

April / May 2007

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GWRRA – Arizona Chapter “A” Pioneer Chapter



April / May 2007

www.gwrraag.com/aza

Check It Out!

By: Smitty

Our chapter Web site continues to mature. I am continually looking for new content to add to our site, pictures are always wanted. I have a few new ideas for the site that I am working on that will hopefully make the site even better. I will not divulge what I'm currently on but if I get it working it will definitely be a plus.

As I have previously stated I am definitely looking for new content for our WEB site. I may be the WEB master but the site belongs to all Chapter A members. So if you have any ideas definitely get them to me and I will see what I can do.

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March Chili Cook-off Statistics

40 Members

33 Visitors

Cook-off results: We had entries from Brad, Kay, Jean, Christy, Dee, Laurie, Nancy, Debbie, and Kerry, if I missed some names sorry. The results of the chili cook-off were:

1st place went to Kay, Jean and Brad tied for second and Brad took home the distinction as having made the hottest chili.

Thanks to every who took the time out of your busy lives to make chili for this fun event. This year's cook-off was definitely a success.

Group Rides

Trip to IKEA

By: Smitty

On 26 March a group of Chapter A riders headed off to IKEA in Tempe., AZ. The weather was totally awesome as were those who participated in the ride. We all met up at the Chevron on Oracle and Magee. Our route to Tempe (IKEA) was entirely via back roads. We headed up Oracle road and then north west on AZ 79 to Florence. After a quick break in Florence the two groups of Wings headed out for the second half of the ride to IKEA. We arrived at 1130 and headed into the massive home furnishings store. Our first hour at IKEA was used to wander through the first floor before meeting up at the IKEA Café for lunch. After several dozen Swedish meat balls and other wonderful food everyone split up again to tour the second floor of IKEA (yes, the store is that big). The group had a relaxing ride back to Tucson and although we did not stop at a Dairy Queen, we did stop at a Burger King and had a afternoon treat. Participants: Dave & Dee Gormley, Geb & Christy Bailey, Smitty & Elizabeth Smith, Cliff and Diana Sias, D.W. Gary, & Steve & Laurie Williams





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Trip to REB's Café in Benson
 March-28-07
 Wednesday Night Dinner Ride

By: Dee Gormley

6 pm, 3 bikes and 2 trikes left with the wind and COOL weather at our backs, on the road to Benson. 10 people had dinner at Reb's. Visited and prepared for the return trip home. The wind had died down, but it was still COOL. Dee had her Electrics on to keep warm. We had a good time.

Participants==Gary & Kerry Woo, Steve & Laurie Williams, Cliff & Diana Sias, Jon & Sharon Hofer, Dave & Dee Gormley.

Hugs, ride safe!
 Dee



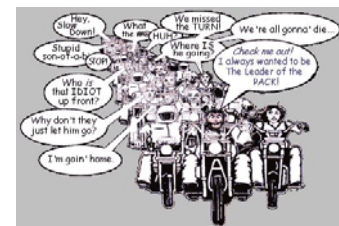
Chapter Store



- Chapter Belt Buckle \$30.00
- Chapter Cap or Visor \$10.00
- Pioneer T-Shirts (Gray) \$15.00
- Chapter Shirts (Contact Stores to place special order)
- Chapter Vests (Contact Stores for suggested retailer)

If there is something you would like to see in YOUR chapter stores, please let Gene & Jeannie know and we will try to find it!

Leader of the Pack



By: Smitty

I have been riding motorcycles for the better part of 30 years. I have, on countless occasions, ridden in groups of motorcycles ranging from two to as many as 300+ bikes. But, up until Sunday 25 March 2007 I had never been the leader of the pack. What I mean by the leader of the pack is planning and actually leading a group of motorcyclists on a scheduled ride. I had the distinct pleasure of leading a group of Chapter A riders on our March 25th ride to IKEA in Tempe, AZ, and I now have a greater respect for what it takes to both plan and lead a group ride.

One would think that the planning phase of the ride would be nothing more than picking a destination. Wrong! Planning a successful ride also includes knowing the route the ride will take and identifying the right amount of rest stops along the route. Then there are the responsibilities that come into play the day of the ride. Responsibilities? How hard can it be to drive from point A to point B and have a group of other cyclist follow you? That is exactly what I thought before leading the ride to IKEA.

Here is what I learned;

- Pace – this doesn't seem like a big deal, but as a leader of a group of motorcycles you must set a pace that is comfortable for the group's slowest rider. Setting the group pace early in the ride is very important

- Presence – being aware your surroundings becomes even more critical when in a group and leading a group. As a group leader you need to identify road hazards to the rest of the group. Riders within the pack have much less time to react to road hazards (pot holes, debris, & animals) because of restricted vision of the road up ahead.
- Passing – passing seems like another simple task, but as a group leader passing a slower vehicle requires a different thought process. Executing a pass requires much more open space in front of the slower vehicle. You must also leave much more space between you and the front of the slower vehicle to allow the other riders room to pass and get back in group formation

So, when making the decision to lead a group ride, remember it's a lot more work than one would expect. Take into account the route planning phase which may require a dry run in advance to make sure all the way points and rest stops are identified. The ride its-self will also require more work on the leaders part, keeping the group together, making the correct turns, deciding to pass or not, and stopping when needed, etc. With all that said, successfully leading a ride makes all the up front work involved in planning and leading the ride well worth the effort. Would I lead another ride? You bet! I will be leading the 29 April breakfast ride to Lordsburg, NM. Hope to see you all there.



ERC
Offered



The Experienced Riders Course (ERC) will be held on 13 May. This course is administered by Pima Community College Rider Education Program. The cost is \$55 per rider or \$80 with a co-rider. We need a minimum of 8 and a maximum of 12 riders to hold a class. Also if there is enough interest, a Friday class can be arranged. If I haven't called you and you want to commit to one of these classes, please call me at 749-5653.

David R. Gormley
AZA GWRRA Chapter Educator



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Educator's Kick Start

By: David R. Gormley
AZA GWRRA Chapter Educator

HOW GOOD OF A RIDER DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?

The sharpest, most skilled rider in the world isn't going to be up to the task when a car turns or pulls out in front him a short distance ahead and stops directly in his path.

Believing that your superior skills will keep you out of trouble is a pipe dream, even if they are as good as you think. No matter how skilled you are, it is better to avoid situations that can turn ugly. Slow down, scan farther ahead, and think strategically.

DRESS FOR THE CRASH.

A case in point: A very skilled rider in Phoenix was involved in a crash recently when a car came into his lane in front of him taking up his safety zone and stopped. The rider used all of the braking power that he had and minimized the impact. He was thrown to the pavement and suffered road rash and bruises some to his face since he was wearing his open faced helmet. Some of his comments afterward were; I wished that I had been wearing my full faced helmet and my face would not be skinned up.

I would have liked to have been wearing my kevlar jacket and pants and I probably would not have the road rash which he described as strawberries and not raspberries.

DRESS FOR THE CRASH.

Ride Coordination Meeting



Our chapter's monthly ride coordination meeting continues to work hard to bring the chapter an interesting array of rides for the chapter. We have a series of rides scheduled through June, see our online calendar at <http://my.calendars.net/gwrraaza>. With the onset of the hot summer months we have started to add short evening rides during the week. Some of the rides include visiting the Tuesday night Bikes Nights that are held each week at various locations around town. We also have a "ride-in" evening coffee social at the Javalina Cantina located in at Rita Ranch. On a side note, the chapter ride coordination is open to all members and your participation is encouraged. The meetings are held the first Thursday of every month at 6:30pm at the Marie Calendar's restaurant located on Wilmot and just south of Broadway. If you would like to attend please let D.W. Gary know prior to tot meeting so we can ensure the restaurant has enough space reserved. Our meeting held on 5 April was wonderful and we discussed many things until 10 pm.

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Upcoming Chapter Rides

(Check the chapter ride calendar for meeting times and places)

22 April – Boyce Thompson Arboretum is just 90 minutes from north Tucson – it's no wonder the Arboretum is consistently voted "Best Day Trip" in polls of residents from both Phoenix and Tucson. The Arboretum is located at Highway 60 Milepost #223 near the historic copper mining town of Superior, about 90 minutes due North of Tucson on SR 77. Admission is \$7.50 for adults, \$3 for ages 5 to 12; children under

age five are admitted free. Want to know more about this ride? Check out the web site: <http://ag.arizona.edu/BTA/index.html>



26 April – Dinner ride to Desert Diamond Casino – Join other chapter members for a dinner ride to the Desert Diamond Casino located on I-19 and Pima Mine Road. We will be meeting at the Chevron station on Wilmot and I-10 and then taking a leisurely ride to the casino. Come out and socialize with other chapter members and maybe play the one arm bandits (whoops! No more pull arms now you just push a button) and win some serious cash.

29 April – Breakfast in Lordsburg, New Mexico – This will be an all day ride. The first half of the ride will take us east on I-10 to Lordsburg, NM about 120 miles. In Lordsburg we will stop at Kranberry's restaurant for a well-deserved brunch, the Santa Fe omelet with New Mexico green chilis is awesome. After eating and visiting we will head back to Tucson. But, our return will only include 11 miles of interstate. Yes, only 11 miles of interstate driving, the rest of the ride is all secondary roads which take us into the cities of Douglas, Bisbee, Tombstone, Sonoita and finally back home to Tucson. This is a very relaxing and fun ride.

6 May – Ride to Parker Canyon Lake – This will be another awesome ride from Tucson. Parker Canyon Lake is nestled in the gentle hills about 20 miles southeast of Sonoita. Parker Canyon Lake is ringed with cottonwoods, juniper, piñon pine, scrub oak and manzanita. Locals say the temperature in the area, which lies about 5,400 feet above sea level, generally runs about 10 degrees cooler than Tucson's.



The Chapter AZ-A newsletter is distributed free of charge to GWRRA members and boosters who participate in Chapter monthly activities. After 3 months of non-participation a member may be deleted from the mailing list, unless prior arrangements have been made with the Chapter Director.

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District Events

April 2007			
Date	Day	Host Chapter(s)	Event
22	Sunday	A	<u>Arboretum ride</u>
25	Wednesday	A	<u>Desert Diamond casino dinner</u>
28	Saturday	A	<u>Ride for kids garage sale</u>
28	Saturday	S	<u>Canyon de Chelle</u>
28	Saturday	R	<u>AZR Breakfast Meeting & Ride</u>
28	Saturday	D	<u>AZD Olive Oil Ride</u>
29	Sunday	R	<u>Parking Lot Practice</u>
29	Sunday	A	<u>Breakfast in lordsburg</u>

May 2007			
Date	Day	Host Chapter(s)	Event
05	Saturday	S	<u>Chapter S Gathering</u>
06	Sunday	A	<u>Parker canyon lake</u>
12	Saturday	A	<u>Miners camp lunch</u>
12	Saturday	S	<u>Rider Ed Seminar</u>
12	Saturday	R	<u>Dinner Ride - Little Bite of Italy</u>
12	Saturday	R	<u>Lunch with Chapter A at Canyon Lake</u>
13	Sunday	R	<u>Mother's Day Barbecue</u>
15	Tuesday	S	<u>AZ-S Staff Meeting</u>
16	Wednesday	R	<u>AZR Ice Cream - TBD</u>
18	Friday	A	<u>Mt hopkins tour</u>
19	Saturday	B	<u>Chapter B's Breakfast Meeting</u>
19	Saturday	S	<u>Garage Day</u>
19	Saturday	R	<u>AZ-B breakfast and ride</u>
19	Saturday	A	<u>San Xavier mission & pena blanca lake</u>
20	Sunday	R	<u>Parking Lot Practice</u>
20	Sunday	S	<u>Sonoran Desert Museum</u>
25	Friday	R	<u>Region F Rally Weekend</u>
25	Friday	S	<u>Region F Rally-Cedar City, Utah</u>
26	Saturday	R	<u>AZR Breakfast Meeting & Ride</u>
30	Wednesday	A	<u>Casino del sol dinner & dessert</u>



April 2007

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5 6:30PM Ride meeting @ Marie Calendars	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 5:30am – Chapter D Breakfast – meet at Chevron on Oracle & Magee
15 ** 9:00Am –Brown bag lunch ride to Kitt Peak – Meet at South Forty Café on Kinney & Bopp Rd (For Breakfast)	16	17 \$\$\$ TAX DAY	18	19	20 9AM - Albuquerque, NM Ride-4-Kids “Group one”	21 9am - Albuquerque, NMRide-4-Kids “Group two” 8:30AM – Chapter Meeting @ Golden Corral on 22 nd Street
22 Ride-4-Kids return to Tucson 9am – Arboretum Brown Bag Ride Meet at Chevron Oracle & Magee (\$7 entry fee)	23 Ride-4-Kids return to Tucson (Late Group)	24	25 ** 6:00pm – Evening Ride to Desert Diamond Casino – Meet at Chevron Wilmot & I-10	26	27	28 7AM-3PM - Ride-4- Kids Garage Sale @ Lumpy & Diane’s 9366 E. Stella Road Chapter K Meeting
29 7am – Breakfast run to Lordsburg, NM	30	Happy Birthday – 3 Apr – Don Calhoun, 6 Apr – Lillian Cottrell, 7 Apr – J.R. Hudson, 10 Apr – Fred Siddal, 16 Apr – Roger Gangwer, 22 Apr – Althea Berry, 24 Apr – Joan Santos, 26 Apr – Julie Stevensen, 29 Apr – Smitty, 29 Apr – Lisa Labbe, 30 Apr Lumpy Lumpkin ***** Happy Anniversary – 7 Apr – Carlos & Catherine Rangel, 16 Apr – Roger & Cheryl Gangwer, 24 Apr – Ron & Judy Norris, 28 Apr – Jacques & Leeann Drapeau				

****NOTE: Ride events proceeded with ** indicates to please sign up for the ride so a head count can be provided in advance to the eating establishment

May 2007

May 2007						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Happy Birthday – 1 May – Christine Leach, 5 May – Dwight Irwin, 10 May – Jean McGaughey, 11 May – Bob Berry, 24 May – Sue Lavoie, 26 May - Elizabeth Bottka-Smith, 29 May – Judy Norris		1	2	3 6:30PM – Ride Coordination Meeting @ Marie Calendars on Wilmot & Broadway	4	5
6 10AM – Brown bag lunch run to Parker Canyon Lake Meet @ Chevron - I10 & Wilmot	7	8	9	10 6:30PM – Chapter Staff Meeting @ Pantano Christian Church	11	12 10AM – Lunch run to Minors Camp Meet @ Chevron on Oracle & Magee
13 Experienced Riders Course (ERC) @ DMAFB – 1130am	14	15	16	17	18 7:30AM – Mt. Hopkins Tour Ride meet at Chevron – I10 & Wilmot (\$7 per person please sign up)	19 8:30 – Chapter A Meeting @ Golden Corral on 22 nd Street
20	21	22	23	24	25 Utah Region Rally – Cedar City, Utah	26 Utah Region Rally – Cedar City, Utah Chapter K Meeting
27 Utah Region Rally – Cedar City, Utah	28	29	30 6PM – Dinner/Dessert run to Casino Del Sol – Meet at AZ Honda Palo Verde & I10	31	Happy Anniversary – 3 May – Dave & Sandie Novitt, 3 May – Mr. & Mrs. Vernon Cottrell, 16 May – Carl & Joyce Jackson, 23 May – Ron & Joan Santos, 29 May – Dennis & Debbie Ammons	