



GWRRA LAVONIA, GA

Volume 2, Issue 3

March 2011

Director's Notes

MOTORCYCLE CHECKPOINTS IN GEORGIA

The state of Georgia has received a \$70,000 federal grant to launch motorcycle-only checkpoints in early March, just as Daytona Bike Week is getting underway. For most travelers, their route will take them through Georgia and likely into awaiting roadblocks to check for such things as proper license and current registration, insurance, DOT-approved helmets, EPA-approved mufflers, working horn and lights, etc, etc.

"We were informed by unnamed sources that the Check Points would start in early March to coincide with the Daytona Bike Week event," said Dan Forrest, State Director of ABATE of Georgia. "Most points of entry to Florida will be involved, so anyone traveling through Georgia to Daytona might want to rethink their route."

The US Defenders have issued a Call To Action regarding the proliferation of these motorcycle-only roadblocks being funded by NHTSA grants, and are urging the motorcycle community to voice their opposition to these so-called "Safety Checks" by contacting NHTSA, the U.S. DOT and most importantly by asking your own federal legislators to support H.R. 1498 by Rep. Jim Sensenbrener (R-WI) to retain a ban on NHTSA's ability to lobby State Legislators using our federal dollars through the "Motorcycle Law Enforcement Demonstration" grant program (DTNH22-10-R-00386).

"These roadblocks or checkpoints for motorcycles ONLY are being conducted illegally and are discriminatory to say the least, "says Escondido Paul, National Lt. Commander of the US Defenders. "This is one more piece of evidence of the constant profiling attempts targeting our community at large."

Our Chapter Dinner Ride to Vanna BBQ Feb. 26, we had 22 to attend and enjoy Fellowship and a good meal together.

Our March Dinner Ride will be a little different. We will be going to Hiawassee to Chapter J for their Gathering at Daniel's at 12 noon. We will be leaving Lavonia Exxon at 9:00 to ride to Hiawassee. Hope everyone can attend.

Ride Safe.

Frank



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Rider Course Season ERC,ARC,TRC & SRC

Larry Crouse Chapter Educator



How about that! March is here already and while those in the southern states have been riding for a few weeks now, those in the north can realistically begin thinking about clear roads and warm temperatures. At least warm enough to encourage us to unplug the Battery Tender, bundle up in full gear, and take the steed out of the stable for the first ride of the season on the next bright sunny day.

Okay, maybe I am rushing it a bit for some of you, eh? But where you live, the beginning of the riding season is a good time to think about signing up for a rider course. What better way to refresh yourself mentally and physically of the skills it takes to ride safely and with confidence? I like to think of rider courses as a kind of insurance. But this is the kind of insurance that helps prevent accidents instead of paying for the damages after the fact. The return on the investment can be much greater than you realize compared to the other kind of insurance. You might even say it is priceless!!

So what if the course is not offered right in your own backyard an you have a bit of a ride to get there?? Sounds like a good reason for a chapter ride. In fact, you could practice team riding both ways—there and back. Maybe spend the night near the training site, if it makes sense. This could help you get the season off to a great start if you enroll in one of the early courses. Remember, the chapter that trains together,...uh....has a lot of trained riders !!! Right?

Seriously, we can all improve our riding skills. Even if you have taken the Motorcycle Safety Foundation's Experienced Rider Course (ERC) every year for the last 10 years, there is something you will learn, or re-learn, from one of our rider training courses. I say that with confidence because there is now a new course available for those experienced and frequently trained riders among us that are looking for something different. The new class is the Advanced Rider Course (ARC). This is a rider course developed by GWRRA for its members. The class includes new exercises found only in this class. And they were designed specifically to help you deal with real-world riding situations. If you can ace this class, then you have some riding skills to be proud of !!! That is not to say only the best riders should take this class. Quite the opposite is true. Every motorcycle rider among us is eligible for this class and capable of completing it. (Sorry, the ARC is only for 2-wheelers.) Remember that there is no pass/fail criteria in these classes !!!!!

Motorist Awareness ("MA")

Georgia MA Coordinators Roy and Julie Degler



Come On Georgia, Let's Get MAD!

February 2011

We are certainly hoping that we grabbed your attention! Now if you would indulge us for a few moments, we would be much obliged.

Winter time is here and I am sure that most of you have your baby (motorcycle or trike) hooked up to a battery tender and are dreaming of a warm spring day when you can finally saddle up and ride once again with the wind in your face. Some of us (me included) have been riding all winter, at least when Mother Nature has kept the roads free of snow and ice. We bring this up because Safety never takes a break and neither does Motorist Awareness.

How many of you have been getting cabin fever? Itching to get out and do something, anything? We thought so and we have the perfect solution! The weekend of March 5th and 6th is the beginning of the great motorcycle migration to Daytona Beach, FL. Four Chapters in our state set up and run Motorcycle Safety Breaks at various Interstate Rest Areas. They provide coffee and snacks and a chance for the traveling motorcyclist to get off their trusty stead and stretch their legs.

There is an interesting side effect to this. Almost like a gravitational force, it draws traveling motorists to the break area to see what is going on. Can you say: "Perfect opportunity to promote Motorist Awareness?" Last year, these safety breaks, over a two day weekend, had the ability to interact with a couple of thousand people! There is absolutely no better way than to interact with the traveling public and ask them to "Share the Road" with us.

An interesting fact that may only interest me: 1 out of 5 registered cars in the US passes through Atlanta, on Interstate 75, every year! That just boggles my mind!

So here is my case GWRRA. Come on out and volunteer a few hours at one of these Safety breaks. It is a chance to get out of the house, get some fresh air, meet some interesting people and I know what else is going to happen, you are going to have fun! I'll bet you end up staying more than a couple of hours. Can you think of a better way to promote our hobby and help make it safer for all of us? Let us show that in Georgia, we care about Motorcycle Safety and Motorist Awareness. (Besides, wasn't that one of your New Year's Resolutions?)

Dick Hopkins, the MAD Coordinator for GA-A ram35@bellsouth.net has taken on the responsibility for setting up and staffing these Safety Breaks all across Georgia. I am sure that he could use you support. Any wrapped snacks or water bottles; etc that you could contribute would be fantastic! But most of all, just by coming out and supporting our fellow motorcyclist and educating the public about Sharing the Road will make the biggest difference of all!

Come On Georgia, Let's Get MAD!

Until next time: Be Safe – We'll See You On The Road

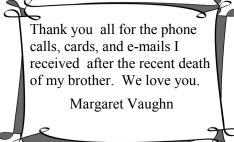


Birthdays

March
14th Frank Crane
15th Billy Herring
21st Larry Pounds

ANNIVERSARIES

March
27th Johnny & Belva Smith





Up Coming Events



Lunch & Ride
March 26 Will leave Lavonia
Exxon At 9 AM to ride to
Hiawassee To visit Chapter J
And have Lunch.

March 17 –19
Florida District Convention

April 16, 2011 Chapter I-2 Gathering at Shoney's Eat at 11 am Meet at 12 noon

Dinner Ride April 23 TBA

May 14 All Day Rider Education Day



CONCERNS

Sam & Bonnie Bender recovering from their accident.

Margaret Vaughn with the passing of her Brother.

Dave Andrade with the passing of his Mother.

Betty Andrade as she recovers from Foot surgery.

Bruce Gregory with his illness

Gary Sherwood recovering from a stroke.

Doyle Barker Shane Funderburke's Grandfather open Heart surgery



Georgia District Team

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Please Support Chapter 1-2 Sponsors

For information on being a Sponsor

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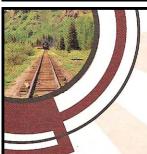


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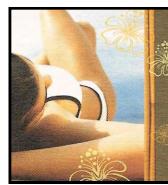
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March 2011



February 2011								April 2011						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
		1	2	3	4	5						1	2	
	7	8	9	10	11			4	5	6	7	8		
	14	15	16	17	18			11	12	13	14	15		
	21	22	23	24	25			18	19	20	21	22		
	28							25	26	27	28	29		

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	▲4:00PM Bowling Outing with Chapter I-2 (CLARKESVILLE FUN BOWL, 583 Grant St. #B, Clarkesville, GA 30523)
Daylight Saving Time Beg	Frank Crane Birthday	Billy Herring Birthday			Florida District Convention	
13	14	15	16	17	18	▲ 11:00AM Chapter I-2 Monthly Gathering ("Shoney's, Lavonia, GA)
20	Larry Pounds' Birthday	22	23	24	25	
Johnny & Belva Smith A	28	29	30	31	1	2

April 2011



March 2011							May 2011						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	7	8	9	10	11			9	10	11	12	13	
	14	15	16	17	18			16	17	18	19	20	
	21	22	23	24	25			23	24	25	26	27	
	28	29	30	31				30	31				

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	Larry & Linda Watkins	6	7	Joe Colvard Birthday	▲4:00PM Bowling Outing with Chapter I-2 (CLARKES VILLE FUN BOWL, 583 Grant St, #B, Clarkesville, GA 30523)
10	11	12	13	14	TAX Day Karen Lewis' Birthday	▲11:00AM Chapter I-2 Monthly Gathering ("Shoney's, Lavonia, GA)
17	Carlos lozano's Birthday	19	20	21	22	A:30PM Ga I-2 Dinner Ride (TBA)
Easter Day ♦ United States	25	26	27	28	29	30