

Chapter W2 – Memphis Gold

Region N

Friends for Fun, Safety and Knowledge

October 2010



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Meeting Time – 1st Thursday of each month
Eat at 6:30 PM – Meet at 7:30 PM
Perkins – 1340 S Germantown Rd.
Germantown, TN

From the Chapter Director By: Glenda Keough

Well, another September has come and gone. We spent the month doing a lot of riding in spite of the heat. The District Perimeter Ride was the weekend of the 10th through the 12th. Alan & I made our way to Kimball, TN on Thursday in order to be there bright and early for the kick-off. We left the hotel early Friday morning with 32 other bikes split into 4 groups. The ride encompassed Tennessee and the state surrounding it. We stopped for fuel in Sladen, MS and discovered that we had a very low back tire on our bike. We aired it up and led the procession through Memphis, crossing the Tennessee-Arkansas Bridge (the old bridge) just before 4:00 pm. We barely beat rush hour. After crossing into West Memphis we had to pull over because of the tire again. The valve stem was replaced and fix-a-flat was put in the tire just in case and we were off again. Saturday morning dawned to beautiful riding weather for everyone but us. The tire was flat as a pancake and the bike was going nowhere. We hung around the hotel until about 8:30 and called a wrecker. If you ever need a wrecker service anywhere near Union City, I highly recommend Allen's Wrecker Service. These folks are super, and are well equipped to handle bikes. We were taken to Abernathy's Honda in Union City where some really great guys took care of us and got us back on the road by 9:30. The rest of the day was made up of catching up with the rest of the group, which we did at the stop for the night. We saw some great country and had so much fun. If you get a chance to do something like that next year, I can't recommend it strongly enough. It was awesome!

A group of us visited Clarksdale, MS on Saturday the 18th eating at the Rancho, a

long time fixture in that town. We rode into downtown Clarksdale stopping at the Blues Museum for a short while before heading back home. It was just tooooooo hot to linger any longer. The following Sunday several of us enjoyed a much cooler ride to Reelfoot Lake for catfish (or chicken or ham) at Boyette's. A couple of us even got coffee to warm up when we got there. What a difference a week makes.

October promises to present even more opportunities to ride. Plans include a trip to Lynchburg to visit the Jack Daniels brewery on the weekend of the 1st through the 3rd. The following weekend is the Mississippi District Rally in Tupelo. I hope you are able to make it down for at least a day and support our neighboring district. Saturday, October 23rd we have a dinner ride planned to Old Timers café in Millington for some of their home cooked goodness and their out-of-this-world desserts. Lets not forget the Halloween Party being hosted by Doug & Linda Pyron. This event will be a pot luck type of event with each person bringing their favorite party food to share with the group. I hope all of you will get out and put some miles on your bikes and your butts now that the weather has cooled.

I urge everyone to attend the October gathering on October 7th. There will be some surprises at that gathering that you won't want to miss, so make your plans to be there. We meet at the Perkins Restaurant on Germantown Parkway at Wolf River Boulevard at 6:30 to eat and fellowship and the meeting will start at 7:30.

Have Fun and Ride Safe



TECHNICAL ADVICE

By Ron Page

Motorcycle Alarms and Anti-theft systems

Well this month I am writing about motorcycle alarms and am including a lot of thoughts as to do I really want/need one to buying one just to keep up with the Harley guys (some of the Harley Davidson road bikes have them as standard equipment which was a surprise to me). Anyway here goes – I was surprised to learn that there are a number of different motorcycle alarms on the market so choosing one can be confusing. Since the technological language is important, I think I'll borrow from my research just to set the stage so to speak:

The first term is “**anti-hijacking**.” – sounds good - this feature allows you to shut your motorcycle's engine down if someone is riding away with it – the key is your bike must be within range of the control device (not sure if this is practical since you need to be close and see the individual borrowing your bike).

The second term is “**remote starting**” – sounds good too – but – do you really want to start your bike from a distance – especially since our Wings do not need to be warmed up like the bikes from the 50's or even the 80's. The technology involved in electronic fuel ignition (EFI) and lubricants means that you can start your bike and take off from a cold start in a matter of seconds.

The third term is “**motion sensor(s)**” – again this sounds cool – but – there are three ways these work to help you detect a potential theft of your motorcycle: 1) shock to the motorcycle; 2) tilt of the motorcycle; and 3) motion around the motorcycle. Now think for a minute – a big wind could set off a motion sensor and when we park our

bikes at rallies, we often cover them for the night so any wind could and would jar the sensor just enough to set it off. Also, people lean on our bikes – this motion will and does set off the alarm depending upon how sensitive the trigger is inside the device. If you enjoy the knowledge that you have an alarm, just think about how much fun you'll have at 3 AM when it goes off and you get to go outside and reset it. This alarm may deter someone from stealing you bike.

The fourth term is “**tilt sensor(s)**” – well what do you know – does this sound good or not?? – Actually this is a good way to keep someone from stealing your bike. You will want to purchase the best sensor device you can as the older ones use mercury switches to detect movement – note: In these devices you can probably tilt the bike off its side-stand to a full upright position without the mercury tilt sensor going off so NO ALARM. Another disadvantage is false alarms caused by sudden changes in temperature. Examples that I've read about include shutting a hot engine down on a cold evening which will cause the mercury switch tilt sensors to trigger the alarm. Digital accelerometers are an excellent device for detecting changes in tilt or inclination. Once the digital accelerometer is set, it takes a reading of its position, if the accelerometer senses even minimal change in its position, it will trigger the alarm. In terms of utility, durability, sensitivity, and practicality, digital accelerometers are an excellent way to prevent motorcycle theft.

Chances are, if someone takes your motorcycle off of its side-stand, you'll want to know about it.

The fifth term is “**shock sensor(s)**”- sounds good – almost every motorcycle alarm system uses a shock sensor so you want to be able to distinguish the good from the not so good to the very bad. Shock sensors can be very sensitive so if the device is sounding off when the wind blows it is a good indicator that your alarm is too sensitive. When you purchase an alarm with this feature make sure that you can adjust the sensitivity as it is a must if you want a quality alarm – note: you do not want one with a one-time adjustment (made by cutting a wire in the alarm). Good shock sensors will have a wide range of sensitivity and the best will utilize two of them, one for hard shock and the other for light shock, which will trigger the alarm according to the stimulus.

The sixth term is “**engine immobilizer**” – now I like this feature as an engine immobilizer prevents your motorcycle from being started when the alarm system is armed. This feature interrupts the kills switch line with a

relay, and makes it impossible to start the bike as long as the alarm system is on.

Note: this is not a feature as much as a necessity for any alarm system and it is the “**internal back-up battery**”. Note: many insurance companies require this feature to obtain an insurance discount on your motorcycle insurance policy and it will require the removal of the seat to cut power to the alarm system.

Well. We know the terms so the question remains – Do I want one, need one or what? As I was looking in Ebay, I noticed this alarm for sale for what looked like a reasonable price – after further research – I decided that this alarm was on sale because it could work but it was not the alarm for me – I am still researching because – YOU GET WHAT YOU PAY FOR AND IF I WANT THE BEST THEN I MUST BE PREPARED TO PAY THE PRICE.

Ride safe,
watch out



ride often and
for others!

RICHARD'S RAMBLINGS

By Richard Hutson

Not much to say this month, Colleen and I are recovering from a bad September. The short— Colleen broke a tooth, had to have it removed and a titanium implant inserted. She goes to work one afternoon, and while trying to get out the way of one squad car, she hits another unmarked car. Her new nickname at work is Crash. On September 13, our house was burglarized. The inventory is up to \$15,000 in losses, most of that is jewelry and guns. I see a new gun safe on the horizon.

Saturday, 9/25, was our anniversary. Colleen had to be in Murfreesboro, TN for a 911 conference, so I went for the weekend, took her out to dinner at the Cheese Cake Factory in Nashville, and bought the required Coach purse while in Lebanon.

Sunday morning, while waiting on Colleen to get out class for lunch, I did a little sight seeing at the Stone River Battlefield. Upon leaving, I drove up on a motorcycle accident. Here is lady trying

to learn to ride her new motorcycle, a Suzuki 750 to 1000. She had tried to make a turn and dropped the bike. The only safety equipment she had on was a half helmet. The bike had no crash bars, so there was damage to the left turn signal, and the shift lever would not shift to another gear. She was bleeding from the left elbow and nervous. Before I was able to get to her, another driver stopped and picked up the bike, but did not put the kickstand down, just left her holding it in the middle of the street. Since we were unable to get the bike into neutral, she got on, held the clutch in, and started the bike. I had just driven by a Harley dealership, and they were having a new rider's class. I told her to check into it, and that she needed to wear more safety equipment.

I have lost one friend this month. I do not need to lose any more. WEAR YOUR SAFETY EQUIPMENT.

Take care.
Richard

Have you stopped for a minute lately and thought about all of the technology that we have in this modern day world of ours? There is so much that can be done with it, but at the same time there is so much other people can find out about you! For instance; I would like to talk about Facebook, especially for those of you that use it. So many times you can go on Facebook and see just where your friends are at the present time. Has anyone stopped to think about just how dangerous this could be? For example you write on the Facebook page that you are in Florida for the week. This tells everyone that you are out of town and for how long. Now if the wrong people should read this it could open a lot of different possible things that could take place in your life while out of town. We all would like to think we could trust all the friends that we have, but just remember someone could always break in your house and steal your computer. Unless you have a password to sign in every time, then that wrong set of hands will have all of your info that is not password protected. So my friends I hope this is a little food for thought, and that you will be more aware of what you tell the general public about what is going on in your life. Also, whatever you do, DO NOT put your address or telephone number on the Facebook page. This all made me start thinking recently after Richard and Colleen's house was broken into.

Pat Brewington

October 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Lynchburg Trip – N Meeting
3 Lynchburg Trip	4	5	6	7 W2 Meeting	8	9
10	11 Columbus Day	12	13	14 MS Y Meeting	15 MS Dist Rally	16 MS Dist Rally
17	18	19	20	21	22 Colleen Hutson B- Day	23 Dinner Ride Old-Timers
24	25	26	27	28	29	30 Halloween party – Pyron's House
31 Jim Boyles B-Day Halloween						

RIDER EDUCATION By Alan Keough

This will be my last article as Chapter Educator, I will be stepping down at the end of October. I have enjoyed my tenure as Chapter Educator, and I hope someone will step up and take over the job. My last article will be short and to the point, I hope all of you will ride safely and wear the proper riding gear. I know we don't always do this, but as our friend Pete said after his accident: "I will never ride without it again." I hope it doesn't take an accident to get everyone to ride with the proper gear. That's all for now RIDE SAFE.



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