

RIDER EDUCATION

By Robert and Angela Williams



Congrats to: Bruce & Paula Barthol for achieving Level III.

Levels program update: We now have 42 members participating in the GWRRA Levels Program. This brings us to a total of 26 Level I Riders, 3 Level II Riders, 6 Level III Riders and 7 Level IV Master Tour Riders. At our Last gathering Jim Veneskey was the winner of the Levels Cup. **Ride On**

Riding Topic: It is April and time to start bringing out our motorcycles. I heard the weatherman say "don't put up the snow shovel until April 15 in Northeast Ohio", so be careful. I spoke to our Region D Couple of the Year while we were down in Chillicothe picking up the Region D traveling plaque. Walt Crosby is already riding daily and of course he is using his heated outerwear. You know he gets a head start on us being from Southern Ohio.

I have already started see more bikes on the road and I am sure you have too. But that does not mean our four wheeled friends have started to see those motorcycles as well. You know it takes a little time to get use to the riding again. That goes for both the motorcycle operator as well as the other motor vehicle operators that use the roadways. So PLEASE give more time and space to those whom we share the road with. They need time to become aware of the increased motorcycle traffic and we need time to adjust our 2 & 3 wheeled steeds. As we know, riding a motorcycle requires more focus and a different set of skills than driving a car or truck. Wear bright colors like those that Dick McKechnie wore when he came riding up to join us at our last gathering. Help others see you before it is too late.

I have started working on stretching my muscles to I can turn my head and shoulder in the proper manner to do a head check. Our bodies will need to do some adjusting as well. So I hope you have done a better job at keeping in shape than I did.

Remember skills day in Mansfield on May 12. This will be a perfect chance to get in tune with your Motorcycle and prepare for the riding season ahead. Paul will be announcing a time a place to meet for those of us who will be riding down as a chapter. For those of you who may not be able to make it to a skill's day event, take time to practice your skills in a large parking lot somewhere. I had a gentleman in our chapter tell me a couple of years ago that he will not let his partner ride with him until he has had a chance to do a parking lot practice. Yeah for him and his partner, call a friend and make an appointment to meet at a large parking lot somewhere and practice together if you do not want to do it alone. I have some small orange cones that anyone can borrow. If you need parking lot practice guide, I will get you one.

Let's have another safe riding season in 2007.

Robert G & Angela M Williams
Ohio Chapter T CE's
Rubber City Riders
Akron, Ohio