

Blue Knights Ride Board 2011 (Summer Rides)

Provided are dates for proposed rides that have been utilized with previous rides. A new option will be the “plug n’ go” where you can take the ride locations and plug them into weekends (or weekdays) at random.

JULY

Saturday, July 2nd - Moonshine, IL

I completed my annual trek and paid homage to the cheeseburger on 06/04 so I can either forward directions, or a better way is to refer you to the Moonshine, IL website. There you can get a good idea about this destination and the route(s) leading to it.

Sunday, July 17th – Starved Rock, Utica, IL

Leave Kingpin Lounge parking lot 9:00 am

Sunday, July 31st – Breakfast/brunch ride to Granite City Food & Brewery, East Peoria, IL

Leave Kingpin Lounge parking lot 9:00 am.

AUGUST

Saturday, August 6th – River Road ride to St. Charles, MO

Leave Myra’s Restaurant (Pawnee/Auburn exit) 9:00 am

Sunday, August 14th – Beef House Restaurant, Covington, IN (voted Indiana’s best steak house)

Leave Shell on Clear Lake 9:00 am (for more info refer to website)

Directions: I-72 to I-57 North / I-57 North to I-74 East / I-74 east to Indiana State Route 63 / ST RT 63 north to 16501 North State Road 63, Covington, IN

Hours: 11:00 am – 9:00 pm, for reservations call: 765/793-3947

Sunday, August 21st - The Loading Dock Bar & Grill, Grafton, IL

Leave Shell on Clear Lake 10:00 am (for more info refer to website)

Hours: 11:00 am – 10:00 pm

Address: 401 E. Front / Grafton, IL / TX: 618/786-3494

Saturday, August 27th – Famous Dave’s Restaurant, Bloomington, IL (specializing in BBQ)

Leave Kingpin Lounge parking lot 12:00 pm

Directions: I-55 north to Veteran Parkway exit (Bloomington) / follow Veterans Parkway north to US RT 150 (Morrissey Drive) / turn right followed by another right just south of the intersection)

Hours: Open for lunch & dinner

SEPTEMBER

Saturday/Sunday, September 10th & 11th – Patti’s 1880s Restaurant, Grand Rivers, KY

Leave to be determined

Much info on website

Saturday, September 17th – Yoder’s Kitchen (Restaurant, Bakery & Gift Shop)

Located off Hwy 133 in the heart of Amish country

Address: 1195 E. Columbia Street, Arthur, IL

Leave Shell on Clear Lake 9:00 am

For more info please go to Yoder’s Kitchen website

Saturday/Sunday, September 24th & 25th – Galena, IL

Leave to be determined

Much info on website or contact me for info/recommendations

OCTOBER

Saturday/Sunday, October 1st & 2nd – The Gardens Inn, Bedford, IN

Great Riding in Southern Indiana – Located in the rolling hills of Southern Indiana, The Gardens Inn B&B is just feet away from some of the best roads your bike has ever experienced. Twist your way through rolling hills, under tree canopies, past limestone bluffs, alongside sparkling lakes and through historic covered bridges, all within your day’s ride.

2, 3 or 4 Night Packages

Custom planned route

Climate – controlled garage parking

Breakfast each morning

Dinner at unique local restaurants

Cleaning supplies for your bike

Dessert each evening and more

Call 812/278-9980 or go online at www.gardensinn.com for more information

Sunday, October 16th – Starved Rock Fall ride, Utica, IL

Phenomenal fall scenery (leaves should be changing) along the Illinois River. Restaurants include Duffy’s Tavern (a personal favorite) along with other assorted biker friendly restaurants in downtown Utica. The Lodge located in the park offers indoor dining (reservations required which can be made on arrival, just a formality), or you can dine on the outdoor stone patio overlooking the park. The more scenic routes are IL RT 29 along the Illinois River to IL RT 71. Ride east on RT 71 to IL RT 178, then north to the park/Utica. On the return ride IL RT 26 offers a different and more rural view of the river.

Leave Kingpin Lounge parking lot 9:00 am

As I’ve said all along, if anyone has a favorite ride throw it into the mix. To make planning these days easier and to avoid having individuals showing up at the meeting location only to find no one else is participating, please advise Norval Melton at least 3 days in advance of a ride if you plan on going. Norval, if you would please compile and email a list of those participating to all club members before each ride it should avoid Saturday or Sunday morning “surprises.”

Thanks, and if you see anything I’m omitting please let me know.

Jim Howell