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Model City Wings Region A - Chapter D Anniston, Alabama

July 2009



CD'S CORNER

Hello everyone hope everything has been going well. We have been busy since our last newsletter.

We sadly lost George Glenn since our last meeting. George missed Dorothy so much at least now they are riding together again. I want to thank everyone who came and rode escort and to especially thank the Patriot Guard Riders for their help.

We went to the Georgia Rally in Hiawassee. Laine and I went up to Helen, Ga on the 9th and on to an Instructor Development Class in Hiawassee on the 10th. Dave Aikens, Region A's chief instructor gave the class and it was very interesting. We have to teach a module then we will get our Instructor certification. The Georgia Rally was a lot of fun and was held at a beautiful location. We spent more money at the vendors than we should have but that is what happens when you let your wife decide what pin stripping goes on your bike. It is pretty though. We left the rally on Friday along with Gerald and Dorinne Harper and Tommy and Virginia Shepard and took a short ride. We rode from Hiawassee to outside of Cherokee, N.C. We stopped at a little motel that Dan and Sandra told us about, Twin Rivers Lodge, and spent the night. We got up the next morning and rode the Blue Ridge Parkway. If you have not ridden the Parkway you don't know what you are missing. Beautiful scenery, peaceful ridding and great fellowship with other bikers along the way. We even met up with Yoyo and Veronica in Boone N.C. for supper. They were on their way home from the north end of the parkway.

Tommy and Virginia had to ride home Sunday but us and the Harper's stayed over a few days in Pigeon Forge. We visited Dollywood and rode the Dragon. I think the Dragon for Dorinne was an eye opening experience. We made it home on Wednesday.

Some things that are coming up for us soon are:

July 25th Alabama-Tennessee Chapter Challenge (Big Burger Run) in Trenton, Ga.

If you are planning on going please let me know ASAP

Aug. 1st March of Dimes ride at Talladega Speedway

Aug 8th District Picnic at Tannehill State Park

Let's have a good turn out to show them Chapter D is there

We have a new couple in our Chapter, Andy and Stacy Roland, they have recently moved up from Florida. Laine and I met them at the Red Cross ride in Oxford and noticed their GWRRA pins so you'll know me I had to ask if they were visiting and found out they had moved here. That is when I started telling them about our chapter and they said they were looking for a group to ride with so we have new members. A REALLY good thing about them they have a business, The Wing Store; we have a personal place to get safety chrome now. Everyone please take the time to meet and welcome them to our Chapter when you can.

Rick & Elaine

Notes from the ACD's

Jim & Donna Preston
Still on Vacation but headed home

Kenneth & Veronica Campbell

Well here it is the year is over half gone. Let's each one stop and think for a minute. What have I done to promote GWRRA or our own chapter. If you really think about it, it is scary as to how little we have gotten out and did anything. June was a good month for me I logged over 5000 miles.

I have just got back from Wing Ding in Tulsa right at 2400 miles total. We all had a great time. Weather was a little too hot a couple of days. Anyway we had 5 members on 3 bikes to make the journey. Some of those Chapters had a lot of members there that had to travel a lot farther than we did.

Wing Ding will be in Des Moines Iowa next year so start making you plans now.

We learned of George Glenn's passing on our way to Tulsa. Sorry we could not make the funeral. We knew George and Dorothy for over twenty years. We will surely miss them.

I am running late with this so I will stop and get this to Elaine so she does not slap my hands.

Oh I did win a door prize at Wing Ding a \$50 makeup bag and makeup but for the rest of the story you will have to come to the meeting. Saturday July the 11th 7:00 am to eat meet at 8:00 am

Ride safe

Kenneth & Veronica

AL-D ACD's

Rider Ed

Well Summer has finally arrived. Sitting here, I am remembering some of the places I have been the last few years. My bike, affectionately called, "The Blue Dragon", has just turned over 60,000 miles and with the expectation of one minor accident, in which I was hit from behind while stopped, it has been safe miles.

This next Monday, before the July 4th activities, I will once again be participating in an, Experienced Rider Course,(ERC) class. I make it a habit to do this app every two years. This will be the third ERC class that the Dragon and I have done together and we are both looking forward to it. I love ERC classes, although

ne 'box,' is always my demon that I have to overcome. But once I get my head cranked around and make that double u turn inside the box, then I know I have accomplished something and I feel pretty doggone good about it.

As stated in an earlier newsletter, I am also a Parking Lot Practice, (PLP), junkie. Every Sunday morning, I get to church in time to make a few u turns, weaves, obstacle avoidance maneuvers and some slow riding practice before anyone else shows up. I am always looking for a parking lot that is vacant or almost vacant in which to practice some PLP.

WHY?

I know that many of us have been riding for many years on a regular basis, and I know that some are new to the sport of riding, as well as some that are returning after being away from riding for a number of years. But every time I take a ERC class, or spend some time in PLP, then I am helping to insure that the pretty lady that rides behind me is riding with an experienced aware driver. I am also helping to insure that when I ride with a group, that my skills are strong enough to not only anticipate trouble, but also to be a safe rider for others in the group.

Hopefully, with the skills that I continue to hone, I will be able to avoid that 'panic stop' or even be able to turn my bike around safely on a two lane country road, after the group leader has taken us, (accidentally of course), down the wrong road. Hopefully, I will be able to prevent myself from getting put into a situation where I should not be, by anticipating what is ahead of me.

Yes, It will be hot and sweaty during the ERC class. The temp is expected to get to around 95 degrees. Some of the bikes will heat up, and have to be taken off the course for a quick 'cool down' run in order to continue. The riders will have to partake of plenty of water, both inside and even some outside, in order to stay hydrated. But it will be worth it all, if it saves me and the pretty lady, from getting into a situation that we could have avoided by taking the time to practice.

Below, I have listed the links to the MSF ERC classroom training. This is excellent and should be reviewed on a regular basis. It talks of the mental, and physical attitude of the rider and bike, and how to be on the constant lookout for things happening in front of you.

http://www.msf-usa.org/downloads/ERC_Rider_Classroom_Cards.pdf

Also below, is a link to the GWRRA Motorcycle PLP Facilitators Manual. We can't be together all of the time, but individually, using the information in the link below, we can practice anytime we have just a few minutes.

http://www.gwrra.org/regional/ridered/PLP%20Program/GWRRAMotorcyclePLPFacilitator'sManual_4_08.pdf

Also below is a link of some 1800's playing 'in the box' in a parking lot. Lots of fun and very educational.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MVpe9rxSacA>

So take some time this week, and every week, and do some PLP practice on a regular basis. Also take the time to enroll in an ERC class. You may also get a discount on your bike insurance after you complete the class, and you will definitely learn something.

So if you should drive by a parking lot someday, and see the Dragon, going around in circles and 'S' moves, then join in. I have had the pleasure of talking to several folks who have stopped and wondered what I was doing.

And this is also something that is also very beneficial to our trike riders as well. Practice never hurt anyone, no matter what you ride.

And feel free to talk to me if you have any questions about PLP or other Safety/Educational issues.

So here is to you and keeping your ride safe. Education is Knowledge, Knowledge is Safety, and Safety is FUN!!!

Herman Burney Jr.



District News
From theDD

Welcome to summer in Alabama, it is here with a vengeance. I guess I am getting paid back for all the times I said I was tired of riding in Cold Weather gear. It is time for early morning and late evening rides. Instead of dinner rides we can do breakfast rides and of course the evening ride will have to be before Dairy Queen closes.

Since the last Article we went to a Poker Run with Chapter N, great ride along the Tennessee River and through the Gunterville State Park. The weather was nice and we got to see some old friends. Afterward we all went to the Dairy Queen, I know that is hard to believe, but we did.

Chapter T did it again, what a great Fun Day. They had several Chapters that showed up and they came from the Gulf to the Tennessee line. They had lots of door prizes and the entertainment was what is now expected at Chapter T, Fun and surprising, they even had people that came back from the dead. We had so much stress from the fun and anticipation of the Fun Day; we had to stop at Sonic (we could not find a Dairy Queen) for ice cream and milk shakes to settle us down.

Anita and Sierra (our youngest granddaughter) went to another great Rally orchestrated by Bill and Betty (Betsy) Livingston and the Georgia Staff. Alabama came home with Largest District, three out of four of the money give a ways, several plaques for first and second places in Best Costume, dressed, bike shows to include lighted, and memories they won't forget. Great job Georgia.

All please help the Membership Enhancement Coordinator's in the Chapter to see if you can help them with calling old and new members to welcome them into GWRRA and help them stay in touch with the old members. If you do not have a MEC please help the Chapter Director talk with members. There is a report due in to Dewey and Alice on the 10th of each month and we need to make sure it gets turned in even if it is a "we have nothing to report" so we know who has looked at their lists.

The flyer for the 2010 Rally is almost complete and we will ask John to put it on the web site <http://rally.alabama-gwrra.org/> as soon as Tammy gets finished finishing it, she had too much fun with this and when you see it I think you will agree. She does really good work when I don't help.

I am ready to pack for Wing Ding but Anita won't let me, she says we have plenty of time and I am ready to go today. Hope to see all of you that show up. Please stop by the ticket sales table and say HI, even if you cannot or do not want to work. We have ticket sales all day on Thursday.

Please don't forget the picnic at Tannehill State Park on the 8th of August from 10:00 until 2:00 and it will be \$5.00 per person. We will provide all the food except desserts, if you have some, please bring them with you. CDs, please bring some door prizes with you. We had a great turn out in the south and are looking for a bunch at Tannehill.

Please remember that Freedom isn't Free and remember our folks who are in Harm's Way, be they Military, Law Enforcement, EMTs or Firemen.

The next time you think about riding, call a friend, they are probably thinking the same thing.

-- Assistant District Director - Central

If you don't like the weather in Alabama just wait a few days it will change. Well it did. The days went from mild to wild and now just plain HOT. If any of you get out to ride please do so with the weather in mind. Take rain gear and plenty of drinking water. Ride in the morning and stop in the early afternoon. Take frequent breaks and cool down. Use cool vests if you have them or use cooling mist sprayers. If riding in a group or with just another person or couple watch out for each other. Heat related problems can happen before we realize it.

We attended the Georgia District Rally and had a wonderful time. Weather was good and got to ride some really good roads. Gail and I attended several seminars and helped judge some of the competitions. Great Rally.

The Alabama District did well at closing ceremonies. Members from Chapters B and W took home money as well as the better half of the Alabama District Director. Congratulations to all. There was also a change in District Directors for Georgia. Bill and Betty Livingston, who were the District Directors, are ready to just

"JAM". Carlos and Dee Lozano are the new Directors for Georgia. We want to congratulate them and their new staff as they take over the Georgia District.

The 4th of July is just around the corner. Be safe as you travel and enjoy the holiday.

July
Birthday's
Jane Blackerby 3rd
Joy Redmon 7th
Jerry Moor 15th

July
Anniversary's
John & Jackie Hall 1st
Gerald & Dorinne Harper 16th

Monthly Meeting—1st Thursday night of each month—Western Sizzlin in Oxford---eat at 6:00pm meet at 7:00pm

July 25th-----Big Burger Run---Trenton, Ga.
August 1st-----March of Dimes---Talladega Speedway
August 8th-----District Picnic-----Tannehill State Park

Times for these events will be announced in e-mails

