

WELCOME THE NEW YEAR

The CD Conference is over and we hope that all those who attended not only enjoyed themselves but also left with a little more knowledge than when they arrived. It was great to see so many familiar faces and I look forward to working with all the new Chapter Educators. I realize that some improvements are needed and I will have them done by next year.

I plan to shorten, clarify and change the power point presentations to make them more specific to Chapter Educators. We want to use more visual aids, get more audience participation and include a few demonstrations. We also want to make it more entertaining and perhaps I really will have "T-Shirts" for all educators. Any suggestions you have would be more than welcomed, after all it is your conference.

I have been reading the latest Chapter newsletters and noticed one common thread running among them. It seems that everyone is just amazed at how fast the past year has gone by. I heard a simple explanation for this some time ago so I'll pass it along. It has nothing to do with safety...I just thought you might want to hear it. It goes something like this...

When you are ten years old, each year represents one tenth of your known existence. That's a big fraction, $1/10$. Now when you are 60 years old, each year is a much smaller fraction of your total time on this planet...only $1/60$. Time wise, it is the same 365 days, but memory wise it represents only $1/60$ of your memory, as you have so much more to draw on. Time seems to go by so much faster with our longer memories.

Here are some thoughts for those looking for a presentation for this winter in Florida. Most of you have all the snowbirds back so Group Riding comes to mind. This keeps everyone on the same page and there is a

power point presentation available for those who wish to use it. Actually, there are three versions available, pick the one you like best. All the available Power Points are on the disk that was given to each educator and chapter.

Another interesting topic might be Hypothermia. Now that our unseasonably warm weather is over, cool temperatures dominate and this really is an area of concern that shouldn't be overlooked. If anyone is prompted by my humble plea to make a Power Point on this subject...please do so. Do not freeze someone, photograph them and then use the photos to show the symptoms of Hypothermia! (Granted, it would make an impressive presentation but it plays havoc with renewals.) I am currently working on a presentation for Heat Stroke and Heat Exhaustion and should have it ready in time for the summer riding season.

That's all for now. Looking forward to seeing everybody at the District Rally in March. Ride safe.

Florida District Educators
Bob & Barbara Groff