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Model City Wings

Region A - Chapter D

Anniston, Alabama

August 2009



CD'S CORNER

August is here and it has started with a BANG!

Our Chapter and Chapter L from Rome, Ga. participated together in the Ride for Babies, March of Dimes ride, at the Talladega Super Speedway on August 1st. We worked as escort riders, hosts and general helpers for the event. The escort riders who served as "wall hangers" had a blast. If you have never been on the inside of the speedway and been able to be at the bottom of the curves you can't believe how steep they are. I want to give a heart felt THANK YOU to everyone who came out and helped. Chapters' working together is what GWRRA is all about.

This month is still full of opportunities to ride, socialize and have fun with other GW members. We have the north end District Picnic at Tannehill State Park on Aug. 8th (Saturday) 10-2 pm. We will meet at Firestone in Oxford at 7:30 am. We will then ride to Jack's in Lincoln and meet up with others there for the ride to the picnic. Come and attend so we can show everyone our Chapter is the best in Alabama. On Aug. 15th we will be having the Region A plaque give away at Western Sizzlin from 12-2 pm (Saturday). Please attend and show your support.

We would also like to thank everyone that rode to Randy's in Trenton, Ga. for the Big Burger Run. There were approximately 300 in attendance. We had a great ride up and back.

A thanks goes out to all of our new members and if there is anything that we can do for you all you have to do is let us know. It is hard to believe that three years ago when we joined Chapter D our first meeting only had 7 members there. But look at us NOW we average 35-40 per meeting and have good turn outs for rides. It makes us very proud of our Chapter and to be your Couple of the Year. Thanks again for all of your hard work.

Remember the Region A Rally in Dothan on Sept. 10-12th. If you could attend it would be great. We are planning on going and making a little ride down to Panama City while there. Come join us.

Rick and Elaine

Notes from the ACD's

Jim & Donna Preston
Still on Vacation but headed home

Kenneth & Veronica Campbell

Well July has come and gone and boy was it a good month. Had some great rides and visits.

First of all 4 of us left Saturday morning June the 27 and went and rode the southern half of the Natchez Trace then cut across into Louisiana then up into Arkansas into Hot Springs where Bob Prim met up with us. From there we went up through the Ozark Mountains on hwy 7 up into Missouri that is a wonderful ride if you ever get out that way. We ran old Route 66 into Kansas stopping at several spots along the way. Then old Route 66 into Oklahoma arriving in Tulsa Tuesday afternoon. Four days to get there but only one day to get back home.

Tulsa and Wing Ding was great.

Chapter L from Rome GA. came to our July meeting and we kid napped them and rode down to Peach Park and forced them to eat Ice Cream. Then took them up to Chapter N for there July meeting that night before releasing them.

Then we went to Rome GA. and captured the Region A Plaque. Thanks to the ones that helped and for those that set at home and watched the grass grow you missed a good time. Some of us rode with GA. L down to Carrollton GA. and helped them capture the GA. Traveling Plaque.

Then there was the Big Burger Ride there was over 200 bikes there and the food was great. Sorry some of you missed it. Some of us did some week end riding besides all the other stuff we did.

The March of Dimes ride was this past week end thanks to the Chapter members that volunteered. It was great to get to ride on the track in fact I put 100.8 miles on my bike at the track. And even took some of the big wheels kin folk on laps around the track. First time on a bike and got to do it on the Talladega Speedway and they loved it.

I was a little disappointed that Chapter L from Rome GA. had more volunteers than we did but we had a great time.

The North Picnic is this weekend the 8th at Tannehill Park please come if you possibly can let's let them know Chapter D was there.

We will keep everyone updated on the upcoming rides.

The Region A Rally in Dothan AL. is just around the corner, if you plan to pre register the cut off date is August. 10th we need to make a good showing.

We will be giving the Region A Plaque away August 15th at the Western Sizzler in Oxford from 12 noon till 2 PM. We need some door prizes; any thing you can donate will be greatly appreciated.

Oh by the way don't trust your spell checker when you send email, go back and read it two or three times. You will still miss something, I know first hand. If you cannot ride with us at least read the emails they seem to be fun too. LOL

OK I will shut up for a little while. But if you don't start riding with us I will fill your email box. (not really)

Kenneth & Veronica
AL-D ACD's

Rider Ed

Well August is here. Still hot and we are all drinking plenty of water to stay hydrated. Frequent stops to cool down and plenty of sun block to prevent Sunburn.

There are also plenty of Weekend rides left, and the weather will start getting cooler soon. The trees will start to change color, and there will be many opportunities for more group rides.

There is nothing better, than seeing a well organized group of 5-7 motorcycles moving as one.

A group should never be more than 7. If there are 8 bikes, it would be better to split into two groups of 4 each. This is not only for safety, but also to avoid aggravation of other automobiles that share the road with us.

Allow a 2-5 minute time gap between the two groups. This will make communications easier for the two groups. It may also be necessary for the two groups to operate on two different CB channels. This needs to be presented prior to leaving the starting area, so that each riding team knows what channel they are to be on.

A guideline should be printed and handed to each driver AND co-rider. This will explain primarily our destination, how we ride, (staggered), some important emergency information, and a clear concise route to the destination, as well as back to the starting point. Rest stops should be identified, by town and never more than 90 minutes apart from each other. Fuel stops, should be planned, according to the bike in the group that gets the least miles per tank full. Make the fuel stop one of the rest stops.

And when selecting a rest stop, please be considerate of the men and women in the group and make an attempt to find a "clean looking" rest stop. McDonald's and most chain restaurants take pride in the cleanliness of the restroom facilities, as well as most truck stops. Fuel is usually

available within the close area of most chain restaurants so that helps with the fuel issues.

This information sheet should also be used during the mandatory rider briefing, prior to each ride. Participants in the rides should be clearly identified and where in the group, they will ride, prior to leaving the staging area.

Each group will have a leader and tail gunner. (Lead bike and last bike in group.). The Chapter Educator should occupy the last place in the last group, unless leading the group for training purposes. It would be good practice to keep someone with some medical experience, preferably emergency medical experience, (EMT, Paramedic, First Aid, etc), in each group. If only one person has medical experience, they should ride in the last group. It is better to come TO an accident, than to have to turn around and come back to an accident.

In case of an accident, the leader should take the remainder of the bikes to the closest safe spot before stopping. SAFETY FOR THE GROUP HAS GOT TO BE FIRST. No bike should leave the "safe area", until the situation can be assessed by the tail gunner and then the tail gunner will call necessary resources back to the scene if needed. The tail gunner, may need people to set traffic control, make phone calls, (more on this later), assist with medical assistance, comfort for family and friends, or any number of things.

PLEASE DO NOT CALL ANYONE WITH THE "NEWS", UNTIL A COMPLETE AND ACCURATE ASSESSMENT IS MADE AND THE SITUATION IS HANDLED.

We will discuss the handling of emergencies in a later article.

While riding in formation, we ride staggered, unless directed to go to single file, due to obstruction in the road or narrowing of the roadway. Twisties, (curves), usually require a single file formation.

Ride with a 2 second gap, between you and the bike directly in front of you. A 1 second gap will be between you and the staggered bike in front of you, but to your right or left. Increase the gap as necessary, but NEVER decrease the gap, unless you are at a stop sign.

Ride within the speed limit. (Yes I have a need for speed at times, BUT NEVER while I am group riding).

NO bike is EVER left behind for any reason, unless mutual consent is given. If a bike has to pull off the road, then the tail gunner will pull off with the bike, when it is safe to do so, and the lead bike will take the rest of the group to a safe place, where they will sit, until a consensus is made. No one leaves the "safe place" unless directed to do so by the leader or tail gunner. If you are going to be leaving the group to make a side trip or go home, then please notify the leader and the tail gunner prior to beginning the ride, so they do not follow you when you turn off, SAFETY IS FIRST MOST IN ANY RIDE!!

Below is a link that will explain "team riding" in a little more detail. .

<http://www.gwrra.org/regional/ridered/PDF%20Files/TeamRidingManualver2-5-25-05.pdf>

If you have any questions, please feel free to ask My email is herman_burney@yahoo.com

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



From the District Director

We started out with Wing Ding and haven't slowed down since. We spent 2 nights in Memphis eating Ribs and desserts. We recommend Blues City Café on Beall Street, the ribs are wonderful but the fried apple pie with ice cream is divine. We got to see a street show with young men and boys tumbling down the street, they were really good. On Saturday we went into a store on Beall Street that had a little bit of everything in it. We spent an hour trying on funny hats. Some were Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, worms, big 40 gallon hat; they even had a Flying Pig Hat. We rode the Pig Trail in Arkansas, went site seeing in Eureka Springs, Precious Moments Museum in Missouri, the location of the demise of the Dalton's in Coffeyville, Kansas, the Little House on the Prairie outside of Independence, a Dairy Queen in Neodesha and made time to put flowers on my Grandparents graves; Thanks Frank and Linda for the company. Frank finally got to see some flat land from his bike and Linda kept her sense of humor through it all.

We finally made it to Tulsa coming in from the north riding on Route 66. The first stop was the hotel and the second was the western shops around the corner. We had Alabama folks that worked ticket sales Wed thru Sun, we want to thank all of you who worked very much. While working you get to meet a lot of people, see old friends and make new ones that you will meet down the road.

We made history for Alabama last Saturday, we had 9 members start the Rider's Coach Training and I have put the information in for all to see what is needed to help us finish. If you can afford the time we could use some Guinea pigs, I mean students. This is the practice-teaching session for Alabama District's first Rider Coach Candidate training. The ARC will be conducted by the Rider Coach candidates but will be supervised by Mike Stiger, who is the National Rider Education Director, and Ron Lantz, who is Assistant National Rider Education Director. The ARC is GWRRA's version of MSF's Experienced Rider Course (ERC). All GWRRA Riders and Co-Riders are encouraged to attend.

Advanced Rider Course (ARC) 1-up or 2-up
August 30, 2009 Starts @ 8am - Ends at 5pm
Madison County Executive Airport
358 Bolling Road, Meridianville, AL 35759
Cost: \$30 per bike
Riders and Co-Riders who complete the ARC will receive a completion card.

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.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone at some of these gatherings or all of them if you can.

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.

From the Assistant District Director

Well the Region A Travelling Plaque has made its' way back to Alabama. On Saturday July 18 members of Alabama Chapter D went to Rome Georgia to capture the plaque. Georgia Chapter L had captured the plaque from Florida and had it up for capture. Rick Lackey and members from AL-D made their move. Now, one would think that as much as Florida has had the plaque they would want to come and take it back. Not so. Chapter D now has it and will offer it up for capture soon. Congratulations guys!

Check out the District website for all that is going on. August 8 at Tannehill will be the North District Picnic. Everyone is invited.

Don't forget to call the Holiday Inn in Prattville to make your Hotel Reservations for the 2010 Snowball Rally. Special Price will end when the hotel is full or 1st of Dec. whichever comes first.

I would like to encourage all the MEC and Chapter Directors to review their members assigned to them in the area report. Make contact either by phone or mail. Let them know about chapter meetings, rides and give them the chapter website and contact information. Just let them know is checking up on them.

Be safe and ride often.

Robert and Gail Brown

Read August District Newsletter at alabama-gwrra.org for all articles

BIRTHDAYS

Dorinne Harper	8-1
Brenda McBrayer	8-1
Yvonne Marlow	8-10
Gerald Harper	8-11
Gary Isenhour	8-11
Van Hamilton	8-22

ANNIVERSARY'S

Ronnie & Jane Blackerby	8-4
Don & Pam Canada	8-28

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

**August 8th-----District Picnic-----Tannehill State Park
August 15th-----Plaque giveaway----Western Sizzlin
Sept. 10-12-----Region A Rally-----Dothan**

Times for these events will be announced in e-mails

**If you can bring a door prize for the plaque giveaway it would
be
Greatly appreciated**

