

# AL-M NEWSLETTER

Gold Wing Road Riders Association - Southeast Region 'A'

Reaching Out to Alabama Counties of Lee, Russell, Barbour, Chambers



## AL-M SR. CHAPTER DIRECTORS

**Craig & Carol Harrison & Sidney** (Puppy)



Hello M'ers, First and most important the usual first Saturday July 03, Gathering will move to the second Saturday July 10, because the first week in July contains the 4th of July and a lot of folks will be out of town. Please be sure to put this change on the refrigerator door as a reminder. Well, June arrived with some much warmer weather and our Saturday Gathering was hot. We had a very good crowd of 12 folks at the Gathering and a visit from Peggy Henderson one of the Charter Members of AL-M. The "big money" payout for

the 50/50 and Winner-take-all was won by Freddie Martin and Jim Jackson those lucky dawgs. We had some very good conversations and exchange of information during the Gathering and thanks to everyones input.

We had two folks, Jim and Sue, go to the AL-V Lake Guntersville Wings kickoff in Guntersville, AL Saturday 06/05, and they report a very large turnout to help this new Chapter get going. Approximately 150 folks which was pretty good since the area was filled with thunderstorms and not very good riding weather. Good luck to the new AL-V Chapter.

JJ reported the Thursday Weekday Ride to Phil's BBQ in Eufaula was just filled with AL-M Riders and very good fellowship, super delicious BBQ and Barbara said the chicken salad was excellent. There were 10 riders for lunch which is the most we've had for a weekday ride so for this summer. The "Good time" riders were Freddie & Gena Faye, David & Linda, Jim & Barbara, Smokey & Colleen and JJ & Sue. Wow, what a bodacious time and oh yeah the ride was pretty good as well running only the back roads. Come out and join us for the weekday ride.

Craig, Carol & Sidney

# AL-M RIDER EDUCATOR

C.C. Erickson

## STREET STRATEGY BY KEN CODON

### Passing Peril

Charley is riding home from work on a two lane secondary roadway. The road has many curves and only a few straight sections for cars to pass. Charley enjoys a series of curves before accelerating onto one of the straights. He often has someone ahead of him on his ride home and this straight is usually where he overtakes slower cars and trucks. But, today, the road ahead is clear.

Charley accelerates onto the straight, riding in the left-hand portion of the lane near the centerline. He sees in the distance a motor home in the oncoming lane at the other end of the straight with a line of cars following close behind. As the vehicles near, one car suddenly pulls out into Charley's lane to pass! Charley immediately flashes his high beam and honks his horn, but the driver doesn't seem to notice. Charley then decides to brake and move to the right toward the road shoulder, hoping that there is enough room for the car to pass without colliding with him. He reaches the soft shoulder just

as the passing car zips by only inches away. Unfortunately, Charley is still going about 20 MPH when his front tire slides on the loose gravel that borders the road edge, causing him to slide and tumble into the ditch.

Riding in the left-hand portion of his lane made Charley less visible to the drivers lined up behind the motor home. The angle of view would have been to his advantage had he ridden in the righthand portion of the lane. In this position, Charley would have also created more space between himself and the oncoming cars.

When the car did pull out to pass, Charley spent valuable time trying to get the driver's attention with ineffective methods. Even if the driver did notice that a motorcycle was in the way, there is no guarantee that he would act appropriately. Instead, Charley should have immediately changed his lane position to the far right and then begun braking hard to reduce speed so that he could negotiate the soft shoulder more successfully. This would have put Charley in better



C.C. Erickson

Rider Educator

control of his safety instead of hoping that the driver would see him and do the right thing.

See ya'll during the next AL-M Gathering the 2nd Saturday 07/10 of the month.

Cindy

You are invited to join us at the next AL-M Gathering for some  
FRIENDS FOR FUN, SAFETY AND KNOWLEDGE  
AND SOME BODACIOUS GOOD TIMES!

**Next AL-M Monthly Gathering**

2nd Saturday of this month 07/10

Eat @ 6:00 PM Eastern Std Time

Fun @ 7:00 PM Eastern Std Time

At The China Buffet

2401 10th Street

Phenix City, AL

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**GOOD TIMES**



## SADDLEBAG NEWS

Wow, June was filled with GW events and summer came early in June with some tough high humidity and high temps and “the official summer” wasn’t until June 21. By the time one gets the riding safety equipment on and saddles up sweat is running down your face, neck, arms and every other crack that it can run. But, when you first take off on the Wing and that air starts hitting your sweaty body it feels just like a cool air condition breeze for about 4 minutes. Of course this is what we will be experiencing for the next couple of months so just remember that cooler month of September will be right around the corner.

I recently sent out an e-mail with an excellent announcement by our GWRRA Alabama Rider Educator Jim

Robinson. He announced that the Rider Education and Medic First Aid (RE/MFA) Program will be “FREE” to all Members of Alabama Chapters. Folks, this is big news since all these classes had a cost figure attached to each one. Now the Rider Education classes for 2-wheelers and 3-wheelers are “FREE”.....This can only make you and your co-rider better riders whether on a 2 or 3-wheeler. And so is the Medic First Aid classes are “FREE”. Wow! This is “FREE” education that might save you or your co-riders life in an emergency. I have been taking these classes for years and each time I take them I learn something new and I really feel better about riding the Wing as



well. One of the advantages is if we get enough of our Chapter Members interested we can have the classes in our own neighborhood according to Jim Robinson. Hey let’s talk about it at the next Gathering.

JJ

## AL-M - GOLD WING ROAD RIDERS ASSOCIATION SOUTHEAST REGION 'A'

AL-M SENIOR CHAPTER DIRECTORS

CRAIG/CAROL HARRISON

360 LEE ROAD 2018

PHENIX CITY, AL. 36877

[The AL-M Gathering held on the 2nd Saturday 07/10 of this month 6:00 PM EST to Eat & 7:00 PM EST to Gather.](#)

# **AL-M East Alabama Touring Ride Guide**

## **If You Plan It.....It Will Happen!**

July 15, 2010 - Thursday Weekday Lunch Ride to Roger's BBQ in West Point, GA. Yep, they have "Q" and "Bodacious Country-cooking" whichever you want. Let's meet at the Marathon Stop & Rob, US280/431 @ Summerville Road, in Smiths Station. Departure time 11:00 AM EST. Join us for a short ride and some food that will make your stomach scream for more, more and more. Last month we had 10 participants which set a record in attendance.....can we set a new record?

July 24, 2010 - Saturday Lunch Ride to Yoder's Mennonite Restaurant in Montezuma, GA (478) 472-2024. I won't even begin to tell you how good the food will be cause you wouldn't believe me. But, when you take that first mouth full then you will completely understand. If you have never or haven't been to Yoder's in a while, then this ride is an absolute "must do" thing. Ride is 88 miles which is about 1-1/2 hour ride one way. Departure time will be 10:00 AM EST from the Marathon Stop & Rob, US280/431 @ Summerville Road, in Smiths Station. Hey ya'll down in Eufaula, Freddie, Gena Faye, Billy and Doreen just meet us at the restaurant unless you want to enjoy some extra miles. It's about an 85 mile run for you.

Please come with a smile on your face, a fun attitude, a full tank of gas, an empty bladder and a "BUCKET" to carry all the "GOOD TIMES." Kickstands up promptly at the departure time. We ride at the posted speed-limit or less and these rides are a ton of fun and laid back affair. Come out and play with us and make some AL-M Chapter Memories. We are going to treat you so many ways you are bound to like one of them!!! Please forgive me, but sometimes these Chapter Rides make me burst out in song. Please feel free to sing along.