

Ride Safe:
May is Motorcycle
Safety Awareness
Month

Sundae Edition

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www.HeartlandSundaeRoadRiders.com

This and That

Notes from the Editor

We've launched another full schedule of Heartland Sundae Riders spring, summer and fall activities! It all started with the Rod McPeak memorial Motel Weekend in late April, with camping events coming on-deck at Goose Island this month. Map on Page 2.

April's early camping weekend didn't work out, however. It was a good thing too—weather was lousy and nights were literally freezing! In April, you take your chances! Maybe Desi can share how the ladies' event in cabins on the other side of Lake McBride fared.

Speaking of Desi, she's taking a break from story telling this month, so I've sneaked in an essay from my own pen. Check that out on page 3. I have more in store—trimmings from the pending book that didn't quite fit the theme and boundaries of the new memoir. Hope you like them just the same!

See you out there, soon

John



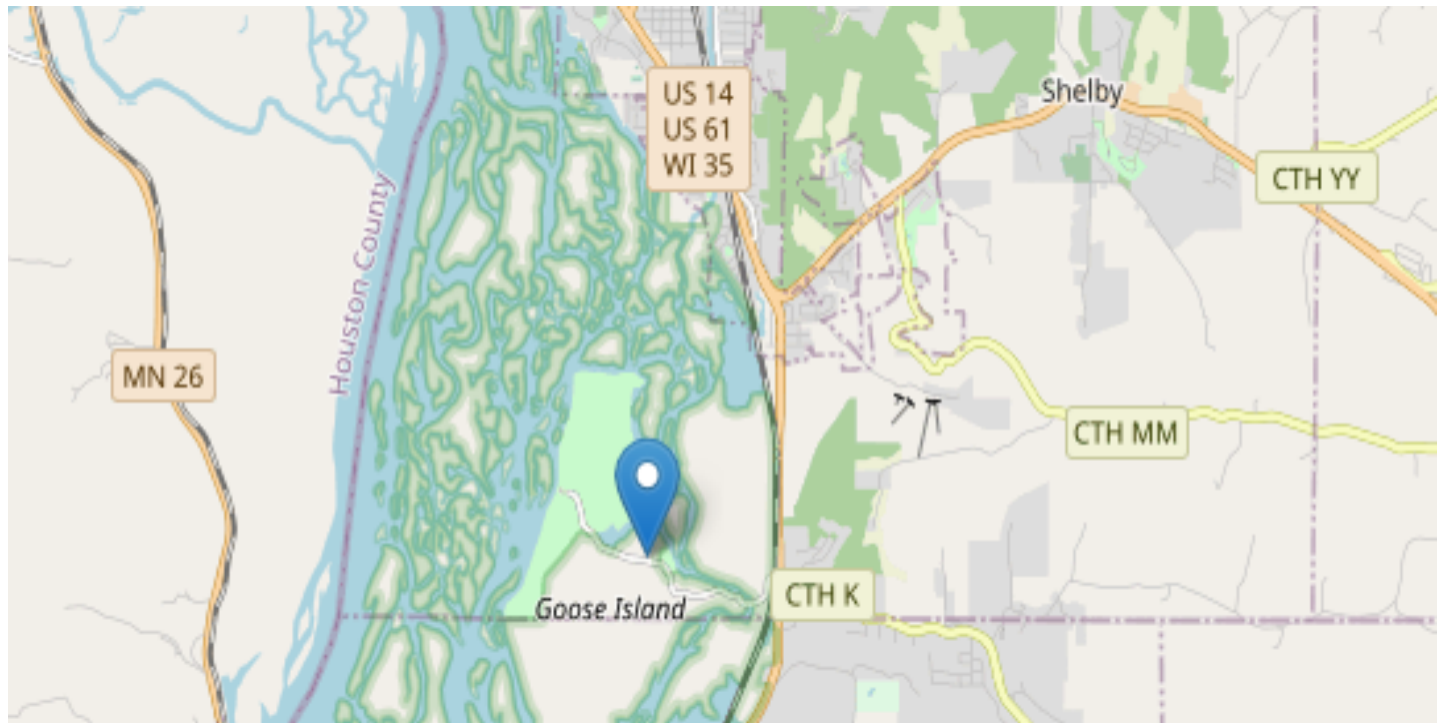
Rod McPeak Memorial Attendees

Photo from Laura Lee

Enjoying a fine breakfast are (clockwise from lower left): Wayne Miller, Pam Miller, Rose Tydrich, Chuck Tydrich, Roger Flood, Laura Lee, Mark Weiner, and Bert Hansmann. Looks like everyone is having a good time.



Goose Island County Park (Just south of La Crosse) — May 19-21



Random Ramblings

By John Bruesch

#1—On Motorcycling as a Pastime vs. Exotic Cars

My first motorcycle was a consolation prize. I really wanted a new car – specifically, a 1974 Porsche. Go big or go home, right? But even stripped to the basics, I knew that would cost \$10,000, about four times the price of a new VW Beetle. There was a pretty yellow 911 “Basic” one on the showroom floor. The dealer’s salesman, a smarmy plaid-suited lackey barely ten years my senior, took a quick look at me (just twenty with a bad haircut) and decided I didn’t have the *right stuff*. “You can’t afford this,” he announced with indignant certainty, like the impenetrable bouncer at the door of an A-list discotheque.



He was wrong. I had money; I *could* manage it. Barely. On time payments if I ate Ramen noodles for a while. It helped enormously that I happened to *like* Ramen noodles back then. But his outright dismissal really stung. My friend Frank was there with me; heard it, saw my disappoint-

ment. Taking the high ground, Frank persuaded me to try motorcycling instead. Cost of entry was a pittance by comparison - \$1,000. \$40 a month on a three-year loan. *That* dealer was happy to take my paltry down-payment and finance the rest. I paid it off in eighteen months. Then I bought the Buffalo. \$76 a month, paid that off early too. That was it, except for tires and chains and whatever. Unlike my contemporaries, I’ve never shopped for a replacement ride since, saving countless thousands over the years.

What a blessing those paltry, conciliatory investments turned out to be! I never would have begun touring the U.S. like I did, had I fallen under the aromatic spell of German leatherette. I’d cruise the local avenues, forever indentured to the Porsche dealer’s pricy service department.

The enrichment and education my motorcycles have wrought has been extraordinary. Geography. American history. Lifelong friendships. Organizational politics. Leadership. Self-respect. Even journalism. And most of all, *mechanics*. What a favor that conceited salesman – self-absorbed jerk that he was - did for me.

Someday, I still might own a 1974 Porsche. I’ve lowered the bar some; a 914 “poor man’s Porsche” like this one would do nicely. It will have to be a fixer-upper; I don’t care. Motorcycling has given me the confidence and skills to deal with just about any little thing that might need attention.

At the Winter Quad State I mentioned this yen as a probably-never-to-be-fulfilled wish, and Laura asked, “Why don’t you just rent one?” What a good idea! She quickly found one available for a trial tryst, in the Phoenix area, for a couple hundred bucks a day. I can get it out of my system with a single expensive weekend. Seriously thinking about this. Maybe as a birthday treat. Hmmm... I’ll report back with the results if it should happen to work out for me.



2023 Heartland Sundae Riders Schedule

May 19-21	Goose Island Campout - Contact Chuck Tydrich for more information
June 8-11	New Lisbon, WI RSVP Bert
July 21-23	MTC/Heartland Mark Twain Campground, Hannibal MO
Aug 11-13	Alana Springs Richland Center, WI. RSVP Bert
Aug 24-27	Quad State. WI hosting
Sept 4-10	MTC Gathering- Sundaes invited. Wayne & Pam Miller hosting Door Co. WI. RSVP ASAP Scenic Shore Inn Algoma, WI 920.487.3214
Sept 15-17	IL Fall Colors at Lake Le-Aqua-Na State Park
Sept 22-24	Alana Springs Richland Center, WI. RSVP Bert
Oct ?	WI Fall Colors Weekend
Nov 24	Thanksgiving with Friends
Dec 9	Christmas Party at Mark's. RSVP Mark

PULLING A WHEELIE



Age 15



Age 25



Age 45

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

April 10—Jim and Marty Piquette
 April 16—Mike and Cathy Sucharski
 May 18—Tom and Linda McPeak



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

April 14—Sarah Beach
 May 1—Wayne Miller
 May 10—Jim Beach
 May 12—Nola Walter
 May 17—Jim Ohl
 May 23—Denise Nibbelink