

Hello all

Judy and I have our gear all packed and will be heading to Eufaula AL. for the Region A Convention in the morning. The weather is finally starting to cool down to where it's very pleasant to ride in the early morning and late afternoons. We look forward to fall coming for with it comes the chapter conventions and get together that everyone enjoys so much, giving us a chance to renew old friendships and make some new ones. You have a host of events to take part in from a poker run to a pancake breakfast to bowling to a Howl-O-Wean Harvest picnic.

Having said all of that it brings up thoughts of being ready for all of this. You can be sure you are if you will just ask yourself these three simple questions and answer them honestly. First is your bike ready? Have you done your T-CLOCS inspection? T-tires check for side wall cracks, tread depth, debris in the tread, and most importantly the tire pressure. C- controls, clutch and brake levers, throttle. L- electrics all lights head, tail, turn signal, stop, hazard lights and instrument panel, O- oil and other fluids such as brake & clutch fluids radiator coolant, C-chassis is next just a quick visual check for missing or lose bolts. S- side or center stand be sure that the return springs are on and holding the stands up we don't want them falling down and dragging along the road they could put you down, not good.

Now what about your gear? This time of year you could need three kinds, in this up and down time with the temperatures being hot then going to cold you will need both hot and cold riding gear, and you mustn't forget about the fact that you're in Florida and it's subject to rain at any time thus three kinds of gear. Now if all that's ready your good to go. Let's talk about the last question, are you ready? Did you get a good night's sleep last night? Are you well rested? Are you and your significant other on good terms or did the two of you have a few cross words between you this morning and you're upset? If this is the case please do Judy and I a great big favor and stay home, don't take the ride. Let me explain why I ask this of you. I know from my many years of riding that in order to ride safe it takes 99% of concentration in order to ride safe. If you're upset you will be thinking about what you said or she said and not on riding your bike safely.

Riding on a motorcycle is one of the most enjoyable things that I've ever done and it can be done safely if done properly. Just ask yourself those three simple questions.

Till Next We Meet Keep
The Shiny Side Up and The Rubber On The Road

Don & Judy Danbury
Senior Master Tour Riders
Florida District Educators