

2026 AREA RIDING CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Version 5.0 – Last Updated 3/18/2026

FEBRUARY

- 21 – Margarita Run with Freeport ABATE
- 21 – Kickstart the Season National Event @ Kegel H-D 10am-2pm
- 27 – 2026 Let's Ride Challenge & Ride Free (Show Us Your America) Begins @ Kegel H-D
- 28 – Motorcycles & Motown with the Road Gliderz @ Kegel H-D Noon-3pm
- 28 – Rock River HOG Ice Cream Social @ Kegel H-D Noon-2pm

Daytona Bike Week: February 27-March 8

MARCH

- 7 – Get Ready to Ride expo @ Kegel H-D starting at 10am
- 7 – Chili Bingo with the Blue Knights IL V
- 14 – Spring Party @ Kegel H-D
- 14 – .1k at Benny's @ Kegel H-D (in the morning)
- 14 – Freeport ABATE's 40th Anniversary
- 14 – St. Patty's Day Breakfast with Kishwaukee Valley ABATE @ Neighbors
- 14 – Rockford's St. Patty's Day Parade
- 22 – ABATE of IL Swap Meet
- 22 – Thunder Rock ABATE Chili Cook Off & Broom Stick Pool 1-4pm at Mullarky's Bar & Grill

APRIL

- 4 – Monster Meat Raffle 1-5pm with Chosen Crue SC at American Legion Post #77
- 18 – Annual Blood Drive with Kishwaukee Valley ABATE @ Kegel H-D

MAY

- 2 – Safety & Awareness Parade with Kishwaukee Valley ABATE
KSU: 11am @ Carlson Ice Arena followed by a hot dog lunch @ Kegel H-D
- 2 – Kegel H-D's Spring Swap Meet
- 3 – Catherwood Memorial Ride
- 3 – Ride Janie Ride
- 3 – Utica Bike Blessing with CMA-Steel Witness Chapter
- 3 – Slimey Crud with Rockford Area Riders
- 9 – Hogs & Dogs and Bike Blessing with CMA-Steel Witness Chapter @ Kegel H-D
- 9 – Memorial Run with Freeport ABATE
- 13 – ABATE of IL Legislative Day
- 16 – Safety Expo @ Kegel H-D
- 17 – Vet's Roll Outbound Ride Escort (AM)
- 20 – Vet's Roll Inbound Ride Escort (PM)
- 23 – Blessing with CMA-Steel Witness Chapter @ Sledgehammer's
- 23 – Pigs Fly Ride with Steel Pigs (starts @ Neighbors, ends @ Crazy Times – 100 mile ride)

JUNE

- 6 – Rockin the Valley with Benny's @ Kegel H-D
- 6 – Hogs & Dogs with Wildflowers on Wheels at Kegel H-D
- 6 – Bob Carroll Memorial Ride with ISMA
- 5-7 - Buffalo Soliders Harley Factory?
- 11-13 - Get Your Groove On with the Midwest Women's Riders in Rockford's
- 12 – Get Your Groove On party with KegelHD & Benny's Bourbon, Tequila, Slots (time TBA)
- 12-13 – Harley-Davidson Demo Truck @ Kegel H-D
- 12-13 – Same Wind Rider's MC Anniversary Weekend at 525 Washington St, South Beloit
- 13 – Women Riders World Record Attempt put on by the Midwest Women Riders
Leaving from Hard Rock Casino
- 13 - 5th Annual Wendy Hacker Memorial Ride with Chosen Crue, leaves Crazy Times at 11am
- 20 – Lou Bachrodt presents Hot Rods & Hogs Car & Bike Show at Kegel HD
- 20 – Support the Troops Ride with Wolf Pack SC
- 27 – Pork in the Park with Steel Pigs @ Crazy Times
- 27 – Hogs & Dogs with Blue Knights of IL V at Kegel H-D

JULY

- 4 – Rockford 4th of July Parade
- 11 – B.A.C.A. Blackhawk Chapter Hogs & Dogs with Ice Cream Ride at Kegel HD
- 11 – Skydive Bingo with Thunder Rock ABATE
- 18 – Operation Homefront with the Iron Skulls MA
- 18 – Bookerfest Charity Ride with Same Wind Riders MC (KSU @ Kegel HD)
- 18 – L.A.M.A. Rockford's 1st Annual Blood Drive
- 19 – Hero Ride @ Kegel H-D
- 25 – Lift for a Vet Ride with the IL Widow Sons: Kinsman Redeemers
- 25 – United Family MC Cookout
- 25 – Hogs & Dogs with the Rock River Chaplains Assoc @ Kegel H-D
- 25 – Rally with Kegel H-D at the Beloit Skycarp
- 25-26 – Throttle for Hope Scavenger Hunt with Iron Skulls MA starting @ Kegel H-D

AUGUST

- 1 – Hogs & Dogs with Players for Pits @ Kegel H-D
- 7-16 – Sturgis Motorcycle Rally
- 8 – Corn Boil with CMA-Steel Witness Chapter @ Kegel H-D
- 8 – DAV Ride, KSU 11am at Rock City Tap
- 15 – MVMC Dogs of War Chapter's Charity Ride
- 22 – Veterans Suicide Awareness & Prevention Ride (KSU @ Kegel H-D)
- 22 – Cherry Bomb Rockfest with Benny's @ Kegel H-D
- 29 – Jaimie Cox Ride

SEPTEMBER

- 5 – Ride Free Cookout @ Kegel H-D
- 9 – HOG Touring Rally stopping @ Kegel H-D (1-3pm)
- 12 – B.A.C.A. Fun Run – KSU: 11am @ American Legion Belvidere
- 12 – Rally in the Valley @ Kegel H-D
- 17-20 - Tomahawk
- 18-20 – Buffalo State Event in Rockford
- 19 – Back the Blue Ride
- 19 – Rockford Area Riders & Wolf Pack SC Swap Meet
- 26 – Venetian Club supporting Vet's Roll
- 26 – End of Season Jam with Same Wind Riders MC

September TBD –Tattoo Block Party with CVMA

OCTOBER

- 3 – Kegel Family Brat Boil & Breast Cancer Ride @ Kegel H-D
- 4 – Slimy Crud Ride
- 17 – Halloween themed Event @ Kegel H-D
- 24 – L.A.M.A. Anniversary Ride & Party (tentatively ending at KegelHD)
- 25 – Wolf Pack SC's Trunk or Treat

October TBD – Rockford Area Riders Ice Cream Ride

NOVEMBER

- 7 – Toys for Tots Pancake Breakfast & Ride with the IL Widow Sons: Kinsman Redeemers
Breakfast & KSU @ Kegel H-D
- 21 – Customer Appreciation Party (aka Champagne Party) @ Kegel H-D
- 28 – Turkey Bowling @ Kegel H-D

DECEMBER

- 6 – Toys for Tots Ride Chicago with Rockford Area Riders
- 12 – Santa @ Kegel H-D
- 19 – Santa @ Kegel H-D

If you would like to host a Hogs & Dogs fundraiser for your club/organization or start/end a ride at the dealership this riding season please reach out to Rachel @ Kegel H-D by phone at 815-332-7125 ext 216 or email rachel@kegelhd.com

Hogs & Dogs is a cookout at the dealership under our front awning on select Saturdays May through September. Kegel H-D will provide the grill, 100 hot dogs or hamburgers (your choice) with buns, condiments, chips, soda pop and water and grilling/serving supplies – your group will get to keep any tips/donations received. We recommend you have 2-3 volunteers (1 to man the grill and at least 1 other to serve food). Your group is also welcome to setup a tent and/or table nearby on the front patio with promotional materials. Your Hogs & Dogs will promoted the Kegel H-D website and on our social media channels and will also be featured in our weekly email the week of the event.

If you would like to host an event or a ride starting, stopping or ending at Benny's Bourbon, Tequila, Slots (the bar & grill located inside Kegel H-D) please reach out to Rory by phone at 815-978-5092 or email rorydog11@gmail.com

If you would like Law Tigers to be involved with your ride or event please contact Dmitry by phone at 312-856-5737 or email dmitry@lawtigers.com

2026 Let's Ride Challenge: Ride for Heroes

Born from the heart of the Harley-Davidson community, the Let's Ride Challenge hit the road in 2025 with one mission: ride with purpose and rack up miles that matter. Last year, with the help of many of you, over 80 MILLION miles were logged and Harley-Davidson donated up to \$1 million in support for military, veteran, and first responder charities.

We're revving up for year two – and we'll be calling on even more riders who live to ride and ride for something bigger in 2026.

The 2026 Let's Ride Challenge: Ride for Heroes challenge officially kicks off on February 27th and goes through October 31st.

The national groups that will be benefiting from H-D's donations this year are C.O.P.S. (Concerns of Police Survivors), The American Legion, The Wounded Warrior Project, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Rolling Thunder, Combat Vets Motorcycle Association, Motorcycle Missions and the National Association of Buffalo Soldiers and Troopers.

NEW FOR 2026:

ALL riders with a valid VIN can participate – you don't have to ride a Harley to participate.

By logging your mileage throughout riding season you will unlock fun prizes:

- 1st Reading = 2026 Let's Ride decal
- 500 Miles = 2026 Let's Ride keychain
- 1,000 Miles = 2026 Let's Ride challenge coin
- 2,500 Miles = 2026 Let's Ride flashlight
- 5,000 Miles = 2026 Hat for HOG members OR
1-Year Complimentary HOG membership for non-members
- 10,000 Miles = 2026 Let's Ride water bottle
- Final Reading in October = 2026 Let's Ride patch

You can also Build Up Your Rev Score by logging miles, entering weekly dealership keywords and visiting dealerships to increase your chances in winning 1 of 5 2026 motorcycles Harley-Davidson will be giving away in various tiers:

- Silver Tier (1-2,500 Miles): 2026 Nightster
- Gold Tier (2,501-4,000 Miles): 2026 Street Bob
- Platinum Tier (4,001-5,500 Miles): 2026 Fat Boy
- Diamond Tier (5,501-7,500 Miles): 2026 Street Glide
- Black & Orange Tier (7,501+ Miles): 2026 CVO Road Glide

So once February 27th hits and you get your bike out of hibernation be sure to stop on into the dealership to get registered with your 1st mileage reading (just requires your VIN, odometer and phone with internet capabilities)!

Ride Free with Kegel H-D Show Us YOUR America!

Because this year marks America's 250th and everyone is getting into the festive spirit, we at Kegel Harley-Davidson decided we'd get in on the fun too and encourage you to get out, ride and SHOW US YOUR AMERICA!

In conjunction with the 2026 Let's Ride Challenge starting on February 27th, be sure to pick up your FREE Ride Free with Kegel H-D lanyard.

Then go out and ride somewhere meaningful to you this riding season, snap a picture with the lanyard card (so we know you're participating in the promotion) and submit it to us online – your photo could win you some fun prizes throughout the season!