

# GOLD WING ROAD RIDERS ASSOCIATION

## Low Country Wing Riders



Chapter C of Beaufort, South Carolina  
*Beautiful Beaufort by the "C"*  
**September 2010**



### Director's Download *by Reggie Bythewood*

Another month has passed, the summer is winding down and we are only midway through riding season. There are a lot more scheduled events left out there; can we keep up with all of them? It is very difficult to say, but let's give it a heck of a shot to do all of them.

Chapter C and E2 of Savannah, GA took an enjoyable ride to Miller's Bread Basket in Blackville, SC for brunch. This is a Pennsylvania Dutch Restaurant in an old-town style setting with antiques for sale in the same building as the restaurant. I remember seeing them before and I had an idea about how they worked. Boy, am I glad we are out of that era and thank God for modern technology.

Let's go back to the ride. The ride took place on July 31, a very hot and humid day. Boy, could we feel the heat from the sun as well as the pavement. It was a very quiet ride, because we all were trying to deal with the heat. There were a few riders with ice- or water-cooled vests. They talked about how cool they felt in all of that heat. Now I want one of those vests!

During the next convention, that will be the first thing I look for. I know I am jumping back and fourth on the subject, but I'm trying to remember everything and cover all of it.

Let's go back to main subject -- and that's the food. I feel that all GWRRA members should go to this restaurant. I also know that all the dishes are

homemade in this cafeteria-style restaurant. It will take a few visits for me to sample all the dishes and treat myself to all the desserts. This is my second visit and each time I try something different and as much as I can afford. I can't name everything on the menu but it's all good. The desserts are the kind Grandma used to make. I must go alone so I can try all the desserts at one time.

Oh! On the way out the door, you can take some of Mr. Miller's tasty treats home with you. You can buy breads, cakes, jellies, honey and other tasty treats. This small businessman knows how to get in your wallet in more ways than one. Don't get me wrong, there is nothing wrong with it if you want to make it in today's world. I brought home jelly and honey for some of those feel-good days and late-night snacks. I am getting hungry just thinking about all the good food. For those of you who are in the Blackville area, you must go to Miller's Bread Basket. Google it or look it up on Map Quest and put the address in your GPS. Come on out for the treat of the summer. This will make a nice country view ride for you and your group.

The day is not over yet. After a large and excellent meal, we rode to Healing Springs for some good spring water. This is a nice park with spring water running through it. Rumor has it that the water has healing powers. I don't know about that, but it does taste good each time I go and I can only get a taste of the water. The local people are there and collect

the water by the jug-full. I never think of taking a jug with me. Maybe one day, I will remember to take a jug. This way, I can see if the water has any healing power.

Be safe and blessed and I will see you out there on the road.

Reggie

### **Chapter C Staff:**



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## **Educator's Corner** by Howard Harris

### **Ride Better Speaking of Safety**

By Jim Culp

#### **WHEN ARE YOU MOST "AT RISK" TO CRASH?**

When asking the question "When are you most 'at risk' to crash?" several possibilities come to mine . . .

Dawn or dusk conditions? Those are potentially dangerous times but not what I'm thinking.

Riding in heavy traffic? Another potentially dangerous time but, again, not what I'm looking for.

Riding in the mountains with all the curves and stuff? Possibly a dangerous time, but no.

Perhaps surprisingly, the majority of motorcycle crashes (90% according to the Hurt Report conducted in the 1970s) occur *within the first hour of riding*. More interesting, however, is that 50% of the crashes happen *within the first 6 minutes!* That's, of course, also why most crashes happen *within 5 miles of home*.

Two main factors involved in these crashes are ATTENTION and CONCENTRATION. That's because, as a whole, we as humans don't readily transition ourselves from one activity (like being at

home or at work) to another activity (like riding a motorcycle). So how focused can we be on the inherent hazards of riding when we are still waking up or thinking about the problems at work?

That's why becoming an ATGATT (All The Gear All The Time) rider can be so valuable. In my case, I have to go get the motorcycle key from the key box, take my riding suit off its hanger and put it on, put on my gloves, put on my helmet, take my gloves back off so I can fasten my helmet, put my gloves back on, walk out to the bike, take my gloves back off so I can un-zip my riding suit to get to the key that's in my jeans picket, etc., etc.

Yes, I'm a goofball who can't remember to keep my keys out (I doubt that I'm alone here). The point is that all these small steps take some time. During that time, I'm unconsciously getting myself *ready to ride*.

Being *ready to ride* and having your head "in the game" helps me to ride more safely. Are you consistently taking all the steps necessary to make yourself *ready to ride*?

#### **THE "INVISIBLE" MOTORCYCLIST**

"I never saw him. He came out of nowhere!" Those are probably two of the most common

statements heard at a collision between an automobile driver and a motorcyclist. And they're usually statements made by the operator of the auto because the motorcyclist is unconscious (or worse).

As riders we wonder, "How can *they* NOT see us? Are *they* just not looking?"

A lack of attention on the part of the driver does explain some of the car/bike collisions; the distracted driver (due to cell phones, unruly children, etc.) All these can contribute; however, some responsibility belongs to the motorcyclist as well.

I know, I know. That's heresy [*sic*, heresy] but let me explain:

- Motorcycles make up about 3% of the "normal" traffic flow.
- People "see" what they expect to see; things like cars and trucks.

Unless the rider does something to *visually stand out*, he or she can be easily overlooked. After all:

- Motorcycles, because of their smaller size, are much harder to see than are cars/trucks. A motorcycle can easily be "lost" in the background, even with its headlight on.
- Many motorcycles are colors that lend themselves to blending into the environment, particularly dark-colored machines (black is the color of pavement after all).
- Many motorcyclists wear dark-colored helmets (or no helmet at all) *and* dark-colored clothing. A number of studies in the US and abroad have shown that a light-colored (white, silver,

yellow) helmet is more noticeable (during daylight hours) than a dark-colored (black, dark red, dark blue) helmet. Why? The driver sees this brightly colored "orb" floating above the traffic (most riders' heads are higher than the hoods/windshields of cars), so it's *different*.

- Lastly (and sadly), most motorcyclists are not skilled in emergency maneuvers. Over 13% of the motorcyclists involved in fatal crashes made *no effort* to avoid the collision. They didn't brake; they didn't swerve; they just rode right into the collision. That's because, after many have gotten their license, they don't practice those kinds of maneuvers regularly (or ever). Motorcycling is a *skill*. It takes practice.

So how can you NOT be the Invisible Motorcyclist?

- Position your bike so it can be seen and identified in the traffic stream.
- Wear bright colors.
- Consider getting a brightly colored bike.
- PRACTICE your emergency maneuvers!

Also, you can take the advice I once got from a very experienced rider. He told me not to "ride like I was invisible" but rather to "ride like they can see me and are actively planning to do something to take me out."

[Wing World, September 2010]

### September Celebrations:



Vinnie Cancellieri, 9/2



Tony & Deloris Gurganious, 9/6

If you do not see your birthday and/or anniversary dates celebrated here, please let me know so I can list the month and day. Call me at 843-524-0981 or email: [howardharris@hargray.com](mailto:howardharris@hargray.com). *Happiness shared is happiness multiplied.*

**[Please send me your birthday and anniversary data; my list reflects information older than 2009. – Ed.]**

# Ride and Kick Tire Schedule



## September 2010

*\*Watch your email for additional rides or changes\**

**Friday, September 3:** Kick Tires at Friendly's Restaurant, 1664 Ribaut Road, Port Royal, 6:00 pm.

**Saturday, September 4:** OPEN

**Friday, September 10:** Kick Tires at Keiths Place, 1340 Ribaut Road, Port Royal, 6:00 pm.

**Saturday, September 11:** Chapter C monthly gathering at Golden Corral: 11:00 to eat, noon to gather.

**OR**

**Saturday, September 11:** Location #1, 6:00 am. Ride to meet E2 at 7:00 am at the Gate Service Station on Exit 102 of I-95 and then to Warner Robbins Burger Barn.

**Friday, September 17:** Kick Tires at La Nopalera, 12200 Ribaut Road, Beaufort, 6:00 pm.

**Saturday, September 18:** OPEN

**Friday, September 24:** Kick Tires at Five Guys Burgers, 1019 Fording Island Road, Bluffton, 6:00 pm.

**Saturday, September 25:** WINGS OVER THE SMOKIES.

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**Location #1:** The BP Gas Station on Hwys 170 & 802, at the eastern end of the Broad River Bridge.

**Location #2:** The Shell Gas Station/KFC on Hwy 21 in Gray's Hill, three miles north of MCAS.

## GWRRRA 2010 Regional and District Staff:



### **Directors**

Bob & Nancy Shrader

### **Assistant Director/Webmaster**

Ed Porter

### **Assistant Directors**

Jim & Sue Jackson

### **Rider Educators**

Chuck & Anne Reed

### **Treasurer**

Joanne Jacob

### **Trainers**

Dave & Sharon Aikens

### **Motorist Awareness Coordinators**

Ray & Cindy Erickson

### **Membership Enhancement Coordinators**

#### **& Chapter of the Year Coordinators**

Bob & Karla Greer

### **COY Coordinators**

Lynn & Lyn Edwards

### **Medic First Aid Instructor/Coordinator**

Eldon (Buddy) Shirley



### **SC District Officers**

#### **District Treasurer**

John & Janet Crabtree

#### **District Public Relations**

#### **Couple of the Year Coordinators**

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#### **District Couple of the Year**

Ron & Becky Lees

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#### **District MEDIC First Aid**

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#### **Membership Enhancement Coordinators**

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