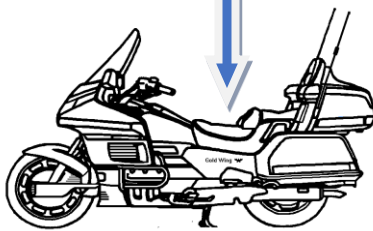


From the Director's Chair



November, 2020

It's That Time of Year

As we write this article – on October 19 – it is already snowing! Usually we don't have to use the "S" word until November, but that isn't the case this year. Starting with the color change, it seems that everything is a good two weeks ahead of schedule and that doesn't bode well if you are hoping for a "short" winter. The accelerated seasonal change might also mean that you were caught by surprise and haven't finished all of your fall "chores," like winterizing your bike.

Following are just a few things to think about as you prepare to put your baby to bed for a while:

- Do you know where you are going to store it for the winter? If you're lucky enough to have access to a heated space, you won't have to worry so much about exposure to the elements. Remember, however, that critters also like heated spaces in cold weather, so make sure cracks and other small access points are sealed up and close off any openings on the bike with tape or stuff them with some kind of cloth.
- You probably want to take your bike for one last ride, if possible. Fill the tank with fresh gas at the end of the ride and don't forget to add fuel stabilizer.
- Change the oil and filter or make an appointment for someone else to do it.
- Check the air filter and clean and replace it.
- Check the brake pads, tires and belt for wear.
- Take out the battery and, if appropriate, top off the cells with distilled water and store the battery at room temperature in a dry place
- Check the pressure in both tires and make sure they're filled to the proper level.
- Wash the bike really well and scrub off all bugs, dirt and road grime.
- Wax the paint and chrome, and apply leather protectant to the seat and any other leather parts of the bike.
- Protect your motorcycle with a cover to help keep moisture at bay.

That's it – now you are ready to spend your time planning the great ride(s) you will take next season!

Have a happy Thanksgiving and stay safe.

Bruce and Joanne Carlson

Chapter Directors – Minnesota Chapter N

District Educator Newsletter



As I sit here writing my article, the sun is shining and it's a balmy 35° on the thermometer. At least it's not snowing like it was the other day – I'm so not ready for this cold weather yet. It seems that it gets cold earlier every year.

I'm not going to talk about how to winterize your motorcycle. I'm certainly no expert in that area. My expert takes care of winterizing both of our bikes and getting them ready for storage. I know what Scott does because I do watch and help where I can, but he's taken care of both of our bikes for so long, it's just another day for him. As he has always said, "motorcycling isn't a hobby, it's a way of life". Unfortunately, neither of us have done overly well on miles this year.

I'd like to congratulate Patrick Beck on becoming certified as our newest Medic First Aid Instructor. We now have four Instructors in Minnesota; Pat Beck, Dean Kittelson, Tina Storrs and Leonard Woelfel. Thank you all for your commitment!

Medic First Aid classes are starting to be offered again, with restrictions. Classes will be smaller and social distancing will be maintained. We have eight (8) mannequins so class size in Minnesota will be limited to 8 Members, one member per mannequin. Contact me with questions.

Participants will need to provide their mask, gloves and bring hand sanitizer. During the First Aid training, the control of bleeding demonstration will be done by the Instructor and you can practice this at home. During the CPR training, rescue breaths will be simulated meaning you would still demonstrate the chin lift/head tilt, but you would talk through the rescue breath process.

As has become the normal, if you experience any of the following symptoms, please do not attend the class: congestion, runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, chills or shaking with chills, muscle pain, headaches, sore throat, or new loss of taste or smell

If there is interest in scheduling a class, please let me know and provide a couple of dates. I will work with our Instructors to make sure one or two can instruct the class.

Have a safe and Happy Thanksgiving!

Joy Mattson

MN District Educator