

### Red Wing, MN Ride October 1st & 2nd, 2011

On Saturday, October 1st...we all met at Larry's restaurant in Plainfield at 6:30am for an early breakfast...nine motorcycles and twelve riders! Lee, Cindy and I arrived at about 6:15am to find Dave and Ken already there. Soon afterwards, here came Charlie and Dawn...and Bill and Linda...and then Kellie. Bob and Kathy called to let us know that Bob was dealing with a flu bug and consequently could not join us for the ride...so we waited for Tracy and Stephanie...who we called to find that they would join us by 7:30am just prior to our agreed departure time.



We all enjoyed laughs, coffee and a very good breakfast. About 7:15am we worked our way to the bikes and began to suit up as it was about 38 degrees out...a bit chilly however we were all ready for the ride as we looked forward to sunshine and blue skies that were forecast. When Tracy and Stephanie arrived we set off for Savannah, Illinois where we planned to head north along the Mississippi River. When we got to the Savannah area, we decided to stop for a while at Poopy's Biker Bar and Grill...it was fun...lots of bikes to see.



Heading North, Bill lead us through a beautiful scenic ride all the way to Galena, Illinois where I took the lead and we continued our way north to East Dubuque, Illinois and thereafter into Wisconsin. We stopped in Dickeyville, Wisconsin for lunch at the Sunshine Bowling Alley...good food and lots of laughs.



Afterward, we headed north to Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin where we crossed over into Iowa to ride the river roads on that side of the river for a while. We soon crossed over back into Wisconsin and up to La Crosse, Wisconsin and then crossed one more time into Minnesota and headed north to Red Wing along the river on U.S. 61.



We arrived in Red Wing where we all looked forward to refreshments and dinner...YES at the bowling alley restaurant across the street from our motel. Cindy and I were off to bed by 9:30pm but I understand that others closed the bar sometime later!



The next morning we left Red Wing at 8am...all of us except for Dawn and Charlie who decided to sleep in a bit and ride the interstates back home later. We rode south on U.S. 61 and crossed over into Wisconsin at La Crosse...and then headed to the Wildcat Mountain State Park area where we saw some of the most beautiful colors as the leaves were in the midst of their yearly change!



We wound our way through the beautiful country roads and stopped for lunch in Hillsboro, Wisconsin at Holly's Restaurant...which provided the best home cooked food that we could hope for...very good and a must stop!



Onward southeast through Baraboo, Wisconsin and further where we hit Interstate 39S as Lee HAD to get home by a specific time...since he had a date that night... I decided to ride the interstate for a while to help him meet his deadline.

Anyway...we all crossed into Illinois and soon thereafter split off as we each were headed home and back into some variation of the real world once again...however we all did have one more ride this year to enjoy...and this one had the Poopy's, the Mississippi and all the beautiful colors anyone could want...along with good food, good food and lots of FUN!

Kindest Regards,

Jim Copas-Ride Leader