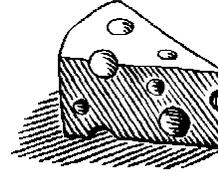
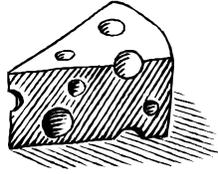


The Cheese Kutter

January



2010

Swiss Valley Chapter 1274

www.swissvalleyhog.com

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NEWS FROM THE DIRECTOR

Hello everyone, welcome to 2010!! I can't believe I just said that. Where in the heck did 2009 go? It seems like just a few months ago we were planning out our rides for 2009, and now they are just memories. Now, we have to concentrate on planning rides that will bring new friends and old friends together to create a memorable 2010. I hope you can all be apart of the fun, I look forward in riding with each and every one of you.

I'm sorry for the inconvenience of canceling the meeting last month during the cold and snowy weather, but we didn't want to take a chance of someone having an accident just trying to attend a meeting. Hopefully everyone got the message in time and did not make a trip to Monroe. We did have a few things to discuss, but with Scott's help and emails back and forth with the officers, we decided to donate \$500 each to the Merit Center, BB/BS of Green County, and the Food Pantry. We also had a successful Open House at Kutter's on December 12th. We sold all but one plate of baked items, over \$100 in the 50/50 raffle, and had a nice amount in the tip jar from wrapping presents. Thank you to all that helped and those who brought in baked goodies. Especially the pumpkin rolls, (right Scott and Jeff)? I'm sure Barb will have all of the numbers from the open house at the January meeting.

Don't forget the Holiday Party on January 16th at the First National Bank, (formerly Amcore Bank). We are having broasted chicken and swiss steak catered in, and are asking everyone to bring a dish to pass. The Chapter is providing the meat, coffee and punch, as well as the table service. We need to know how many are attending by January 1st, but if you are reading this on the 2nd or 3rd, and would still like to attend, please call me at 608-347-4259 A.S.A.P. We will try to get enough meat for all. Everyone, please call me so I know what dish to pass you will be bringing as well as the number of people attending. Let's start 2010 out by having a Great Holiday Party!!

NEWS FROM THE DIRECTOR – continued.....

Please remember, Kutters is closed in Monroe from Christmas Eve through January 11th, opening back up on Tuesday, the 12th.

Hoping everyone is having a Great Holiday Season!! **Be Safe and drive carefully.**

Hokie, Chapter Director
Swiss Valley Harley Owners Group

Next Meeting: January 13th @ Turner Hall
Holiday Party: January 16th @ First National Bank

Minute by Minute.....

Swiss Valley HOG Meeting – December 9, 2009

Meeting cancelled due to bad weather conditions.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Rindy, Secretary
Swiss Valley Harley Owners Group

Safety Officer Corner

This month I will examine the use of alcohol while operating a motorcycle. The sport of motorcycling unquestionably has a dangerous aspect to it. Indeed the danger may be what draws us all towards it to some extent. The realization that we must focus intensely to remain safe takes us out of the routine of everyday life and increases our awareness at many levels. Remaining safe on our motorcycles requires vigilance and the ability to act without hesitation when confronted with life threatening situations. I for one would not want to place myself in a situation where a slower reaction time can result in injury or worse. In Wisconsin any adult can take one or two drinks in an hour and likely be safe from arrest and prosecution for drunken driving. However a person cannot drink alcohol and be unaffected by it. It will slow your reaction time, and your cognitive process. These can stack on top of each other and increase the possibility of an accident. When riding in a group of motorcyclists, this can have even greater consequences and would include riders who may not be using alcohol.

. Using alcohol is a right and sometimes is a part of our motorcycling activities so I felt it was time to get some facts that might help us make better decisions about having a drink during a ride, whether it occurs after an official HOG ride or after that ride is completed but we haven't reached our homes yet.

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c/o Kutter Harley Davidson Shop
129 6th Street
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www.swissvalleyhog.com

Calendar of Events:

2-Months at a Glance

*2010 Calendar of Swiss Valley Harley
Owners Group*

*Chapter Events available online at
www.swissvalleyhog.com*

**--February newsletter
deadline--**

January 25, 2010

--JANUARY--

13th **HOG Meeting - Closed**
7:00p.m.
Turner Hall - Monroe

16th - **Holiday Party – Closed**
6:00p.m.
First National Bank –
Monroe

--FEBRUARY--

10th **HOG Meeting - Closed**
7:00p.m.
Turner Hall - Monroe

16th - **Dinner Ride - Closed**
6:00p.m.
Organizer: Dennis Holcomb

27th- **Overnight Ride – Closed**
28th **Time: TBD**
Organizer: Dennis Holcomb



Safety Officer Corner - continued

I went to the website of the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, Safety and Consumer Protection to research the material presented here. This is a great site and is filled with up to date information about many different facets of this subject. It is www.dot.wisconsin.gov/ click on safety and consumer protection/drunk driving.

In brief, here is what I found!

2008 motorcycle rider deaths-78

2009 motorcycle rider deaths-76

2008 motorcycle passenger deaths-10

2008 motorcycle passenger deaths-8

The dot found that 50% of all motorcycle crashes involved the use of alcohol. You would think that the operators who were over the limit would comprise the greatest number of fatalities. This was not the case between 1999 and 2003, and although statistics change from year to year, the following numbers probably reflect present day statistics to some extent.

1999-2003

Over the five years the average of fatalities for motorcycle drivers with some alcohol in their blood was 44.4%

Over the five years the average of fatalities for motorcycle drivers over the .10 BAC in their blood was 33.6%

Since 2003 the BAC has been reduced to .08 but comparative information for recent fatalities is not yet available. Regardless of that, it is clear from the above numbers that the risk of fatality is higher in the category of "some alcohol in the blood". I believe this is factored by a decrease in inhibition and an increase in fatigue over time on any given day.

I hope none of us experiences a bad accident while on our bikes, especially if we have been using alcohol. So it is my suggestion, that like deer hunters, we wait until the hunt is over to enjoy a drink. It makes perfect sense to wait until you are in the safety of your easy chair to enjoy that relaxing drink, instead of at 60 MPH on a vehicle with only two wheels.

Drive safely, be safe over the holidays and throughout the year!

See you on the road,
Jeff Wright, Safety Officer
Swiss Valley Harley Owners Group

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Meet the Member

*This month, become acquainted with
one of our chapter's members.*

Name: Barb Smith

When Did You Join Swiss Valley H.O.G. : June 2003

What Do You Ride: I am a passenger on whatever my husband
Ron rides – currently a 2003 Black Ultra

Why Do You Ride: It is our “two-up” time together (we can talk
on our microphones), and we leave our cares behind for a bit; I
enjoy being out in the countryside (good and bad smells!);
enjoy the time with friends, and I -- especially like the “taking
off together” part when we ride with a group ---it’s something
about what binds us together, as different as we all are, as we
accelerate and hit the open road...

What Was/Is Your Favorite Ride: Riding the canyons and deserts
of Arizona; also really enjoyed our past summer trips out East
and out West and around Lake Superior.

What Is Your Dream Bike: IF I could ride a bike, I would have a
Heritage Softail with studded leather bags and maybe some
fringe. The new CVO Softail Springer looks good, too!

What Is Your Dream Ride: Probably should be that same ride my
husband wants to go on ☺

What Is Your Favorite Thing To Do When Not Riding: Being
with our three kids (Michelle, Tracy, and Brian) and their
families, including four grandsons Henry, George, Noah, and
Troy.

**What Else Do You Want To Share About Yourself – Your
Family Or Riding:** I also enjoy piano and organ music, gardening
and outdoor work in general (probably because my desk job
keeps me indoors). I love trees...

January Birthdays

- 1-3 Toby Meier
- 1-9 Steve Cort
- 1-12 Pat Schutt
- 1-16 Greg Stamm
- 1-27 Judy Klassy





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Interested in sponsoring
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front of members 12 months?

Send your business card
and a check for \$50.00 to:
"Swiss Valley H.O.G."
c/o Kutter Harley Davidson
129 6th Street
Monroe, WI 53566

Questions? Contact
jodyj@aeroinc.net



NEWS FROM THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and was able to enjoy it with their families.

Now that Christmas is over, I am looking forward to some warm riding weather. The Wisconsin State Rally committee has updated its' website to include the details for the 2010 Rally. You can find the information at www.wisstatehogrally.com.

THINK SPRING!

Steve Jacobs, Assistant Director
Swiss Valley Harley Owners Group

Road Captain Report

Hello everyone! I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. It's nice to get November and December behind us.

In November, Kathy and I ran into Vicki Sanfelipo at Kutter's in Monroe. Vicki is the founder and head of Accident Scene Management, an organization that teaches bikers what to do at the scene of a motorcycle accident. She is also involved with Women in Motion and the Tommy Thompson Reunion Rides. Vicki was at Kutter to see if they might be interested in being one of the stops this year for their annual Women in Motion Ride, which this year will be combined with the Tommy Thompson Reunion Ride. The exact details of the ride have not been released yet, but Vicki gave us the dates and destinations. The dates will be Thursday, July 22; Friday, July 23 and Saturday, July 24th, 2010. The ride will leave from Capital City HD in Madison, and then come to Monroe, continuing to the Mississippi River. I'm not sure of Thursday night's destination, but they will follow the Mississippi River to Hudson. At Hudson, they will have a dinner cruise on the St. Croix River.

A number of us did this ride back in 2004 and it is a fun ride and a nice way to meet new friends. I am mentioning this now so that we can be thinking about this as a possible chapter Overnight Ride or just a bonus ride for those who are interested.

I will have more details in January and we can also talk about this in upcoming meetings. Hope to see everyone at the Holiday Party.

Leroy Rindy, Head Road Captain
Swiss Valley Harley Owners Group



Here's what I'm going to be thinking about (and hopefully doing something about) in January! Happy New Year!!!!

“Twas the month after Christmas”

‘Twas the month after Christmas, and all through the house,
Nothing would fit me, not even a blouse.
The cookies I’d nibbled, the chocolate I’d taste
At the holiday parties had gone to my waist.
When I got on the scales there arose such a number!
Can’t ride a Harley like this, this is a bummer!
I’d remember the marvelous meals I’d prepared;
The gravies and sauces and beef nicely rared,
The wine and the rum balls, the bread and the cheese
And the way I’d never said, “No thank you, please.”
As I dressed myself in Leroy’s old shirt
And prepared once again to do battle with dirt...
I said to myself, as I only can,
“You can’t spend a winter, disguised as a man!”
So, away with the last of the sour cream dip.
Get rid of the fruit cake, every cracker & chip.
Every last bit of food that I like, must be banished
Till all the additional ounces have vanished.
I won’t have a cookie, not even a lick.
I’ll want only to chew on a long celery stick.
I won’t have hot biscuits, or corn bread, or pie.
I’ll munch on a carrot and quietly cry.
I’m hungry, I’m lonesome, and life is a bore...
But isn’t that what January is for?
Count calories, exercise, eat right; yes I’ll try it,
Happy New Year to all, and to all a good diet!

Kathy Rindy
Swiss Valley Harley Owners Group

