog meetings are going to be held on the second Tuesday night of the month and the location will be changed to Bullet's / Bonnie's, 1301 15th Ave in Monroe. This is just west of Turner Hall, on the west side of the Monroe Middle School.

Note that this does not change until January. We will still meet on Wednesday, December 8, 2010 at Turner Hall.

Safety Officer Corner

Recently, the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is calling on all States that do not have a mandatory helmet law to adopt one. The NTSB has no regulatory ability and no law making ability, just the power to issue recommendations to the States, industry and the Federal government. Regardless, there are those with an agenda of protecting us from ourselves will jump on this recommendation and try to forge a helmet law. It will be up to us as motorcyclists to stand against any attempt to curtail our freedom as pertains to this aspect of our lives. This is not about motorcycle safety, rather it is about whether we will allow our government to tell us how we must attire ourselves to use our motorcycles. Proponents will doubtlessly try to convince people that the health care law requires this regulation because everyone will bear the financial burden of a paralyzed bikers health care. The truth is that it will be just one more freedom taken from us if we let them. In our HOG we have both types of preferences, I prefer to wear a helmet while others prefer not to. I don't believe it is up to anyone in our group to tell any other member that they must wear a helmet, nor would it be right for Harley Davidson to force that rule upon us. It would be just as wrong for the government to do so.

As of Friday, 11/20/2010 the motorcycle rider fatality numbers for Wisconsin were 98; this is about a 13 percent increase over 2009 and a tragic and discouraging statistic. In 2009, 84 riders were killed and although unacceptable, it was an improvement over the previous year. Passenger deaths this year were at 7, a reduction of one person over 2009.

I believe the NTSB falls short of the mark when recommending mandatory helmet usage. The best recommendation would be for mandatory motorcycle safety courses for any person who does not have the endorsement but who wants to become a motorcyclist. When required before being allowed to practice ride it would represent the opportunity to choose to accept the regulations. This should be followed by a period of daytime only riding and finally a test for license. Ahh! but you say that's more government intrusion. A license to use a motor vehicle on our highways is a privilege, not a right and the best way to insure a motorcyclists safety is to give them the tools to make the best decisions when riding a motorcycle. For some people that would include wearing a helmet.

Not everyone will agree with my idea, but it may be time to start looking for solutions that everyone can live with as opposed to solutions that stifle our rights.

That's it for this for this issue, see yah next month!

Jeff Wright, Safety Officer
Swiss Valley Harley Owners Group

