



GWRRA Rider Education



NATIONAL RIDER EDUCATION NEWSLETTER

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ASSOCIATION NEWS

from
Mike Wright

It is with deep regret that we officially announce the resignation of Ron Tolson, Region F Director. Ron and Fay have worked tirelessly for their entire career in GWRRA to make this a better organization for all of us.

With Ron's resignation a new era begins within Region F and we would like to introduce the new Region Directors, Dave & Diane Andrews. Dave and Diane were previously CD's & DD's for AZ. and are Life Members of the Association. They bring experience and knowledge to the table and are very capable communicators.

Dave & Diane reside at 2512 E. Arrowhead Trail, Gilbert, AZ 85297. Their home phone number is (408) 988-9533 and their cell phone number is (408) 220-2623. David's email address is dandrewsaz@earthlink.net

Effective September 21, 2002, the position of regional Rider Educator held by Ron Whitehead became vacant. Because of personal reasons and other commitments Ron choose to resign from that position.

Please be advised that Gary Horwood, Region L Director will be taking on the responsibilities as Region Educators for at least the near future. Any newsletters or other communications regarding Rider Ed

information, issues or concerns should be directed to Gary.



This is a great time for riding. It sure has been difficult to come home early to sit at this smart box and try to do a newsletter. This computer corrects me more than Linda and that's a lot.

Cool evenings, no wind and clear skies sure makes those rides feel great. The elements for a great fall night ride are also the same elements the animals like to move around in. I am speaking of the four-legged kind not the Halloween type. Enjoy the evening ride with a clean windshield, visor and glasses.

The pretty colors of the leaves are worth the ride over the river and thru the woods to the ice cream store. We must remember the morning dew will cause the leaves to be wet and slippery. Take an extra few minutes on the curves and hills to make sure there isn't a surprise awaiting you.

INSIDE



Larry Stiles MFA®

Our riding season is closing in on us and soon we will be putting our great machines to bed for the winter and we now have our time to bring out this wonderful program to our members.

Medic First Aid® is a wonderful program to help our members when they cannot get CPR and First Aid at a reasonable cost. Rider Educators in GWRRA have always looked at ways to get this done. We have MFA® in our organization to help our members, but we still have Regions that are not taking this serious by starting this program within their region. The question is, why? We have members that need this life saving program. Some can get it free or through American Red Cross, American Heart Association and a few other programs. That is great and we do not want to stop this from happening. We need to know if in the Regions that do not offer MFA®, do we need to offer more help? What must I, as your National Staff Coordinator, do to get this into your Region? We would like to have MFA® along with other optional programs in your Region.

We have several Regions that are doing an outstanding job in getting this program out to our members where it belongs. Keep up the great job.

Remember, we need to look at the MEDIC FIRST AID® Instructors that we currently have and ensure they are able to get the classes they need, to keep their certifications. The requirement is two classes in two years. With the new class we are offering at Wing Ding there will be enough classes available for all Instructors who would like to teach MFA® classes. This would help to maintain their certification. We have several Trainers in our Association

that are working hard to keep Instructors updated and certified. They are also scheduling classes where needed for the members.

Some wonderful news I'd like to pass on to you from MEDIC FIRST AID®. Maryl Barker, MFA Founder, has just received the World Safety Organization's "Safety Person of the Year" award. So it shows MFA is recognized in the Safety Industry. Also, some of you heard me talk about "BE COOL, PLAY IT SAFE", a wonderful video for kids. It has won the OMNI award. A new class feature is coming out soon, the Pediatric AED Training. I will be checking this out to see how this may be used in operation.

Here are some skill demonstration tips to help while training:

- Pull up hair so instructor's face can be seen in any position while he/she demonstrates.
- When explaining, face up & look toward students. Speak clearly and loudly
- When showing key points, do it in an exaggerated manner so everybody understands
- Check if students can see your actions and hear your voice clearly.

(Submitted by Chikako (Fox) Uramoto, EMP Japan, 8/13/00)

Take care--and may the rest of your year be safe, healthy and enjoyable.



This is the perfect time to get the members together for a pizza and update the co-rider level, MFA CPR/First Aid, Group Riding or other seminars. Schedule your dates now so members can keep that date available.

There is no reason a Chapter Educator should come to a meeting with nothing on his plate to talk about. It is good to survey the members, check who may need an update and in what area. The Chapter Educator is the 1st rung of the Rider Education Program. If that first step isn't taken for communication, then there may be a member who is unaware of the knowledge they can have for FREE.

ARE YOU PREPARED?

Do you plan ahead? Do you keep flashlights ready? I am listening to the news of the hurricane that will soon be moving on to land. More often than not, we wait till a problem is upon us to get necessary items for emergencies.

In the large circle that Linda and I live in, we seem to be close to problems of some kind. Teaching novice students, as all MSF Instructors know, we can be looking at potential problems. The different rides we take and the many miles we are on the highway, problems are just there. They may not be yours but they are around you everyday.

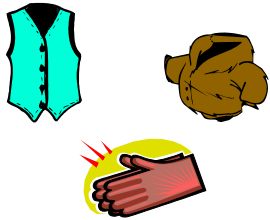
Are you prepared? First aid kit, blanket, a pry bar or large screwdriver, latex gloves, antiseptic wipes are just a few of the many things you can need. Do you keep these things in a clean airtight plastic bag? How about some food for a diabetic? Just simple hard candy can help a diabetic. We have many diabetics in our Association so the chances for this are high.

We have limited room to pack things on the Gold Wing. Remember to pack the supplies in small quantities. We all could carry a small zip lock bag with a couple band-aids, 2 or 3 4x6 gauze pads, a few Advil, some candy, a pair of protective gloves, antiseptic. This prepares for a lot and doesn't take much of room.

Are You Prepared continued

Next ride with the Chapter check out and add up how much first aid supplies you have in the group. It may be an eye opener for the Chapter. At the next Chapter meeting you may remind Riders who always ride alone or who are in the Rider Education Levels Program should carry a well-equipped First Aid Kit.

When an emergency happens, all you need is a fully charged cell phone to dial 911. You do not have to be subscribed to any cell phone company. It is a Free call.



WARM CLOTHING

How many times have you been out on a ride when the temperatures dropped, the winds picked up and you find your fingers don't work as well on the controls as they did earlier in the day? Maybe you postponed leaving on an early morning ride until the mercury moved a little higher in your window thermometer. Those of us who have the good fortune to live in the Regions that have the beautiful four seasons, also have the misfortune of finding it necessary to end our riding season when the snow flies. As the cooler mornings and evenings are upon us it is a good time to try some of the electric gear that is available. You can prolong your riding season at least until you run out of available traction (ice & snow). Heated clothing helps keep your hands, and torso warm even when the temperature drops, and you would normally park the bike for warmer days. This clothing is available in various styles and price ranges. There are many brands listed in the Wing World and have been tested. You can

conduct some research on these items to determine if they are right for you.

We can use electric clothing with more assurance now that the 1500's have a better replacement alternator and the 1800's come with an improved alternator. Both the Corider and the Rider can try heated clothing. I can remember in the past many times only one person could hook up their electric clothing at a time. I guess I was fortunate Linda rode her own bike and we both could hook up and be warm.



TRAVELING IN FOG

Cool mornings and evenings, after a warm day, tend to produce fog in what is referred to as low-lying areas. If you think you may have a chance to ride into a fog area, carry a small towel or soft water absorbing cloth in you jacket pocket where it is easy to get to. You may have to clean your windshield to see well. Slow down and if you think you are too slow, run your hazard flashers. I have found that the lower running lights are a big plus for driving in fog.

NATIONAL TRAFFIC SAFETY CONFERENCE

Boise Idaho

Reported by

Bob Lorenz

I attended the National Traffic Safety Conference held in Boise, Idaho on August 16-17, 2002. This was a unique conference in that it combined the SMSA (State

Motorcycle Safety Administrators) and Driver Education organizations into a single conference to share issues, ideas and thoughts relative to common problems encountered by both segments of the traffic Safety arena.

I will summarize some of the sessions I was able to attend.

National Motorcycle Issues: Sean Maher and Patrick Holtz, AMA, and Tom Wyld of the Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) teamed to present issues facing motorcyclists in the US. The primary topic was the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA21) and it's potential impact to motorcyclists. The Current availability of funding through the 402 funding will remain intact and available for use by state organizations for improvements to the motorcycle safety programs or for PR campaigns associated with motorcycle safety. It will provide (if passed) a guarantee that motorcycles will retain access to any public road that utilizes federal funding for development, improvement or maintenance. It provides for the Intelligent Transportation System studies and the inclusion of motorcycles within those studies. TEA21 provides for HOV access for motorcycles and lastly looks at the recreational trails programs.

Women's Issues & Motorcycling: Belinda Schelesener, Moderator; Idaho First Lady, Patricia Kempthorne, Karol Pater and Mary Donovan-Popa were the panelist. We had an interesting discussion from the First Lady. She has taken the MSF RSS course twice before not completing the first due primarily to scheduling issues. Found that she was more comfortable and adept during the second course. Had to overcome the "in your face" coaching techniques of the Instructors, found them somewhat intimidating (along with the bikes).

The other two panelists focused more on women in the MSF courses and their ability to pass the course. Discussed the number of dropouts, related this directly to the primary

reason for their attendance. For example, if the husband/significant other was pressuring them to take the course, rather than an internal desire, the drop out rate was high (expectedly so). Did make one comment about Gold Wing Women in that they were there to learn to ride in case they ever had to get the bike home from an incident. This might be a topic that we need to address within GWRRA.

Motorcycle Helmet: David Thom, Head Protection Research Laboratory; Ed Becker, Executive Director, Snell Memorial Foundation; and Bob Cook, representing Arai Helmets were among those in attendance. Dave reviewed the change in DOT testing procedures and requirements including addressing standardized labeling that would minimize the use of fraudulent labels on sub-standard helmets. Ed spoke simply of the continuing efforts and mission of the Snell foundation toward providing the best yet least amount of effective head protection current technology will support. Bob spoke of the commitment of Arai and its involvement with the Law Enforcement agencies. Greatest change in the DOT testing standards is the addition of a test for the helmet restraint system that focuses on helmet retention and prevention of helmet roll off (forward roll of helmet on head). There are revisions to the drop velocity test, a change in the g-force test, and an increase in the helmet coverage area testing that adds essentially an inch of additional coverage all around the helmet (this is performed on non-full face structures). A note of technical interest is that the EPS (compressible Styrofoam liner) is designed to absorb impact and reach full compression in just 5 milliseconds (first impact to full compression).

I have returned to riding a Gold Wing all the time. We have a new addition parked in our garage. (2003 Orange Gold Wing)



MAKING RESERVATIONS

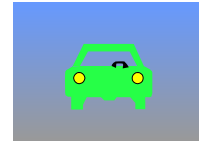
How often have you called a hotel, made a reservation for a certain date, got your confirmation number and hung up the phone. You don't give it another thought until you arrive at the hotel. Recently we were traveling with our local Chapter, Ohio M, and we arrived at a hotel with our confirmation numbers to find we did not get what we had reserved. At 9:00 p.m. and after arguing with the hotel personnel, you don't have many choices but to accept the change and be happy you still have a room.

When we got home I wasn't satisfied with the answers we received when we checked into the hotel. I made a phone call to the Customer Service of the Hotel we were staying. We had reserved a room for someone who wanted smoking. We found out you are guaranteed your reservation for smoking or non-smoking but not always for the type of bed you may have reserved.

To be sure you get the reservation you want, have the hotel send you a print out of your reservation. This way you know they input into the system what you are requesting. If you are requesting a two-bed room for four persons you should give this information when you make your reservation.

The following weekend we traveled to Altoona, Pa for the Region B and PA District Rally. When we arrived at our hotel we found we were booked into another hotel. Wondering what had happened, I did some investigating. The hotel had been sold the previous week. When this happens the hotel chain that bought the hotel must honor all the reservations of the previous chain.

Sometimes it is good to check on your reservations just prior to leaving for your trip.



HEADLIGHT GLARE

I know we are under siege of the bright blue and white headlights. I have found the best for me is to really focus on the right side of the roadway to avoid their glare. Do the 12 second scan looking at the right of the road's edge. Be careful not create a fixation to the edge and not to over ride your headlight.



SUN GLARE

Last month I mentioned about a visor for full face helmets to help with sun glare. The GWRRA home page has a survey of what is your worst problem for a fall ride. My last check showed it was sun glare. There are many products in Wing World that will help you combat sun glare.

ATTENTION

All Region Educators, District Educators and Chapter Educators!! If you are currently doing a project, have an idea for promoting Rider Education, or just feel like passing on some help information, PLEASE email to me and I will work on getting it into the newsletter.

We would like to have articles that are approximately 50 to 500 words. Articles to be contained in one newsletter not continued into the next month. If an article is not matching with current events or weather we may wait to place the article at another time.

If there is information you would like to hear about let me know and we will try to investigate and report.

RIDE SAFE