

Our Chapter Website is: <http://www.womenontheedge.info>.

Send your request to join the group site on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com>

Women on the Edge is a chapter of Women On Wheels® out of western Wisconsin & southeast Minnesota



WOMEN ON THE EDGE CHAPTER NEWSLETTER



A VIEW FROM THE EDGE OF THE CHAPTER DIRECTOR'S SEAT

Good news – Sonya Mix, our web site liaison has the Women on the Edge web site up and running again. Thank you Sonya! Hopefully I won't have any trouble keeping this new format up to date with new events, newsletters, photos and information of all kinds. One new addition available there now is the Wisconsin State Schedule. Remember that we can all participate with any WOW chapter anywhere, anytime.

I encourage you to check out our updated chapter site at <http://womenontheedge.info/>.

Meantime, I am continuing to soak up the Arizona sunshine. Most days anyway. As I write this, it has been raining all day, but until this week we have been having above average winter temps, which makes for great riding opportunities. I think I've put on almost 1500 miles since writing the last newsletter. Four of those miles were on a rutted, washboard, mostly gravel





road (which if you know me, you know I do NOT do) but they were worth it as they led to the [Coolidge Dam](#) which was dedicated in 1930 to create the San Carlos Lake on the Gila River.

Check out this [web site](#) for better pictures of the dam. It is truly a historical treasure.

This ride was arranged by the North Phoenix Cruisers, one of my favorite meet-up groups. And of course every ride has to include lunch.



IFRD: International Female Ride Day

The Minnesota State Director, Norine McVann, has made arrangements for all the chapters to pose for a group photo at the Aerial Lift Bridge in Duluth and has invited us to participate. If neither of the meet up spots work for you, you can join the group at Aerostich in Duluth around noon (check with Norine for a more specific time if you plan to do so). I know that can be a long ride in early morning that time of the year, so another fun option would be to make a 3 day party of it by going up the day before, hopefully with a few others. That way you could travel back and forth during the warmest part of the day and still be a part of this awesome event. Unfortunately I won't be back from Arizona in time to participate but I hope that some of you will make plans together to do so. Below is the event flyer.



International Female Ride Day (IFRD)

May 5 & 6, 2018

This year we will be riding to Duluth for another GREAT photo op! I have selected the iconic Aerial Lift Bridge for our group picture. I hope you will mark your calendar to join in the ride and fun. With any luck, this could prove to be another winner for our state at the National level.

The ride will begin at **8:30 AM (KICK STANDS UP!)** in Bloomington at the BP Gas Station at the intersection of Normandale BLVD & 98th Street; the same location as last year. We will have a 2nd meet-up location in Mora, MN **(10:30 AM)** at the BP Gas Station at the intersection of HWY 23 and Clark Street. From there we will make our way to Duluth where our first stop will be at Aerostich before making our way to Canal Park for our group shot with the Aerial Lift Bridge as our backdrop.

A block of rooms with 2 queen size beds has been reserved at the Edgewater Hotel & Waterpark, 2400 London Road, Duluth. The price is \$147 including tax and a pass to the indoor waterpark. A buffet breakfast is available Sunday morning for \$6.99. We will take a scenic route back to the Cities following breakfast.

To reserve your space you must RSVP by April 4th.

Simply indicate you are with Women On Wheels when you call.

Please call: 218-728-3601

<https://www.duluthwaterpark.com/>

Please email me if you plan to attend: Norine.McVann@yahoo.com

WOW WOW: I hope you made note of the date correction and reservation instructions in the email I sent out recently for the **Women On Wheels® Women Only Weekend**. You can check out the layout of the facility on the [Logan Mill Lodge web site](#). At last word, there was 1 sofa bed & 1 queen bedroom still available. Send your reservation request to Ruth Rupp (owner and fellow WOW member). If you have ever attended a WOW WOW I don't need to tell you that it is always a fun time, and you can't beat the camaraderie afforded by the accommodations this year, not to mention the great price.

Logan Mill Lodge (LML) Beds available for WOW-WOW weekend August 3&4, 2018

See floor plans on www.LoganMillLodge.com

Ruth Rupp, owner of LML & WOW member, started taking reservations on 1-1-2018

To make reservation email your name, cell phone, bed choice to info@LoganMillLodge.com

(Include bed choice 1st, 2nd, 3rd and name of roommate if you have a preference) **And HURRY, because there's only a couple spaces left!**

Ruth will reply to your email to confirm reservation & email you an invoice.

Note WOW discount rate

<u>Condo</u>	<u>Bed Location</u>	<u>Weekend Cost (Fri & Sat night)</u>
1	Living Room - Sofa	\$ 50.00
1	Living Room - Sofa	\$ 50.00
1	Bedroom 1 - queen	\$100.00
1	Bedroom 2 - twin	\$ 50.00
1	Bedroom 2 - twin	\$ 50.00
2	Living Room - queen	\$ 50.00
2	Living Room - queen	\$ 50.00
2	Bedroom 1- queen	\$100.00
2	Bedroom 2- queen	\$100.00
3	Bedroom 1 - twin	\$ 50.00
3	Bedroom 1 - twin	\$ 50.00
3	Bedroom 2 - twin	\$ 50.00
3	Bedroom 2 - twin	\$ 50.00
3	Bedroom 3 - twin	\$ 50.00
3	Bedroom 3 - twin	\$ 50.00
3	Bedroom 4 - twin	\$ 50.00
3	Bedroom 4 - twin	\$ 50.00
Total rental fee	with WOW discount	1,000.00
(Normal rental fee \$1,400.00)		

If you choose not to stay at Logan Mill Lodge you may make reservations at:

Old Towne Inn & Motel

Nordic Inn Motel (4 blocks from LML)

Westby House B&B (2 blocks from LML)
The apartments above Borgens Café (1 block from LML)

Friday evening we gather as we arrive in informal groups at a variety of good eating places within walking distance of the Lodge. Saturday, there will likely be a group ride OR you may choose to canoe down the Kickapoo! We generally gather for a private evening meal at Borgen's in Westby though Ruth is making the arrangements this year and that may depend on how many attend. Sunday morning we say our farewells and head home. This is a general description of the weekend from past years; Ruth will be making more specific arrangements as the time draws near – make your reservations & stay tuned!

GO LEAH* !

The following was copied from a Facebook Post:

Terry Connett [to](#) Durango Bike Week Rendezvous
February 11 at 9:03pm ·

Excited to be the keynote speaker at the [Indian Motorcycle Durango Bike Week Rendezvous](#) in June! I heard rumors a state senator will be in the audience...#breathe #lifebeginsoutsideyourcomfortzone #toocool!



We are very pleased to announce that Leah Misch* will be our Guest Speaker during the Annual Banquet Dinner, Thursday, June 14.

Leah travels the country on two wheels sharing her inspiring story of 'You Go Girl'. Using her motorcycle as a vehicle for moving forward, she encourages others to overcome obstacles, break through barriers and achieve their goals.

Her message of hope, survival, and believing in yourself is one you'll never forget.

To purchase Banquet Dinner tickets and meet Leah in person: <http://www.durangorendezvous.com/home.html>

To learn more about Leah Misch*, visit www.ridingwithleah.com

*(note Leah is a WOW member from La Crosse, Wisconsin)

2018 CALENDAR EVENTS:

Note that the following list includes planned Women on the Edge chapter activities, as well as others that may be of interest. If you are planning to attend an event that may be of interest to our members, or just know of one in the area, please email me so we can share with everyone.

It is no longer necessary to set all of the dates way in advance, now that most of us have immediate communication available, so events can be adjusted closer to the date to allow for weather, anticipated member participation or other considerations. More complete information on each event (and maybe some new ones) will be provided via email, our chapter Facebook page, and our web site at <http://womenontheedge.info/> So be sure to check those avenues for final places, dates and times before attending. If that technology is not available to you, call one of your chapter officers, listed at the end of the newsletter.

MAR 1 – The Women On Wheels® annual mileage contest. Log in to the [WOW web site](#) and enter your beginning odometer reading in your MOTO garage

APR 1 – Our Diggin' It FunTest begins. [Click here for details](#)

MAY 5-6 IFRD Minnesota WOW photo op, Duluth MN. [See Flyer](#)

MAY 20, 11:00 a.m. – Semi-Annual Mtg. and All Member Birthday Bash at Denny's in the Flying J on Hwy 54 in Black River Falls, WI. Time and weather permitting Amy R will lead a short ride after the meeting through the Mindoro Cut. If you wish to participate in the random "birthday" gift exchange (the

kind with lots of fun "stealing" going on), bring an anonymous gift (about \$15-20).

JUNE 16 – Carol M of Eau Claire will plan a ride. Details TBD

JULY 10-12 [WOMEN ON WHEELS® RIDE-IN](#), Johnson City TN. Go to the web site and hover over "Ride-In™" to register and find host hotel information.

JULY 22 – Linda S of La Crosse will plan a ride. Details TBD

AUGUST 3-5 WOW-WOW (Women On Wheels® Women Only Weekend), Logan Mill Lodge, Westby WI (see [registration instructions](#) on Pg. 8 & reserve ASAP)

AUGUST 12, 11:00 A.M. – Winona Fleet Farm on Hwy 61, ending at Lark Toys in Kellogg MN for the BAGC (Bikers Annual mini-Golf Championship)

AUGUST 18 – 2 Brothers Road Riders, led by Jo Johnson, will ride to the High Ground in Neillsville for the "Ride to Remember". Details TBA

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER - Doreen & Dorothy of Lancaster WI will lead a ride either Sept. 29 or Oct. 6. Details TBC

OCTOBER – There will be an impromptu Fall Color Ride – watch for information in an email and on Facebook. Maybe YOU even have an idea and want to step up and lead it! Details TBD

NOVEMBER 4, 11:00 a.m. – Semi-Annual Mtg, Chili Dump & Auction at Carol's in Eau Claire (2611 Kay St).

'WHATCHA' BEEN DOIN' ?

2 BROTHERS POWERSPORTS; 2 BROTHERS ROAD RIDERS

A big WOW thank you shout out to 2 Brothers Powersports of Onalaska, WI for their support of Women on Wheels.

On Saturday 2/17 the 2 Brothers Road Riders group held their annual potluck and summer ride planning meeting. This group welcomes all riders for a once



a month summer ride. You can find the ride schedule on their Facebook page and their web site <https://www.2brotherspowersports.com/--2brothers-road-riders>

Jo Johnson shared important information about the Medical ID app for rider/group ride safety. Her comments were taken to heart and an emergency master contact list will be maintained going forward.

Several riders commented that they would be adding the app to their phones and keeping the phones close to their bodies on future rides.



Pictured seated are Jen Brown - media/event coordinator and Owner Ben George. Standing are WOW support member Keith Barkalow and members Amy Roberts and Jo Johnson. Amy, Keith and Jo can all vouch for the service and care they received from 2 Brothers Powersports. They modified Amy's bike in several ways to accommodate her size and riding style.

For their Spyder riders (and friends) they have planned the 4th annual Spyder Spin the weekend of May 25-27.

Please feel free to stop by and thank the staff at 2 Brothers Powersports for their support and check out their equipment, gear and events.

Tell them WOW sent you!

Amy Roberts, Member #19794

Safety Corner

January/February 2018

Deb Althaus, Safety Officer # 5592

The following article is worth repeating over and over again because people in cars and trucks do not see us!

15 Riding-In-Traffic Tips

Basics? Sure. But keeping them fresh in your cranial RAM could be the difference between riding tomorrow and The Long Nap

By Motorcyclist Staff: Kevin Wing

Close your eyes and recall your last ride in heavy traffic. Imagine the vehicles surrounding you, crowding you, cutting you off. Imagine yourself monitoring closing speeds, reading street signs, noticing and anticipating traffic lights. Then imagine guessing what pedestrians will do, or how slippery that painted line might be. And those drivers with cell phones, newspapers or screaming kids to deal with...imagine trying to guess what they're going to do.

Riding in traffic can be a nightmare, especially for street-riding newcomers. Is it any wonder so many motorcyclists crash and burn while riding on congested streets? It's amazing how many different tasks motorcyclists deal with on a normal traffic-choked commute. Doing it successfully means processing a multitude of items at once and reacting correctly to each. Doing it wrong can mean roadkill--the human kind. Here are 15 smart strategies for dealing with traffic-choked streets.

Watch drivers' heads and mirrors

Watching the head movements of drivers through their windows and mirrors

is an excellent way to anticipate sudden moves. Most drivers won't lunge left or right without first moving their heads one way or another (even if they don't check their mirrors).

Trust your mirrors, but not totally

Your bike's mirrors can be lifesavers, but they don't always tell the entire story even if they're adjusted properly. In traffic, always buttress your mirror-generated rear view with a glance over the appropriate shoulder. Do it quickly and you'll add an extra measure of rear-view and blind-spot knowledge to your info-gathering tasks.

Never get between a vehicle and an off-ramp

This sounds almost too simple, but drivers who decide to exit at the last minute kill plenty of riders each year. The simple rule, then, is to never position yourself between a vehicle and an off-ramp. Passing on the right is generally a no-no, but in this day and age it's sometimes necessary. So if you do it, do so between exits or cross-streets.

Cover your brakes

In traffic you must often react extra quickly, which means not fumbling for the brake lever or pedal. To minimize reach time, always keep a finger or two on the brake lever and your right toe close to the rear brake pedal. When that cell phone-yakking dorkus cuts across your path trying to get to the 7-Eleven for a burrito supreme, you'll be ready.

Be noticed

Make sure drivers and pedestrians can see you, even from a distance. Ride with your high beam on during the day (as a courtesy, turn it off when sitting behind someone at a light), and wear brightly colored gear, especially your helmet and jacket. Aerostich's Hi Vis yellow suits and jackets aren't just hugely conspicuous; they've also become fashionable, so now you don't have an excuse.

Be ready with the power

In traffic, ride in a gear lower than you normally would so your bike is ready to jump forward instantly if asked. (Not everyone rides open-class twins, after all.) Doing so gives you the option of leaping ahead instead of being limited to just using the brakes when that pickup suddenly moves over. The higher revs might also alert more cagers to your presence.

Traffic slowing? Stay left (or right)

When traffic slows suddenly, stay to the left or right of the car in front of you. This will give you an escape route if needed. It will also help keep you from becoming a hood ornament if the car behind you fails to stop in time.

Once you've stopped, be ready--clutch in, your bike in gear and your eyes on the mirrors. You never know.

Practice the scan

Constantly scanning your entire environment while riding--from instruments to mirrors to the road ahead to blind spots to your left and right rear--keeps you aware and in touch with your situation, and therefore better able to react. Dwelling on one area too long--watching only behind or in front of you, for instance--is just begging for trouble.

Left-turn treachery

When approaching an oncoming car that's stopped and about to turn left, be ready. Your brights should be on so the driver can see you (during the day), but don't rely on this to save you. Watch the car's wheels or the driver's hands on the steering wheel; if you see movement, be ready to brake, swerve or accelerate, whichever seems best for the situation.

Study the surface

Add asphalt conditions to your scan. Be on the lookout for spilled oil, antifreeze or fuel; it'll usually show up as shiny pavement. Also keep an eye out for gravel and/or sand, which is usually more difficult to see. Use your sense of smell, too; often you can smell spilled diesel fuel before your tires discover how slippery the stuff is.

Ride in open zones

Use your bike's power and maneuverability to ride in open zones in traffic. In any grouping of vehicles there are always some gaps; find these and ride in them. Doing so will separate you from four-wheelers, give you additional room to maneuver and allow you to keep away from dangerous blind spots. And vary your speed. Riding along with the flow can make you invisible to other drivers, especially in heavy traffic.

Use that thumb

Get into the habit of canceling your turn signals often regardless of the traffic situation. A blinking signal might tell drivers waiting to pull into the road or turning left in front of you that you're about to turn when you aren't. So push that switch a few times each minute. Better to wear out the switch than eat a Hummer's hood, eh?

It's good to be thin

A huge advantage single-track vehicles have over four-wheelers is their ability to move left and right within a lane to enable the rider to see what's ahead. Whether you're looking to the side of the cars ahead or through their windshields, seeing what's coming can give you lots of extra time to react.

More than one way out

Yeah, motorcycles fall down. But they're also light, narrow and hugely maneuverable, so you might as well learn to exploit their strengths when things get ugly, right? So don't just brake hard in a hairball situation. There's almost always an escape route. Swerving into Mrs. Smith's front yard could be a lot better than center punching the Buick that turned left in front of you. Always have an escape route planned, and update it minute by minute.

Running interference

This one's easy, and we'll bet most of you already do it: Let larger vehicles run interference for you when negotiating intersections. If the bonehead coming toward you from the left or right is going to blow the light, better they hit the box van next to you, right? For the same reasons, don't lunge through an intersection as soon as the light turns green. Be patient, and use the vehicles next to you as cover.

Women on the Edge Participating Dealers



PLEASE SUPPORT OUR WOW PARTICIPATING DEALERS !!

WOMEN ON WHEELS® MISSION STATEMENT

To unite all women motorcycle enthusiasts for recreation, education, mutual support, recognition and to promote a positive image of motorcycling.

All Women on Wheels® members are welcome to participate with any chapter in all chapter functions. Guests are more than welcome also. We encourage all guests to join Women on Wheels®, as membership is required for continued chapter participation and because only WOW members are protected under our insurance plan. Application forms are available in the WOW magazine or from any chapter officer.

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