

ST. CROIX VALLEY RIDERS A MOTORCYCLE RIGHTS ORGANIZATION

2ND QUARTER NEWSLETTER
APRIL, 2011



Calendar of Events:

- **April 3**
SCVR Board of Directors Meeting—2:00 pm
- **April 9**
Defrost Your Nutz Run
North Hudson, WI
- **April 10**
SCVR General Meeting—12:00 pm
Officer Nominations
SCVR Chili Feed Meeting—following
American Legion, St Paul Park, MN
- **April 17**
Spring Flood Run
Lake St. Croix Beach, MN
- **April 30**
SCVR Spring Membership Drive
Fury Motorcycles, South St. Paul, MN
- **May 7**
AIR's Bellecheater Biker Dance
Bellecheater, MN
- **May 15**
SCVR General Meeting—12:00 pm
Officer Nominations
Adopt-A-Highway Spring Cleanup
American Legion, St Paul Park, MN
- **May 31**
Last Day to request Absentee Ballots
- **June 5**
SCVR Board of Directors Meeting-2:00 pm
- **June 12**
SCVR Annual Meeting—12:00 pm
Officer Elections
Gas-Lite Tavern, Trimble, WI
- **June 25**
SCVR Bike Show and Have a Heart Run
Gas-Lite Tavern, Trimble, WI

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Prez Sez *by Dwight Smith*

There it is the big yellow thing in the sky. Some call it the sun. I call it the illu-

sive thing that melts snow. I'm sure everyone is getting a little excited that the roads are drying up. Just need a good rain to clean up the streets, sorry to everyone dealing with the flooding.

I would like to thank Dylan for the great job he did as Road Captain and everything he put into it. With his busy schedule coming up he felt he had to step down for now. With that said I would like to thank Randy Holland for stepping up and becoming our new Road Captain. Randy is fired up about this and is planning on taking us for many rides this summer. I hear he is planning a ride after every meeting. I say let's ride.

I would also like to thank Ron Lischeid for stepping up as our Rider's Education Coordinator. Ron has some great ideas for the membership this coming year with all sorts of educational choices. Does everyone know how to maintain your bike, just to give a clue of what may be coming?

I've been told that I sometimes talk too much politics. Well fortunately for everyone this is part of my job description. We as the SCVR love to ride and have a good time, to make sure we continue to have that opportunity we all need to talk politics at times. Back in February at Bikerday at the Capitol we saw many of us there all doing the same thing. Bikerday is the biggest day of the year for us to be heard as one voice and heard that day we were. We met new friends and old friends. It was a great day. I

would like to thank ABATE of MN for putting it together for all bikers in the state. It takes a lot of time to make it run as smooth as it does. Maybe next year they will accept a little help from us.

With WI Lobby day postponed till fall it gives us time to look at what is going at the Federal level now. You know with everything going on in the world right now with the Middle East and Japan, not to mention our budget issues, you

(Continued on page 2)



ALERT from the MRF *Submitted by Jim Dahling, MN Legislative Director*

National Helmet Law Threat from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration!!

NHSTA Administrator David Strickland has just submitted their 2012 budget request of \$860 million.

Section 3011, Motorcycle Safety Grants, includes \$7 million specifically targeted for the "Promotion of DOT compliant helmet use."

In the past, these "Motorcycle Safety Grants" have been used for

only two things: one, to teach people to ride motorcycles and two, educate the rest of the motoring public to watch for motorcycles while driving.

"Diluting this already small grant program to include helmet use promotion will certainly diminish the effectiveness of the two existing programs." Says Jeff Hennie, Motorcycle Riders Foundation Vice-President of Government Relations.

We at the St. Croix Valley Riders

ask that you contact your U.S. Representative and U.S. Senator and tell them that you do not want your tax money being diverted from Motorcycle Training and Motorcycle Awareness—tell them mandatory helmet laws are a state issue, not a federal one.

You can find contact information on our website at www.scvr.org and if you need more information beyond that, please feel free to contact Wisconsin Legislative Director, Mike Deavey or Minnesota Legislative Director, Jim Dahling.

Newsletter Contact & Submissions

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Quarterly distribution on the 1st of Jan, April, July and Oct. Deadline is the 15th of the month, prior to quarterly publication. Articles can be submitted for placement free of charge, pending approval of content. Advertising pricing is as follows. Preferred electronic file format is jpeg (print ready).

Size	B&W	Color
Business Card	\$25	\$35
Quarter Page	\$75	\$100
Half Page	\$175	\$200
Full Page	\$350	\$400

Letters to the Editor

You are encouraged to voice your opinion, inform your fellow members of upcoming legislation, or share an interesting ride.

“Most motorcycle problems are caused by the nut that connects the handlebars to the saddle.”



Highlights from the 2011 Legislative Session

by Jim Dahling, Minnesota Legislative Director

The Minnesota 2011 Legislative Session is about half way over. We at the SCVR are following bills, which would have an impact or potential impact on motorcyclists.

Early in the session, a bill was introduced in the MN House of Representatives (HF 68), which would increase the penalties for distracted driving which results in the death of a person. This bill passed through one committee and was passed in a second committee to possibly be added to the “Omnibus” bill which would be formulated later in the Session.

The Senate version of the same bill (SF 201) was heard in the Senate Judiciary and Public Safety Committee on March 1st and after much debate, was tabled. No further action is scheduled on these two bills.

A Senate bill (SF 478), which would allow for Disabled Motorcycle License Plates won Committee approval and now awaits action on the Senate Floor, however, there is no House companion to this bill.

We are watching two bills (HF 918 & SF 596) which would require bicycle riders 15 and under to wear protective headgear. These two bills may not even receive a Committee Hearing, but we do not want any part of them to expand into our Motorcycle Rights area.

A bill was introduced in the Senate (SF 682) to “Study” the use of “off road” motor fuels by motorboats, snowmobiles, off-highway motorcycles, etc. Funding for this bill would come from several “dedicated funds” such as the “water recreation account”, snowmobile trails and enforcement account, off-highway motorcycle account in the natural

resources fund, etc. This bill is funded by raiding these various accounts and in the long run, could well diminish motorcyclist’s ability to purchase non-oxygenated (no-alcohol) fuels for their bikes, lawnmowers, etc. There is currently no House companion to this bill.

We continue to fight against the “Motorcycle Only” road stops in Georgia through the Motorcycle Riders Foundation—National Motorcycle Rights Organization. These “Motorcycle Only” stops are being funded through a special grant from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration – agency of the Federal Government, which has never respected our rights! Attempts are now underway in Congress to stop funding for this.

We will keep you apprised of these and other pertinent issues on our website.

Ride Safe and Free.



Wisconsin Legislative Update by Mike Deavey, Wisconsin Legislative Director

Hello SCVR members: Due to all the activities and protesting going in Madison, lobby day April 5th 2011 will be rescheduled for sometime during the legislative fall session. ABATE of Wisconsin will have a

small group of members heading to Madison on April 5th to lay the foot work for the fall session. I was invited to attend and accepted to represent the SCVR. Act 466 Technical repair bill, signed by Governor Jim Doyle in 2006, to increase penalties for right of way violations has not been properly enforced. Law enforcement agen-

cies have failed to write the appropriate tickets for violations resulting in serious injury or death. When passed, this bill would remove license suspension from the hands of the judicial system into the hands of the Department Of Transportation. The Legislations priority during the spring session will be focused on

the budget. We feel other issues would be overlooked until this is done. I will keep members of the SCVR posted on the rescheduled date for Lobby Day.

Need Help contacting your Representative? Please call 651-295-0262 or e-mail mdeavey@hotmail.com



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www.scvr.org

Prez Sez by Dwight Smith

(Continued from page 1)

would think out Legislators would have more to do then be a constant sore in your side. But no, they come up with some plan to make it a law that you must be 18 years old before you can get a drivers license, if pass would give the states three years to comply or lose Federal money. Or how about

this, in the tight budget that we are facing, NHTSA want to take \$7 million dollars to promote DOT compliant helmet use. Seems a little odd that an entity that should have a “crash avoidance” policy has a “safer crashing” policy. But how am I to say, the dollars being spent on that couldn’t possibly help filling the potholes that we can get lost in this year.

Well, that is enough politics for now, I’m sure I have forgotten more but the girl in the garage hasn’t had a bath in awhile. So let’s ride, lower the blood pressure and give the bath she has been waiting for all winter long. See ya on the road. Till then chrome side up and rubber side down. Ride safe and have a blast this summer.



Chili Feed 2011 *by Mark Koon, Chili Feed Chairperson*

Hi Everyone!

Well, it finally looks like spring is arriving and we'll

get to ride soon! I put a bunch of new chrome on mine this winter. Be sure to give your bike a good look before you take it out; change the fluids, check the tires and give her a little clean up too.

This is also the time we start planning our events for the season. We have already had one Round Barn Run and Chili Feed meeting. I plan on having the next Chili Feed meeting following our next general meeting on April 10th at the St. Paul Park Legion Hall at noon. Hopefully all the co-chairs can attend along with any other members who would like to be involved. We still need a few co-chair people for grounds setup, electrical setup and cleanup crew.

This is also the time for us to get sponsors for our events. General

Beer Northwest and Fury Motorcycle are back with us again this year. Fury will be offering our members many great discounts along with other events to be announced. Of course General Beer has the great Miller products, is doing all of our event printing, and all of the cool Miller gifts. We will also be planning a trip to the Leinenkugels plant in Chippewa Falls, WI. Our new

Road Captain, Randy Holland, will keep us updated when that will happen.

If you know of anyone or any business that would like to sponsor one or both events, contact me and I'll get you more info (651.768.9026). We have several different levels of sponsorship starting at \$250.00. Each level gives more exposure in our news-

letter, in our advertising, and at the events.

This year's Chili Feed logo is finished so we can get a head start on promoting the Feed. Chili Feed tickets are available now.

Be careful out there this spring; the roads suck and the cages don't remember we're out there! See you on the road!

2011 Event Sponsorship

10th Annual Round Barn Run or 21st Annual Chili Feed

\$250 – Mini-Bike Sponsor

Includes company name and logo in April and July newsletters and name and logo on Event Sponsorship signage.

\$500 – Dirt Bike Sponsor

Includes Mini-Bike package plus one quarter-page advertisement in April and July newsletters.

\$1,000 – Sport Bike Sponsor

Includes Dirt Bike package plus an upgrade to one half-page advertisement in April and July newsletters AND company name and logo on the Chili Feed Event Flyer/Bar Postings.

\$2,000 – Cruiser Sponsor

Includes Sport package plus an upgrade to one full-page advertisement in April and July newsletters, AND main-stage advertising and a free Vendor Exhibit spot at the event(s).

Round Barn Run and Chili Feed:

If sponsoring both events, we will take 50% off of Round Barn Run sponsorship pricing--\$125; \$250; \$500 and \$1000; respectively. Ask for the sponsorship package of your choice with a sidecar; e.g., the Sport Bike with sidecar.



Merchandise Report

by Christy Koethe, Products Coordinator

Here we are getting everything ready for the 1st ride of the season.

Even though some of us have been out for short rides trying to help the "fever."

There is new merchandise available now with many colors and sizes. There will be new pics shortly available on the scvr.org

site. The Winter Membership drive was a huge success as we out sold last year's dollar totals. I want to thank everyone for their help at the Red Barn as well as helping out at the Donny Smith show.

I am taking volunteers for the Round Barn Run and the Chili Feed. If you have a specific slot you wish to occupy at the Merchandise area, feel free to call me before it fills up, 651.492.2409. See ya Soon.

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Membership Notes *by Sheila Sumner, Membership Coordinator*

Thank you to all of the volunteers and members in attendance that

made this year's Mid-Winter Membership Drive and Party such a big success! The food was awesome, the beer was free (as usual), and the live music by Gel was rockin'!

If you'd like to be contacted to get into the 2011 Round Barn Run or the 2012 Midwinter Party for free by volunteering for a few hours, please send me an email at SCVR_Sheila@yahoo.com.

SCVR Spring Membership Drive/Open House, spon-



Mid-Winter Membership Drive and Party, Cottage Grove, MN

sored by Fury Motorcycles. Saturday, April 30th from noon-5pm at Fury Motorcycles on Concord St in South St Paul, MN

Free Beer/Pop/BBQ * Free Live Music by Pork Chop * Raffles (held at 4:30pm, must be present to win) * Vendors * Demo rides * Door Prizes

Come on down and check out the bikes and merchandise at Fury Motorcycles! Stay for some live entertainment and free beer and lunch. Bring some friends! Every SCVR member that brings in a referral that signs up for membership will get raffle tickets for both the current member and the new member. Raffle prizes include:

- 2 pairs of SCVR Round Barn Run and Chili Feed tickets (one of each ticket—total value of \$80 per pair)
- 2 103ci Big Bore Up-grade Kits (valued at \$1,000 each)

- 2 BigDog "Demo for a Day" motorcycle rides (valued at \$289 each)
- 2 2011/2012 Winter Storage packages (Valued at \$300 each)
- And more!!

Current members - the more people you bring to the party, the better your chances to win!

New members - welcome aboard! Membership definitely has its rewards. See you there!

As always, there is a \$100 prize for the person who refers the most new members in each calendar year. Grab your friends and visit the SCVR booth at the Donnie Smith Show, bring them down to the Open House, a General Membership Meeting, or have them mail in a membership application, or show them how to become members online! NOTE: If your referrals sign up online, have them send an email to SCVR_Sheila@yahoo.com to let me know who referred them for membership, and you will get credit for the referral contest.

Check out our new event and

membership packages at www.scvr.org/onlinetickets.html. It's a great way to purchase your SCVR event tickets and apparel in advance, and save money by purchasing them in packages!

Don't forget!! If you move, change phone numbers or email addresses, send the new info to SCVR_Sheila@yahoo.com so you don't miss out on newsletter, meeting notifications, and other info from the St. Croix Valley Riders.

Sun-Thur 10am-2am
Fri-Sat 9am-2:30am

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Meanderings *by Jill Kielblock, SCVR Lobbyist*

As I compose this article it feels like Spring has finally arrived al-

though I'm not so presumptuous to assume that there won't be snow after March 15th. The melting snow, the sunshine, the smell of the first rain sure make one think about riding. I know some of you are already out and about but I think I'll wait for a few more rain showers to wash more of the salt, sand and gravel off the road. The bike is ready but this wimpy biker isn't quite there

yet. I've had the T-CLOCS information in previous Spring newsletters, but I think it bears repeating. Most of you are familiar with the T-CLOCS pre-ride checklist but how often do you really use it? Although you should do a quick run through each time you are getting ready to ride, it is really important at the beginning of the season.

T = tires and wheels (rims, tread wear, air pressure, etc.)

C = Cables and Controls (clutch, break, throttle, shifter should be working smoothly; no frayed or worn cables)

L = Lights (headlights – bright and regular, turn signals, taillight, brake light)

O = Oil and Fluids (check for leaks, check levels, remember the battery)

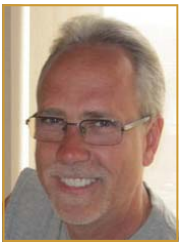
C = Chassis (check for cracks at gussets and accessory mounts, steering smoothness, suspension, drive belts)

S = Side/kick stand (check for cracks, bending, spring tension)

It's important to keep the mechanical plant operating smoothly. If you aren't worried about yourself, think about the passenger you carry and the friends you ride with. You have responsibility for

more than yourself!

Let's all approach the upcoming riding season with care for ourselves and fellow riders. I encourage you to think about updating your own skills by taking some kind of class this year. Even if you think you know it all – you don't. Sorry but none of us is the perfect rider and you can always learn something or get a useful reminder in a class. Check out the Rider Education page of the SCVR web page for more information about classes being offered through SCVR, the SCVR reimbursement policy, and links to some local training sites.



Biker Get-a-Way with All the Comforts of Home *by Dave Anderson, President Emeritus*

Typically, when many of us think of a biker weekend, it means bungee cord-

ing a tent and a sleeping bag to the backrest and riding out to a favorite rally. Riding the area roads by day, partying and listening to live music at night until it is time to crawl into the nylon shelter for a few hours rest. This all reminds me of the best memories and I wouldn't want it any other way... but there are some exceptions.

Last summer for my birthday, my

wife got me a weekend at the Blue Highway Motorcycle Lodge. It was a biker's get-a-way with all the comforts of home. The name Blue Highway is a reference back to when highway maps colored the main routes in red and the back roads in blue. Blue Highway is located in southwestern Wisconsin near Hillsboro. The area roads have more curves than a Nelly video, the scenery through Wildcat Mountain State Park is amazing, the locals are friendly as heck and owners, Dan & Brandy, couldn't be cooler.

Blue Highway is a "motorcycle

only" retreat with paved roads that lead to newly constructed cottages for two people that include a king-size bed, galley kitchen, whirlpool tub, gas fireplace, screened-in porch, and a concrete parking pad. In the backyard of your cottage, there's a picnic table and fire pit just in case you need the feel of camping.

The only traffic we experienced was leaving on Sunday morning as church was just letting out. The



Blue Highway Motorcycle Lodge, Hillsboro, WI

road was suddenly filled with horse drawn buggies driven by their Amish neighbors. So, if you find yourself in Vernon County, WI on a Sunday morning, take heed of "Road Apples" in your path.



From the Road Guide *by Randy Holland*

Hi everybody! Hope I am not the only person here chomping at the bit to get riding. I took the dust covers off the bikes this week, hooked up the battery tenders again and looked at my records for oil changes. Then I opened the garage door and got my dose of reality! No worries though as I loaded up the Subur-

ban with maps and drove the beautiful Wisconsin countryside mapping out the Round Barn Run for this year, not once but twice. I hope to have a few new roads this year to change it up a little. I will now take this opportunity to thank my wife who not only read the maps, but also wrote down all the turns too!

That being said, I am putting out the word now that we need to get anyone who is interested in being

a road guide signed up for the June 5th Experienced Rider Course. Contact Jim Dahling to sign up for the course. I highly recommend this class to everyone.

We have been asked to map out and guide the HAVE A HEART run on June 25th, which will also include the SCVR BIKE SHOW!! Start watching the website for details. I hope to see a large turnout of members for a great day of riding ending with a night of fun

and camping! Anyone interested in being a road guide for this event or the Round Barn Run please contact me (hollandwar@embarqmail.com).

For now about all we can do is wait for the snow to melt and get ready to ride. I drove past a big church in Durand this weekend while mapping the R.B.R. and the sign out front read "WHOEVER HAS BEEN PRAYING FOR SNOW CAN STOP NOW!"... Maybe the pastor is a biker...?

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SATURDAY APRIL 30TH 2011

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www.scvr.org

SCVR Spring Membership Drive and Open House

Sponsored by Fury Motorcycles

Saturday, April 30th, Noon—5pm

at Fury Motorcycles on Concord Street, South St. Paul, MN

Come on down and check out the bikes and merchandise at Fury Motorcycles! Stay for some live entertainment by Pork Chop, free beer and lunch. Bring some friends! Every SCVR member that brings in a referral that signs up for membership will get raffle tickets for both the current member and the new member. Current members—the more people you bring to the party, the better your chance to win! New Members—Welcome aboard!

Membership definitely has its rewards.



BBQ—Beer—Band

Free!

Free Beer/Pop/BBQ * Live Music by Pork Chop

Vendors * Demo rides * Door Prizes

Raffles (held at 4:30pm, must be present to win)

Raffle Prizes include:

- 2 Packages* of tickets for 2011 SCVR Events:
 - ⇒ 2 Round Barn Run tickets
 - ⇒ 2 Chili Feed tickets
- 2 103ci Big Bore Upgrade Kits (valued at \$1,000 ea)
- 2 BigDog "Demo for a Day" motorcycle rides (valued at \$289 ea)
- 2 2011/2012 Winter Storage packages (Valued at \$300 ea)
- And much more!!

**One package for current members; one package for new members*



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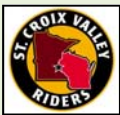
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2011 SCVR ELECTIONS

Nominations for SCVR Officers will begin at the April general membership meeting and conclude at the May meeting. Elections will take place at the annual meeting on June 12th.

If you are a member in good standing but cannot attend the annual meeting and you want to be part of the process, absentee ballots are available by request. The deadline to request an absentee ballot is May 31st. Your ballot must be in the SCVR post office box no later than June 10th. To receive an absentee ballot, contact Angela Meuwissen

e-mail: scvr_absent_ballots@yahoo.com
phone: 651.343.3146



32nd Annual

BELLECHESTER BIKER DANCE

SATURDAY, MAY 7, 2011
Bellechester Community Center
Bellechester, MN

(Located between Red Wing and Rochester)

8:30 – 12:30

Live Rock & Roll Music by BACKLASH

B.Y.O.B. (no glass, please) SET-UPS AVAILABLE

EVERYONE WELCOME!!

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