



Friends for Fun, Safety and Knowledge



Chapter F meets
The third Saturday
of the month
(except December)
at:
Hy-Vee
3235 Oakland Road NE
Cedar Rapids, IA
Join us for breakfast at 8 am
Gathering at 8:30am

Volume 8 Issue 3 March 2018

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF FRIENDS FOR FUN, SAFETY AND KNOWLEDGE



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Notes from your Chapter Director

My Irish eyes are smiling....and yours should be too. March is here and that means it's time to uncover the Wings and shine them up so that they're ready to ride. There are plenty of riding opportunities ahead so this is a great month to determine if any maintenance is needed before the season begins. Make that appointment with McGrath Service Department or stop in at the parts department and get your order in for our Chapter Maintenance Day in April (4/17 @ the Knupp's home).



Speaking of McGrath Powersports– Wasn't that so nice of them to host a private event for us to view the new Goldwing? Everyone who attended seem to have a great time. Along with prepping our bikes, if it's been a few years since you've taken a riding course, I encourage you to sign up for Safety Weekend held May 18-19 at DMACC and take either the ARC or TRC. Even if you have been riding for years, I guarantee you'll be glad you took the course. We'll be riding the Great Smokey Mountains this summer on our group trip and the switchbacks and general terrain are very different from our Iowa rides. The ARC or TRC course allows you to practice maneuvers to prepare you for this type of riding. There will be sign up forms available at the Get-2-Gether which just happens to fall on St. Paddy's Day.

Everyone's Irish on St. Paddy's Day so let's have a little fun and blend some Green with the F-Troop orange on this day. Who knows? You might even collect the "pot of Gold" – a.k.a 50/50!

Pete and Cheryl Sayers
Chapter F Directors



Notes From Your Chapter MECs

Hello again F Troop,

Well in my mind spring has already sprung. Days are getting longer, there was a few of those days when the snow was all melted and it was somewhat warm you could smell the dirt and it seemed as if spring had arrived and then more snow. Kim and I were sitting in the living room this morning and 2 robins appeared on the railing of the deck. That's a pretty sure sign of things to come.



I had the bike out last weekend and my daughter Brooke and I rode about 60 miles. we battled a pretty stiff wind but it was enjoyable. Just enough to take the edge off. I felt as though I had a pretty small window of good weather to do it in as the next morning, more snow.

Well the crazy supper lived up to its name. I am convinced that the sheriff and his deputy were crooked. I am sure I was innocent the one time I was hauled to jail. And just because I hid a knife all 4 of us at our table had to go to jail. I would have gotten away with it if it wasn't for Sue T. yanking the chair out that I had the knife hid on and there goes the knife flying across the floor. They did make the mistake of putting my wife and I both in the slammer at the same time. Nothing like a conjugal visit while in jail. (there may or may not be pictures of this) Overall great training and a fun day! Thanks District Team!

We have a maintenance day coming up hosted by the Knupp's on April 14th. If you have something to wrench on bring it along, or just come mingle, visit and enjoy a nice afternoon with friends. It's always enjoyable and it's always fun to watch somebody else work.

Hope to see you all at the get together.

Brad and Kim Snyder
Chapter MEC's

Chapter Birthdays
March 24 –Brad Snyder
April 13 –Terry Zimmerman
April 24 –Shelly Thomas



Educator's Corner

From your Iowa District Educator



This month's article is the start of a series of articles that I have in mind that takes information from a study done for the MSF (Motorcycle Safety Foundation) by the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute on motorcycle crashes. This was a very interesting study done recently and there is a lot to learn from it on what factors that can help us in avoiding motorcycle crashes. There are two previous well known motorcycle crash studies. The first was the Hurt Study done through the University of Southern California by Harry Hurt, published in 1981. The second one was done in Europe called the MAIDS study about 10 years later. MAIDS stood for Motorcycle Accidents in Depth Study. All three studies were based on 2 wheeled motorcycles, and some factors that affect bikes are not of major concern for trikes, but many still apply. Today I wanted to focus on one item and that would typically only apply to bikes.

A lot has changed since the Hurt Study was conducted. For example, the average motorcycle is much more powerful today and cell phones did not exist before 1983. Also, research methods have improved. The Virginia Tech study used GPS, multiple video cameras, and other instruments that measured brake pressure, acceleration, and other items, which were all fed back eventually to Virginia Tech. The Hurt Study was limited to retrieving reports and conducting interviews to create statistical reports and to draw conclusions, whereas the VTTI (Virginia Tech) study was able to also record "near accidents" which provide good information as well as actual accidents. In the VTTI study they studied 100 motorcycles, which logged 366,667 miles and had 30 crashes and 122 near-crash events.

One fault of the VTTI study was that 100 motorcycles is a rather small sampling and conclusions can be a bit misleading. However, understanding that shortcoming, we can still learn a lot about what factors are more likely to cause crashes. In the end, statistics are just statistics. They won't tell us what will cause our next crash, but we can pull out information on what we can do to lessen the likelihood of being in a crash.

So, the first thing I wanted to pull from the study was that the most common incident for motorcycles - and trikes, this likely won't pertain to you at all - is the dropped bike. Okay, we really don't consider that an accident, unless someone got hurt. I mean other than the hurt ego. But, it was rather surprising that we drop our bikes a lot more often than we would like to admit. Certainly, a big heavy bike such as the Goldwing is going to be more affected by gravity more than some 250cc bike. So, not having the handlebars squared up at a stop makes dropping the bike pretty likely. Most of the bike drops are at low to no speed. The most common causes are having a bike lean as you are coming to a stop, just beginning to move from a stop, making a turn at low speed, including a tight U-turn, and backing into or pulling out of a parking space or your garage.

This made me feel good to know this is a lot more common than what I thought. What? This has happened to others? Of course, we are going to get that bike picked up as quick as we can and hope no one saw it. For us on Goldwings, we just need to remember that the bike is typically only go over about

45 degrees if we are on level ground. Though there usually isn't any injury to us or the bike, a possible injury is a broken ankle from putting our fall-side foot out in the wrong place. Another potential injury is from not picking the bike correctly. There are some YouTube videos to show the proper technique, if you haven't had the pleasure to perform this already. But, the general technique is to 1) if the bike fell on the right side then put the side stand up, 2) rotate the handlebars so the front tire is pointing up, 3) turn away from the bike with your hands on the passenger seat hold and the handlebar grip, then 4) using your butt against the edge of the seat use your leg muscles to push up and walk back until the bike is upright. If the bike had fallen to the left then once the bike is upright, sweep the side stand down and rest the bike on the stand.

To avoid the tip over always have the handlebars squared up when coming to a stop, practice making those tight turns (there are several techniques that I can write about in future articles), and make sure your bike is as upright as possible when you are backing into a parking space.

Don't beat yourself up too much if you do drop your bike. This happens to a lot of us and now we have some empirical evidence to show that. I promise to get into some more factors in crashes in the coming months, ones that are more likely to cause damage to ourselves and our motorcycles.

Greg Hayes

Iowa District Educator, GWRRA

Chapter Anniversaries

March 20—AL and Bev Rohwedder

March 24—Dean and Cathy Boesenberg

April 24—Fred and Sue McCombs

Chapter F Spring Maintenance Day

Mark your calendars for Saturday, April 14 to get that spring maintenance done on your bikes and trikes. Do you need help installing that safety chrome that Santa brought? Do you need to get the oil changed or other fluids changed? How about just doing a very thorough T-Cloc with a second (or third) set of eyes? Or do you want to help others with these things? Or do you just want to hang out on a Saturday afternoon and talk riding or trip planning? Then mark your calendar now and we will see you at the Knupp's on the 14th



CHAPTER EVENTS

Gathering-- Saturday, March 17. 8:30 am. HyVee 32nd St & Oakland Rd, Cedar Rapids. Join us at 8 am in the Club room for breakfast if you can, gathering at 8:30 am.

Meet and Eat— Thursday, March 22. Stove House, 2 Al Waterhouse, Central City, Meet there, be ready to order at 6:30.

Coffee—Wednesday, April 4. Innovative Coffee, 900 Tower Terrace Rd, Marion. 9:00 am

Meet and Eat— Tuesday, April 10. Hale Tap, 5522 Country Rd 45E, Hale. Meet there, be ready to order at 6:30.

Gathering-- Saturday, April 21. 8:30 am. HyVee 32nd St & Oakland Rd, Cedar Rapids. Join us at 8 am in the Club room for breakfast if you can, gathering at 8:30 am.



EVENTS AROUND THE DISTRICT

April 21—Chapter D Mall Show, Willowbrook Mall, Mason City IA

2018 District Rallies around the Area

May 18-19--Wisconsin District Dust Off Campout, Glacier Valley Campground, Cambria WI gwrra-wi.org/gw

May 31-June 2--Missouri District Rally-Wingin the Ozarks, Branson MO mogwrra.mogwrra.org

July 6-7--Minnesota/North Dakota District Rally, Willmar MN mngwrra.us

July 26-28--Nebraska/South Dakota District Rally, Valentine NE gwrrane.com

August 2-4--Illinois District Rally, Litchfield IL gwrra-ildistrict.com

August 28-September 1--Wing Ding 40. Knoxville TN wing-ding.org/40/

September 14-15--Wisconsin District Rally, Wintergreen Resort, Wisconsin Dells gwrra

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS



August . 29-September 2, 2018--Go to <http://wingding.org/40/#pricing> to register and make your room reservations



Ramblings from a Wandering Mind

Well, it has taken awhile but I think I'm finally over the pneumonia. I missed a total of 6 whole days of work and 3 partial days. I don't know if I have ever missed that much work except as a vacation or when I had my knee done. I went back to work full days on February 21 and then the next two weeks I put in 50 hours each week. Tired, but not feeling crappy any more.

Last weekend was a great time. If you missed the training or the Crazy Supper, you missed out on a lot of fun. The new training modules are more interactive with less power point slides and are more fun to attend. Roxie and Greg did a great job presenting the three topics. The Crazy Supper was fairly well attended for our first time out. There were several people there who had never been to one before so we got to initiate them. Several attendees did end up in jail for various infractions, but Clara Boldt got off scott free because she scared the deputy! Mark your calendars for next year's training session and Crazy Supper on March 2, 2019. Hope to see you all there.

This weekend saw John and Yvette Moravec and I pulling a trifecta of GWRR events on Saturday. We left Moravec's at 7:00 am and headed to Davenport to attend Chapter O's

monthly social, then off to Polo IL for Illinois Chapter G's Spaghetti Dinner, and the from there we went to Fort Madison for Chapter E's get together. Felt like all we did all day was laugh and eat! I got home about 10:30 pm but had a fun day. Good to see so many people. Get out and visit other Chapters, you don't know the friends you can make.

Hope to see you all Saturday.

Sue T

Don't forget to patronize and thank our major sponsors!

