

# RUBBER CITY RIDERS NEWSLETTER AKRON, OHIO

## CD's POINT of VIEW

By Steve Detwiler & Pam Jeanneret

Hello All,

Pam and I hope everyone is well,. I would like to Welcome back all the Snowbirds that were at our last meeting. It was nice to see all of your tan faces. ALL of us here are also glad that you brought the sunshine and warm weather with you!

### Upcoming Events:

May 4<sup>th</sup> - Ride to Hartville

May 5&6 Bologna Run

May 6<sup>th</sup> Chapter V-2 Rigatoni dinner, Wintersville

May 12<sup>th</sup> Mansfield Skills Day

May 19<sup>th</sup> Chapter's first Saturday ride

Hope to see you on the road!! Ride Safe, Steve and Pam

## FINAL NOTES

By Paul McWilliams

Rather than send an e-mail out, as some do not have it, I thought I would take just a moment to thank everyone that supported Nyki and I during our term as your chapter directors. A special thank you goes out to our staff, who did a wonderful job in fulfilling their duties. Awards were plentiful and well deserved for their efforts. It was not an easy decision to make, to step down, but as the saying goes, there comes a time in ones life for a change, and I felt it was time. I know this came as a surprise to most, including my devoted and supporting wife. I would not have been able to "hang in there" as long as I did without her support. The support given at the fund raiser for the chapter this year was great also. I didn't expect anything less from you. Most of the chapter members participated and helped to make it the success that it was. This will allow the chapter to continue functioning well. There are a lot of good things coming up to keep everyone busy, and are always subject to change, so just hang in there and enjoy all that you can. Please, please, please, ride safely. Too many motorcyclists are being killed on our nations highways through no fault of their own. Keep the odds on your side as much as you can.

Please give your full support to Steve and Pam as they begin their tenure. I hope you will.

Change is not always easy; change is usually for the good. One thing for sure, is it is constant. The world is always changing.

Keep your wheels beneath you and the wind in your face.

Paul, Nyki & Ajna

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## RIDER EDUCATION

By Robert and Angela Williams



**Congrats to:** Paul & Nyki McWilliams our newest Level IV Master Tour Riders.

**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, 5 Level III Riders and 8 Level IV Master Tour Riders. Levels Cup was presented to our Newest Level III and Level IV riders. **Ride On!**

**Riding Topic:** I was given a copy of a magazine called "our Ohio" which is distributed by Ohio Farm Bureau Federation. I would like to share this article in hope that you will also share it with others.

### **Things you should know about motorcycles.**

- When a motorcycle is in motion, don't think of it as motorcycle—think of it as a person.
- There are a lot more cars and trucks than motorcycles on the road, and some drivers don't "recognize" a motorcycle. Stay alert for motorcycles, especially when checking traffic at an intersection.
- Because of its small size, a motorcycle can be easily hidden in a car's blind spots (door/roof/pillars) or masked by objects or backgrounds outside a car (bush, fences, bridges). Take an extra moment to thoroughly check traffic, whether you're changing lanes or turning at intersections.
- Motorcyclists often slow by downshifting or merely rolling off the throttle, thus not activation the brake light. Allow more following distance, at least three or four seconds. At intersections, predict a motorcyclist may slow down without visual warning.
- Turn signals on a motorcycle usually are not self-canceling. Some riders occasionally forget to turn off signals after a turn or lane change. Make sure a motorcycle's signal is for real.
- Motorcyclists often adjust position within a lane to be seen more easily and to minimize the effects of road debris, passing vehicles and wind. Be aware that motorcyclists often adjust lane position for a purpose, not to be reckless.
- Maneuverability is one of a motorcycle's better characteristics, especially at slower speeds and with good road conditions, but don't expect a motorcyclist to always be able to dodge out of the way. Stopping distance for motorcycles is nearly the same as for cars but slippery pavement makes stopping quickly difficult. Allow more following distance behind a motorcycle.

*Source: Motorcycle Safety foundation.*

As you can see, our four wheel friends have a lot of adjusting to do as we enter our riding season. Be sure to help them at any opportunity. The Riding Topic above is high lighted by the next article.

**Angela's Saga:** Angela had her maiden voyage Saturday when she rode her Suzuki over to Andrews Honda for it first maintenance visit. I followed right behind her in my vehicle be very protective as I should. Following her I noticed that every time she needed to turn, her four ways would come on. When we got to the service center I asked Angela to turn on the right signal and she used her right hand to hit the switch and said that sometimes it would not work. Well some of you already know that the turn signal is on the left side. Angela was activating the 4way hazard switch. Wednesday Angela and I drove over to pick up her Suzuki and since it was not only raining but as well cold I got the opportunity to ride the Suzuki home. While I used the correct signal switch, I failed to cancel the turn signal on some of my turns. The point, we as motorcyclists sometimes cause our four wheel friend to make faulty judgments. In the article above you should see that we as motorcyclist can do some things to help communicate our intentions. When slowing and you know there is traffic behind you, go ahead and squeeze the brake to alert drivers behind you. Before you begin a ride, make sure that your signals work and ensure you know where they are (oops). We all WANT to get from where we started our trip to where we WANT to end our trip and this includes our four wheel friends that we share the roadway.

Let's have another safe riding season in 2007.

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

## TECHNICAL TALK

### By Chuck and Marlene Isom

Hi Folks'

Nice to be back home in Ohio, but the weather, well let's not go there.

The Good, the Bad and the Ugly. This month I want to discuss moonshine, Hooch, rotgut, white lightning, best known to you all as ethanol. Billed as an environmentally friendly substitute for gasoline ethanol is an alternative that many think can help wean America off imported oil, it is cleaner-burning, generates money for farmers and could be a boon to the economy. That is good. The United States produced nearly 5 billion gallons last year, a figure that is expected to double in less than 2 years. It is a sweet promise but has a bitter reality. The Bad. Us taxpayers are subsidizing the cost of making ethanol. The industry received between \$5.1 billion and \$6.8 billion government money last year. It is expected to grow to as much to as \$8 billion a year. That is one of the disadvantages of ethanol. Another is it causing our food prices to go up. Today virtually all the ethanol is made from corn, (90%) and corn is used in most food. Ethanol does not have as much punch as gasoline it takes 1.4 gallons to 1 gallon of gas to match the energy content. I am referring to the 85-15 blend that is 85 percent ethanol 15 percent gas. But it reduces emissions of carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas linked to global warming by about 36%. We have been using the 10-90 percent a long time in the summer months here in Ohio. Most vehicles will operate on that mixture. The cost of driving on E85 is 30 percent higher than the cost of driving on regular gasoline. Gas companies are fighting the use of ethanol. Gas companies are still trying to dig themselves out of a mess they got into for using a gas additive that started back in the 80's. It is called Methyl Tertiary Butyl ether (MTBE). It is known to contaminate ground waters. Many water suppliers at least 175 are in a class action law suit for damages to their water supply they are asking for one billion in damages. The trial starts next January. Tampa Florida just joined the suit. Gas companies started phasing out MTBE in 2000 and replacing it with ethanol. Only about 1000 of the nations 180,000 gas stations sell the E85-15 blend and your car need's special equipment to use it. There is only one station in Florida that sells the 85-15 blend. The federal GOVERNMENT MANDATES WE USE 35 BILLION GALLONS of ethanol a year by 2017. So ethanol is here to stay. it has caused corn prices to double from \$2 a bushel to over \$4 per bushel. Ethanol can be made from anything that has a wood or green leaf structure. It can also be made from sugar cane but the price of sugar is so high it is more profitable for the farmers to sell their cane to sugar manufactures. Imagine sugar in your gas, put some sugar in your gas tank and see what happens. No, No, just kidding. We now have stoves that use corn as a fuel. As farmers convert to growing more corn other food items will be planted less. Farmers use corn to feed their livestock so less livestock will be grown that will effect the cost of our beef and milk products. Fred Nichols said that on his way home from Arizona he put some 25 -75 blend in his motor home and it caused it to run and perform better than regular gas. I have not tried anything over 10-90 percent I also try to avoid that in my motorcycle. This is ugly. Gas stations are losing millions of gallons of gas due to leaking storage tanks at the stations. In Hillsborough county in Florida (Tampa area) they have had 2400 discharges from leaking gasoline tanks since 1883 of those 1079 have been cleaned up, and 700 others are in the cleanup process. The rest have not been acted on, In Florida alone there have been 23,990 leaks confirmed. I can't imagine how many it would be in all of the United states. Again we are the ones paying for those losses. MTBE can spread faster and farther than any other gasoline additives. Because of the chemical solubility it is also difficult to remove. As gasoline prices continue to soar other ways are popping up to improve mileage. One such company Fuel Freedom International has a pill, put one in each time you fill up and it is suppose to improve gas mileage up to 14%. The pill is called MPG-Cap, they are sold on line in packages of 10 for \$19.95. They are suppose to create a thin coating in the engines combustion chamber allowing the fuel to burn more efficiently. Don't use the pill's with Chevron products, new Havoline motor oil that has a formula that protects against deposit buildup that they claim causes engines to age prematurely. It works immediately upon contact with the engines moving parts. creating a protective coating that shields against deposit formation. It keeps PARTS COATED SO THERE IS NO PLACE FOR DEPOSITS TO ADHERE TO, ALSO IS SUPPOSE TO HELP MAINTAIN ENGINE POWER AND PRESERVE FUEL ECONOMY. What to do?, What to do? You be the Judge

## SECRETARY'S REPORT

By Julie Veneskey

The meeting for April 11<sup>th</sup> 2007 was held at Lindsay's Restaurant in Akron and was called to order by Chapter Director Paul McWilliams at 7:15 pm. Guests were introduced. We had new members Mike and Mary Stephenson and Brian Burwell. Jim Cable from State 8 Motorcycles joined us also. David and Carol Phillips from Chapter Q in Canton and Dave Borland, Don Millhone and Dan and Marla Ledsome from Chapter L-2 in New Philadelphia also stopped by. We welcomed back from the south Fred and Peg Nichols, Chuck and Marlene Isom and Harry and Charlotte Memmer. Paul introduced Debbie Williams as the new Chapter Historian.

Dave and Marcia Goode talked about and showed some of the many items they sell for motorcyclists, including rain covers for your seat, helmet liners, sheepskin, leather gloves and electric vest.

Motorist Awareness Director Bob Jarrett reminded us to let people know that we motorcyclists are out there sharing the road. So be sure to tell your friends and family.

ACD Steve Detwiler, standing in for Chapter Educator Robert Williams who is in England, awarded new Level participants with patches and mugs. Bruce and Paula Barthol are new Level 3 riders. Paul and Nyki McWilliams are new Level 4 Master Tour Riders.

Cindy Jarrett and Nyki McWilliams talked about the upcoming chapter fundraiser. The dinner and auction will be held on April 28<sup>th</sup> at the Randolph Community Center. Cindy asked that all items for the auction please be turned in before the day of the auction. Nyki asked that all those providing food for the dinner to please turn it in by the 27<sup>th</sup>. Those bringing items for the bake sale can bring them the day of the auction. Those who have volunteered to help need to be at the community center by 3:00 pm.

Newsletter Editor Nyki Williams mentioned that anyone who wishes to submit an article about their perspective of any of the rides this summer is encouraged to do so.

Ted Daniels talked about the award for Best Ride Leader. He mentioned that there have only been a couple names the past couple years. He asked that more people step up to lead rides.

Upcoming events:

April 21<sup>st</sup> – Chapter M Fundraiser in Austintown, Ohio. Meet and leave by 3:00 pm

April 28<sup>th</sup> – Chapter T Fundraiser at Randolph Community Center

May 4<sup>th</sup> – Cruise In Fundraiser at the Hartville Marketplace and Pavilion to raise money for the Jennings

Extended Care Fund

May 5<sup>th</sup> – Bologna Run in Cygnet, Ohio

May 12<sup>th</sup> – Skills Day in Mansfield, Ohio

May 19<sup>th</sup> – Brown Bag Ride to Pymatuning, Pa.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

## FUND RAISER

By Cindy Jarrett

Well, we did it again! We had another successful fundraiser!

First, let me thank Nyki & Paul for going to other chapter meetings in our area and talking up the Spaghetti Dinner/Auction. Next, thanks to Nyki & Susan for cooking the spaghetti, sauce, and meatballs. Also, thanks to all the chapters who came and supported us! **Remember, Chapter T, we need to support their fundraisers, too!**

Next, I would like to thank the 38 businesses who contributed items for the Auction. Please support these businesses so that they will continue to support us! They are:

Midwest Motorsports  
Erie Station Grille  
Lindsay's Amber Restaurant  
Roadrunner Trike  
Acapulco & Billock's  
Rootstown Flowers  
Azteca  
Pettigrew Feed & Hardware  
Paradise Lake Golf Club  
Pizza Hut  
Sto-Kent Family Entertainment  
El Campesino  
Maplecrest Golf Course  
Diane's Mane Event  
K & P Motorcycle Apparel  
Nancy Mitchem  
Country Choppers

Discount Leather & Accessories  
Hearts Unique Creations  
First Merit Bank  
Guaca-Moles  
Cycle Crafts  
Hartville Hardware  
Very Interesting Leather  
Salsitas  
Brimfield Steakhouse  
Ray's Cycle & Trike Shop  
Belgrade's  
Light Bisto  
Klaben Auto Stores  
Mike's Place  
Cycle Leather Outlet  
Andrews Cycle

State 8  
Bed, Bath, & Beyond  
Yours Truly  
MRDD  
Window Box

Finally, I would like to thank the 30 chapter couples who supported the fundraiser in one way or another. We would not have had such great success without your donations of food, items for the Auction, items for the bake sale, time, and money. A special THANK YOU to those of you who got or brought in items for the verbal auction. I am always amazed at how fast everything gets cleaned up afterwards. We are a "well-oiled machine," which makes the work easier for everyone.

Cindy Jarrett  
Ways & Means