

RUBBER CITY RIDERS NEWSLETTER AKRON, OHIO

CD's POINT of VIEW

By Paul & Nyki McWilliams

Hello again to our GW family! By the time you get this the holidays will be over, and a new year will be upon us. Happy New Year!! May it be a safe, prosperous, and healthy new year to all of you! With the advent of the new year, lot's of things will be coming your way soon. We hope to have a year full of fun, friendship and of course, lot's of riding. The way the weather has been, some are still getting a ride in occasionally, and if that includes you, be extra careful out there. It's bad enough during the prime riding season for others to see us; they surely are not looking for us now! And, we still see a lot of deer on the move, regardless of time of day. Speaking of day, I think the days have started to get longer already, so riding season can't be that far off, can it? Another thought; now's a good time to be giving your ride a little of that attention you may have put off at the end of the last riding season; check and change fluids, check the brake pads, you know, that kind of stuff, if you haven't done it lately. This is also a good time to be pulling out those maps and planning some rides. That's one thing we'd like to see, is more people willing to lead rides, preferably, those with Road Captain training. We will be trying to have a least one ride a month on Saturday this year, so the folks that attend church on Sunday have a chance to ride with others from the chapter if they want. We have not finalized the ride schedule yet, as we have not had our Northeast Sectional meeting yet. That will be in January, so we should be able to complete it before the February meeting.

For those of you that we not able to attend our annual Christmas party, we had a great turn out, great food, and a really good time. One of the suggestions I have had was to recap for you, who won what awards, so here it is: High mileage went to, of all people, Hill Hutchins. Of course it went to Hill. But, look out Hill, I understand there are a couple of fellows that want to over take you! The highest number of States went to Jack Kline, with 23 states. It could have been a tie, had Fred Fish turned in his paperwork. The two of them went all the way to California and back during September and October. The average number of miles ridden this year went to Bob & Cindy. They rode just under the average, based on the info turned in to Ted, but again, not everyone turned in their mileage, so it was a little bit less than 10,000 miles. Be sure to keep track of your miles this year (started this past Nov. 1), and turn it in. If everyone does that, we might be surprised at how high it is. Let's see, what else.....oh yeah, the cleanest bike TROPHY went to Dale and Colleen Hudson. Dale will be glad to show you his TROPHY any time you stop over to his house! Best ride leader went to none other than Don Weigand. It took Don a few minutes to get up and get his award though, as he had to stop and plan his route out first! Last, but not least, the Spirit Award went to Robert and Angela Williams. They have been outstanding in their support of Chapter T, and the award was well deserved.

The bike show will be coming to Cleveland's IX center the last weekend of January and some of us will be manning the GW booth for a few hours. Thanks to all who volunteered to help out.

We look forward to seeing you at our meeting in January and are looking forward to a great year, riding lots of safe miles with you this year!!

Paul, Nyki and Ajna

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ACD's POINT OF VEIW
By Steve Detwiler and Pam Jeanneret

Hello All,

Pam and I hope that everyone had a good Holiday Season and everyone is well. Here we are again at our slow time of the year. Most of us have put up our rides for the season. The die hard riders that are still out there, for those, be safe. Four wheelers are not looking for us this time of the year.

Up Coming Events:

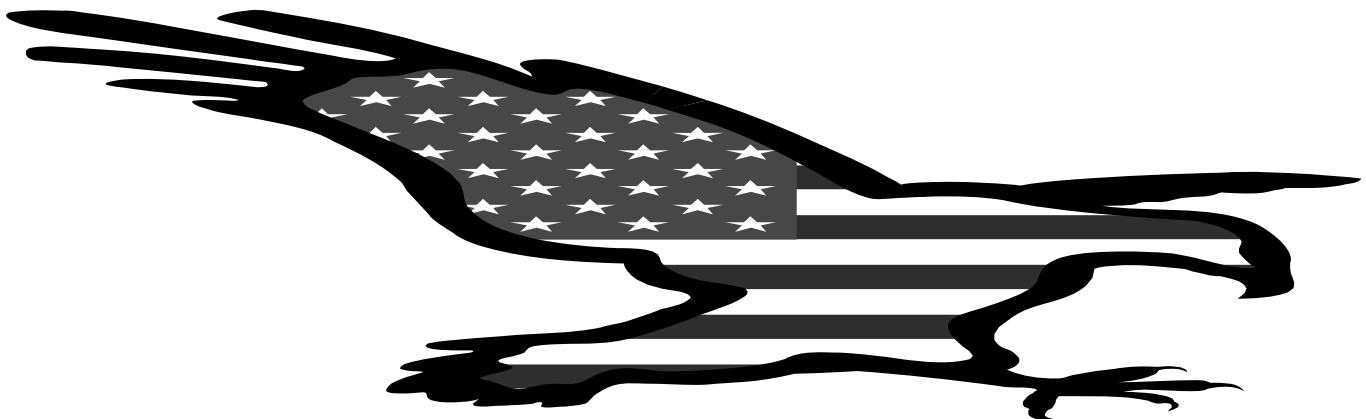
Bike Show at the IX Center, the last weekend of January. The Chapter is working on Saturday but I am sure if you check with others you can find someone going up each day and may be able to car pool.

Cabin Fever, the weekend of February 9th. This is a weekend of fun for all. If you haven't been for a few years, maybe it is time to go back. If you have never been, try it, you will enjoy it. Check with Nyki about rooms, they gave Pam a hassle when she called to have the room put in our name. Due to the remodeling of the hotel there are less rooms and reservations will try to send you to another hotel. Nyki has rooms reserved for our Chapter so work with Nyki on that. February 17, 2007 – For those who are in the Levels Program and need First Aid to stay current for the program, this date has been booked for the Chapter. Even if you are not in the program, this is a good course to take. You never know when you may need it. The life you could save could be a loved one or a friend. So sign up at the next meeting, hope to see you there.

Pam and I have been approached by members of G-2 about doing a joint ride between the two chapters. They were talking about us going up for one of their rides and then they would come down for one of our rides. If anyone is interested in the idea, please let us know then we can sit down with G-2 and make some plans.

The last thing I have is the Ohio Passport Program. For those who are interested in this program it has been changed for 2007. I will talk more about the changes at our next meeting. Roger made the changes to help increase the interest in the program. It is now more "User Friendly". See you all at the next gathering!

Steve and Pam



RIDER EDUCATION

By Robert and Angela Williams



Congrats to: Denny & Joy Miller the recipients of the infamous Belt Buckles.

Levels program update: We now have 41 members participating in the GWRRA Levels Program. This brings us to a total of 26 Level I Riders, 4 Level II Riders, 8 Level III Riders and 4 Level IV Master Tour Riders. **Ride On**

Riding Topic: Winter is a perfect time of year to take care of a number of things, like taking first aid training. Paul and Nyki have reserved Saturday Feb. 17, 2007 for this training. Please mark this date down on your personal calendar and contact Paul and Nyki for reservations.

This next session was taken from the International RE Newsletter. You may go to Chapter T's WebPages and find links to District and National Riders Education Newsletters.

The top 20 Rules for Riding.

20. *The two most useless things to a rider are the braking distance behind you and nine-tenth of a second ago.*
19. *Remember...gravity and centrifugal force are not just good ideas. They are laws and are not subject to appeal.*
18. *Keep looking around. There's always something you've missed.*
17. *Good judgment comes from experience. Unfortunately, the experience usually comes from bad judgment.*
16. *In the ongoing battle between objects made of metal, rubber, and fiberglass...going 100+ miles per hours, and the ground going zero miles per hour, the ground has yet to lose. Same holds for cars, large trucks, and animals taller than you. Draws don't count.*
15. *If all you can see in your mirrors is sparks and all you can hear is screaming from your passenger, things may not be as they should be.*
14. *You start with a bag of luck and an empty bag of experience. The trick is to fill the bag of experience before you empty the bag of luck.*
13. *There are two simple rules for riding smoothly and fast in snow and on ice. Unfortunately no one knows what they are.*
12. *Always try to keep the number of times you put your side-stand down equal to the number of times you put the side-stand up.*
11. *Never let a motorcycle take you somewhere your brain didn't get to three seconds earlier.*
10. *You know you've left the side-stand down when all left turns are bad-turns. You know you've left the center-stand down when you're in 1st gear at 4000 rpm going no-where.*
9. *Learn from the mistakes of others. You won't live long enough to make all of them yourself.*
8. *When in doubt slow down, no one has ever hit something too slow.*
7. *The rear wheel is just a big fan on back of the bike used to keep the rider cool and his/her butt relaxed. If going into a corner too fast, slamming on the rear brake causes the "fan" to abruptly stop. When this happens you can actually see the rider start sweating and his/her butt become tense.*
6. *The only time you have too much fuel is when you're on fire.*
5. *It's always better to be on the sidelines wishing you were on the track, than on the track wishing you were on the sidelines.*
4. *Riding isn't dangerous! Crashing is dangerous!*
3. *If you push the bars left, the bike goes left. If you push the bars right, the bike goes right. That is, unless you continue pushing the bars all the way, then the bike will go down.*
2. *Every ride is optional.*
1. *A "good" ride is one from which you can walk away. A "great" ride is one after which you can use the bike again.*

This was submitted by Bob Lorenz Senior International Director

Happy New Year and see you at our next gathering.

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

JUST A BIKER

Just a biker

I saw you; hug your purse closer to you in the grocery store line.

You didn't see me put an extra \$10.00 in the collection plate last Sunday.

I saw you; pull your child closer when we passed each other on the sidewalk.

You didn't see me playing Santa at the local mall.

I saw you; change your mind about going into the restaurant.

You didn't see me attending a meeting to raise more money for the hurricane relief.

I saw you, roll up your window and shake your head when I rode by

You didn't see me, driving behind you when you flicked your cigarette butt out the car window.

I saw you, frown at me when I smiled at your children.

You didn't see me, when I took time off from work to run toys to the homeless.

I saw you, stare at my long hair.

You didn't see me and my friends cut ten inches off for Locks of Love.

I saw you roll your eyes at our leather coats and gloves.

You didn't see me and my brothers donate our old coats and gloves to those that had none.

I saw you; look in fright at my tattoos.

You didn't see me cry as my children were born and having their name tattooed on my skin and in my heart.

I saw you change lanes while rushing off to go somewhere.

You didn't see me going home to be with my family.

I saw you complain about how loud and noisy our bikes can be.

You didn't see me, when you were changing the CD and drifted into my lane.

I saw you, yelling at your kids in the car.

You didn't see me; pat my child's hands knowing he was safe behind me.

I saw you, reading the newspaper or map as you drove down the road.

You didn't see me; squeeze my wife's leg when she told me to take the next turn.

I saw you, race down the road in the rain.

You didn't see me, get soaked to the skin so my son could have the car to go on his date.

I saw you; run the yellow light just to save a few minutes of time.

You didn't see me, trying to turn right.

I saw you; cut me off because you needed to be in the lane I was in.

You didn't see me, leave the road.

I saw you, waiting impatiently for my friends to pass.

You didn't see me. I wasn't there.

I saw you; go home to your family.

You didn't see me, because, I died that day you cut me off.

I was just a biker and a person with friends and family.

You didn't see me.

Author unknown