

# RUBBER CITY RIDERS NEWSLETTER AKRON, OHIO

## CD's POINT of VIEW

By Steve Detwiler & Pam Jeanneret

Hello Everyone,

Well, here we are in the month of August. Our riding time is slowly coming to a close. We have been blessed this year with mostly good weather. I hope everyone is getting all the riding that you want.

This brings me to my band wagon. With all the riding we have been doing this year, are we getting too comfortable with ourselves? Are you still seeing the car on the side road or the car in the driveway ready to pull out in front of us? Have you looked down at the speedometer to find out that you are traveling 10 or more miles over the speed limit?? I have found myself doing some of this. After riding all season, we tend to get comfortable with ourselves. Sure, I can maneuver around that car that sticks its nose into my lane. Sure, I can avoid that car that backs out of a driveway. Then, we have the 4-wheelers that are now use to us. We have been with them for the last five months and they still feel it is their road. Plus, I'm sure they have been behind a group of us somewhere and they weren't happy. Whether they like bikes or not, they must be in front of us because they have places to be!!!

The reason I am bringing up all of this again is in the last 3 weeks we have had two more bikes go down that are part of our GW district. Both riders are very good riders. There were no major injuries but both bikes were totaled.

We, as riders and co-riders must still work at riding safe. I know that my co-rider has saved us a few times. Ladies keep up the good work. The one thing that we love to do takes work due to the four wheelers nowadays.

In closing, I would ask you all to ride safe. Stay alert and let's finish this riding season without any issues. The last thing we want to do is come visit you because of an issue.

Ride Safe,  
Steve and Pam

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## PENDING ACD BLATHERINGS—DALE & COLLEEN HUDSON

### *Just a Reminder!*

I tend to watch other riders quite a bit whenever I am out on the road. This is either due to the fact that I am really curious or because I am a genuinely concerned about your well being. For the sake of this article let's go with option B. I love to see people have a good time and want them to enjoy as much as I.

One of the things I've seen while riding is the lack of proper head turns. There is a saying that I like to use when I thinking about a ride: "Look where you want to go, not where you are going". Some of you are scratching your heads over that. I know this because I see that same response from other folks when I say it to them. "What does it mean?" I hear you ask, and because I am so nice I'll explain it to you. Wow, what a stretch.

If you are riding down the road and it is a straight road, where do you want to be looking? If you said straight ahead because you want to go straight ahead you would be correct. In this situation you will be looking where you are going because you actually want to go that way.

Let's imagine that you are riding on a road that has a ton of curves on it (Deals Gap), where do you want to be looking? If you say straight ahead, or down at the road, or any answer other than "through the corner", you get 5 demerits. You look *through* the corner because that is the direction you want to go. Maybe you are thinking that this is so obvious that you're wasting your time reading it. Well you might be right or you might be wrong. I have had so many people with tons of experience come through my life and almost *ALL* of them have agreed about head turns. Obviously we need to constantly work on head turns.

Why are head turns so important? Not only will they make your corner smoother (I'll explain in a minute) but they also have an important safety benefit as well, which I'll explain first.....Let's picture that you are riding down a beautiful road with lots of trees and bushes. This road is a good motorcycle road because it also has lots of curves. It is a bad motorcycle road because all the trees and bushes make all those nice curves blind. You are riding at the speed limit (yeah right) and you come upon one of those blind corners. OH! I forgot to mention that there was a 1974 Ford Pinto (dead deer/turtle/whatever) in the middle of the road just around the bend. What if you are looking directly where the bike is pointing, or looking down (no, not straight down silly) at the ground. When do you think you will see the object in the middle of the road? After you hit it? The second before you hit it? Far enough away from it to say "oh sh\*t" but not far enough away to actually avoid it?

The above scenario illustrates how turning your head and looking through the corner (eyes up level with the horizon) can save your life. I now want to address looking through the corner as a way to smooth out your path of travel. The easiest way to explain why it works is to picture yourself going around a corner looking down towards the ground, say 10 - 15 feet in front of you.

Now you have to understand that everything outside of that area of focus is going to come at you not only pretty quickly but also as a complete surprise. You will constantly be making adjustments to your line to compensate for what you see *DIRECTLY* in front of you. Your nice beautiful corner has become a series of small (and not so small) adjustments just to stay between the lines. Not the way to be smooth and fast around corners.

Now picture the same scenario but instead of looking down you are looking up and through the corner. You are now correcting for what you see 30,40,50,100 feet in front of you. The surprises come at you slower (at least it seems that way since you see them sooner) and your corrections become smoother and easier. The smoother you make your corrections the better your cornering becomes.

Watch motorcycle racing on TV and pay attention to the riders looking through the corners. If it is good for them on a track, it's twice as good for you on the street.

So the next time you go riding, work on your head turns. Look as far through the corners as possible (any kind of corner) and practice, practice, practice. Not only will your cornering feel better to you and make you look like a racer to others (you know that's important), but it just might save your life too.

*May the road rise to meet you  
May the wind be always at your back  
May the sun shine warm upon your face,  
The rains fall soft upon your ride,  
And until we meet again.*

*Dale and Colleen*

## RIDER EDUCATION

By Robert and Angela Williams



Rider Education OH Chapter T Aug 2007 News Letter Article

**Congrats to:** Fred Fish our newest Level III tour rider...

**Levels program update:** We now have 45 members participating in the GWRRA Levels Program. This brings us to a total of 26 Level I Riders, 3 Level II Riders, 8 Level III Riders and 8 Level IV Master Tour Riders. Levels Cup was presented to our Newest Level III Fred Fish

**Riding Topic:** Both Angela and I were able to attend the Michigan Rally this past month that was located in West Branch MI. I have to tell you that the Ogemaw Fairground was fantastic and I recommend that you attend next year if you can. The camping facility was next to none. Maybe I will camp next year too! We got to visit and make many new friends and just have a plain old fashioned good time. I did get an education while at the rally. You know your Chapter Educator always needs to learn a lesson. I learned that you never, never, never ever classify your bike early for the Light Show. Not knowing, I thought I would go ahead and get the bike classification done as soon as possible. The old pro's, after the event was over had a good time explaining to me why you wait to the last minute to classify for the light show. I was the first bike in to the ring with 15 others behind me. I did not even get an honorable mention for my lights. So I did not bring home a plaque for Chapter T. But there is always next time!

While I was at the rally I heard a number of sad stories about motorcycle accidents that had occurred at or around Wing Ding. We also saw the results of one motorcycle accident during the MI Rally. One story was about a couple on a Triked Honda Goldwing who were hit by a 4 wheeler. The story goes a car had been zig zagging it's through traffic and hit another car that careened into this couple who were riding the Triked Honda Goldwing, r-killing the lady and injuring the man. Sometimes there is just nothing you can do to prevent an incident. Notice I said incident! The Trike operator may not have been able to prevent this, but the 4 wheeler sure could have been more careful. With this story and others on my mind Angela and I started our trek home to Atwater. Not long into our trip was the first of several incidents that could have turned out bad for us. The worse case was a sub-compact yellow car who was traveling south on Hwy 23 just in front of us. It decided it wanted to pass the van located in front of him, and without warning and without looking, the driver of the yellow sub-compact proceeded to nearly side swipe another car that was in the left lane. Let me tell you this was the beginning of the rodeo. As I told you earlier, I had these tails of motorcycle accidents in my head. It did not take me but just a split second to yell "hold on" and I got a hold of all the breaking power I could muster to stop my Goldwing and trailer. That little yellow car at one point only had three tires on the ground as it moved from one side of the highway to the other. It not only nearly hit a car broad-side, it also nearly rear ended that van. This is what we have to deal with day in and day out. These kinds of drivers not only impact motorcycle operators but other 4 wheel operators as well. We must be vigilant while riding. We both made it home safe and sound.

**Angela's Saga:** As most of you know, The Stars & Stripes is a Wing with two lives. I have the one that is seen after dark and Angela has the other that is seen by most during the day. Our goal this year was to show our White GL1800 Goldwing and we have now done so at both the Ohio Rally and the Michigan Rally. Angela did not do so well at the Ohio Rally taking only third place. However when we went to the Michigan Rally we both attended a seminar on bike judging that was presented by the Michigan District Director Chris Bobek. He shared what it took to judge as well as what it took to WIN a GWRRA Bike Show. Angela put that seminar to the test and brought home the first place plaque in GL1800 Show Class. Congrats to her!!!!

PS: I wish Chris had said something about Light Show Classification.

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

## **TECHNICAL TALK**

### **By Chuck and Marlene Isom**

YES... Motorcycling is a fun, exciting and practical way to get around. But, like any other activity, it has risks. Reality is that you are exposed and vulnerable; it is up to you to avoid accidents and injury. Risk--and how you treat it--is what safe cycling is all about. To help you reduce and manage risks, use the following tips as a guide:

- (1) Know your skills. Take a beginning or experienced RIDERCOURSE from a Motorcycle Safety Foundation recognized training center. Call 1-800-447-4700 for the RIDERCOURSE nearest you. The more you know the better rider you become!
- (2) Know the rules of the road and respect other road users. Don't forget, riding is a privilege. Get yourself and your motorcycle properly licensed; get insurance if required. Know the limits of your skills, your motorcycle, and the road conditions so you don't ride over your head.
- (3) Ride with the right gear. A DOT approved helmet, eye protection, sturdy jacket with long sleeves bright in color, long pants - no shorts, (cowhides are great, also denim or corduroy are good ), leather boots or high tops - no tennis shoes or flip flops or none with leather soles, leather or gortex gloves NO fingerless, and bright clothing are your best defense against injury. It can happen to you! On the motorcycle extra lights, modulating head lights, and wigwag tail lights also can help reduce accidents.
- (4) Ride aware. A car turning left across your path is the most frequent accident. Three-fourths of motorcycle accidents involve collisions with other vehicles, the majority caused by the other driver. Intersections can be bad spots, so slow down and be prepared to react. We repeat: It can happen to you!
- (5) Ride to survive. Be seen and not hit. You aren't as big as a Mac truck, but you can attract attention. Once again I say wear bright clothing, use your headlight and bright colored fairings, select a lane and a position within a lane to be seen, avoid rapid lane changes, keep looking around--- you don't need surprises!
- (6) Ride straight. Alcohol and other drugs do not let you think clearly or make sound judgments. Up to 45% of all fatal motorcycle accidents involve alcohol. Avoid bad habits. Examples: Rolling through stop signs. Running red lights. Speeding. Riding left of center. Obstructing traffic. Cutting people off. Excessive use of your horn. Weaving. Following too close. Remember we are trying to improve the image of motorcyclist. It's a part of GWRRA.
- (7) Keep a safe bike. Know your owners manual. follow recommended service schedules, and have repairs made by an authorized dealer. Always check your bike's tires, suspension and controls before riding. Things to carry on your bike: Tire gauge. Air line to pump up your tires. Jumper cables. Medical form's. Fire Extinguisher. First aid kit. Rain Gear. Warm clothing. Bungee cord. Map or road atlas. CB or cell phone. Something to clean your windshield. Duct tape. Extra fuses. Tools. Flash light. Tire repair Kit. Registration papers. Proof of Insurance. Sun glasses. Something for headaches. Applications for GWRRA. WD 40. And a siphon hose.
- (8) Share a safe ride. Company is nice. Some company weighs 100 pounds; other company weighs more. All weight affects handling. Having someone on the back is a big responsibility. Instruct them on proper riding technique and proper gear.

NOW take responsibility for your riding, learn more .....and go enjoy yourself. This information generally relates to many different vehicles, riding styles, and environments. We disclaim any liability for the applicability of the information in specific situations. So there you have it.

Technically Speaking.

"SENIOR DRIVING " As a senior citizen was driving down the freeway, his car phone rang. Answering, he heard his wife's voice urgently warning him, "Herman, I just heard on the news that there's a car going the wrong way on Interstate 77. Please be careful!" "Heck," said Herman, "It's not just one car. It's hundreds of them!"

"I CAN HEAR JUST FINE! " Three retirees, each with a hearing loss, were playing golf one fine March day. One remarked to the other, " Windy, isn't it? " "No," the second man replied, "it's Thursday." And the third man chimed in, "So am I.. Let's have a beer."

That's it for now folks, Tomorrow is moving day, I sold 2 houses, Our new address is 2718 Ariels Way, Akron, Ohio 44312-5959 the phone is the same 330-688-5530 Ride safe. Your Technical Coordinators, Chuck and Marlene

## **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

By Julie Veneskey

### **Secretary's Report**

The July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2007 meeting was held at Lindsay's Restaurant in Akron and was called to order by Chapter Director Steve Detwiler at 7:20 pm. Steve asked for dinner suggestions, since the evening's attempt at doing something different didn't work very well. He thanked those members who helped at the games at Buckeye Rally and also those who participated in the Teddy Bear ride. He also thanked Ron and Sharon Abate, who unfortunately were not in attendance, for opening their home on July 4<sup>th</sup> for a cook-out.

Steve introduced our guest for the evening - Tony Turk. Tony is the new Assistant Chapter Director of Chapter D. Tony invited us to their Bluegrass Poker Run being held on Sunday August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2007 from 1-6 pm in Chardon.

ACD Dale Hudson read thank you cards from Jack and Dee Kline and Fred and Peg Nichols. Both members recently had surgery. Jack had gall bladder surgery and Fred had knee surgery.

Peg Nichols talked about a change in the annual Steak Fry that will be held at their home on September 8<sup>th</sup>. They are requesting that everyone donate \$5 to help cover the cost of the steaks. If you are interesting in camping out at their place please let Fred or Peg know.

Chapter Educator Robert Williams presented the GWRRA travel mug to new Level III rider Fred Fish. He congratulated Ray and Shelley Immel and Joe and Shelley Keller for completing the Road Captain course held at the Buckeye Rally. Robert spoke about the Sunday ride held on July 8<sup>th</sup>. It was different in that the positions of ride leader and tail gunner changed every hour. This gave more people a chance to experience what those positions were like.

CD Steve Detwiler spoke about a change in the sending out of the newsletters. As an experiment, this month the newsletter was sent through the Chapter email mailing list. Hard copies were also sent out. As mailing out hard copies is a large expense for the Chapter, he wants to try to cut down on the mailing of hard copies. He wants to try to switch people to computer copies as much as possible. If you don't have a computer you can still receive a hard copy through the mail. If you have an email address and did not receive the newsletter via the computer, please contact Web Page Editor Jim Veneskey to give him your correct email address.

#### Upcoming events:

- 7/14- Senior Ride at Four Seasons from 10-12. Meet for breakfast at Bob Evans at 261 & 43 at 8:30 am
- 7/20 & 21 – Michigan District Rally in West Branch, Mi.
- 7/22 – Chapter L-2 Dam Ride from 10-4 starting in Beach City
- 7/26-28 – Honda Homecoming in Marysville, Ohio
- 8/4 – Wing Nut Challenge
- 8/4 – Chapter I-2 Corn Roast & Scavenger Ride in Southington, Ohio
- 8/11 – Chapter T Memorial Ride (formerly known as the Charlie Bodnar Memorial Ride)
- 8/12 – Chapter D Bluegrass Poker Run in Chardon
- 8/18 – Mohican Brown Bag Ride
- 8/23-25 Region D Rally in Lebanon, Indiana

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

## STEAK FRY—FRED & PEG NICHOLS

Well, it is time for our annual steak fry on Saturday, September 8<sup>th</sup>. A few of you always come early and help us set up. If any of you would like to come in the early afternoon and bring your camper, motor home or tent and set it up we would love to have you. You can then spend the night on Saturday after the steak fry and Sunday morning Fred and I will fix you breakfast. This year we are doing things a little different, we are asking for a \$5.00 a person donation to help cover part of the cost of the steaks. We furnish the corn, pop and flatware. You bring a covered dish and your appetite. Dinner will be about 6 p.m. but you are welcome any time in the late

## WINGNUT/NO NUT CHALLENGE AUGUST 4, 2007

Normally, you never see anything from me. I felt this was needed to go out to the Chapter, especially for the ones who were unable to attend. We had a great time! Debbie and Steve Williams graciously brought all of us back to their home for the late lunch/early dinner. The Wing Nut was 90.2 miles long. Mike and Mary Stephenson got the closest in mileage. On the ride we counted railroad crossings, buried farm equipment, cemeteries, and "what is that famous city in Portugal?" This was the first time Steve and I rode the Wing Nut. Ok, so I read too much into it!! We were ok if I would have kept my thoughts to myself, but no not me! So we ended up 14 miles too much. Plus next time I will read the "whole" thing before we get too far down the road. Well, enough about our ride. There were ten bikes for the Wing Nut and four bikes for the No Nut which Denny and Joy Miller led. We had a break in the middle at a very nice small marina somewhere in Stark County. After arriving at Steve and Debbie's, we enjoyed all the covered dishes that the members left with Steve and Debbie in the a.m. plus the burgers and dogs. No one should have come away hungry or thirsty. After eating, Steve and Debbie announced the winners. For the No Nut Chuck and Marlene Isom took the prize. The Wing Nut first place went to Dale and Colleen Hudson, second place to Mike and Andie Dorsey, third place to Jim and Julie Veneskey. The prizes were donated by Midwest Motorsports and All Seasons in Wooster. We wish to thank them for their generosity. Upon deliberation, Dale and Colleen graciously agreed to coordinate the Wingnut/No Nut for next year. We, Chapter T, thank you. Again, we all wish to thank Steve and Debbie Williams and also Denny and Joy Miller. Between the four of them and three weeks vacation together they did a fantastic job!! Pam J.

## SPECIAL PROJECTS-BRUCE & PAULA BARTHOL

Bring your cans and tabs to the Chapter gathering each month. If it is easier for you to save just tabs, that is fine. If you are saving cans, leave the tabs on the cans. It is not necessary to separate the tabs from the cans. Empty cans in bags without trash or garbage would be appreciated. Crushed cans take up less space but it is not necessary to crush them. We would like to get as many cans collected as possible. **After the September meeting we will turn in everything we have for donation to our charity of choice.**



Paula

## RIDE COORDINATORS—RON & SHARON ABATE

**We've had some beautiful riding weather. I hope all can enjoy it as much as I do. We had a nice trip for the 4th of July weekend. We went to Coudersport, PA on Sat. 30 June and stayed overnight at Westgate Inn and some rode to the Grand Canyon of PA. We had a small wine & cheese gathering in the lobby area after dinner. Kenny and Carol Shope met us in Mercer, PA and stayed with us at Coudersport. Then we took some very nice back roads back on Sunday morning. Total mileage for the trip was about 525 miles and we had about 9 bikes.**

**We need to get some more of our riders to lead rides. I enjoy leading rides and a few others do also. It is a lot of fun. I thought that a chapter road captain would be able to help our many road captains to lead Sunday rides etc. This last Sunday, July 8th we did a ride that called for switching leaders every hour. This was a lot of fun and it gave other riders a chance to get to lead. I think this will be a good way to give riders a chance to lead and gradually some incentive to lead and run the back door. The "back door" or tail gunner is just as important a job as leader. A good tail gunner can really help the leader to run a group. We all need to learn how this is done and carry the knowledge forward.**

**Hopefully a chapter road captain will step up and help me to teach other riders the skills needed to be a road captain and ride leader and last but not least a ride captain.**

**We need to continue to upgrade our skill at leading and setting up rides and we have many who are willing to teach and advise on riding skills.**

**If anyone has any questions about riding skills, maintenance, tires or just about anything, talk about it and someone will be able to help you.**

**Ron & Sharon**

# August 2007

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 Mystery Ride Ted & Beth Daniels	2	3	4 Wing Nut Challenge
5 Breakfast Lindsay 9 am Anniv. Jim & Julie	6	7	8 Chapter T Meeting Lindsay	9	10 Anniversary Dick & Janice	11 Birthday Paula Barthol
12 Breakfast Lindsay 9 am	13	14	15 Spaghetti Warehouse Akron	16 Anniversary Robert & Angela	17	18 Brown Bag Mohican Park Ride
19 Breakfast Lindsay 9 am	20	21 Anniv. Chuck & Susan Pangburn	22 Birth. Robin Richards Firehouse	23 Region D, Lebanon, Ind Anniv. Jack & JoAnn	24 Region D, Lebanon, Ind Birthday Jim	25 Region D, Lebanon, Ind. Birthday Dick Freese
26 Breakfast Lindsay 9 am	27	28 Birthdays Beth Daniels, Chuck	29 Arnie Steakhouse Edinburg	30 Anniv. Mike & Mary Stephenson, Tony & Kim Krynicky	31	

# September 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Labor Day Ride— Kentucky
2 Labor Day Ride— Kentucky  9am Lindsay's Breakfast	3 labor Day Ride— Kentucky	4	5 Mystery Ride 6:15 At Lakemore Plaza Steve & Debbie Williams Leaders	6 Anniversary Don & Judy Weigand	7 Anniversary Mike & Andie Dorsey	8 Brimfield Parade, District Picnic in Edinburg Steak Fry @ Fred & Peg Nichols Hartville
9 9 a.m. Lindsay's Breakfast	10	11 Birthdays Ray Immel David Pruett	12 Anniversary Dale & Colleen Hudson  Chapter T Meeting	13 Birthday Ron Abate	14 Buckeye Time-Out Plain City Camping	15 Buckeye Time-Out Plain City Camping
16 Buckeye Time-out Birthday Bruce Barthol 9 a.m. Lindsay's Breakfast	17	18 Anniversary Paul & L Nyki McWilliams Hartville Kitchen 3/877-9353	19 Birthday Charlie Selzer	20	21	22 Brown Bag Ride Geneva-on-the-Lake
23 9 a.m. Lindsay's Breakfast	24	25	26 Desert Inn Canton 3/456-1766	27 Birthday Robin Spears	28 Birthday Nyki McWilliams	29 Birthday Marlene Ison
30 9 a.m. Lindsay's Breakfast  Birthday Fred Nichols			ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT TIMES & WHERE TO MEET CALL	STEVE 3/608-5771 PAM 3/606-1559  HOME - 3/673-4072		