



Michigan District

Region D "The Great Lakes Region"

"Friends for Fun, Safety and Knowledge"



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Our Mission:

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

Our Motto:

"Safety Is For Life"

RIDER ED DIRECT

July 2009

A Monthly Communication to Michigan's Chapter Educators
From your GWRRA Michigan District Rider Ed Team
Volume 3 Number 6

To: All **Chapter Educators**, and **Chapter Directors** *without* an Educator

This is intended to *support* your Rider Education efforts. A special thank you this month to Bill & Peggy Bower, Chapter A2 Rider Educators. 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 Bill & Peggy Bower and the MI District Rider Ed Team. *Thanks!*

(Possible "Gimme 5" for Chapter Educators for **July, 2009**)

MONTHLY TOPIC: Are You Really Prepared?

Ah, summer is here and I can't wait to take some nice long rides on country back roads. Let's see, I have taken my Medic First Aid and CPR this winter, had my bike inspected and serviced, checked out and replaced supplies as needed in my first aid kit that I carry on the bike and now I am ready to ride.

This sounds like someone has done all the right things before going on their ride. But have they?

Have they attended any of the free Seminars, taken any of the Rider Courses available or participated in the Facilitated Parking Lot Practices? Even a current level IV member who has done all of the above, wears the appropriate helmet, eye protection, gloves, long sleeves, long pants, and over-the-ankle boots, and is mentally ready to ride, still might not be totally prepared before going on their ride. What more can be done?

Be prepared for the unthinkable, having an accident. None of us like to think about this, or even hear that one of our friends has been involved in a motorcycle accident. Whether you ride in a group or ride by yourself; ride alone or ride two-up, the chances of having an accident are always

present and you need to be prepared. We have had 3 friends' bikes go down recently and thankfully all will recover. An accident is a very stress full time for everyone, and sometimes the loved ones who weren't involved find it hard to think and function normally while in an Emergency Care Facility. When asked what medicine the injured person takes or what medical conditions they have, the response might be a blank stare or just guesses.

There are several ways to avoid this. You can wear a medical alert bracelet, but it might come off in an accident and be lost. You should have a copy of the Gold Wing Road Rider Association's form N.12, which is the emergency information form (ask your Chapter Educator for a copy or how to obtain a copy). This form should be filled out and changed every time your medical condition or your medicines change. You can fold it so that it is readable, put it in a clear plastic zip lock bag, and place it in the left front fairing pocket of your motorcycle. Another method is to go on line to MedIDs.com then scroll down till you see FREE (ICE) In case of Emergency Medic Alert Wallet Card. Follow directions and print the card out, laminate it if you can, then carry the card in your wallet right next to your drivers license. First responders will check for your ID and they should also be able to find your new Medic ID card. If you are married then you should also carry your spouse's card next to yours. We do all three of the above. To view the Medic Alert Card and get a copy of the First Aid items that should be carried on our bikes along with other useful information then visit Chapter A2's web page and look under the Rider Education Section.

TILL NEXT TIME HAVE FUN RIDE SAFE

Planning Reminders:

1. There are still openings in the Advanced Rider Course and Trike Rider Course classes at Grayling. The registration form is available here:

http://www.gwrra-mi.org/RiderEdForms/2009_Rider_Course_Registration.doc

2. Co-Rider, Team Riding, Road Captain, and other 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>

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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