

Somebody someplace said spring is here. Well starting off April whoever said that stuff is so full of it they are qualified to be a weather guesser. Our supper ride turned into a supper drive. When Brenda and I departed Manhattan for Boomer's in Holton we were in what I called 40/40 weather conditions. The temperature was in the 40s with the wind approximately 40 MPH. When we all arrived in Holton there were no bikes but 10 people. The bad part was we couldn't all be seated at one table. Two groups were there for birthday parties and another large group took up the other large tables. Despite the noise from the party people we still managed to have some lively discussions and good food. No complaints toward the parties either as we can make just as much noise with no problem. After feeding our faces and relaxing for a while we all headed toward our homes in what I'll call 30/30 weather. Yes you guessed it, 30 degrees on the temperature and around 30 MPH on the wind. Those conditions made it a great evening to spend inside the confines of a 4 wheel vehicle with the heater on.

Brenda and I had planned on taking the Trike course in Wichita on the 7th however our brilliant instructors made the decision early in the week to reschedule it for the 12th of May because of two separate 4 letter words: cold and snow. I figure the riders would have had heated gear but the poor guys/gals standing around watching and helping us would have pretty much been popsicles. As for the snow I don't know if they had any in Wichita but we had a dusting in Manhattan and even with 3 wheels I for one am not venturing out on snow when I don't have to.

On the 14th Rick Thompson, Brenda and I attended the Chapter F birthday party. You could say it was a four letter day: rain, snow, wind, and cold since we had all of that on the trip down from Manhattan. Rick said pretty much the same for his trip from Topeka with Dennis Kramer.

Upon arrival we walked up to the front doors of the community center in Cassoday and were told thru the glass by Gene Shannon we had to walk around the building and come in the back door, we had left our coats in the truck since we were parked so close to the front doors (his excuse was the wind was blowing the doors open). When Brenda and I got inside Gene was opening the front door for a lady that had just arrived. I'm not sure if it was because she was parked in the handicapped slot or that Chapter C people just got "special" treatment. I'll go with he was being thoughtful with not making her walk around the building since she was using the handicapped spot. Gene is a nice guy so I don't think he would do anything to pull a prank on us; however I didn't get a chance to ask Deloris if he would do something like that.

Anyway after getting into the building we had a great time with the other folks that braved the brisk spring weather. After a really fun couple of hours we headed back to Manhattan and were greeted with snowflakes about the size of a half-dollar --remember those? The only good thing about that was the ground was warm enough from the 85+ degree day before that it didn't stick to the ground. At the rate things are going maybe we can put the heated gear away before the District Rally in June, but who knows.

We held our monthly meeting on the 17th with 19 people attending. Bill Hanson started thing off with an excellent presentation on team riding. He requested all questions and comments be held until he finished and managed to cover just about everything that is covered in the actual Team Riding course. After he finished with his comments he opened the floor for questions and discussion. This led to many different comments and suggestions. Bill started the question session off with the question

of where would be a good place for trikes to ride since due to their width it is very difficult if not virtually impossible for two to pass while remaining within the same lane on the road. After kicking this around for a few minutes, the consensus of opinions was to basically use a single line, slight stagger since not many people want their front wheel on the center of their lane. In addition it was thought to be an excellent idea to increase the spacing to 3-4 seconds behind the bike/trike in front. It was agreed that a little more space would increase safety.

After a few more minutes of kicking the team riding aspect around we continued the safety theme with updating the schedule for the two trike courses coming up. The one earlier in the month has been rescheduled for May 12th and the Trike trailering course is still set for the 5th of May. Individuals registered for the courses will be notified via e-mail for start times and location along with any updates since the weather this “spring” has been something of a mess for planning purposes.

I told the attendees that Ron Crawford, or former director, wanted to have a BBQ at his home on May 5th for the chapter. That date is in conflict with a minimum of half the people that were there. I said I would contact Ron with that information and will get back with the chapter when I have anything to update them with.

Gary & Susan Drake will lead our supper ride will be May 1st to the Ridge Iron Grill 611 Market St. Osage City departing from the Kwik Shop at 45th and S. Topeka Blvd at 6:00 pm. This is a destination change and also a new business.

Our extended ride will be led by Bill & Margaret on the 12th to Marilyn's Café in Osage City, leaving the Kwik Shop 9:00 a.m.

With that we held the 50/50 drawing with Bill Hanson winning the large one and Gary Drake winning the smaller one.

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