

NORTH CENTRAL ILLINOIS WILD ROSES' ROSE PEDALS



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Director's Letter

By Gigi Beard, Chapter Director

Greetings Roses,

There is nothing sweeter than spring's first ride. For those of you who have been out and about, you know that this is the time of year that we need to be extremely alert to the condition of the pavement. Our state's roadways have really taken a beating over the winter and many have heaved and dipped enough to cause serious problems for the unsuspecting biker. Some of these problem areas have been marked with the famous "dip" sign and others have not.

Be sure to check your bike over thoroughly before that first ride. A good way to remember points to check is by using the acronym T-CLOCS.

T is for Tires. Always check pressure when the tires are cold. If you drive down the road a mile or two to the gas station and then check them, the tires will warm enough to cause the air in the tire to expand and change the pressure. If you then adjust the pressure when the tires are warm, you will be riding on underinflated tires. Riding on underinflated tires is one of the largest causes of tire failure. Check the tires for tread depth; look for any cracks, dents, loose spokes, check for worn bearings and brakes.

C is for Controls. Check the operation of the throttle. Does it snap back into position after you roll on and let go? Check the condition of the cables. Squeeze the levers; do they operate smoothly? Check the hoses, are they brittle? Check the switches, do they operate properly?

L is for Lights. Check head and tail lights, brake lights and turn signals for proper operation.

O is for oil and other fluids. Check the oil level. Does the oil have a clean amber appearance to it? Does it look dark and dirty? Give the oil a sniff, does it smell burnt? Check around and underneath the bike for evidence of possible oil leakage. Check the coolant, hydraulic fluid and fuel.

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C is for Chassis. Give the chassis a once over. Check the suspension, the drive shaft, chain or belt. Is there leaking fluid? Is the chain properly lubricated?

S is for Side Stand. Does the spring hold it securely when it is up? Does it operate smoothly? Does it appear to be rusted or bent? Check the center stand if your bike has one for the same things.

This pre-ride inspection should not take more than a few minutes. If done regularly, changes in the condition of your bike can be picked up and taken care of before a problem develops. It is important to do the T-CLOCS check before each ride to ensure maximum enjoyment and prevent the hassle, expense and delay of a breakdown.

At the last meeting, a vote was taken on our logo design choices and logo revision C was the winner. I have submitted logo revision C to the national office for review by the Board of Trustees. We are awaiting their approval. Thanks again to Kim Muhr for her terrific design. Logo revision C:



Mary S. is heading up the effort to research the best vendors for patches, pins and shirts for us. If you would like to help, please contact her. If you have a vendor you would like her committee to check out, please give her the information.

Update on T-Bone

2009 Annual mileage contest forms have been uploaded to the Yahoo group files. The official Starting form must be mailed into the national office and be postmarked by April 1st. The contest runs April 1st through October 31st. I will have copies of the contest start forms available at the March meeting.

At the February meeting, one of our members brought up a question about the proper technique for picking up a dropped bike. I spoke with Chuck from Bob-Jo Honda and he is going to supply us with a bike after the March meeting so that we can hold a "how to pick up your bike" clinic. Anyone who wants to come, learn the technique and practice can come to the March 28 meeting and join us.

Bob-Jo Honda and the Winner's Circle Bar & Grill have been wonderful partners with Women On Wheels® and NCI Wild Roses. Be sure to let them know how much you appreciate them when you stop in for parts.

Ride Safe - Ride Often
Gigi



Hello, my name is T-Bone. I want to welcome you to my travels across the by-ways, thorough-fares, bridges, tunnels, mountains, hills, lakes and... and... and... Steak Houses as I journey across America en route to the Women On Wheels 23rd Annual International Ride-In in Kerrville, TX. My website is <http://wowirondragons.org/tbone.html>.

The last listing on the website is two emails dated March 10th and as they say on the website--He must be having FUN, because this is the first email(s) we've received from him since October:

"Hi Kay this is T-bone. I made it to Missouri. Deana the director of the Lady Cruisers of the Ozarks took me to their February monthly meeting. There I was introduced to Dee who is in charge of the "Special Passenger Division". When we got to Dee's house she introduced me to 2 other special passengers Jackie the Frog and Skelly the Skeleton. It was really to cold or wet to ride the bikes at all. Dee took me by a couple of farms while I was in Missouri. My stay was pretty short but I wouldn't mind going back to Missouri. Let me tell ya there are a lot of good looking heifers in Missouri. (See photos in my journal). Dee said my next stop was in Prairiesvilles, LA. Maybe it will be a little warmer there." Lady Cruisers of The Ozarks

"We did receive T-Bone. I got him the day before I left for Daytona, so I took him to this year's director, Dana Swanson. We are having a meeting tonight and I'm sure we'll discuss T-Bone's schedule! Will let you know after tonight!" Cindy Bumpurs, LA Lady Cruisers

Don't forget to think about where we can take T-Bone when he joins us here in Illinois. As soon as we know the dates we will let you know.

Membership News

Please join us in welcoming the following new members to the NCI Wild Roses:

Laura Schiavinato
Karen Rogers
Edward Rogers
Susan (Suz) Alderson

And thank the following member for renewing her WOW membership:

Mary Lynn Buckner

To date, the following members of the NCI Wild Roses are planning to attend the International Conference in Kerrville, TX in July. Be sure to let them know if you'd like to join them:

Gigi Beard
Shelly Zachary

Member Spotlight

By Shelly Zachary

Our member spotlight this month is shining on Kim Muhr. Kim was born and raised in Northwest Indiana and moved to Illinois in the mid to late eighties. She currently resides in St. Charles (Village of Campton Hills). Kim tells me she is married to a wonderful man, Bill, and they are celebrating their tenth anniversary this month. Kim has one daughter, Lana, who is almost 20 and is currently in her second year of college.

Kim tells me that, by day, she is an IT professional, Network Analyst for the St. Charles Community Unit School District #303. On weekends she can be a motorsports photographer, pseudo motorcycle mechanic and track junky. She's soon going to add motorcycle instructor to the list.

When asked who got her started riding, Kim responded with an answer that in all honesty we should probably all use..."it was myself really". She says that" very early on (1970's) I was following the motocross stars, Bob "Hurricane" Hannah and the like. Then when my father switched from being an auto mechanic to a motorcycle mechanic in the early 1980's, working at Lake Cycle in Merrillville, IN, I really had a way to feed my growing obsession." Kim says she learned how to operate a motorcycle at the age of 10 on an old Indian dirt bike at a relative's home in Dixon, IL and has been riding for more than 30 years now.

The first road bike that Kim solely owned was a 1978 Honda CB400TII Hawk...in fact, she still owns this bike today and says "yes it does run...is it road worthy...well."

The list of other family members who ride is long. She says that her father rides a 2004 Honda Goldwing, her mother rides a 2005 Honda Reflex, her husband's primary ride is a 2007 Honda ST1300 and her daughter rides a 1983 Honda CB550SC Nighthawk.

When asked what type of bike she rides now, she answered by saying that the "Current Stable of the Muhr household" is: 1) 1978 Honda CB400TII Hawk; 2) 1982 Honda GL500I Silverwing Interstate; 3) 1983 Honda CB550SC Nighthawk; 4) 1988 Honda NT650 GT Hawk; 1991 Honda CBR600F2; 1999 Honda XR100; 2006 Honda ST1300 and a 2007 Honda ST1300.

Kim says the longest trip she's taken in recent memory is the 2008 Honda Hoot, Knoxville, TN—3500+ miles round trip. When asked about her favorite trip she said "This is a hard question...I even enjoy commuting. I guess it would be close between our 1000+ mile trips around Lake Michigan and "The Dragon" on the 2008 Honda Hoot."

The Canadian Rockies on an Adventure Tourer type machine or Alaska are what Kim lists as special trips she would like to take on her bike.

We have Cynthia Jo from Bob-Jo Cycle Co. to thank for getting Kim involved with the NCI Wild Roses. Kim says that Cynthia Joe "caught me one day when I was picking up something for one bike or another and said there was a new Women on Wheels® chapter that meets at The Winners Circle. I decided to check it out...and here I am." Kim wants to see the Wild Roses continue to grow and make a positive impact for all women motorcyclists.

As usual, I ended my interview by asking what her favorite thing about riding is. Kim's response honestly didn't surprise me. She said "The list is so long. Riding motorcycles is a lifestyle to me. It is only a "sport" if I am competing."

Editor's Note: Please do not forget to thank Kim for all of her hard work in designing our NCI Wild Roses logo.

International Female Ride Day

Date: Friday May 1, 2009
Time: 12:05 am - 11:55 pm
Location: Global/Worldwide/International
Street: Any Road

FEMALE RIDE DAY IS A WORLDWIDE SYNCHRONIZED CAMPAIGN promoting female motorcyclists.

The concept is simply JUST RIDE encouraging women to be on their motorcycle on the first Friday in May—no matter where you live, or what you ride.

By participating on this synchronized International Female Ride Day women enthusiastically contribute to building awareness and promoting women and

motorcycling. Participants also demonstrate to others the fun and enjoyment women of all diversities, ages and riding styles share within this wonderful activity! The event occurs on the first Friday of May each year! Be one of the thousands of women globally to-- JUST RIDE!

- .TO WORK
- .TO MEET A FRIEND(S)
- .TO FITNESS CLASS
- .TO YOUR LOCAL MOTORCYCLE RETAILER
- .TO A COUNTRY ROAD
- .TO TAKE AN ATV OR TRACK DAY COURSE
- .TO A SHOPPING MALL
- .TO MEET WITH YOUR RIDING CLUB

The day invites women to simply be on a motorcycle--avoiding too much structure. Motorcycles of all brands, types and capacities--road bikes, scooters, off road/dirt category motorcycles and ATV's are welcome to partake.

This is one day devoted to women riders of all ages; all experience levels-- demonstrating their personal passion, pleasure and camaraderie alone or together in the activity of motorcycling riding-- worldwide! Celebrating, promoting females who ride.

event for around \$32 per Chapter. Becky stated that she and her husband would be willing to set up a presentation for us. Gigi also mentioned a problem that came up with some members not wanting to work with other members at the booth. She stressed to everyone that this is a group function for all chapters and we need to make sure that we accept all WOW members as just that "members" and treat them all with respect. She didn't feel that this had to do with any of our Chapter members, but felt she needed to mention it.

Logo/Patch Design: The group voted on the logo/patch design and Revision C was the winner. The design will now be sent to the WOW Board of Trustees for approval.

Gigi advised that we now need a person to head up a search committee for finding vendors to make our logo. Mary S. volunteered for this position. Mary said that if anyone would like to help her, to please let her know. Gigi explained that we need to get pricing on making the logo for shirts, hats, patches and pins.

Track Day: Kim reminded everyone about the track day on May 14th. She needs to know by March 14th who is going.

Cumulative & Annual Mileage: Gigi reminded everyone to be sure to send in their Cumulative Mileage form as well as their Annual Mileage form to the national office. She has posted the forms on our Yahoo group website.

New Business:

Treasurer's Report: Mary Lynn reported that we have a balance of \$327.75 in our account. She also announced that we raised \$50 in today's 50/50 raffle. One of our visitors, Suz, was the lucky winner.

Activities Coordinator Report: Mary advised that she is doing research and trying to find places to go, see and eat on our rides. She is also looking for some ideas on the point system game. Such as ideas on places/things that we might want to earn points if we take pictures of them with our bikes.

Secretary's Report: The Minutes from the January meeting were presented in the February Newsletter. No changes were noted and the Minutes were accepted.

February Minutes

By Rachel Hough

The February meeting was held on Saturday, February 28, 2009 at The Winner's Circle Bar & Grill in Maple Park, IL. We had 11 members, 2 guests and 4 visitors present for a total of 15 people in attendance. Gigi opened the meeting by introducing everyone and welcoming our visitors.

Old Business:

International Motorcycle Show: Gigi filled everyone in on everything that happened at the WOW booth at the International Motorcycle Show in Chicago. We received 10 new names to work on for our Chapter. Renee from Northwind and Gigi have discussed trying to set up a database for sign-up at next year's booth which would give us a faster turnaround time on contacting potential new members. She also advised that Rental Center would rent us a TV for next year's

Road Captain's Report: Due to the time of year, no report was given.

Nominating Committee: Sue E. advised that Val will be helping her out and that she has also been looking on the web to get ideas on how the committee should be run. She is planning on calling someone from Northwind Riders to get some input.

Member Recruitment: Gigi took the time to explain how the WOW Recruiter Program works. She advised that when you recruit your first full member, you will receive a black/gold Recruiter Bar. For each additional five full members you recruit you will receive a 5-Star Bar. For more information see the March/April 2009 Women on Wheels® magazine.

Next Meeting: Our next meeting is scheduled for March 28th.

putting flyers and brochures in bike shops in Central Illinois. I'll be kicking off my campaign by setting up a table at Legacy HD in Effingham, IL. Mar. 28th they are having a Girls Gone Wild Biking event. I don't plan to do a lot of open house events, but if I can, I will. We had a pretty good time at Randy's Cycles last year and hope this one goes just a well.

I only have schedules for three Chapters this month. I couldn't get to the IL Red Hawk Riders website and the Shawnee Riders don't have anything listed on the calendar of their website. Maybe next month.

The NCI Wild Roses have a pretty busy May schedule. May 3rd is a Mystery Ride with Fox Valley Cycle in Aurora, or you can ride to WI and participate in the Slimy Crud Run. On May 9th, they'll be meeting at Poopy's in Savanna with the Northwind Riders and I can tell you now that there will be some River Riders there also. May 23rd is their monthly meeting and afterwards they'll be riding up to Kettle Moraine, WI. May 23rd is also the Springfield Mile at the State Fairgrounds in Springfield. Lastly, on May 30th they will be again spending time with Fox Valley Cycle at their Open House in Aurora.

I'll list the Northwind Riders schedule next since a few of the rides are the same as above. May 3rd, the Mystery Ride with Fox Valley Cycle; May 9th, the ride to Poopy's in Savanna; May 23rd, the Springfield Mile and on May 30th, the Open House at Fox Valley Cycle. In the middle is scheduled the monthly meeting and that will be May 16. I think they still go for a ride after their meeting, but I don't have anything listed on my copy of the schedule.

The River Riders Chapter is planning on going to T.C.'s in DeWitt, IA for their Ice Cream Dinner Rider on May 14th and on May 28th we'll be riding up to Rockwood-Morrison State Park for our monthly meeting/cookout. The first weekend of May is the Bi-State Motorcycle Awareness Ride and traditionally the River Riders volunteer to work the registration area. The fate of the ride this year has not yet been determined, but if the show goes on, I'm sure the River Riders Chapter will be there.

Ride Safe,
Rusty

Rusty's Ramblings

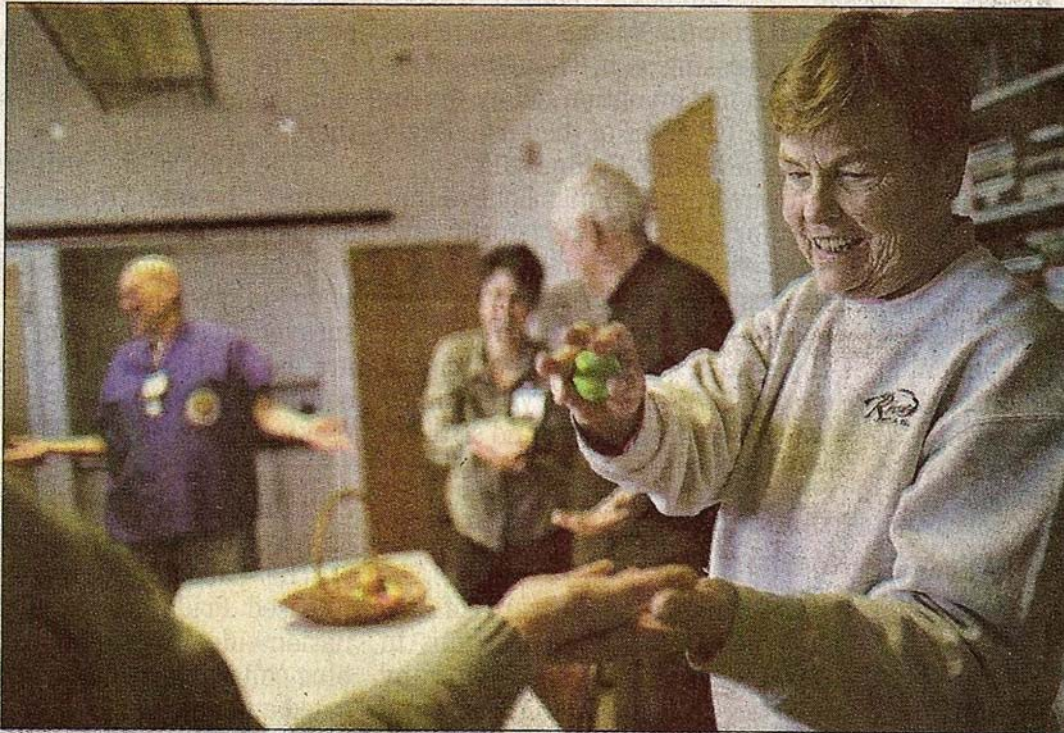
By Rusty Harmening, Illinois State Ambassador

Our booth at the International Motorcycle Show was a great success! Everyone had a great time and we collected over 150 names for Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana, and Nebraska. We had plenty of brochures, magazines, and nail files to pass out, and had a wonderful time talking to ladies about W.O.W.

If a couple of our Directors get their way, next year the booth will sport electronic signup sheets, and a big screen TV for a slide show presentation. I've sent an inquiry to the IMS Coordinator about electricity at our booth, but haven't heard back yet. There were two more shows after us, so I'm sure she's still busy, and will get back to me when she can. I'll keep you posted.

The Annual Mileage Contest starts at the end of this month, so don't forget to send in your mileage as of April 1st, 2009. You can get a form from the magazine, the website or you can send in your info by e-mail.

For the last two years I have been the recipient of my Chapters Low Mileage Award. This year I'm gonna break that cycle and get some riding in. Truthfully, I've done all the remodeling on my house that I can afford at this time, so might as well spend my weekends riding and not working. Since I won't be going to Texas in July, I'm gonna spend my spare time riding around



Beck Diefenbach – bdiefenbach@daily-chronicle.com

Volunteer hospice worker Kathleen Anderson (right) participates in a movement exercise Thursday during a meeting for volunteers at the DeKalb County Hospice building in DeKalb.

*WILD
ROSES

IN
THE
NEWS*

AMA Press Releases

From a November 24, 2008 AMA Press Release: The American Motorcyclist Association (AMA) and MAD Maps, Inc.—one of the country's most prolific producers of quality maps and routes for motorcycle-friendly road trips—are proud to announce a new benefit that allows AMA members to purchase MAD Maps products at a 15% discount. For more information go to www.MadMaps.com. AMA members can access the discount by using a code available in the Members Area of www.AmericanMotorcyclist.com under Benefits.

From a February 14, 2009 AMA Press Release: Language that provides a tax credit for the purchase of a motorcycle has been added to the current economic stimulus bill, the American Motorcyclist Association (AMA) reports. The AMA, working in conjunction with other stakeholders, worked diligently to secure the motorcycle provision within the measure. President Obama is expected to sign the bill into law shortly.

For a complete copy of these Press Releases, contact Shelly Zachary, Newsletter Editor or Gigi Beard, Chapter Director.

Member Birthdays

Be sure to wish the following members of the NCI Wild Roses a Happy Birthday in March & April:

- ✚ Mary Browning – March 2
- ✚ Carla Clayton – March 6
- ✚ Gigi Beard – March 14
- ✚ Scott Hicks – March 21
- ✚ Sue Thatcher – March 30
- ✚ Laura Adkins – April 2
- ✚ Shelly Zachary – April 5



Points of Interest Tour

2009 NCI Wild Roses Proposed Points of Interest Tour

Purpose:

1. Promote a positive image of motorcycling.
2. Encourage riding and have fun.
3. Members who submit photos of any of the sites noted below will become eligible to enter a drawing for a prize.

Guidelines:

1. Eligibility is limited to Full Members.
2. Participant must travel to each point of interest by motorcycle.
3. Proof of your visit must be documented by a photo of your motorcycle (and you if possible) with your "Points of Interest 2009" participation sign.
4. Label the back of each photograph with your name & the point of interest.
5. Each photograph submitted is good for one chance in the prize drawing.
6. Deadline for photos is December 31, 2009.
7. We will draw for prizes at the January 2010 planning meeting. You don't need to be present to win, but you must get your photos to Mary Lynn Buckner. Remember, I can't get them electronically, as you must provide a hard copy and label the back.

Points of Interest:

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Dixon Arch, Dixon, IL | 9. Wind Mill Farm * |
| 2. Totem Pole* | 10. Lock & Dam |
| 3. Any state line sign * | 11. The Train in Amboy, IL |
| 4. Cow statue* | 12. Ferry * |
| 5. Chief Blackhawk Statue, Lowden State Park | 13. A large character (such as "Big Boy") * |
| 6. Freedom Wall, Marseilles, IL | 14. Abe Lincoln * |
| 7. Swiss Chalet* | 15. Wooden Bridge * Park sign |

*There is no limit to the number of photos you submit of these points, as long as they are different, and the back of the photo is labeled with the location.

Awards:

1. A certificate will be presented to each participant.
2. The points of interest tour winner will receive a prize selected from a random drawing the will take place at the January 2010 Planning Session.

Ride and Meeting Schedule

Chapter Meetings

March 28, 2009 @ 9:00 am

The Winner's Circle Bar & Grill
Highway 64; Maple Park, IL

April 25, 2009 @ 9:00 am

The Winner's Circle Bar & Grill
Highway 64; Maple Park, IL

Rides

March 28, 2009 - TBD - Weather Permitting

April 18, 2009

Moonshine Lunch Run; Casey, IL
or
Starved Rock with Northwind Riders; Utica, IL

Upcoming Events of Interest

April 25, 2009

Tech Days Hosted by Kim Muhr—she's going to show us how to do some basic maintenance on our bikes.

April 26, 2009

Pecatonica Swap Meet; Winnebago County Fairgrounds
or
Motorcycle Sunday; Fox Valley Cycle, Aurora, IL

May 1, 2009

International Female Ride Day 2009
See Page 3 for more details.

July, 7-9, 2009

WOW's 23rd Annual International Ride-In
Kerrville, TX

August 19-22, 2009

Registration is now available at
www.womenandmotorcycling.com for the AMA
International Women & Motorcycling Conference -
Keystone Resort & Conference Center
Keystone, CO

Additional information on all of these events is available at www.nciwildroses.com or www.womenonwheels.org. All events and meetings are open to all WOW Members and Non-Members.

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NCI Wild Roses Executive Committee

Gigi Beird, Chapter Director
 Kim Muhr, Assistant Chapter Director
 Mary Lynn Buckner, Treasurer/Activities Coordinator
 Shelly Zachary, Secretary/Newsletter Editor
 Sharon Boda, Road Captain

NCI Wild Roses Chapter of Women On Wheels®

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Have something to sell? For Sale ads free to members. \$5 per month non-members.

Women On Wheels® • Mission Statement

To unite all women motorcycle enthusiasts for recreation, education, mutual support, recognition and to promote a positive image of motorcycling.