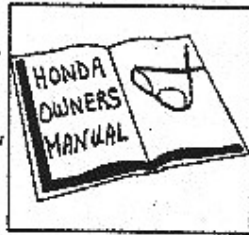


REQUIRED READING

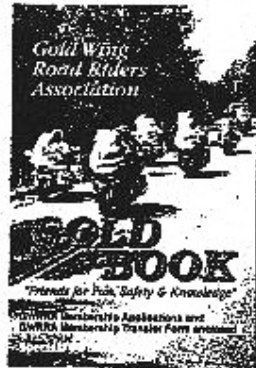
I was reading an old issue of Wing World recently when a letter to "P.O. Box" caught my attention. The author had a complete electrical failure on his '93 Aspencade. This required a tow and eventually the cause was found to be "...just a blown fuse". I realize that a great number of Wing riders are not mechanically inclined but the ability to trouble shoot a blown fuse should not be all that intimidating. But where to start....?

There are two excellent sources for reference, the owners manual (that's the little book that came with the bike and has never been opened) and the Gold Book supplied by the GWRRA. The owner's manual gives you the location and types of fuses and where the spares are hidden. It also offers safety tips, storage hints, audio operation and the all important maintenance schedule. It tells you how to set the time, set the radio, set the cruise control, everything except how to set up the perfect weather conditions for your ride.



The "Gold Book" offers a wealth of handy information. In addition to a listing of members in every state (and Canada) who may be able to render assistance there is the list of Honda dealers throughout the United States and, of great importance to all wingers, a list of chrome dealers. Why stop there!

There are handy application forms for new members as well as membership transfers to include with the sale of your Gold Wing. You may want to keep the registration form for Wing Ding if you're thinking of going there on your new Gold Wing.



Travelers will like the pre-trip checklist, state equipment requirements and state tourism phone numbers. Charts for metric conversions, time zones and wind chill factors, should you decide to travel in early spring or late fall.

Area codes are listed, but their accuracy is in doubt, due to the constantly changing needs of the phone companies.

Traveling with friends? The Gold Book offers suggestions on group riding, common hand signals and even has space for expense records.

Emergency information covers tire repairs, fuel siphoning and tie down hints. There are illustrated diagrams on how to pick up your Gold Wing, in case you didn't pay attention to the tie down guidelines. The Gold Book even provides information you hope you never have to use.

The Heimlick maneuver, rescue breathing and adult CPR are all illustrated with step by step instructions.

Perhaps it would be a good idea if all of us were to spend a few minutes reviewing the contents of these books at least once a year. Should a problem arise you will have an idea of where to begin the search for the solution. If you can't fix the problem, a helmet placed along side the road is a distress signal and hopefully another biker will be considerate enough to stop and render assistance.

Ride Safe,