

Spring Flood Run 2010

For the first time I had the opportunity to go on the Spring Flood Run April 10th, 2010. (www.floodrun.org) I had no other advertised events to conflict with and the weather was fabulous. I decided to make it a two night three day trip out of it, and this is what I wound up doing.

I left on Friday the 9th headed west toward the mighty Mississippi. I ended up doing some other stops that put me into Durand around 11:30pm. Durand is about 28 miles from the river, so I figured on getting a room there for the evening. I will admit I have a hard time spending a hundred dollars on a room that I will be in for less than 8 hours, so I stopped at a gas station and asked the clerk if she had any ideas. She made a call and after talking to the owner of Audrey's Boehm House Inn, I had a place to stay. Talk about a great spot. Turned out to be an upper 2 bedroom fully furnished place. Talk about a great hidden little secret. Give her a call if you're planning a weekend run to the river. Guaranteed the price is right. (715-495-8880 I suggest before 11:30 though).

The next morning I got an early start towards Maiden Rock since I didn't want to run all the way up to Hudson where the run actually starts. On the way I stopped for my usual breakfast at Molly's on Main in Plum City. I don't know what it is, but small town diners have some of the best food at reasonable prices. All I can say is yumme. Afterwards I headed toward Maiden Rock to see what all the hype is about the Flood Run.

Once I got to Maiden Rock I began to see that this is definitely a power house run that takes place on the border. The Great River Road and Hwy 61 on this particular day hosted thousands of riders from both states along the shores between Lake St. Croix Beach, MN and Winona. With riders able to run either side of the river, starting wherever they would like. I started in Maiden Rock and headed south from there. While in Maiden Rock I was able to meet many of the bikers that were their early to see what the vendors had, grab a cocktail at Ole's or just hang out. Some of the Free Riders Press advertisers were there including Wildthings Furs (www.wildthingsfur.com) and Gilby's (www.gilbysstreetdept.com).

I hung around there until 11:30 and headed out to meet Dave Zien in Wabasha, MN. He and his brother were going to the quarry to look for Superior aggrots. Pretty cool way to kill an hour I must say. By the time I was done rummaging through the piles of stone I brought home a baggy full of cool rocks. But back to the story.

From Wabasha I headed south towards Winona and stopped in Minneiska for a soda. This is a hot spot for bikers. Just off 61 out in the middle of nowhere that has a couple of bars that serve good food and cold beverages. After a short stop I headed south on 61 with a goal of Savanna, IL in mind. I love riding those river roads. I do have to say that at every junction on the route there is a vendor (food or product) and every bar it seems has entertainment for the riders. I guess that's called capitalism, isn't it.

With all the brothers and sisters enjoying this mid 70's day in the saddle, the roads made for a great days ride. I have to admit this is one of them events that could have snow and cold, and that doesn't appeal to me being over a hundred miles from. But I am glad I finally got to attend the Flood Run. Hopefully the weather will be of good nature again and I will attend another in the coming years.



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( Fall Flood Run September 18th )  
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