



Michigan District

Region D "The Great Lakes Region"

"Friends for Fun, Safety and Knowledge"



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RIDER ED DIRECT

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A Monthly Communication to Michigan's Chapter Educators
From your GWRRR Michigan District Rider Ed Team
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To: All **Chapter Educators**, and **Chapter Directors** *without* an Educator

This is intended to *support* your Rider Education efforts. If you need a topic idea for your required "Gimme 5" talk at your Gathering or for your chapter newsletter article this month, feel free to use this material in part or in whole. It is **not** mandatory that you use this either for your talk or in your newsletter. If you choose to use it, feel free to change it to suit your audience. If you use this as your article *without change*, however, please credit the MI District Rider Ed Team. *Thanks!*

Your District Rider Education staff apologizes for the late arrival of this issue. There were some technical issues with trying to get the Rider Ed Direct combined with the new Michigan District Newsletter, so we have chosen to continue with this format until we get those issues worked out.

(Possible "Gimme 5" for Chapter Educators for **January/February, 2009**)

MONTHLY TOPIC: A Winter Note to Our Friends

How many times have you been sitting at a four-way stop and witnessed an oncoming vehicle totally blow through their own stop sign? Maybe you have experienced basically the same thing at an intersection just as your red light turns green and someone crosses in front of you because they didn't have the courtesy to stop at their own red light? Or someone turns right in front of you as you are crossing on your green light because they didn't really "stop before turning right." Are you getting the picture that intersections are one of the most dangerous places in traffic?

There are all kinds of ways in which crashes can happen at an intersection. Some people try to beat the changing light by accelerating through; some people make a snap decision to turn left in front of oncoming traffic; drivers going too fast for road conditions hydroplane or skid. All of these conditions could lead to tragic situations.

It is imperative, especially when riding a motorcycle, that we stay alert to everything going on around us. Most importantly, we must look for an "escape route" for every possible situation.

The Motorist Awareness slogan has changed from "Ride Aware" to "Share the Road". It is winter in Michigan and we are more than likely riding in four-wheeled vehicles, which makes us a part of that group that the Motorist Awareness Division targets. Winter roads are usually wet, slick, snowy, icy, slushy or partially sanded and salted roads. We would

Our Mission:

***To Save Lives
Through Quality,
World Class Education***

Our Motto:

"Safety Is For Life"

be wise to adhere to the same vigilance that we do when riding our two- or three-wheelers.

Remember that winter is a very good time to schedule your chapters Rider Ed Seminars and Medic First Aid classes. If you have a small chapter, invite surrounding chapters to join you. Make it a fun day of learning and socialization! Go to the Rider Education Division area of the District website to find details on time frames, the number of participants required or to download and print the appropriate form.

Here's hoping for an early spring,
Your Michigan Rider Education Staff

Planning Reminders:

1. Team Riding and Road Captain seminars are available for presentation at your chapter. Invite neighboring chapters and share the knowledge opportunity. Seminar request form is available here:

<http://www.gwrra-mi.org/RiderEdForms/REQUEST%20SEMINAR%20FORM.doc>

2. This is a good time to set up your off-season First Aid / CPR / AED training. Beat the mid-winter rush. The request form is available here:

http://www.gwrra-mi.org/RiderEdForms/MFA_Request_Form.pdf

Thanks for all you do for Rider Education! And remember: **Safety Is For Life!**

Your comments about this communication and your questions about Rider Education can be directed to:

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