

Region E



GOLD WING ROAD RIDERS ASSOCIATION

February 2009

MISSOURI CHAPTER "P"



Chapter Directors
Theresa & Bill Houser
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Assistant Chapter Director:
Ken & Janet Wahle

Treasure
Shirley & Dean Williams

2008 Couple of the Year
Dale & Alma Williams

Join Chapter P

For those of you who know GWRRA, you know it's a place to have fun! For those of you who aren't familiar, there are chapters of GWRRA members throughout Missouri so that any motorcycle enthusiast has a place to come and ride, laugh and grow with friends.

A Word from our CD's

It is time to start planning for the upcoming riding season. I hope that somebody has some ideas for rides for the Chapter. Please let me know if you have any ideas.

The last month has been a busy one. Our Fish Fry was a success. We had trouble counting all the people that came, but think we had about 100-110. I would like to thank all the other Chapters that came to visit us. I would also like to thank everyone who helped with the cooking and serving. It is because of you that we had such a good event. I talked to several people and they said you did such a good job that they will try to make it next year.

Spring Fling was held this last weekend. We attended, as well as Dave and Jari, Ken and Janet, Robert and Wilma. It was held in a different location at Lake Ozark (Port Arrowhead Resort) this year and the facilities were very nice. For those of you who couldn't attend you missed a good event.

The calendar of events is still pretty slim. There is an ERC course being held by Chapter K on April 11th. If you are interested there is a contact number on the calendar. Chapter Z is also having their Crazy Bowl on the 11th. These people really know how to have a good time and if you can attend, I guarantee you'll enjoy it.

Hope to see you at the meeting this Thursday.

Ride Aware

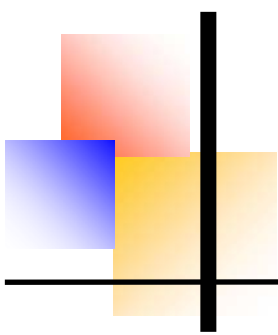
Theresa and Bill

Another Successful Fish Fry



Spring Fling





Rider Education

Know Your Limits

The key to minimizing your risk when riding is to develop and reinforce good riding skills through practice. Most of us tend to think of this as the physical skills of handling the motorcycle. Having identified a hazard, you can change speed (speed up or slow down), change position (move left or right), or communicate (using horn, turn signals or hand signals). Mastery of these skills is necessary but not sufficient if minimizing your risk and maximizing your enjoyment is your objective.

Early identification of potential hazards and preemptive evasive maneuvers are by far the most valuable means of minimizing the risks associated with riding. To do this consistently requires a strategy. The Motorcycle Safety Foundation teaches SIPDE (Seek Identify Predict Decide Execute) or SEE (Seek Evaluate Execute). GWRRA teaches SAA (Seek Anticipate Act). Others include SPA (Scan Predict Act) and the Smith System for truckers (Aim high and have an escape). All of these are strategies that demand the primary use of two key resources; your eyes, to see what is going on and your brain, which is required to process what you have seen so that you can make decisions based on your knowledge and skills. Continuing to build knowledge and skills will help to minimize your risk if, and only if, you apply an effective strategy.

Having a method to monitor the effectiveness of your strategy is not something that is commonly presented in rider courses. The courses warn us against riding when we are

not mentally at 100%, and the negative affects of alcohol and drugs usually are emphasized. But the fact of the matter is that once on the bike our mental condition changes: sometimes very quickly, for example, when someone cuts us off. We should recognize the negative impact of our anger and quickly put it in check. The more subtle and gradual changes of fatigue are much more dangerous since they can sneak up on us if we are not looking for the signs.

So how do we know when fatigue is setting in and what do we do about it once we detect it? The answer is quite simple. All of the strategies for defensive driving call for aggressive scanning as far to the horizon as is possible, usually limited by conditions to approximately 12 seconds. By doing this, we increase our time to react and avoid hazards. As we fatigue, our eyes and brains get tired. Tired, sore and uncomfortable body parts further distract us. So to test your mental alertness, occasionally check to see how far ahead you are scanning. If it is not 12 seconds then perhaps you should reduce your speed and ride more conservatively, or better yet, get off the road and take a break.

Remember; always know your limits and ride within them. The life you save may be your own.

by Howard Fingerhut NJ - G

GWRRA offers much to enjoy

- April 11, 2009 **Chapter K ERC Course** Contact: Fred Mays 816-254-8165
- April 11, 2009 **Chapter Z Crazy Bowl** Contact: Tom Stewart 636-461-1681
- April 21, 2009 **Chapter T Dogwood Run** Neosho, MO Contact: Stan Little 417-776-7386
- April 30-May 1,2, 2009 **Missouri District Rally** “Wing the Ozarks” Area 57 @ Dick Clark Theater/Ramada Inn Complex Branson, MO For reservations call 800-641-4106
Contact: Laverne and Shirley Schell, 417-889-0321 lsschell_20@yahoo.com
- May 21-23, 09 **Arkansas District Rally** Rogers, AR. Contact Dale and Carolyn Frieden 479-229-3370
- June 4-6, 2009 **Nebraska District Rally** Marina Inn Conference Center South Sioux City, Nebraska 402-494-4000 Contact: Lance and Dianne Brozek 402-582-4726 or Don and Griffiths 402-562-8138
- June 6, 2009 **Chapter C Poker Run** 5800 Busiek Road Farmington, MO
Contact: Perry and Shirley Smith 573-760-1924
- July 2-5, 2009 **Wing Ding 31** Tulsa Expo Square Tulsa, Oklahoma www.wing-ding.org
- 24-25, 2009 **Minnesota District Rally** “Ride to the River” Riverport Inn (Host Hotel) Winona, MN 507-452-0606 Contact: Kevin and Cindy Heap 763-477-6579
- July 31-Aug.1,2009 **Illinois District Rally** Place: TBA Contact: Steve and Sandy Schager

LOOK FOR US ON THE WEB

As many of you know, Chapter P is on the web. Our address is www.fidnet.com/~daved Most of Chapter P's information will appear somewhere on the web-site. This site is in place for your convenience, and to let others, both members and non-members to know how much fun we have, what we're about, and what we have planned to do. Likewise, the Missouri District has a new web-site. In fact, they have established their own domain. The address for the Missouri District web-site is: www.mogwrra.org
Check both sites often to find out what is planned.

Web Sites

MO Chapter P
<http://www.fidnet.com/~daved>

GWRRA
<http://www.gwrra.org>

GWRRA Region E
<http://www.gwrra-region-e.com>

GWRRA Missouri District
<http://www.mogwrra.org>