



Chapter IL-Z2 News

GWRRA REGION E • ILLINOIS DISTRICT • CHICAGOLAND WINGS

Our next two meetings are on Sunday, June 10, and Sunday, July 8, at the convenient Old Country Buffet on North Avenue, Northlake, Ill. Visit us on the Web: www.ilz2.com

June, 2007

Volume #10

Issue #6

Chapter Directors *Jerry & Irene Ciesla*



With June's arrival, we're heading into our primetime of the riding season. Our warm-up rides and Rider-Ed courses are behind us now with the open road calling.

Our upcoming brunch ride to the Country Mansion had light sign-ups at the May meeting. If you missed the sign up, just show up at the Maple Tree for a 9AM departure on June 3. It's always a great ride with good food!

Fun times await us in the Knoxville, Tenn., area later this month as the chapter rides to Honda Hoot. A great route has been mapped out by Don Schwieger. We'll be leaving on June

16 and returning June 23 with the departure time and location being announced at the monthly meeting on June 10. By the way, our ride after the June meeting will be going out to Amboy, Ill., for ice cream.

Later this month will be Z2's "Day at the races"! On Saturday, June 30, we'll start with breakfast at 10AM at the Maple Tree restaurant and then a ride out to Arlington Park for an afternoon of fun and excitement.

Don't forget about these rides and events coming up next month: July 8 meeting and cookout at Don & Danni's house; the PBTf Ride for Kids Sunday, July 15; the Golf & Antique weekend July 21-22; and Honda Homecoming, July 26 - 29.

My personal thanks go out to our members that joined me welcoming four members of Georgia Chapter Z in downtown Chicago on Mother's Day. We were able to show them some northern hospitality as we sent them off on their journey along Rt.66!

Also, get well wishes go out to Ron Walldren for a speedy recovery.

Ride safely. See you later.

Region E Directors *Dave & Gwen Carter*



From the Region Web site:

The Illinois District Summer Rally is only a few months away! One highlight of this year's Aug. 3-5 rally will be the "Motorcycle Flea Market."

Bring anything motorcycle-related item that you'd like to sell. The flea market will be on Saturday morning. Times are not official, but plan on from 8-11 am.

You are responsible for your merchandise, and everything must be labeled with your name and price. More on the Rally later. Watch the website www.gwrira-region-e.com/districtIL.php for further developments!



Congratulations to our own Earl & Pat Hobbs! They are the new Region E Medic First Aid Coordinators!

Chapter Educator & Motorcycle Safety Instructor *Dennis Wegener*



Here is an interesting item received from my Chief Instructor: "IDOT just published the 2006 Motorcycle Fatalities Quick Facts sheet. There are some very interesting numbers, including how many more registered motorcycles there were in 2006 (287,892) than in 1999 (198,444). This is an increase of 89,444 or 45%!

Mike Kresch is now a certified MSF Instructor! We all welcome and congratulate him in his new position. Way to go Mike!

Overall, the number of fatalities has increased by 27% since 1999. If I have crunched the numbers correctly, Illinois experienced a 12% reduction in fatalities per 100,000 registered during the comparison period (see related article at right).

Eight things you found out the hard way: 1) you can ride approximately three feet with a disc lock still attached; 2) Under perfect conditions, you can ride 28.7 miles on reserve; 3) You can get another four-tenths of a mile if you lean it waaaaaay over on the petcock side; 4) You can push it a full mile after that if you need to; 5) Page 58 of your service manual is missing, and the grease stain on page 83 means that you have to guess at the torque spec on the clutch cover

bolts; 6) Your speedometer error must be more than 10 percent because no flashing red lights came on when you failed to notice the cop until the last minute; 7) The previous owner didn't include the underseat toolkit; 8) With a little effort on your part, your bike can be ridden all the way back home after the clutch cable breaks.

From **Motorcycle Consumer News**: "It's a great day for a Sunday ride. The weather is warm and dry, you have a couple of hours to spare, and you know just the road for a fun ride.

"You're just getting into the rhythm of the road when you come up behind a dawdling tourist. There are double yellow 'no passing' lines, but you decide to pass anyway. As you pull back in the right lane, you see an oncoming

car, but there is plenty of room, and you continue to accelerate into the curve. But suddenly the rear end of the bike jerks to the left, and you instinctively roll off the throttle and steer wider. You avoid a slide-out, but the startled car driver has to swerve away to avoid a collision as you drift across the painted lines.

"What you failed to observe was fresh mud tracked out of a field by a farm tractor. You should know that there are lots of such surprises on the country roads. Passing here wasn't a good idea, not only because of the 'no passing' zone, but because the curve limited your view of the road surface ahead. And, when your rear tire began to slide out, you should have resisted the urge to snap off the throttle, which made the slide worse. Ride More Safely!!

New "Don't Drink and Ride" Campaign Debuts. Motorcycle Fatalities Drop in 2006

(Edited for space)

May 2, 2007 -- SPRINGFIELD -- To highlight motorcycle safety and urge drivers and motorcyclists to share the road, the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), Illinois State Police (ISP) and motorcycle safety advocates today launched a new "Don't Drink and Ride" advertising and education campaign.

Following a successful motorcycle safety awareness campaign in 2006, Illinois recorded a significant drop in motorcycle fatalities.

Reversing the trend of recent years, Illinois recorded a 17 percent drop in motorcycle fatalities in the state last year, from 158 in 2005 to 131 in 2006. There were 151 motorcycle fatalities in 2004. The drop last year came even as the number of motorcycle riders continued to increase, from 579,917 riders in 2005 to 588,935 in 2006.

"We are very encouraged to see a decline in the number of motorcycle fatalities on our roads and would like to see that number continue to drop," said Acting IDOT Secretary Milt Sees.

"This new awareness campaign reinforces the importance of motorcycle safety. We urge every motorist on the road to be on the lookout for motorcycle riders and to 'Share the Road' with them."

This year, IDOT's Division of Traffic Safety's Cycle Rider Safety Training Program (CRSTP) marks its 31st year in operation, after

(please turn to page 7)

Events to Look Forward to:

June 3 - Brunch Ride, Country Mansion, Dwight, Ill.; lv Maple Tree 9AM

June 10 - Z2 Meeting; Ice Cream Ride, Amboy, Ill.

June 16 - 5th Anniv. Ill. Freedom Run, 8AM, Joliet to Marseilles, \$10

June 16-23 - Chapter Ride to Honda Hoot, Knoxville, Tenn.

June 17 - Father's Day

June 30 - Z2 Goes to the Races, Arlington Park, lv 10AM from Maple Tree

July 4 - No Breakfast Meeting

July 4-7 - Wing Ding, Billings, Montana

July 8 - Z2 Meeting and Cookout, Don & Danni's House

July 12 - Ride for Kids Training, 7PM, Allstate, Hoffman Estates

July 14 - Ride for Kids Training & Setup, 9AM, Allstate, Hoffman Estates

July 15 - Ride for Kids, Allstate, lv. Des Plaines Honda, 730AM

July 18 - Z2 Breakfast Club, 9AM, Elmhurst Family Rest., 441 W. Lake St., Elmhurst

July 21-22 - Golf/Antique Weekend, Thomson, Ill.

July 26-29 - Ride to Honda Homecoming, Marysville, Ohio

August 1 - Z2 Breakfast Club, 9AM, Phoenix Rest., Norridge

August 3-5 - Illinois District Rally, Jacksonville (west of Springfield)

August 12 - Z2 Meeting and Ride to John Deere Museum, Grand Detour, Ill.

August 15 - Z2 Breakfast Club, 9AM, Elmhurst Family Rest., 441 W. Lake St., Elmhurst

August 23 - Dinner Ride, Uncle Bub's Cruise Night, Westmont, 6PM

August 25-26 - Ken's Kamping Weekend, Wisc. Dells; lv. Milk Pail Rest., Elgin, 8AM

August 26 - Ride to Chapter R's Surprise Ride, LaSalle, Ill.

*Chapter Meetings are held at the Old Country Buffet, 139 W. North Ave. Northlake, IL
Phoenix Restaurant: 8349 W Lawrence Ave., Norridge, IL
Elmhurst Family Restaurant: 441 W. Lake St., Elmhurst, IL*

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Butch & Mary Thielenhouse



The May meeting was attended by 36 members and guests. Final

arrangements were made for the chapter's upcoming Experienced Rider Course. A welcome aboard was given to Dennis Dwyer as he changed over from guest to CHAPTER MEMBER! Earl McLaughlin thanked the chapter for their support of his Ride for Kids fundraiser auction the previous evening. Our 50/50 winners were Alyce Wegener, Paul Ullrich, and Rodger Burge. The ride after the meeting was going to downtown Chicago with our chapter meeting up with Georgia Chapter Z starting here for a ride down Rt.66.

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May 2007

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

June 2007

July 2007

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3 Brunch Ride, Country Mansion, Dwight, Ill. Iv Maple Tree 9AM	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 Z2 Mtg. & Ice Cream Ride, Amboy, Ill.	11	12	13	14	15	16 5th Annual Ill. Freedom Ride, Joliet to Marseilles, \$10 Ride to Honda Hoot
17 Father's Day Ride to Honda Hoot	18 Ride to Honda Hoot	19 Ride to Honda Hoot	20 Ride to Honda Hoot	21 Ride to Honda Hoot	22 Ride to Honda Hoot	23 Ride to Honda Hoot
24	25	26	27	28	29	30 Z2 Goes to the Arlington Park Races; Iv. Maple Tree 10AM

June 2007

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

July 2007

August 2007

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4 Wing Ding, Billings, MT No Breakfast Meeting	5 Wing Ding, Billings, MT	6 Wing Ding, Billings, MT	7 Wing Ding, Billings, MT
8 Z2 Mtg. & Cookout, Danni & Don's	9	10	11	12 Ride for Kids Training, 7-9PM	13	14 Ride for Kids Training, Site Setup, 9AM
15 Ride for Kids; leave Des Plaines Honda 730AM	16	17	18 Z2 Breakfast Club; Elmhurst Rest., 441 W. Lake St., Elmhurst, 9AM	19	20	21 Golf/Antique Weekend, Thomson, Ill.
22 Golf/Antique Weekend, Thomson, Ill.	23	24	25	26 Honda Homecoming, Marysville, Ohio	27 Honda Homecoming, Marysville, Ohio	28 Honda Homecoming, Marysville, Ohio
29 Honda Homecoming, Marysville, Ohio	30	31	1	2	3	4

A Few Snaps from Our 2007 Spring Fling!

Newsletter Editors *Carla & John Ripley*



Your Age, Using Dining and Restaurant Math

(This is pretty neat. It takes less than a minute. Work this out as you read. Be sure you don't read the bottom until you've worked it out!)

1. First of all, pick the number of times a week that you would like to go out to eat (more than once but less than 10)
 2. Multiply this number by 2
 3. Add 5
 4. Multiply it by 50
 5. If you have already had your birthday this year add 1757.... If you haven't, add 1756
 6. Now subtract the four digit year that you were born
- You should have a three-digit number. The first digit of this was your original number (how many times you want to go out to restaurants in a week)

The next two numbers are: YOUR AGE! (Oh YES, it is!!!!)

THIS IS THE ONLY YEAR (2007) IT WILL EVER WORK, SO SPREAD IT AROUND WHILE IT LASTS,



ISP

(continued from page 3)

training 14,724 riders in 2006. The program started in 1976, training approximately 200 riders in the first year. In 2007 IDOT expects to train several thousand riders in CRSTP courses at dozens of locations around Illinois.

CRSTP is supported through motorcycle license and registration fees. Classes are free to any Illinois resident 16 year of age or older who holds a valid drivers license or permit.

As part of Motorcycle Awareness Month, IDOT, ISP and motorcycle advocates are not only highlighting the new "Don't Drink and Ride" campaign, which is designed to encourage motorcyclists to not drink and ride, but for the twentieth straight year, motorcycle groups will take part in the "Windshield Washing Project," a public service campaign designed to raise awareness during the busy summer riding season. During weekends in May, at least 32 clubs will wash the windshields of cars and trucks at rest areas and distribute a "Share the Road" brochure.

In addition, many communities around the state have agreed to erect a 30-foot banner across the street at high traffic volume locations that remind motorists to "Start Seeing Motorcycles." "We live to ride, but the bottom line is and always will be safety," said Toney Buzick, Assistant Director of the Illinois Gold Wing Road Rider's Association. "That's why we partner with IDOT's Division of Traffic Safety to get that safety message out, both in training for motorcyclists and education for the people we share the road with,

urging them to keep their eyes out for motorcyclists during this summer season. "

"The Illinois State Police believe that proper training is an important tool for all riders, however, it is just as important for motorcyclists to be aware of their speed and the speed of other drivers around them," said ISP Director Larry Trent. "This summer State Troopers will be working hard to make sure all drivers are moving at the proper speed, whether it's on a motorcycle or in a car. We all have the 'Share the Road' and obey the rules."

Director Trent also noted that for the second year, Troopers from ISP's new Motorcycle Enforcement Bureau will be deployed on Interstates throughout the state with the mission of speed limit enforcement, reducing fatalities and making car drivers more aware of motorcyclists.

ISP also offers the following safety tips for new riders all the way up to seasoned veterans:

- Although Illinois does not mandate wearing a motorcycle helmet, use of approved helmets, protective body wear, boots and gloves is strongly recommended.
- Improve your visibility by wearing brightly colored clothing during the day and reflective clothing at night.
- Be alert for animals alongside and on the roadway, not only in rural areas, but in urban areas as well.
- Don't ride beyond 80% of your riding capabilities. To do so leaves no margin for the unexpected. When riding with another motorcycle, stagger your position. This allows both riders to take evasive

action safely should the need occur.

- Don't become fixed on what's just beyond your front tire. Be aware of what's ahead. Safe riders remain aware of developing situations 12-16 seconds ahead. This includes other vehicles, potholes, roadway obstructions, and other potential hazards. This allows time to plan and react in a controlled manner.

- Oil, grease and other fluids from cars and trucks generally collect in the middle of the lane. Avoid these potentially slick areas by riding in the normal wheel tracks of these vehicles.

- In the event emergency braking is required, remember motorcycles have far better stopping capabilities than cars and trucks. As you're avoiding the hazard, scan for a safe escape route while watching for vehicles approaching from behind.

- Before proceeding through an intersection, check left, check front, check right, and check left again. Checking left first is important because this is the first lane you cross. Continue to scan in intersection in a clockwise pattern, checking traffic approaching in front, in case that vehicle turns left in front of you. 77% of motorcycle crashes involving another vehicle happen in this manner.

- Don't lend your motorcycle to someone without knowing their skill level and making sure they have the proper license.

- Don't drink and drive. Alcohol slows reactions and impairs function.

To sign up for and find out more about IDOT's Cycle Rider Safety Training Program go to www.dot.state.il.us.



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Leaving from the Des Plaines Honda parking lot
550 E. Northwest Hwy., DesPlaines, Illinois
Registration begins at 5:30am; First bike out 6AM;
Last bike out 7AM (no exceptions)
Cost of ride to be determined.
For more information, contact ride coordinator Burt Wagner at
773/909-4426 or burtsr@bigfoot.com

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The next ride is June 13. (Rain dates will move to the following day, Thursday.)
Door prizes will be given away at the end of each ride.
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Rides will last approx. 30-60 minutes.
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Wing World Magazine-- www.wingworldmag.com

GWRRA National -- www.gwrra.org

Des Plaines Honda -- www.dsphonda.com

Zone Honda -- www.motorcyclezone.net

IL-Z2 monitors CB Channel 2

GWRRA Chapter IL-Z2 meets at the Old Country Buffet restaurant in Northlake, IL (708) 836-9966 on the second Sunday of every month. Breakfast: 8 a.m.; Meeting: 9 a.m. We ride after the meeting!

The Old Country Buffet is located just east of I-294 and I-290 at the North Avenue exit.

Look for us between Sam's Club and the Wal-Mart in this large shopping center/parking lot.

Our next two meetings will be Sunday, June 10, and Sunday, July 8. Please join us!