



Big River Riders



IOWA

Senior Chapter Directors

Dennis & Karen
English
309-799-7522
englishdj@mchsi.com



Fun Things To Do This Month With Chapter O

10	Sat	Meeting at "The Machine Shed" in Davenport, 9 am, breakfast @ 8 am, Ride TBA
24	Sat	Nauvoo River Ride - Leave Milan HyVee 8 am
25	Sun	Info Only (Iowa E "Jelly Bean Run. Lomax, IL")
29 - 1	Thurs-Sat	Info Only (Wing the Ozarks - Branson, MO)

Asst. Chapter Directors
Tom & Sharon Smith
309-797-8637
smithjet@mchsi.com

Chapter Educators
Terry & Faith Sorensen
309-523-2336
twfaith@mchsi.com

Asst. Chapter Educators
Dean & Donna Wessley
dkwldw1@msn.com

MAD Coordinators
Tim & JoAnn Hull
309-799-5555
jthull@qconline.com

Ride Coordinators
Bob & Woody Berry
563-323-5436
Wingnutby@aol.com

MEC
Bob & Connie Weckel
309-933-0093
bcweckel@yahoo.com



Chapter Treasurer / Scrapbook
Diane & Norm Lake
309-798-2109
ldydi55@aol.com

Couple of the Year
Norm & Diane Lake
309-798-2109
Sirwinger@aol.com

Activity Coordinator
Karen English
309-799-7522
englishdj@mchsi.com

Newsletter Editor
Lonnie Borseth
319-337-7407
2wings@xwires.net

Individual of the Year
Bob Berry
Wingnutby@aol.com

Webmaster
Courtney Walters
courtneywalters1@gmail.com

IA"O" meets 2nd Saturday of the month @ the Iowa Machine Shed, Davenport, Iowa. {Exit #292 off I-80} Breakfast @ 8:00am, Meeting @ 9:00am. {N41 35.659 W90 36.803}



From the Valley

Last month we said riding weather was imminent, but we think Mother Nature was teasing us during March. Yes, we had some days of nice enough weather to ride, and some of you undoubtedly did: Tom Smith, Johnnie Mohr, Norm Lake, and Lonnie Borseth are names that immediately come to mind. We're like most of you: Fair weather Wingers! The promise is here for April though, and we intend to get some miles logged. Dennis has to get some projects done before we can use our garage for the Wings, however. (Crack the whip!! Get to work!)

We should be doing some group riding in April, and that brings riding styles to mind. We are all individuals, and our experiences are generally very different. So think about that when we ride as a group. While it really looks great to have a nice, tight group, it takes full attention to do that, and those who want to enjoy the ride in other ways may not be interested in that minimal distance. Be considerate, patient, and all will be well.

With nice weather we should start seeing more motorcycles. Let's be 'aware' and safe whether we're on two or four wheels. We have an updated "tri-fold" that explains GWRRA and our chapter, so grab some of those to hand out to fellow Wingers who may not know about GWRRA. It would be nice to recruit some new members.

We have scores of raffle tickets for the District Convention on hand, and we'd like

you to take a few to sell and or buy to support our Iowa District Operations this year. We'll have them at our April 10th gathering. The tickets are not expensive, \$1.00 each, \$5.00 for a book of 6, or \$10.00 for 3 books. 1st prize is \$500.00, 2nd prize is \$300.00, 3rd prize is \$200.00 and you don't have to be present to win. If you sell a winning ticket you also are a winner as Diane Borseth was last year. So help us out. The money earned supports the Iowa District Staff expenses in providing the District Convention for all of us, traveling around the state visiting chapters, and attending staff functions. These ticket sales are the only fundraiser your District Staff has, so please support them. Plus, the chapter who sells the most tickets gets their \$50.00 annual charter fee paid for by the District.

ROGER Ride is not far away (Sunday, June 13), and we must schedule a day for volunteers to gather and discuss the activities for the day. Last year our attendance was 87 including 29 from Iowa O. It would be great to exceed that this year, especially good support from Iowa O.

We want Iowa O to be a warm, welcoming, exciting chapter. We think we have that. Now and again we hear rumors about a problem we have in the chapter, but that's all it seems to be: A rumor. If you have a legitimate gripe or complaint about Iowa O we'd like to hear about it from you, not through the rumor mill. We will listen and consider all points of view discretely. We can't fix a problem we don't know about.

"Officer Certification Program" or OCP training wasn't bad at all, and we learned a few things. It would have been nice if others had gone with us, but at least you have officers who have been certified. Believe us when we say it's not just for officers or prospective officers. It's for anyone interested in improving their ability to being part of a team whether that's in GWRRA or your place of work or business.

Courtney Walters surprised us early in

March. She is setting up a web site for us. We want to thank Courtney very much for taking the initiative and getting this started. It's out there already, and we'll be supporting Courtney with the help she needs to get it to GWRRA expectations.

We got a false alarm in March. We had planned to attend the Welton, IA Fireman's Omelet Breakfast during the 3rd weekend, but the firemen shot a blast of cold water on that idea when they scheduled the breakfast on the 4th weekend. That put it against our scheduled Olive Garden dinner the same weekend. Both events were well attended, so it all worked out thanks to you, Iowa O.

If you do not have a copy of the 2010 schedule let us know. We can send it to you. Otherwise, the newsletter publishes the activity calendar every month also. If you're not 'getting the word' about activities please contact us so we can solve the problem.

Congratulations to the March gathering winners! Activity Prizes: Lee Bagley, Bev Jones, Gary McKinley, Rich Wesolowski, Diane Lake, and Lonnie Borseth. 50/50 winners: Faith Sorenson, Diana Berube, Connie McQuay, Jim Rivera, and Bob Vize.

Have fun, keep learning, and be safe!


Dennis & Karen English

Your Senior Chapter Directors

Hawkeye Motorworks
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Joel Reno

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From the Jetway

Spring has finally come to the Heartland; well it has hinted that it's here. We have begun to see more and more two wheelers on our highways now. This is the time for us to begin to be at our most alert and diligent when we first dare to venture out.

I had to go out and get the new license plate stickers, pay taxes, one day last week and in a rack filled with pamphlets and in those bins was leaflet titled "Share the Road" just like our MAD people have been preaching since its inception. I would like to highlight some of the items they list.

Share the Road is the theme of the opening paragraph and states that "The key to safer traffic is learning to share the road." Because of our size and maneuverability car drivers don't see motorcycles.

We do know that as motorcyclist we are entitled to have a whole lane to ourselves, but sometimes we have to adjust to a different position within that lane, potholes and such. We are just now coming out of winter so many people still aren't aware we will be out there. Start seeing motorcycles.

Intersections are the most frequent places for accidents involving motorcycles to occur. Because of the size of the bike drivers don't often recognize our presence. All we can and should do is put ourselves in a place where we should be seen. We Goldwingers often add extra lighting to our bikes to enhance our chances of being seen.

The motorcycle lane is the same size as that

of the automobile so share the lane just as if we were in one of those highway boxes we have to have in the wintertime in Northern Illinois. The same rules of the road apply no matter what vehicle we drive or ride. Just be alert and drive defensively to stay safe.

Last items are following and stopping distance. We all have heard of the two second rule for spacing on the road. Just be aware that it has to be adjusted for conditions skill and comfort levels. Traveling by motorcycle carries some risk but with diligence, caution, and skill it is very rewarding.

Being on my Bike does wonderful things for my soul and my outlook on life. I just hope that everyone out there will keep alert and help keep us all safe.

Share the Road
Tom and Sharon Smith
ACD Iowa O



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THINK!

Okay, last month we T-Clocked our cycles. Now we're going for a ride. Before you ride, bear in mind motorists haven't been seeing motorcycles for several months. Take time to think of what you may be facing in public.

- 1) Consider that a driver can look right at you but not see you.
- 2) When stopped at an intersection; a lot of folks have no idea who has the right of way; be extra careful at intersections.
- 3) This time of year the roads have a tendency to be more laden with gravel and other trash; be alert.
- 4) Avoid driving in flood water; you may not detect sink holes or submerged debris. The roadway may even have been washed away; just don't do it.
- 5) Very real danger presents itself via the texting or cell phone user. Your cycle being smaller than an automobile may not be seen by that distracted driver. I've had cell phone users deep in their own business on the phone commit serious traffic violations and when they finally look up give you a dirty look, like you did something to them... a very hazardous situation for cyclists.
- 6) Weather is somewhat iffy this time of

Iowa District Officers

www.gwrriowa.org

Directors: Mike & Linda Huppenbauer
huppwingers@gmail.com
Asst. Director: Lonnie & Diane Borseth
2wings@xwires.net
Senior Educators: Joe & Judy Pirillo
pirillo@netins.net

Don't miss the *Safari Adventure* at the Comfort Inn & Suites in Burlington, Iowa on August 13-14, 2010. Make Plans NOW! To attend.

year. Lots of cooler wet conditions and still capable of frost. Ride only within your capability. Keep extra gear on board for that unexpected cold snap.

- 7) Last but not least make sure your drivers license has the motor cycle endorsement and is valid (not expired). Keep your insurance card up to date. Check your state registration plate is it current?

THINK! IT'S DANGEROUS OUT THERE? IT IS.

Be alert, smart and safe!

RIDE SMART

Terry and Faith

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- Don Hecht-21
- Charles Hicock Sr.-21
- Tom Smith-22
- Courtney Walters-23
- Janet Lewis-27
- Carolyn Hamilton-29

**MAKE PLANS NOW TO ATTEND
THE SAFARI ADVENTURE @THE
IOWA DISTRICT RALLY IN BURLINGTON,
IOWA ; August 13-14 @ Comfort Inn &
Suites**



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What's Cookin...

By Bev Jones

Sunday Chicken Supper

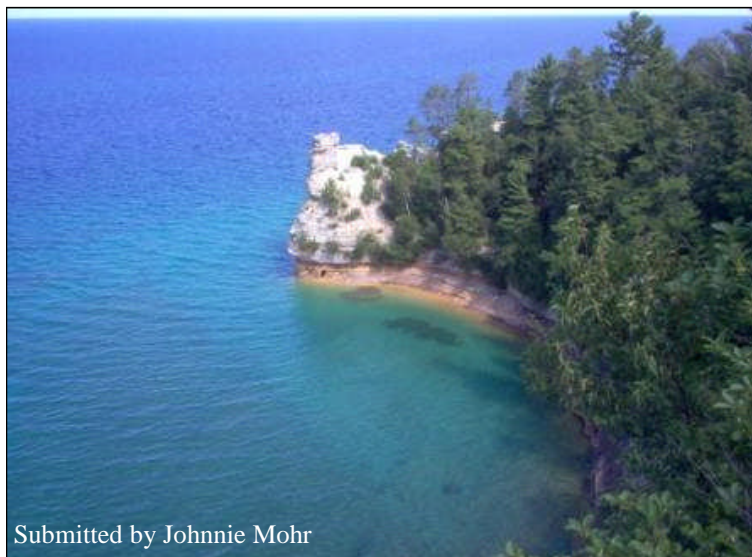
4 medium carrots, cut into 2" pieces
 1 medium onion, chopped
 granules
 1 celery rib, cut into 2" pieces
 2 cups cut fresh green beans (2" pieces)
 5 small red potatoes, quartered
 1 broiler/fryer chicken (3 to 3 1/2 lbs) cut up
 4 bacon strips, cooked and crumbled

1 1/2 cups hot water
 2 teaspoons chicken bouillon

 1 teaspoon salt
 1/2 teaspoon dried thyme
 1/2 teaspoon dried basil
 Pinch pepper

In a 5-quart slow cooker, layer the first 7 ingredients in order listed. In a bowl, combine the remaining ingredients; pour over the top. Do not stir. Cover and cook on low for 6 - 8 hours or until vegetables are tender and chicken juices run clear. Remove chicken and vegetables. Thicken juices for gravy, if desired. Makes 4 servings. This recipe came from Quad-Cities online recipe book. It's simply and easy to put together. I usually remove the skin from the chicken, which eliminates the grease. The natural chicken juices will remain. Mr. Jones gives this recipe 4 stars.

Where in the World is this...



Submitted by Johnnie Mohr

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The Answer to the March issue of: "Where in the World is this....." is: **on Rt 66 east of Oklahoma City at a place called Pops. It literally has hundreds of brands of soda. and a small cafe to eat**