

# THE RIDE

WWW.EKTR.ORG

April 2009

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## Director's Comments



The riding season is kicking into high gear. I was able to get in several rides during the nice days of March. Unfortunately, my weekends were tied up so I was not able to suggest a group ride. Anytime anyone wants to get a group together, send an e-mail to [rides@ektr.org](mailto:rides@ektr.org) and you will extend an invitation to about 60 people.

I have visited the Leavenworth, Olathe, and Topeka GWTA chapters to promote our Fun Run and to meet other GWTA riders. We are going to try to find some days to get together at a common destination for a dinner ride. These are all dynamic chapters and it is fun to share experiences with other GWTA chapters. I am planning on visiting a couple of other chapters prior to the Fun Run.

The GWTA Rave N Ride program needs more business participation. They have extended the deadline to April 19 and lowered the participation threshold to 8 businesses. Region E has 2 and needs to sign up 8 more. Time is short.

The April 13<sup>th</sup> business meeting will be at the Shawnee Branch of the Johnson County Library. The library is just west of Johnson Drive and Pflumn. This is our first library meeting. Food is allowed but cannot be cooked at the library. Chapter t-shirts should be available at the meeting and we have a few extra if you didn't get an order in.

Weekly rides start April 1. We meet at 87<sup>th</sup> and I-435 in the Sears Grand parking lot. We leave at 6:30 and arrive at a restaurant about 7:30. Contact Bev to choose your Wednesdays to lead rides to your favorite restaurants. John



Homecoming picnic!

## The Ride

### Business Meeting Minutes – March 9, 2009 7:00PM

Ryan's Family Steak House

There were 16 members present

Watch for the names of our new members in *Touring News* – Michael Hogan and Craig and Beck Helm – they are now on membership roster. Also, Thomas and Karen Grezeszak of Gardner are new GWTA members without a chapter designation. The Chapter Director (CD) invited them via e-mail to participate with Chapter B.

Elaine Reiter's Birthday was March 6. It was inadvertently left off *The Ride* calendar for March. (Editor's note: She won't let me forget that one!)

The next monthly business meeting will be at the JOCO Library – Shawnee Branch – South side of Johnson Drive just west of Pflumn.

Reminders of the GWTA national rally in Lexington KY, July 13-16, and the Region E Rally in Eureka Springs, June 5-7. GWTA NE Spring Fling in Grand Island 3/20-21

The CD reported on the Winter Carnival

March 28 - Bill Groh's Maintenance Day  
ABATE spring swap meet – Gardner at the fairgrounds

The CD requested volunteers to man a booth at the CMA Run for the Son May 2 at the Great Plains Mall in Olathe.

Rob Schmidt will take on the Google Maps project.

T-Shirts order is ready, we will be ordering about 40 shirts.

The Fun Run is pretty well set. Mike Hogan brought a cooler, Dave Aiken some games, and Bev Speckman and Phyllis Beck brought some prizes. Keep distributing flyers.

Bob Beck provided a treasurer's report—756.15

Dinner Rides are covered through April

The mailing List had 3 new sign ups -- James Snell, Tom Grezeszak, Mike Reavis

We need ride leaders

Fall Color Ride – Dave Aiken

Rides to events -- Cassody; Beaumont; Elk City; Cottonwood Falls

Dave Aiken and Maurice Reiter were given patches for their vests.

Greg and Kelly Walter won two Gold Rush raffle tickets

Land of Ahhh's tour will be ready shortly, Tony needs to check with tour veterans to avoid too many repeats.

50/50 – Craig Helm won \$22

# April 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Dinner Ride	2 🍰 Emmy Lou Harris	3	4
5	6	7	8 Dinner Ride	9	10	11 🍰 Shirley Frame
12	13 Business MTG 7:00P SEE BELOW	14	15 Dinner Ride	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 🍷 John & Bev Dinner Ride	23	24 🍷 Bob & Phyllis Beck	25
26	27	28	29 Dinner Ride	30		

**Note: The Meeting this month will be held at the Johnson County Library - Shawnee Branch just west of Johnson Drive and Pflumm.**

DINNER RIDES

- April 1 John English Sisters Restaurant Bonner Springs
- April 8 Speckmans Kites Bar & Grill Shawnee
- April 15 Helms TBA
- April 22 Bill Poe TBA
- April 29 Walters TBA



## Where's John sleeping???



Can you name the location where John is napping - again?  
Answer on page 7.

# UPCOMING EVENTS AND RIDES FOR 2009

- Apr 1 - Oct 31 Rave N Ride →  
 1,8,15,22,29 Dinner Rides – Sears 87<sup>th</sup> & I435  
 13 Business Meeting – JOCO Library (Branch TBA)  
 18 Missouri Chapter N – Spring Fling – Weston State Park  
 19 KS Chapter B Fun Run at Shawnee Mission Park Shelter #12  
 30-May 2 GWRRA Missouri District Rally – Branson
- May 2 CMA Run for the Son – EKTR to pursue booth at Mall of America.  
 3 City Union Mission Ride – KCMO  
 6,13,20,27 Dinner Rides - Sears 87th & I435  
 9 Dean Weller – Downtown De Soto 10AM  
 11 Business Meeting – JOCO Library (Branch TBA)  
 16 Thunder in the Smokies – Marquette
- Jun 3,10,17,24 Dinner Rides - Sears 87th & I435  
 5-7 Region E Rally, Kettle Campground, Eureka Springs, AK  
 8 Business Meeting – JOCO Library (Branch TBA)  
 12 -14 GWTA Region C Tail Gate Party, Chippewa Falls, WI  
 20 GWRRA B Fun Run  
 20 Animal Haven Tire Marks and Dog Barks Rally--Merriam
- Jul 2-5 Wing Ding -- Tulsa  
 13 Business Meeting – JOCO Library (Branch TBA)  
 13-16 Gold Rush XXII (Lexington, KY)  
 26 Ride for Kids
- Aug 3-9 Black Hills Rally – Sturgis  
 10 Business Meeting – JOCO Library (Branch TBA)  
 14 – 16 GWTA Iowa Fun Fest, Storm Lake, IA
- Sep 4 – 6 Davis Rally, New Hampton, IA  
 14 Business Meeting – JOCO Library (Branch TBA)  
 11 – 13 GWTA Ne State Friendship Campout, Grand Island, NE  
 11 - 13 Davis Rally, New Hampton, IA ([www.davismotorcyclerrally.com](http://www.davismotorcyclerrally.com))  
 24-27 Bikes, Blues, and BBQ – Fayetteville
- Oct 9-11 Fall Color Ride – TBA  
 ?? Annual Dragon Run, Deals Gap, NC  
 12 Business Meeting – JOCO Library (Branch TBA)  
 24 GWRRA B Color Ride – JTs De Soto
- Nov 9 Business Meeting (Director Election) – Ryan’s  
 11 Veteran’s Day Parade – Leavenworth?  
 20 - 22 GWTA Ne Fall Follies, Grand Island, NE
- Dec 4 Holiday Dinner/bottle auction – Yarbrough’s  
 9 2010 Planning Meeting -- TBA  
 16, 30 Dinner dates

**GWTA Rave N Ride**

The GWTA Rave N Ride program needs more sponsors. Tour cards will be provided and when riders have visited a certain number of sites they will turn the cards in for Regional/National recognition. The sites will be commercial ventures that pay a fee to sponsor the program. GWTA is looking for sponsors and has provided us with a sponsorship form. If you know of a business that might be interested give them a flyer or let me know and I will make sure they get one.  
 --John

**Scooter Scoots**

May 15- 16 Mad Toto Rally, KC  
 Jun 5 - 7 2009 HAMS Rally, Jefferson City  
 25 - 28 Iron Range Super Scooter Rally, Virginia, MN  
 Jul 29 - Aug 2 Renegade Rally, Eureka Springs, AR  
 Sep 17 - 20 Scoot the Ozarks, Eureka Springs, AR



## FOUR ROMEOs

On one of the warmer March days, four Romeos headed for the city of Horton, KS to meet others and eat in a little “Hole in the Wall” for lunch. The special was a pork tenderloin (almost as large as your plate). We rendezvoused in Lawrence and mostly followed Highway 59, 4 and 159 through the cities of Oskaloosa, Ozawie, Valley Falls, Nortonville, Effingham and Muscotah. There was a large group of around 60 Romeos and the little Café was very busy getting everyone served. The service was a little slow, but what can one expect when every booth and table is filled within minutes by hungry Romeos - and more waiting for a table to free up. The special was very good and no one left hungry!

After visiting with other riders and looking at a few bikes, we headed back - following Highway 73 through Everest, Huron, Lancaster, Atchison and Leavenworth. It is hard to find a more enjoyable way to pass the time than riding with friends through beautiful farmland on a bright sunny day.

For those looking for a road, try this ride, it was very enjoyable.



If you are not familiar with the ROMEOs, it stands for Retired Old Men Eating Out. It consists of many folks all over Kansas who look for places to eat in small towns with a population of about 200 or so. The object, in addition to a fun day, is to bring a little additional business to these small communities.

If you have a free Wednesday, and the weather is decent, take a ride with the ROMEOs.

## ORGAN CONCERT

Sunday, March 8, 2009 – My wife Cathy and I just had the wonderful privilege of attending a concert performance of the 1927 Robert-Morton 4/28 Theatre Organ which is installed in the Kansas City Music Hall. The concert was hosted by Kansas City Theatre Pipe Organ, Inc. (KCTPO) whose non-profit organization has total responsibility for the operation and care of this historic organ.

The free (\$10 suggested donation) concert started at 2:00 with nationally acclaimed organist Brett Valliant of Wichita at the keyboard. He played until after 4:00 including an encore piece with only a 15 minute intermission about halfway through. Songs were of a wide variety spanning from an 1886 Sousa march to the theme from “Titanic”. Many songs from the 1920s and 1930s as well as operatic and pop pieces were featured. There was an Abba medley with the exception of “Mama Mia” which he actually forgot to play. (It’s on one of his three CDs.) Brett uniquely chose similar voices from the two chambers and had melodies echo each other from both sides of the hall. His style effectively accentuated the stereo effect of using both chambers. You can learn about him from his web site:

[www.brettvalliant.com](http://www.brettvalliant.com)



After a light social on the stage, (Yes, we get bragging rights for being on the Music Hall stage) Dr. Marvin Faulwell of the KCTPO explained the organ’s workings and voices in a short seminar that was targeted to a large enclave of organ students from Schmitt Music. During the intermission and social, we got to talk to John Trewolla who is in charge of Marketing as well as being the “computer guy” for the organ console and operation. We finally finished the day after 5:00. That’s three hours of entertainment and education!

The 1927 Robert-Morton was originally installed in the Loews Midland for silent movies. After a couple of moves, it ended

up in a warehouse in California. It was purchased and has been installed and restored back in Kansas City at the Music Hall. You can read about it on the KCTPO website at: [www.kc-theatreorgan.org](http://www.kc-theatreorgan.org)

The next free public performance is on July 12, again at 2:00 featuring Kay McAbee whom rumor has it is even better than Brett was although that would be hard to believe. I suggest you see (and hear) for yourself. We are unfortunately scheduled to be out of town or we would definitely be there. –Warren Rudd  
(Editor’s Comment: These could develop into a group rides!)



This year at Gold Rush, GWTA is offering a Grand Prize of \$10,000.00, or a 2009 Honda Gold Wing or a 2009 Harley Davidson Sportster. Our Chapter Director is selling tickets for that drawing. Contact him if you would like to buy some - before he is sold out! At the March Business Meeting, he offered two Grand Prize tickets as a prize in a special drawing for members of GWTA. The names of all the GWTA members as of March 2, 2009 were placed in a can and one name would drawn to win the two tickets. The first name was drawn - Dave & Jody Mello (Oops! Not there). The second name was drawn - Doug and Mary Christensen (Oops! Not there). A third name was drawn - Jon & Yvonne Stone (Oops! Not there). A fourth name was drawn - Earl Baker (Oops! Not there). A fifth name was drawn - Wirth Davis (Oops! Not there). A sixth name was drawn - Thomas & Karen Grezeszak (Oops! Not there). A seventh name was drawn - Greg & Kelly Walter (YEAH! The winners!). Now you all may think this is silly, but you won't think so if Greg and Kelly win the new Gold Wing..... Yep! It could have been you! Hope to see you at the next business meeting! The editor.

**BEV'S CORNER:** As the riding season begins we need to be aware that this is the time of year we can have unstable weather here in Kansas. It never hurts to revisit the safety of riding on the motorcycle during bad weather.

**In case of lightning**, which is the second most prevalent killer by the way, if you are outdoors, go to a safe shelter immediately. To determine how close the storm is to you count the number of seconds from the time you see lightning until you hear thunder. Five seconds means lightning is one mile away. You are at risk when you hear thunder in 30 seconds or less.

If you are in a wooded area seek shelter under a thick growth of small trees if possible.

If you feel your hair stand on end squat with your head between your knees. **DO NOT LIE FLAT.**

Avoid isolated trees or other tall objects, bodies of water, sheds, fences, tractors, convertible automobile, and **motorcycles.**

**Flooding**, number 1 severe weather killer, **DO NOT TRY TO DRIVE THRU A FLOODED AREA.** You don't know if the pavement below you has been washed out or not. Two feet of water can quickly carry an automobile off think what it can do to a motorcycle.

Rule of thumb just use common sense and be careful.

April brings the beginning of the riding season - When you return from your ride, email me a note of where you went and who might have gone with you. Maybe you took a few pictures you could send too.

We have lots of people in our Chapter who like to ride. And we have several who contribute articles for your newsletter. For those of you who haven't sent me anything.....It's your turn! Let me hear from you. If you don't have spell check, that's OK, I do. The last several issues have only filled 8 pages. I can send you 12 pages with the same postage. So, after your ride, drop me a note so we can all enjoy your ride. The Editor.

Last minute notes: Our fun run is Sunday, April 19th. Please bring your door prizes to the April meeting. I will be collecting them at that time.

I have included the flyers for the **Run for the Son** on May 2nd and the **Region E Rally** on June 5th and 6th. Please mark your calen-