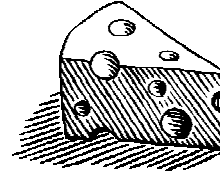
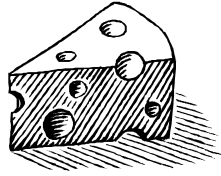


# The Cheese Kutter

April



2011

## Swiss Valley Chapter 1274

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### NEWS FROM THE DIRECTOR

Okay, who ticked off Mother Nature? I cannot believe how cold it has been the whole month of March. Last year we had almost 2 weeks of riding in before April 1<sup>st</sup>. Heck, even the farmers were in the fields already. I hope everyone that was able to make the Amana Colonies overnight ride had a good time. Diane and Dennis had a nice schedule for the trip and I would like to thank them for their time gathering the information and putting it all together for us.

On March 18-19, Scott, Jeff, Steve, Jody, Kathy, Leroy, Dennis, and I all went to Milwaukee for the 2011 HOT (H.O.G. Officer Training). We learn a lot from the other chapters who attend on how they go about their activities and ways of doing things. On March 23, the officers had a meeting discussing what we learned in Milwaukee and the things we want to change. In this newsletter, I will attempt to describe some of the changes we (Swiss Valley HOG) are going to attempt to make for this year or longer.

**Meetings:** According to H.O.G., there are no required meetings for any chapter. We must have at least 1 per year for Chapter Charter completion along with officer changes. Now, that does not mean we are not having meetings anymore, but our meeting structure is going to change. Starting on May 10 at 6:00 PM, we will be meeting at Kutter in Monroe IF the weather is good. We will then have a 10-15 minute meeting in the Swiss Valley Lounge, and then we are going riding. After all, what is the object of the chapter? It is to ride and have fun. I will also have a Meeting Ride suggestion bucket at Kutter for people to give ideas where they would like to ride on meeting nights. If the weather is bad, we meet at the usual spot (upstairs at Bullets and Bonnies) and have our usual meeting. Again, this meeting can be short or long depending on information at hand. After that, if you are interested in playing some games (cards, board games, guess the word, etc.), bring your favorite game, and let's have some fun since the weather will not be up to par for riding. Remember, just because we have the meetings at a restaurant/bar does NOT mean you have to buy anything from them just because the meeting is held there. Comments welcome!

## NEWS FROM THE DIRECTOR – continued.....

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**Scheduled Rides:** All scheduled rides on the calendar will continue as usual. How many people want more rides? Please do not be afraid to call/email me and discuss it or with one of the other officers. We need your input to make the chapter succeed. If you want to get a ride going for a weekend that the group does not have anything planned, let me know and I can try to see if we can get more riders that are interested in going. Coming to the monthly meetings helps us plan more activities if that's what the chapter members want. This is not a one sided run chapter. If you think it is, please call or email me because I need to know how everyone feels!

**Riding Mentors:** This is an initiative to get more members to join our chapter. Riders Edge members graduate almost every Monday night during the riding season and this is a good night for members (if they can and are willing) to be at Kutter and let the new riders know who we are. I want to get more young riders and others into our chapter. Now, I realize not everyone that finished Riders Edge buys a Harley. However, a good number of them do. In addition, we should be there to promote the chapter and offer up to be a riding mentor to any of them that are looking for a more experienced rider to help them out and get comfortable riding on public streets and highways. Think of the friendships you could possible generate by doing this. I for one will be attempting this goal for this riding season.

**Bucket Rides:** We still plan to have bucket rides (draw a destination from a bucket) for the Saturday following the monthly meetings. The Bucket Ride can is at Kutter for people to put ideas into just for this occasion. The ride will be drawn during the meeting, and posted at Kutter the following day. I will also post in the website and on Facebook.

**Officer Meetings:** The officers will have separate meetings either at a location or through email for preparation for the next monthly meetings. We believe we are boring the chapter with redundant information and this is our idea to make the meetings shorter and allow us to ride more or have some fun when the weather does not cooperate. If you do not like this idea, LET US KNOW! Call/email/come to the meetings, but let us know!

Here are the upcoming events for April:

Sat - 9 <sup>th</sup>	Sell your bike at Kutter in Janesville and Cook Out	Kutter in Janesville	9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Tuesday - 12 <sup>th</sup>	Chapter Meeting	Bonnie's/Bullets in Monroe	7:00 PM
Saturday - 16 <sup>th</sup>	Bucket Ride	Find out at meeting on 12 <sup>th</sup>	TBD
Saturday - 16 <sup>th</sup>	Riders Edge Reunion	Kutter in Janesville	TBD

## Calendar of Events:

### 2-Months at a Glance

2011 Calendar of Swiss Valley Harley  
Owners Group

Chapter Events available online at  
[www.swissvalleyhog.com](http://www.swissvalleyhog.com)

**--May newsletter deadline--**

**April 25, 2011**

**--April--**

12<sup>th</sup> **HOG Meeting - Closed**  
**7:00p.m.**  
Doyles - Monroe  
(Formerly Bonnie's/Bullets)

16<sup>th</sup> **Bucket Ride – Closed**  
**TBD** – Find out at the  
meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup>.

28<sup>th</sup> **Dinner Ride – Closed**  
**Time: 6:00 p.m.**  
Organizer: Leroy Rindy

**--May--**

10<sup>th</sup> **HOG Meeting - Closed**  
**6:00p.m.**  
Kutter - Monroe

14<sup>th</sup> **Bucket Ride – Closed**  
**TBD** – Find out at the  
meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup>.

14<sup>th</sup> **Spring Open House - Open**  
Kutter - Janesville

21<sup>th</sup> **Spring Open House - Open**  
Kutter - Monroe

22<sup>th</sup> **Dinner Ride – Closed**  
**Time: TBD**  
**White Pines Resturant**  
Organizer: Steve Jacobs

Monday – 18 <sup>th</sup>	Riders Edge Graduation	Kutter in Monroe Mentor Program	6:00 PM
Thursday - 28 <sup>th</sup>	Dinner Ride	????	6:00 PM

That is all I have for this month's newsletter. See you all at the next meeting on April 12<sup>th</sup>.

John Deackman, Director  
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*I'm here to assist you any way I can, because it's your chapter too!*

### NEWS FROM THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

I think we are finally done with the white crap. I sure am ready to get out and do some riding. Spring riding often means riding in some rain. Here are some tips:

- 1) Purchase the right rain gear. A good rain suit is a must. Waterproof boots and gloves also make the ride more enjoyable and help you concentrate on the road.
- 2) The first few minutes of rain is the slickest. Be extra careful and slow down during the start of any rain.
- 3) Train tracks, manhole covers, metal grate bridges and painted lines are all extra slick when wet. Take extra caution when driving on these. Try to keep a steady speed and avoid any accelerated turning.

Keep the shiny side up.

Steve Jacobs, Assistant Director  
Swiss Valley Harley Owners Group

### April Birthdays

4-19 Bob Brown  
4-23 Steve Lee

### Minute by Minute.....

No report received this month.

### Road Captain Report

No report received this month.

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## Safety Officer Corner

Here it is March 23 and I have ridden my bike at only once, back home from Kutter. Riding season is here, it is just proceeding very slowly so in preparation for the sunny days I have a couple of safety tips to pass on.

Many serious motorcycle injuries are caused because the rider enters a corner too fast and washes out leaving the roadway and losing control of the motorcycle. This happens not only to crotch rocket riders pushing the envelope but also to people who ride standard motorcycles a little faster than they should on unfamiliar roads. We get surprised by a turn that evolves too rapidly for the speed we are riding and despite our best efforts we go in the ditch. Sometimes people leave the road because they are looking down at the roadway instead of looking through the turn. Others find themselves riding two abreast going into a corner too hot. The rider on the inside forces the outside rider over the centerline and into the path of an oncoming vehicle or off the road into stationary objects. Avoid these pitfalls. Ride sensibly into turns by reducing your speed before the twisties and throttle up leaving them. Never look down at the road when cornering and do not ride along side other bikes going through turns. RIDE SAFE

My second tip is to commit to using T-CLOCK before you get on your bike for the first time every day. This is a difficult habit to form because at least in our chapter you will find some of the best maintained motorcycles in the country. Remember what the mnemonic stands for...

**T=Tires&Wheels; C=Controls&Cables; L=Lights&Electrics;  
O=Oil&Fluids; C=Chassis&Suspension and K=Kickstand.**

There are many instructions on the web that teach us how to perform these inspections and I am not going to go into that here. The idea is for you to research this subject, learn how to do it again and start creating the habit if you do not already practice this important check list. Remember that we ride as a group and a unsafe condition on one motorcycle can affect all or many of us in a ride in the event of a failure.

We have a great riding season ahead, I can scarcely wait!

See yah on the road!!

Jeff Wright, Safety Officer  
Swiss Valley Harley Owners Group

