

KawaNOW National Rally 2009

Custer, South Dakota

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday - June 16, 17 & 18, 2009

"Nomads In The Black Hills"



Come and join us for three days of "Nomadradery" in the Black Hills of South Dakota. This will be a time for all of us to strip away the mundane, boring politics of everyday living and enjoy the fresh air and great roads of the Black Hills. Bring your cigars and Nomads for a laid back time enjoying the roads during the day and plenty of Nomad discussion and friendship in the evening.

• Base Hotel and Lodging in Custer - The base hotel is the Bavarian Inn, Custer, SD. We have blocked rooms at the Bavarian for KawaNOW attendees. Toll-free number is 1-800-657-4312 or go to their website at www.bavarianinnsd.com

• Rally Registration - Registration will be on Monday, June 15 and Tuesday morning, June 16th in the lobby of the Bavarian Hotel. All attendees will be required to register once they arrive in Custer, SD. You will need to submit a filled-out, signed waiver and an ICE form, plus keep an ICE form for yourself to carry on your bike. Extra waivers and ICE forms will be available at the registration table. If you would like to donate any door prize items for the Thursday Night meal together, bring them and give to Amy (Kawgirl) Neal at the registration table. Also, a door prize ticket will be issued to you for the Finale Meal once you have registered. If you arrive late, find Amy "Kawgirl" Neal and register with her and get your door prize ticket.

• Ride Routes & Itinerary - Rides have been planned for Tuesday, Wed Afternoon and Thursday. Keep in mind that no one is "required" to ride each ride or any rides for that matter. These rides are offered only as an option for you to ride at the Rally. A person attending the rally has the option of:

1. Choosing to ride a planned ride on any of the days and attending the ride
2. Choosing to ride only certain planned rides and riding alone part of the time
3. Choosing to ride alone all of the time

Each ride has a designated leader. The leader for each ride is responsible for the ride itself and makes all decisions concerning the route and safety involved. Here is the ride schedule and information with designated leaders and tailgunners. Please view the KawaNOW Rally page at www.kawanow.org/rally2009.htm for ride itineraries:

Tuesday, June 16th - All Day Rides

- a. Devil's Tower Ride - All day ride - Leader=Waterman / Tailgunner=glwilson / Bavarian parking lot - Meet at 8:45am - KSU 9:30am
- b. Badlands Ride - All day ride - Leader=Kiotti / Tailgunner= 01Nomad / Bavarian parking lot - Meet at 8:45am - KSU 9:30am

Wednesday, June 17th - AM

Free Time

Wednesday, June 17th - PM Rides

- a. Iron Mountain Road and the Needles Highway - Leader=Markg, Tailgunner=01Nomad / Bavarian parking lot - Meet at 1:00pm - KSU 1:30pm
- b. Custer State Park Wildlife Loop - Leader=Todd, Tailgunner=Kawgirl / Bavarian parking lot - Meet at 1:00pm - KSU 1:30pm
- c. Keystone and Mt Rushmore - Leader=Trip, Tailgunner=CactusJack / Bavarian parking lot - Meet at 1:00pm - KSU 1:30pm

Thursday, June 18th - All Day Rides

a. Badlands Ride - All day ride - Leader=Waterman / Tailgunner=glwilson / Bavarian parking lot - Meet at 8:45am - KSU 9:30am

b. Devil's Tower Ride - All day ride - Leader=Kiotti, Tailgunner=01Nomad / Bavarian parking lot - Meet at 8:45am - KSU 9:30am

(Note: If you want to attend the lighting ceremony at Mt. Rushmore, it starts at 9pm during the summer. For the riders considering it, they need to make sure they have their colder weather gear after the sun goes down. It chills quite quickly in the amphitheatre and then there is the ride back to the respective motels. Tourist season is money season. This is a reminder to everyone to keep your speed at or below the speed limit. Spearfish Canyon, is a magnet for tickets.)

. Thursday Evening Finale Meal

- Our final meal as a group will be held at the State Game Lodge in beautiful Custer State Park around 6:00pm. The meal will be a buffet served in the Creekside Badger Clark Meeting room. Food served will be a Western Cookout style and will feature barbecued chicken and pork ribs, potato salad, coleslaw, baked beans, watermelon, cornbread and butter. Also served will be an assortment of gourmet brownies. Coffee, Tea or Lemonade will be available to drink. Alcohol will not be served.

Cost per person will be \$22.00 which includes the price of the buffet, taxes and gratuity. Trip will need to collect \$22.00 cash (cash only, no credit cards please) from each person as they arrive for dinner. Trip asks that you have the correct change in cash when arriving. Also, each person will need to purchase a pass into the park. Fees are \$6.00 per person or \$15.00 per car. Door prizes will be awarded after meal.

. Official KawaNOW Bar/Tavern

- On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, many some of us will meet at the Frontier Bar & Grill for dinner, drinks and talk about the day. See the map below for the location.

. General Information:

South Dakota Kawasaki Dealers:

BLACK HILLS KAWASAKI
3005 BEALE ST
RAPID CITY, SD 57703-9524
USA
(605) 342-5500 Phone
(605) 342-7270 Fax Motorcycle

E T SPORTS
1905 5TH AVE
BELLE FOURCHE, SD 57717-2266
USA
(605) 892-2945 Phone
(605) 892-2803 Fax

Rally T-Shirts:

White and Gray Rally T-Shirts can be purchased from Mrs. Valdez (Patty) at (916) 616-8146 or pfaubion@gmail.com

Black Rally T-Shirts can be purchased from Diane at the Cap House at (903) 986-9336

(See the National Rally board on the forum for pricing and sizes available)

If you are Canadian and wish to buy Canadian T-shirts, contact Rick Cole at anyone@shaw.ca

Area Temperatures:

Average Temperature for Custer, SD in June
Normal High: 73 Degrees (F)
Normal Low: 46 Degrees (F)
Normal Average: 60 Degrees (F)

Helmet Law Information:

<http://usff.com/hldl/frames/50state.html>

Helmet Law for South Dakota:

Title 32. Motor Vehicles. Chapter 32-20. Motorcycle Regulation. Section 32-20-4 Protective helmet required for minor -- Violation a misdemeanor. :

"No person under eighteen years of age may operate or ride upon a motorcycle on the public streets or highways of this state unless the person wears a protective helmet of a type meeting department of transportation motor vehicle safety standard 218 as in effect on January 1, 1984. No person may operate a motorcycle with any person under the age of eighteen as a passenger if the passenger is not wearing a protective helmet. . . ."

Most of South Dakota time is Central Daylight Time.

In the Western half of South Dakota (known locally as West-River) it is Mountain Time.

Local Hospitals:**Custer Regional Hospital**

1039 Montgomery Street
Custer, SD 57730
(605) 673-2229
Fax: (605) 673-3586

Custer Regional Medical Clinic

1041 Montgomery Street
Custer, SD 57730
(605) 673-4150
Fax: (605) 673-3917

Hill City Regional Medical Clinic

114 E Main
Hill City, SD 57745
(605) 574-4470
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Closed 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday

Edgemont Regional Medical Clinic

908 H Street
Edgemont, SD 57735
(605) 662-7250
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Closed 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.
Tuesday, Thursday & Friday

Remember: Check the KawaNOW Forum often for rally updates. Be sure to link up with other KawaNOW members in traveling to and from Custer, SD.

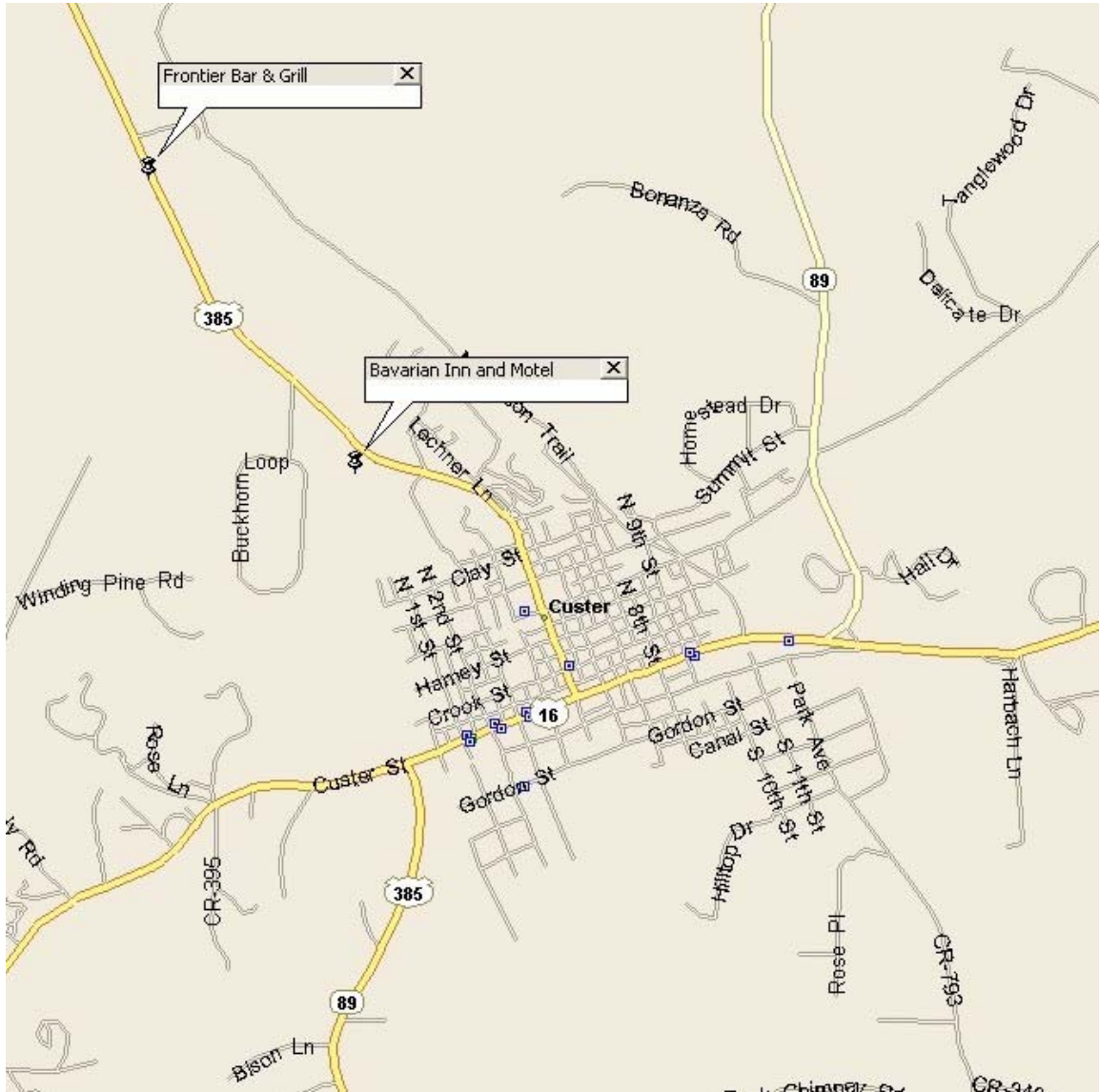
Links:

<http://www.bavarianinnsd.com>

<http://www.custerresorts.com/state-game-lodge-custer-state-park-resort/>

<http://www.custersd.com/>

Maps:





KawaNOW waiver and ICE forms below. **See You There!**

KawaNOW Rally Waiver of Liability

I and/or we, the undersigned, agree to indemnify and hold harmless the KawaNOW Regional Rally, collectively or its officers and assistants and volunteers individually, from all cost, expense, and liability arising out of my and/or our person(s) or property(s) which may be caused by any act or failure to act, by the KawaNOW Regional Rally event, its officers, agents or by the City of _____ arising directly or indirectly from my and/or our participation in any event or presence at the event, and I hereby assume liability for any loss, damage or other liability from such events. I certify that I am an experienced motorcyclist holding a valid motorcycle endorsement on my driver's license. I am aware of the dangers and risks inherent to motorcycle operations including the risk of serious bodily injury or death to motorcycle operators and passengers; that I have liability insurance covering my operations of my motorcycle; that other motorcyclists are participating in such event and their operations may constitute a hazard to me or my motorcycle and the KawaNOW Regional Rally, its officers, agents, employees, and volunteers are entitled to rely upon the representations made by me herein.

Dated (mm/dd/yyyy) _____, **Please Print Legibly**

Rider's Name: _____ Signature: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____

Rider's E-Mail Address: _____ Pass. E-Mail: _____

Passenger Name: _____ Signature: _____

St: ____ Zip: _____

KawaNOW In Case Of Emergency (ICE)

Rider Information:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

DOB: ____/____/____ Blood Type: _____

Medical Information:

Doctor: _____ Phone: _____

Allergies: _____

Med Conditions: _____

Med Insurance: _____

Policy: _____

Current Medications: _____

Emergency Contacts:

Contact Name: _____

Contact Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Contact Name: _____

Contact Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Contact Name: _____

Contact Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Motorcycle (Group) Ride Rules/Observances

Group motorcycle riding is a great experience when common sense, respect for other riders, and **safety** prevail. Please review these riding rules and tips for your personal and group riding safety.

Do not mix alcohol and motorcycle riding at anytime, especially when riding in a group.

No **attitudes** while with the group. A diversity of people ride. Motorcyclists are very diverse. We just share the love of riding.

Top-off your gas tank before you begin a ride. Bikes with small gas tanks have to stop more often. Decide **before** you begin when and where you will stop. Inform everyone of designated stops.

Do a personal and bike **safety check** before beginning a ride. Bikes should be in good running condition before riding (anytime).

Riders should wear **eye protection**, and a DOT/Snell certified **helmet**. This is law in many states, e.g., Michigan (May 2006).

Group Riding

Riders who choose to ride in a group must do just that, **ride with the group**. If a navigational mistake is made (e.g., missed turn or exit), continue with the group until the error can be **safely** corrected. It is recommended to have Ride Captain(s) travel the route prior to a run, thus, avoiding navigation mistakes.

As in the military, **formation** is mandatory. Two-up is the typical ride arrangement (riding staggered). The more experienced rider should ride on the left...not the person with the biggest ego. (Loud pipes on the right!)

Motorcycles with a passenger should ride on the right when possible. All **passengers** should know their riding assignment prior to the ride. Alternate bikes for passengers should also be chosen. New riders should never have a passenger.

Maintain approximately **two bike lengths** between bikes; weather and road conditions permitting.

If a vehicle wants to break through the group on a multi-lane road, give them space to safely do so. Close formation once the vehicle exits the lane. If the vehicle does not move, cautiously and carefully pass to reform. Bikers do not own the road. Be considerate of other vehicles. Give them space.

Novice and inexperienced riders should ride in the middle of the group until they are comfortable riding in a group. The Ride Captain(s) or those who have ridden the route should ride up front...again, not riders with big egos. Experienced riders should also be the rear of the group...this is done to maintain order.

Know **hand signals**, and pay attention to them. **Signals** are passed back by every rider so that everyone is informed. Be certain it is a real signal, and not a **wave** to a passing motorcycle.

Maintain a **steady pace** with as few (dramatic) speed changes or sudden moves as possible. Changing lanes on a freeway should be done from the rear then moving forward to the clear lane. Ride as if your motorcycle were as long as the entire group.

If two groups merge, let the **lead group lead**.

Motorcycles with sidecars (and trikes) ride at the rear or front of the group.

Turns and Turning

When turning left, the right lead bike should safely block oncoming traffic.

The group should continue through a red light only if blockers have the intersection secured. If blockers are not used, be sure the riders behind you know that you intend to stop.

When a single file signal is given, the bike on the left proceeds (in front of) the bike on the right.

Blockers

Blocking intersections is **risky** and very often, an unsafe practice. However, an exception is an escorted ride. If you block, review these:

Blockers should wear a brightly colored safety vest to be more visible. Turn headlights toward oncoming traffic when blocking, and use 4-way flashers. Urge riders to tighten up and move as quickly as possible through blocked intersections.

Have a procedure for getting blockers to the front from the rear. Blockers should always be chosen from more experienced riders in a group.

Rear Ride Captains should pull out and block the lane before a group lane change occurs. When a lane change is signaled, do not move until the rider in front of you moves.

The group should know who is blocking. **Do not follow blockers!** Caravan vehicles should never block unless asked by the Ride Captain.

Weather and Road Conditions

Inclement weather can be disruptive and discomforting. If the weather is too severe, take shelter.

Be extra cautious when rain first begins to fall. The road is slickest at that time. Avoid riding on the "glossy" (oil stained) area of the road at all times, but especially during or after a rain.

Stones on the road are dangerous...be careful. Gravel behaves like ball bearings on a hard surface.

Avoid potholes when you can safely do so. Potholes can damage bike rims and cause accidents. Signal others with a finger pointing down of road hazards.

Mechanical/electrical breakdowns can happen to any motorcycle. Designate someone to help, or have someone with a tool kit and cell phone stop to help the problem motorcycle. Other riders should continue the run.

Accidents

In the event of an accident, pull over with the group. Do not **panic stop** or rush to the scene. This may cause more problems. Do not move an injured person or remove their helmet. Do not allow a tow truck to take the downed bike. Locate a safe place to leave the motorcycle until a motorcycle hauler can pick it up.

Security and Parking

Participants in a ride may be required to watch motorcycles (if necessary) for a short time, in pairs.

When parking, the leaders should direct the bikes to an area **out of the traffic pattern**. No one wants their bike side swiped or damaged by passing vehicles. Leaving a parking area should be done with caution, and consideration of others exiting... blockers may be needed to promote safe egress.

Law Enforcement

If the police stop the group, the Ride Captain should lead the group to a safe place. Riders should stay in formation (by or on their motorcycle). Allow the officer come to you. The Ride Captain should be the only one who approaches the officer and should promptly identify him/herself.

Responsibility

A group, organization, or club is not responsible for accidents, injuries, thefts, etc. Each individual is responsible for any violation of the law. Riders ride at their own risk.

The group should meet **before and during** the ride regularly to pass along information. If you do not understand something, get clarification.

Experienced riders should get to know riders with whom they are riding. Encourage new riders to be cautious and to ride at the group pace...not unsafely or beyond their personal comfort level.

The group should ride to their destination in formation. If a motorcycle does not wish to stay with the group at the end or during the ride, wait until all bikes are parked before leaving the group.

If you leave your place in the group, re-enter at the rear, in front of the rear Ride Captains.

Riding in an unsafe manner with a group should not be tolerated. The safety of the group is everyone's responsibility. It is a rider's obligation to report noncompliance of any group-riding rule to a Ride Captain...a life may depend on it. Showoffs and hot rods should not ride in a group.

Know and ride by these rules, or do not ride with a group. **Safe riding is a group priority.**

Relevant Questions:

What is a safety cushion?

What is the three (3) second rule?

What makes an experienced rider?

How often should you look in your mirror?

How should a Ride Captain handle a safety violation?

Is it better to ride in a large group, or several smaller groups with an equal share of experienced riders?

Who is in charge of the ride, and where is the destination (and stops)?