

I normally try to write newsletters in humorist light, however this month I'm starting out more serious. As many of you know we lost Al Davis in June. He was a long time member and friend of Chapter C and also served as our Rider Educator. Sandy asked if the following could be put in the newsletter so here it is verbatim:

*My children and I would like to thank our GWRRA family for the thoughts, prayers, cards and donations in Al's name. I would like to thank everyone that rode their motorcycles to the service. I know it was hot but I really appreciated it. It was a great sight to see. Several people commented on the bikes, they thought that awesome. It is great to know that so many of you cared for Al and he is watching everyone ride and have a great time. Have fun and stay Safe.*

*"Thank you, Sandy, Carole, and Jacob."*

We had our supper ride on the 1<sup>st</sup> to the Trails Café in Holton with almost perfect riding weather led by Rick and Rita Thompson. It was a great ride starting with Rita being on the back of Rick's trike as she hadn't been able to ride for at least 5 months because of back surgery. We had 12 bikes to start with including two new bikes with Dave & Marcie Cottrell on their trike and Bob Yeagley on his bike, so ended up breaking into two groups for the trip to Holton. We had the usual in Topeka, with people in cars wanting to "join" the ride. It seemed like the only place they wanted to be was somewhere in the line of bikes even when there were three lanes to choose from. Once we got north of town things got better and we made good time to the restaurant. I'm not sure how Rick managed it but there was an area of the parking lot big enough to put all 12 bikes in one area and to also be joined by Dennis Kramer from Chapter F. The restaurant people didn't faint when all 24 of us walked in and managed to even seat us as one group. The amazing part of the evening is the waitress took all of our orders quickly and the food arrived in a very timely manner. She did manage to give a hamburger to Rod and Lara Williams that was actually for Galen Umsheid. Surprisingly that was the only mistake she made and Galen got the

replacement burger real quick since Rod and Lara had already cut his in half when the lady realized her mistake require his burger to be redone. After the food was consumed we resumed our noisy conversations for a while longer and then headed back home with most of the group returning to Topeka. To be different Dennis headed north toward his home with Bob, Brenda & I heading west to our homes.

We held our Chapter birthday party on the 19<sup>th</sup> at the home of John & Teresa, who don't get near enough credit for the effort they put forth each year hosting the party. We had 25 people in attendance representing five chapters and also the district. I want to thank those that took the time and expense to drive/ride to the party as it's a long way for those folks from out of the area. Other than it being very humid and hot it was a great day for the party. The Kansas wind managed to hold off until Bill Hanson and John started cooking the hot dogs and burgers and then it blew just enough to send all the smoke over the tables. We had plenty of food with emphasis on deserts. What better way is there, for a birthday party, than to have the majority of the covered dishes involving deserts?

We didn't do much outside but eat, talk, and tell stories under a canopy, with a fan blowing full force, except for the combat croquet event. With the humidity and heat the only person of the 25 that was comfortable was Arlene Felch, who stood out in the sun during the entire croquet game. Anybody that knows her is well aware that she would be happiest sitting in front of a roaring fire in July. She is the only person I know that wears a sweater year round. After filling our stomachs and solving most of the world's problems we started filtering out and John & Teresa finally got rid of everybody before 6:00 pm.

Birthdays and Anniversaries for September are:

19 Marcie Cottrell

5 Rod & Lara Williams

26 Rick & Rita Thompson

***Don & Brenda Williams CD/Newsletter editor***