

GWRRA



Chapter W2 "Memphis Gold" June 2006

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Meeting Time—1st Thursday of each month
Eat at 6:30 PM Meet at 7:30 PM
Barnhills—1204 W. Poplar Av.—
Collierville, TN

From the chapter directors

By: Pat & Jim Brewington

Hello everyone:

This past month went by fast since we had a lot going on. Everyone that attended Spring Fling had a great time. Our duck won second place in each heat that it raced so we got the second place award for the "Grand Duck" race. We are already thinking about the races for next year and hope they will be even greater.

This month is to honor all of our fathers. So we will not have a schedule ride for that weekend. If anyone is not doing something that weekend we can always put a ride together. Be sure and look at the copy you have of the ride schedule and set your calendar for June to make some of these rides. We are now starting to have some beautiful riding weather. I hope that some of you that have not been riding with us will come and join in on the fun. On June 24th./25th. we will be having an over night ride to Land Between the Lakes and a meal at Patty's 1800's Settlement. Be thinking about this, because we will need an idea of how many are going so that we can make reservations for the meal. We will have more info on this at the meeting.

When you are looking at the rides for this month don't forget about Bolivar's

Bike show that they will be having. Get out everything and give those two wheels a cleaning like they have not had in a long time. Lets go and enter our bikes and have a good time.

For those of you that did not know Shirley Martin CD from Chapter D2 had a heart attack a couple of weeks ago and had a stint put in. Take a minute to send her a card or e-mail to let her know we are all thinking about her.

The open house at Desoto Honda was a lot of fun and I know several people that rode the poker run said it was a good one. Ms Y sold all 1000 of their tickets for the bike they were giving away and all of the proceeds went to a charity, in Hernando, Ms.

Congratulations to Jim Ragon on the purchase of his new gold GL1800. He was at the Open House/Fund Day making purchases that he just could not live without.

Congratulations to Pete Scogin on his retirement after over 30 years of truck driving.

This is all the news that we have for this time. Have a fun and safe Memorial Day Weekend and remember just why we celebrate this holiday.

Ride safe and often,
Pat & Jim

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome David and Cindi Ray to our chapter. They have already been to several events since joining in April and we hope to see a lot more of them. It is so great to get new people in the chapter and see it grow.

Rider Education

By: Ruth Bolden

We had a great ride to Spring Fling this year. Only had rain coming back, about 200 miles of it. Quite an improvement from last year with the rain, tornadoes, sleet and snow. Most everyone in our group did a good job group riding. There were a couple of times that more than one tried to be lead bike or drag bike from the wrong position and two or more tried to talk at the same time. That's bound to happen with a group as large as ours. I must apologize to everyone who rode in our group for Donald's disregard for group riding rules. He has his own way of riding, and the more I try (or anyone else tries) to persuade him to follow the rules, the worse he gets. He really likes riding with the group, however, if he rides with the group, we have to put him at the tail end and the bike in front of him becomes the drag bike. Then he's happy. Then nobody's trying to tell him how to ride or what to do. It is really embarrassing for the chapter Rider Educator to deviate from proper group riding guidelines.

In May, 2005 I wrote a newsletter article regarding the Road Captain Course. I'd like to revisit that subject. The Road Captain Course is a set of guidelines to help in training a group to ride safely as a team. This course is very informative as well as a lot of fun. It seems that everywhere you go, each group appears to ride a little differently. It is GWRRA's hope that these guidelines will help in teaching techniques that may become used universally. Let's go over some of these guidelines. Space does not allow for the complete course here but will serve as a reminder for those of you that have had the course and give the rest of you an idea of what the Road Captain Course is about. Hopefully, in the near future we will be able to hold another Road Captain Course.

Each group, ideally with 3-5 bikes in each group, will have a lead bike and a drag bike. Larger numbers should be divided into more groups. The lead bike is in the first position, riding in the left track of the lane; the drag bike will be in the last position, also riding in the left track. This only works with an odd number of bikes. Each bike will ride in a staggered file formation approximately 1 to 2 seconds behind the bike in front of them. This allows the bikes to stay together and does not allow room for vehicles to move into the group. However, if your travel route takes you onto narrower roads or road conditions that indicate a need, the lead bike will call for single file formation, both by CB and by hand signal. Any bike without a CB is placed in the middle of the group and hand signals used to communicate. These hand signals are illustrated in your Gold Wing book. The drag bike is able to view the group from his/her position in the event one bike has a problem the lead bike can be notified and appropriate action taken. Also, the drag bike may notice the group is spreading out or getting sloppy in the formation and will tell the group to close it up or to get the formation straight. The group's safety is as much the concern of the drag as the lead.

When it become necessary for the group to change lanes, the lead bike asks the drag bike to secure the left (or right) lane when he/she has an opportunity. When it is safe, the drag bike moves into the left (right) lane and notifies the lead bike that the lane is secure. Often the drag bike will move into the other lane (secure the lane) behind a vehicle, in which case he/she will notify the lead bike that the lane is secure after the vehicle has passed. The lead waits until the drag clearly states that the lane is secure. At that time the lead will announce to the group to look left/right and move left/right now.

(continued on Page 4)

The bikes will move as a group at the word "now" with the bike directly in front of them. This is beautiful to watch. The group moves as though connected. On narrow two-lane roads this may not be possible and you may need to pass a slow moving vehicle individually.

When pulling off of the road or preparing to stop, find an area that will accommodate the entire group. Pull into the area, ride to the end, and swing the front of your bike out. When the bike has pulled up next to you and stopped, then back up to the curb. All bikes should follow suit. This makes for a neat formation when parked and leaves more room for other groups, or for non-riders to park. Always remember to make a good impression on the general public, and

not hogging all available parking spaces is just one more way to do this.

We all enjoy the fellowship of our chapter members, and enjoy talking to them during rides. Please keep in mind that the lead and drag need to be able to pass on safety information to the group. Keep conversation short to keep the airway clear. This is especially true when there is more than one group. Everyone should keep conversation to an absolute minimum.

All of this is common sense. Each person is responsible for the safety and operation of their own bike. When you get the opportunity attend a Road Captain Course, you will enjoy it and understand better why we group ride the way we do. RIDE SAFE, RIDE SMART.

HOW TO PLANT A CHAPTER ACTIVITY GARDEN

J.B. HERMAN SHELTON KY-T

- I. First, plant five rows of peas:
 1. **Presence:** Your presence at Chapter activities
 2. **Promptness:** Be on time and ready to go
 3. **Preparation:** Have your pen and paper ready to write down tips received from the guest speaker and phone numbers of friends you'll make.
 4. **Purity:** Don't say anything you wouldn't want said of you.
 5. **Perseverance:** Be patient. Don't be part of the problem. Be part of the solution.

- II. Next to these, plant three rows of squash:
 1. **Squash:** Gossip
 2. **Squash:** Criticism
 3. **Squash:** Indifference

- III. Then plant four rows of lettuce:
 1. **Let us:** Be faithful to one another
 2. **Let us:** Be loyal and unselfish
 3. **Let us:** Be true to our obligations
 4. **Let us:** Love and respect one another

- IV. No garden is complete without turnips:
 1. **Turn up:** For get-togethers
 2. **Turn up:** With a smile
 3. **Turn up:** With determination to make everything count as something worthwhile

- V. Pass it on!!!!!!

June 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 W2 Meeting	2	3 N Meeting
4	5	6	7	8 Brenda Hopper B-Day	9	10 I Bike Show Middleton City Park
11 T2 Meeting	12	13	14 Flag Day	15 Dinner Ride	16	17
18 D2 Meeting - Father's Day	19	20	21	22 Margaret Rogers B-Day	23	24 Land Between Lakes Ride
25 Land Between Lakes Ride	26	27	28	29	30	



Phyllis is in the water ready to let the ducks go at the Duck Race.



*Chuck & Pat accept the completed Traveling Plaque.
Way To Go W2!!*

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