



Victory

ROADS

Victory Riders Calgary NEWSLETTER

VRC owned Two Wheel Sunday



Victory Riders Calgary's show at Two Wheel Sunday turned out better than anyone expected. One comment was, "Victory was the only real bike display at Two Wheel Sunday."

The plan discussed at several of our meetings was to try to get one example of each model of Victory. Member Randy Hetman took on the task and succeeded far above expectations at the June 4 event. Randy managed to wrangle 13 of the 14 individual Victory models including an Octane and a trike conversion. Over the day, there were more than 30 Victories parked at our display area and all attracted a lot of attention.

Motorcycle enthusiasts, not just Victory people, came from all over to check out the bikes and talk about them, individually or collectively. And they stayed. The display area became a social centre for people to get out of the sun and talk bikes. There were lots of questions and lots of answers in the conversations. And if we heard it once, we

heard it a dozen times... "It's a shame what Polaris did..."

Thank you: to Randy for your amazing work in rounding up the models; to Treasurer James Hamling, VP John Biskup and Road Captain Jumpmaster (Don Lemna) who helped with the early set up; and to all the volunteers who set up the displays, positioned bikes, worked the booth, and helped with the teardown. And major thank you to everyone who put their bikes up for display or parked at the display area to make sure Victory had an unmistakable presence at Two Wheel Sunday. It was great to see so many Club members drop by, say hello and hang around for a while.

Two Wheel Sunday organizers commented on the statement that the club made, putting together a great display, and congratulated us on making such a fine showing. As one club member said, "We owned Two Wheel Sunday."



From every angle, it was an impressive display of Victory motorcycles and gear.

Next Meeting
June 25 10:15 am
Winkin' Owl Pub
13750 Bow Bottom Trail SE,
(Around the corner from Lighthouse)
Breakfast Meeting
Ride to follow,
weather permitting

Checking off the bucket list at Spearfish Rally

By John B, Vice Prez

One of the items on my bucket list is to attend the Sturgis motorcycle rally. The announcement of the Victory Motorcycle Club Rally in Spearfish, South Dakota, was just what I was looking for!

I have watched a lot of YouTube videos of the Sturgis rally and the attractions in the area. I have never been fond of crowds so the rally itself isn't the most enticing element, but the local rides and sights are. I figured if I rode before or after the rally I could catch a day or two of the rally and ride the area without all the crowds. In February I registered for the Spearfish rally and the planning began. I am very fortunate to have friends that have not only been to Sturgis (numerous times), but are also going to the VMC rally; and I need all the help I can get. Not only was this my first time in South Dakota, but



Continued on Page 3 and see more stories from the Spearfish Rally inside.



Joan, Doug, Wes and Darren inside the Victory tent, hiding from the sun.

Upcoming Rides & Events

June Breakfast Meeting – June 25.
Winkin' Owl Pub, 10:15am
Highway 1A/40 Ride – June 23
Banff Jasper Overnighter -July 8-9
IMRG Western Meetup –
July 20–22 – Kimberley, B.C.
Kaslo Kurves – August 11-13
Garage Sale – Victory parts/
accessories for sale; go to FILES tab
on our FaceBook site for details.

Contacts

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- Road Captain - Big Don
jumpmaster@shaw.ca

New members

Victory Riders Calgary now has 456 members, according to our Facebook site.

Welcome to our new members:

- Tomahawk Benjamin
- Brett Rees
- Joe Fodor
- Dave Mazil
- Dez Victory-Rider
- Lillian Gibbs
- Warren Yanishewski
- Les Oddan
- Brian Klassen
- Greg Gaalaas



2023 Rides & Events

Victory Riders Calgary Ride & Event Schedule 2023

Colour Code:		
	GREEN - VRC Events	
	YELLOW - VRC Participation or Interest	
	BLUE - Victory National/Regional	
12-Jan	Vicmas!	Lighthouse Pub
22-Jan	VRC Meeting/ Breakfast/Brunch	Lighthouse Pub
Feb 3-5	Move The Soul Community Bike Show	New Horizon Mall
26-Feb	VRC Breakfast Meeting/AGM	Lighthouse Pub
Mar 11-12	Edmonton Motorcycle Show	Edmonton
26-Mar	VRC Meeting	Lighthouse Pub
23-Apr	VRC Meeting	
Apr 26-29	Bull Head (Laughlin) River Run	Laughlin, Nevada (mayheminfo.com)
Apr 28-30	Route 66 Bike Week	Arizona
06-May	International Female Ride Day	
May	Awareness Ride	Calgary
22-May	Victoria Day Ride.	
28-May	VRC Breakfast Meeting and Ride	Lighthouse Pub
04-Jun	Two Wheel Sunday	Calgary
June 8-11	VMC National Rally	Spearfish, South Dakota
June 16-18	IFK Kickstart Show	Calgary
17-Jun	Honour Ride	TBA
17-Jun	Ride for Dad	Ralph's Motorsports, Balzac
25-Jun	VRC Meeting	
24-Jun	For The Love of Motorcycles	Blackjacks Roadhouse, Nisku
July 8-9	Banff Jasper Parkway	
July	ECL Choppers For Charity Hospice Ride	TBA
July 20-22	Western Canada IMRG Celebration	Kimberley, B.C.
23-Jul	VRC Meeting	Lighthouse Pub, 10:15 am
July	VMC Regional Rally	TBD
July 29-30	Lethbridge Air Show	Lethbridge Airport
Aug 4-13	Sturgis Rally	Sturgis, South Dakota
Aug 11 -13	Kaslo Kurves	
12-Aug	Ride to Reynolds	Wetaskiwin
Aug	Meet In The Middle	Route to be determined
August	12 Stop Ride for Recovery, Calgary	Calgary
26-Aug	Bikes & Bombers	Nanton Bomber Museum
27-Aug	VRC Meeting	
04-Sep	Labour Day Ride	TBD
15-Sep	Nanton Bomber Night Start Up	Bomber Command Museum, Nanton
17-Sep	Calgary Motorcycle Toy Run	Calgary
24-Sep	VRC Meeting/Fall Colours Ride	Highway 40 - South to North
24-Sep	Oyster Run	Anacortes, WA
22-Oct	VRC Meeting/Ride Weather Permitting	TBD
October	CVMG Fall Swap Meet	Red Deer
26-Nov	VRC Meeting	TBD
December	VRC Meeting	TBD
Weekly		
	Captain's Ride	Ride Captains' Call on time, place and destination
	Tuesday Bike Night	Twin Cities Saloon, Longview
	OBB Wednesday Bike Night	Big Sky BBQ, Okotoks
	Wild Wednesdays	Car & bike show, New Horizon Mall, 5pm-8pm every Wed.
	Motorbikus Mechanicus, Reynolds Museum	Wetaskiwin, until October 11, 2022
	CVMG Vintage Bike Night	Thursdays, A&W Drive In, 16th Ave and 4th St. NW

Contribute!

Send your own story, photos or story ideas to:
VictoryRidersCalgary@gmail.com
How about a photo and write up on your bike?
Something for sale (Victory-related)? Post it here.



Don't get caught without your VRC Challenge Coin. \$15 (cheaper than buying a round.) Large and small patches also available.

From Page One..

Checking off bucket list items in Spearfish



it was my first week-long trip on the bike. To be honest my contribution to the planning was quite small, most discussions started with "have you been..." and ended with "you need to go to..." For the most part, I was lost no matter where we went, but enjoyed every second of it.

Our departure from **Aldersyde, AB**, consisted of 10 riders headed 630 km to **Lewistown, Montana**, and we picked up one more along the way. After an uneventful border crossing I noticed that the speed limits in the USA are higher, I'm not sure why I haven't noticed before.

The second day took us approximately another 640 km from Lewistown to **Spearfish, SD**, and a couple of key stops along the way. A small side trip took us to Little Bighorn National Monument. I'm not sure what was said to the attendant at the gate but we were all waved through. I guess Canadians were free that day. I have always been interested by the history of war; not specific details or facts, but more so in the disbelief of what people are capable of doing to people. The museum and gift shop was full of artifacts, dioramas, and my first patch of the trip. We rode the short trip to the end of the road and in any direction you looked there were bright white headstones marking the locations of fallen soldiers. I know I could have spent many more hours there but our time was limited and a long ways to go yet.

I was asked "what rides do you want to do and what do you want to see?" My "all of them" answer was unrealistic for one trip, but it didn't stop the group from trying. Our second stop and one

of my must-see bucket list items was **Devils Tower** which did not disappoint! I mean WOW, this is massive. It looks like a giant tree stump but surely if it were a tree it would have thrown the earth off balance. A few pictures, another patch and we headed for Spearfish to register for the VMC National Rally.

The guided tour for the morning was to Devils Tower so the group struck out on our own with the addition of Jim from Minnesota who joined us thinking we were the guided tour. Or, we were more exciting because nearly running out of gas is more exciting. As I mentioned before, I was lost most of the time so in no particular order we rode **Spearfish Canyon, Iron Mountain, Needles Highway**, and to **Mt. Rushmore** and **Deadwood**. I believe the whole area was designed around motorcycles. I couldn't stop smiling with all the curves, switchbacks, pigtailed and tunnels. Even the rain couldn't wash the grin off my face. Some of that rain wasn't wet either. The Needles Highway is absolutely amazing and I'm ready to go again. Mt. Rushmore is smaller than I imagined and yet still incredible to see.

That evening brought more socializing at Lucky's 13 bar and restaurant where there may have been a few too many drinks had. The comment I heard was, "drinking with Canadians will give you a hangover."

Banquet day was filled with rain,



lots of rain, and more socializing until a break in the weather allowed for a quick trip to Sturgis for a few pictures and shopping for the elusive "**I RODE MINE**" patch. The return trip to Spearfish taught us who cannot lead (not naming names) but we did get back in time for the banquet.

Sunday was departure day and some of the group headed straight back to hometown Alberta. The rest added a day to the trip by heading to **Cody, WY**, to ride the **Beartooth Pass**. To me it seemed as though Cody was the bottom of a giant hole and the road down was an amazing precursor to Beartooth Pass. I could ride the pass everyday and was actually happy to



see the snow at the top, but could have done without the rain and sleet. **Red Lodge Café** had the best coffee of the entire trip and a welcome refreshment after the cool, wet trip over the pass. Home for the night was in **Great Falls, MT**, and where some of the group split off to **Saint Mary, MT**, and home through **Chief Mountain** border crossing.

I learned a few things over the week like there isn't much need for three pair of shoes and if you remove your rain gear it is guaranteed to rain. A gallon of extra gas seems like a lot of extra until you need it. A sense of direction is not had by everyone.

And most importantly, an adventure is better shared with friends.

Road Captain's Log..

Any Victory riders out there Iron Butt curious?

By Jumpmaster

"Because it's there..." memorable words uttered by famous mountain climber George Mallory when asked why he wanted to climb Mount Everest. I can think of no better reason than George's when it comes to trying an Iron Butt ride.

If you have never heard of the **Iron Butt Association (IBA)**, it's an organization that promotes safe, long-distance motorcycle riding. Its website is: Iron Butt Association (www.ironbutt.org). There you can read about there organization, history, certifications, riding tips, etc.

I am going to be completing the initial IBA certification ride of **"SaddleSore 1600 kilometers in less than 24 hours"** this summer and wanted to check to see if anyone would be interested in completing this certification with me.

I am still working out the details however, the high-level summary is:

- Dates and timings pending
- Will depart from the Shell Station on Hwy 22 and Big Hill Springs Rd.
- The route is under consideration however I am looking at incorporating the Radium/prairies loop.
- This trip will require an overnight stay.



Iron Butt riding means taking a whole lot of what's ahead of you and putting it behind you. Road Captain Jumpmaster is planning to do the 1600kms in 24 hours Iron Butt and is looking for other riders. Are you up for it?

- We will meet to run through the details:
 - Trip details (routes, timings, stops, hotel)
 - Requirements for the Iron Butt designation.

For more information, please contact me directly through Messenger (Facebook), call/text me at **403-280-6020** or email at **jumpmaster@shaw.ca**.

Much of the Spearfish ride seemed to revolve around food and drink





Lessons learned from the VMC Rally in Spearfish

by Drifter Don

When the Victory Motorcycle Club holds its national rally in your backyard, you gotta go.

VRC isn't a VMC-affiliated club, but many of our members belong to the VMC and on June 7, ten of us pulled out of Aldersyde headed for the national rally in Spearfish, South Dakota. In the troupe were **VP John B, Road Captain Jumpmaster, Randy Hetman, George Nauss, Mark Myshchysyn, Mark Anderson, Doug Ireland, Chris Badger, Lorne Stafford**, and, at the pointy end, me.

We managed to clear the border without incident and most of the way down to Great Falls, we passed a familiar looking Victory Magnum. Whisper was making her way solo to Spearfish. At a gas stop we convinced her to tag along with us. The first night we spent in **Lewistown**, Montana.

We eventually did get to **Spearfish**, despite my navigation, and found about 90 other bikes had arrived for the event. One look at the registration table is it was obvious that this rally wouldn't have all the bells and whistles of national rallies in the past. This was, to a degree, to be expected. Without a local club on the ground to manage things, organizing a rally via long distance is difficult. There were no vendors, no show and shine, no bike games. There were organized rides, breakfasts and a Saturday wrap up banquet. The Holiday Inn didn't help matters much; it is a poorly designed, badly run, sprawling

convention hotel and the pool is an empty, paved hole in the ground. The built-in restaurant bar became the social centre.

The rides and weather meant, the in-room hair dryers at the hotel got a real workout, drying socks, boots, jackets and everything else we had on.

Saturday's wrap up banquet reflected the minimalist approach to the rally. Amusingly the Canadians (11 from VRC and two ex-pats) scooped up more than our share of the door prizes. Whisper won one of the 50/50 prizes. Canadians comprised 10 per cent of the total rally attendance. Surprisingly there was **no representation** from Saskatchewan, Central or Northern Alberta or British Columbia.

Sunday's departure was delayed because the cook didn't show up for work until 7:30. George, Mark M, Randy and Lorne headed directly back to Calgary, while the rest of us headed for **Cody**, Wyoming, where we overnighted before taking on the **Beartooth Pass** en route to Great Falls. There the group split again with **Jumpmaster** and I going straight up Highway 5 while the rest of the group took the long way home past Waterton National Park.

In summary, it was a great ride. We saw some incredible sights and rode some stunning roads. There are lessons to be learned about hosting a rally, particularly how critical on-ground organizing is. Also we learned about the importance of good rain gear.

VRC Garage Sale items available



Two size Small black Victory Riders Association vintage long-sleevers left. VRA oval logo on front. VRA Canada artwork on back and sleeves. \$10



This subtly designed Victory hoodie with muted colours and graphics is still available, believe it or not. Best viewed with sunglasses. Size Small/Medium. Offers? Otherwise going in the Vicmas Christmas Gift Exchange. Can't say you weren't warned.

Road Captain's view..

Spearfish was a great ride, despite the rain

by Jumpmaster, Road Captain

I was asked if I might write an article on my experience at this year's Victory Motorcycle Club (VMC) rally hosted in Spearfish, SD over the June 9th weekend.

If you are not aware the VMC is a Victory motorcycle-oriented club of which VRC is not a member. However many of us individuals are. We decided to attend the event as it was a) close as well and b) first one since COVID...

We managed to visit both **Little Bighorn** and **Devils Tower** before arriving in Spearfish. Both were impressive for different reasons, and we managed to make friends with the gun-toting Victory riders from Idaho. Pole Dancer is all I have to say about that. You have to like it when a ride starts out like that...

Our time in Spearfish was focused more on doing our own rides as the VMC seemed somewhat disorganized with respect to their runs. We started with the **Spearfish Canyon**, a scenic and twisty road that leads us eventually to the **Needles Highway**. Jim, from Minnesota joined us – he thought we were the VMC ride, but I think he had more fun with us anyway.



The front side of Needles was challenging but awesome; however, the backside of Needles was done during a downpour, just to add that little additional challenge.

Once we completed the highway we toured over to **Mt. Rushmore**



Highway 296, the Chief Joseph Scenic Byway, is one of the most under-rated motorcycling roads in North America, overshadowed by its neighbour, Beartooth Pass. Here a pokey Harley rider moves over to allow the faster Victories to pass.

for some photo opportunities and then headed back to Spearfish to dry ourselves and hang clothing to dry. One outcome on that ride was Drifter's bike burned out one its running lights. We all made sure Drifter was aware of this **potential safety issue**.

Saturday was a day of rain although most of us managed to make our way to Sturgis for museums, bike shops and shopping. Saturday night was the VMC banquet with several presenters, introductions and watching Drifter clean up on all the door prizes...

Our return to Canada was in short, an amazing ride. We rode **Highway 14 and 14A** through the Bighorn National Forest to Cody, Wyoming, on Sunday. This was followed by one of the most scenic yet challenging rides I have ever done, riding **Chief Joseph Scenic Byway** followed by Highway 296 through the **Top of the World**

as well as the Beartooth Pass. We managed three seasons through the day from rain, snow and 30 degrees summer. It was so cool...literally.

It was a great ride – I made some pretty good friends, had a few big beers and enjoyed myself immensely. I would like to thank **Drifter** for his leadership and guidance on this trip – we couldn't have done it without you, my friend.

