

According to the old saying March wind brings April showers held true this year. What little riding we got in during March was done fighting a lot of wind at times. We started April off with our supper ride on the 4th with it raining hard enough to keep everybody from riding and also kept quite a few sitting cozy at home. We had six people in attendance and decided to eat at McFarland's in Topeka because it didn't make a whole lot of sense to have a convoy of cars going someplace in the wrong direction for the chapter members. As is usual the food and service at McFarland's was excellent. While we were there we had a good discussion about the trike course that Bill Hanson and Rod Williams attended with Bill saying he was continuing to gain confidence in his trike ability especially after Rod and Galen Umsheid "assisted" Bill in establishing that riding at interstate speeds is no more difficult than riding slower speeds. Rod was in a hurry to get home for a basketball game so they kept their speed up on the turnpike all the way home.

When it appeared that we might be locked inside the restaurant until the next day we decided it might be prudent to head home.

On the 8th we had our extended ride with 6 people going along also. We decided to ride to Kelley's in Basehor with Al Davis leading the way. We took the scenic route thru McLouth coming into Tonganoxie to get there. Again the food and service was excellent and the company was good. After a leisurely lunch we headed kind of sort of on the way back home. With Al leading you never know where you will end up. We managed to go in east, west, north, and south all getting back home. The only negative to the entire ride was the wind was blowing pretty hard and by the time Brenda and I got home we were worn almost completely out. It seemed like we were in a crosswind for the entire 300 miles we rode and I'm pretty sure most of that wind was in the 20 to 25 mph

range. It was still a good ride since rides are pretty much like airplane landings. Anytime you can get out on a bike/trike and get home in one piece has to be a good ride.

We held our monthly meeting at Perkins with 14 people in attendance. We got things started off with Bill Hanson reminding everybody to notify him if they attend a class with GWRRA or even if they renew CPR or first aid training including those approved by the below listed organizations:

- AHA= American Heart Association
- ARC= American Red Cross
- BCI= Buddy Care Air Force First Responder
- EMS= Doctors, Nurses, EMTS, 1st Responders
- NSC= National Safety Council
- ASHI= American Safety Health Institute.

That request is so he can include it in the rider education report each month.

He also mentioned reading the portion of last month's newsletter about our getting older and was wondering how we adapt our riding to make it safer for us. One of the things mentioned was our "back seat" driver as either a plus or minus, the fact that as we get older our vision tends to change and the extra set of eyes is always a plus.

It was also mentioned that Lenny Barnes had what I will call a "minor" incident with her trike. Not all of the particulars were known, but she apparently got distracted and ended up running off the road and getting ejected from her trike. I say it was minor because she wasn't

hospitalized which is very good news about her and as we all know vehicles can be replaced. The conversation about Lenny led to a discussion of two fatal motorcycle accidents. The first was in the Kansas City area where witnesses said the rear of the bike started “wobbling” and the rider ended up going over a drop of about 80 feet. The other accident was I’m pretty sure in California where a car lost control and hit a pole breaking it off and the motorcycle rider was decapitated when he hit the guide wire.

Our supper ride will be led by Al & Sandy Davis leaving the Kwik Shop on the 2nd of May at 6:00 pm riding to Wayne & Larry’s in Lawrence. Our extended ride will be on the 8th with a breakfast ride to Marilyn’s in Osage City leaving the Kwik Shop at 8:30 am with a ride after breakfast if conditions permit.

Information on the District Rally in Hutchinson was discussed with more detailed information as it is made available.

Wing Ding was also discussed and the parking fees were mentioned as a rumor that I have since verified as accurate. It can possibly cost more for parking at the event than to attend it. At the time of me writing this I have seen nothing on the GWRRA website telling the membership this will happen, however that might change.

After our discussion of Wing Ding it was also mentioned that the GWRRA director is stepping down and will not be replaced at the present time. The president of the organization will be taking over their duties.

With that we held the 50/50 drawing with Ken Felch winning the larger of the two and Rod Williams winning the smaller. If this sounds familiar it should as one or both of them seem to have the lucky number more often than not.

May Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthday

6 Don Williams

Anniversary

2 John & Teresa Gull

15 Gary & Susan Drake

19 Bill & Margaret Hanson

Don & Brenda Williams
CD/Newsletter Editors