



GOLD WING ROAD RIDERS ASSOCIATION Hart City Wings Communicator



INDIANA CHAPTER O2



ELKHART, IN.

May 2008

Edition One Hundred Ninety Three

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Jim & Carol McPhail

CHAPTER POET

Deb Whetstone

FROM YOUR CHAPTER DIRECTORS

Mike & Margaret Knepple



Hi everyone

It was great to see so many members at the last meeting. You know Maggie and I couldn't run the chapter without all of you. As we start into our riding season, we would like to thank everyone for participating. Our calendar is already getting full,

but there is always room for another ride. So if you have a special ride or event you would like to lead, just let us know.

Our condolences go out Max and Darlene. Max's mother passed away recently. We are so sorry for the loss to their family.

A few of us attended the Spring District Meeting where Bob Chute was sworn in as Chapter Educator. Congratulations Bob. You're official now.

Our Chapter will be working registration on Saturday, May 31st at Spring Wing Warmup. If anyone would like attend that event with us, we have some rooms reserved. They have a few different things planed this year. So even if you just go for the day let us know.

Thanks to all the brave souls that showed up for the parking lot practice. A special thanks to Bob and Frank for putting it all together for us.

We are looking to change the area where we meet for our dinner rides. Once we get it all worked out, we'll be sure to let you all know. Dinner rides start this month. Remember, we leave the parking lot area at 6:30. Our ride leader will lead us on a leisurely ride to the restaurant of their choice. If you can't make the ride, but would like to meet at the restaurant, just call the leader to find out where we will be going.

It was nice to see Bobby Newman at the meeting. He stopped by to talk to us about the Ride for Kids. (Editor Note: There is more on this event in the Meeting Notes section.)

Be sure to check out the calendar. We have a lot of events coming up. You don't want to miss out on any fun.

See you all at Concord Mall for the bike show on May 10th.

Until next month be safe & happy

Mike & Maggie

MONTHLY MEETINGS are held the 1st Thursday of each month at Bennigan's in the Ramada Inn, off Cassopolis and the toll road. Dinner @ 6:30, meeting @ 7:15 PM

DINNER RIDES are every Thursday night May-Sept. (except meeting night). Meet in the Amberwood Terrace parking lot on CR 17. Leaving promptly at 6:30 PM

FROM YOUR ASST. CHAPTER DIRECTORS

Wolfgang and Connie Gless



Hello To All

Well, May is here and the riding season is off to a glorious start, NOT, at least it should be. The weather has been warm some of the time so I am sure some

have had a chance to get their bikes out and put a few miles on the odometer. Parking lot practice had 9 bikes show up and I understand the event went well although some got wet going home.

The first dinner ride is Thursday May 8th with Mark Skinner leading. The Mall Show is coming up May 10th at the Concord Mall. We will all meet at the south entrance by J.C. Penny's on Friday at 21:00 hrs (9:00 PM) to put the bikes in the mall. They will come out on Saturday at closing for a one day show. So shine them up and let's have a fun event. Also, remember, the bikes cannot be cleaned up in the Mall.

May 17th is game night at the Rance's please bring a dish to pass and sharpen up your gambling skills.

May 18th yours truly and our chapter educator, Bob Chute, will be attending the ERC course in Angola, IN, rain or shine, hopefully shine. If you have not attended an ERC course, all who ride should think seriously about attending one in the future. It is very helpful.

Spring Wing Warm-Up in Portland, IN is at the end of the month, May 30th & 31st. Mike has some rooms reserved so contact him or Maggie if you plan to go and need a room. Sorry Connie and I will not be able to attend as that is the day we leave for Americade, which also means we will not be at the June Meeting on the 5th. But we will be thinking of everyone.

The next chapter activity is the Frankenmuth, MI ride on June 6th to the 8th. It will be led by Kathy & Frank Case and the ride in and around Frankenmuth will be lead by our friend Ben of the Michigan V-2 Chapter. It should be a good time.

Well that should do it for this month. All pray that the weather keeps going in an upward trend so we can ride, ride, ride.

Wolfgang & Connie Gless ACD

FROM YOUR CHAPTER EDUCATOR

Bob Chute



You remember last month we talked a little about the Hurt Report. This month we'll delve into one specific accident trap, the intersection.

Left Turners

According to the Hurt Report, roughly half of all motorcycle

accidents are caused by other motorists violating the motorcyclist's right of way. A whopping 28% of collisions occur between cars and motorcycles with the motorist making a left turn. Typically, the driver turns left in front of the motorcyclist, and the bike slams into the side of the car.

So how can we help protect ourselves from this 'trap'? There are some clues we can watch for that might signal to us that a left turn is about to occur. Obviously, the driver might be signaling a turn. But that doesn't tell you when the car might actually turn into your path. Here are some important clues:

- The vehicle begins to slow as it enters the intersection.
- The hood dips slightly as the driver begins to brake.
- The car enters a left-turn lane or eases over close to the centerline.
- The front wheel begins to turn in your direction.
- The car enters a left-turn lane but isn't slowing as much as expected.

Intersections in general

When you are approaching an intersection where you predict the possibility of a collision, try to prepare yourself for avoidance maneuvers. Keep in mind that stopping distance depends upon your speed, your reaction time, and your skill, as well as your equipment. Position yourself for best view and maximum separation from other vehicles. For example, where buildings or large vehicles block your view of traffic on streets to your right, you can get a better view by moving to the left side of the lane, or moving to the left lane. That same tactic works for narrow alleys.

Of course, we've all practiced quick stops or emergency stops, so we all know how to do them and how important it is to get in the habit of ALWAYS using both rear AND front brake to stop, even in a non-emergency situation. Because habits you use as a regular course of riding will surface when you have to do that same maneuver in an emergency. But there is always reaction time, which can eat up an additional 70 feet at only 40mph. So as you approach an intersection, alley or any other situation where you might encounter a trap, get those brakes covered and maybe bleed off a little of that speed. Dropping from 40 to 30 can make a BIG difference. And it might just buy you the ability to stop before the crash, or at least bleed of some additional speed. Remember, a crash at 10mph has one forth the energy of a crash at 20mph.

Notes: Article submitted by editor. Some text is from the book Proficient Motorcycling by David Hough

RECRUITER & RETENTION

Ron Gabbard

Please send your renewals to Ron and he will forward them to GWRRA. We want to keep everyone current and enjoying the many benefits of membership in this great association. Those due in July are: Rod and Judy Clark, Wolfgang and Connie Gless.



Game Night

is coming up at the Rance Compound on Saturday, May 17th. Festivities start at 5:00 PM. Come prepared for fun and competition. Bring your own drinks and a dish to pass.



Got an item that you would like to sell? Advertise it here in the "For Sale" listing of the newsletter. This publication is seen state wide and could help to locate someone that is looking for your item.

Your Chapter Store Representative:

Cindy Norman

Chapter items for sale:

Hats \$13.00

Chapter Flags \$12.00

Gold Wing Clocks \$15.00

Various pins, patches etc. also available. See Cindy for details.

FOR SALE: An Eclipse heated vest. Size Large. Perfect for extending that riding season or just adding some extra comfort when riding early or late in the day. Asking \$75.00 OBO. Call 574 273-3001

FOR SALE: 1990 GL 1500. Light blue with matching trailer. Excellent condition, regularly serviced. Pin Striping by Charlie Bussard on both bike and trailer. Loaded with accessories. Also, two Gerbing electric heated coats with controllers, 1 Large, 1 XL. Call: 574-259-2393 or 574-276-6340 for more information.

Parking Lot Practice

By Deb Whetstone

There were about nine Goldwings gathered together They were practicing their riding and watching the weather Orange cones were set up and the Goldwings took their places Just driving by you may have thought that we were having races

But safety was the main concern of the gathering that day And our safety director Bob was there to show us the way Frank Case has done this many times before And you never know with Frank just what may be in store (I guess it was Kathy with the Safety Chrome) Safety was the aim and everyone was concerned There is something new at each practice that everyone has learned

Circles and straight lines ... Figure eights and such Who would have thought that in this small space we could do so much

Yes the guys were all getting things down to a final art But we still needed some guidance from our "favorite old ____" For as long as we all have ridden we still need to know If when we're all old ____s will we still have "get-up-and-go" Cindy showed up on her bike and kept up with the men She did the exercises well and practiced them over and over again

The weather started looking grim and the clouds came out to stay

And with our practice dwindling down we decided to end our day

So down the road on the bikes we went with another great parking lot practice done

Thanks to the planning of Frank and Bob we learned a lot and had some fun!!!

So once again a job well done and getting together with chapter O2

As always it was a wonderful time and a great thing for us to do

Thank you Frank and Bob



"It'll take 100 years to tell whether he helped us or hurt us. But he certainly didn't leave us where he found us."

Will Rogers about Henry Ford

Thursday Night Dinner Rides

We leave promptly at 6:30

June 12 Ron Gabbard
June 19 Rich Durecki
June 26 Frank Case



Note: There are still dates open. If you want to lead a dinner ride contact Jim Whetstone.

*** Please see the notice in the Meeting Notes section about the proposed move of the meeting place. ***

What's Coming Up

May 10. Mall Show (Concord Mall)
May 17. Game Night @ Rance Compound 5:00PM
May 30 & 31. Spring Wing Warm-Up (Portland, IN)
June 2—June 7 . Americade Week (Lake George, NY)
June 5 Monthly Meeting (Bennigan's)
June 6—June 8 . Frankenmouth (Frank & Cathy Case)
June 28 Mystery Ride (Gabbards & Whetstones)

Note that the June 28 date for the Mystery Ride MAY need to be changed.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Anniversaries:

June 24 . . Paul & Karen Pearson
June 25 . . Rod & Cheryl Rance

Birthdays:

June 4 . . Carol McPhail
June 8 . . Karen Pearson
June 11 . Denny Heckaman



Save those pop tabs for this year's Ronald McDonald Ride! Let's make the 2008 Ronald McDonald Ride the best one yet!

If anyone has **crushed cans** to turn in please get them to Frank Case or Jim McPhail to help with the Chapter funds.

Meeting Notes:



Mike welcomed everyone to the meeting. There were around 30 members in attendance and one guest, Bobby Newman.

Mike gave a review of the District Meeting which was attended by various members of the Chapter Staff. Winter Rendezvous theme will be "The 50's and 60's".

Thanks were extended to Bob and Frank for running the Parking Lot Practice this year. There were 8 bikes at this event.

Bob mentioned that there are no longer any renewal fees for ERC and First Aid certifications. So get those up-to-date. He also paraphrased a paper which talked about traffic signals and a little about how they work, timings etc. As we all know, some of the "sensed" signals have problems recognizing the presence of motorcycles. For the ones that have sensors embedded in the pavement you might have better luck being detected if you stop your bike on the edge of the sensor, right over the sensing wire, rather than in the middle. Try it and see if it helps. Let me know your findings and I'll post the results in next month's newsletter if I get many responses.

Thursday Dinner Rides Meeting Place

Due to the widening of Six Span Bridge, a move of the meeting place for the Thursday Evening Dinner Rides was discussed. The church on the corner of CR6 and County Line Road (Ash Road) was suggested as a possible new meeting place. Most everyone in attendance seemed to be agreeable to this location. Mike is to check into this and notify the membership if this will work out and when it will start. If this location won't work, there are a couple of other alternatives that will be considered. Notification will occur either at the next meeting OR by phone tree if sooner. For now, until you are notified, the current location (CR17) will still be used.

There will be a combined Eagle Banquet and Graduation Party for Kyle Beachy on May 31 at Bonneyville Mill Park in the Briar Patch Pavilion. Everyone is invited. Weather permitting there may be a get together at 9:30 at the Beachy household with some live entertainment.

Carol Skinner proposed the possibility of having a Pizza party at their house some time in July. Response to having this event seemed enthusiastic. The exact date has not been chosen yet. More information will follow as it becomes available.

For Spring Wing Warmup, Knepples have 5 rooms on hold. If you want to attend let them know.

Bobby Newman was here to speak again on behalf of the upcoming Ride For Kids 2008 to be held on July 13. In case you didn't pick up a brochure on this, registration is from 8AM to 9:45. Meeting place is Pinhook Park in South Bend.

Dumbo and Udderly Fantastic both will be staying with their current guardians. Clarks were not present at the meeting to present Udderly and Dumbo didn't make it either.

Please get pictures to Cathy Rummel for the Scrapbook. You can also e-mail digital pictures to Vern Daly for possible inclusion in the newsletter, space permitting.

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For more REAL WORLD Training Contact:

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Jeff Bartlett

Phone: 260.486-7688

eMail: jnkbartlett@comcast.net



ANGOLA AREA

Matt McCallister

Phone: 260.925-6054



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