

CD Conference Up-Date

The Florida District is in great shape as is the Florida Rider Education Program. The Rider Education portion of the Conference had nearly 60 members attending, representing 35 of our Chapters. It was a very good turnout.

Barbara and I, along with our new assistants, Joe and Jan Mazza took the stage just before lunch break. We reviewed the past year's training, and for the benefit of those who could not attend: 247 trained in ERC, Trike and Trailing, 261 took First Aid and CPR classes and we put 133 new Road Captains on the highway.

We reviewed the levels program briefly and paid special attention to the renewal process. All renewals are to come to the District Educator. I make a copy before forwarding them on to Tony Van Schaick. All levels I, II and III come to the District Educator. Only the Original Masters Level IV application goes to the Region Educator, Ron Lantz. Then the fun began...

I apologized to all the members present for my inability to get them the handsome T-shirts (the ones with Barbara's and my picture on the front) by offering a peace settlement of a Genuine, Custom Made Arkansas Briefcase, many with the DVD's in the pocket. (The briefcases belong to the chapter and have the Florida Rider Education Logo on them.) This quieted the angry crowd for a few minutes.

Next up was the inauguration of the new Chapter Educators. We brought them up to the podium and the "Helmets of Wisdom" were placed on their heads. The sacred oath was given and the candles were lit. It was a moving ceremony. Some of you have witnessed this solemn event and like many in the audience, members were moved to tears.

After lunch the briefcases were signed out and we began our program. First up was covering assignments for the Rider Ed Table

during the Rally. We then discussed how to Set Up ERC and Trike Courses as well as First Aid and CPR classes. We touched lightly on Monthly Reports. Joe handled the job of reviewing the Levels and Renewals in depth. We followed that with a short talk on the types of Presentations and Ron Jackson gave us an overview of the MAD program.

I gave a seminar on how to give Presentations while Ron followed up with a review of the CD program made available by John Heilbrunn. The exceptional Educators were noted and Pat Laden presented his version of a Chapter Rider Education folder, which was well received. Larry and Barbara Franklin gave a short skit and showed us how things can be done to increase learning and retention.

Sunday morning began with an open discussion of various problems we face as Chapter Educators: members who won't wear helmets, non-members in the group and unsafe members riding in the group. We also discussed the liability issues with Parking Lot Practices and the Road Captains Course.

By all accounts the CD Conference was a success. We hope that we, your District Educators, have given you, the Chapter Educator, the tools and training to make you better Educators.

Your Florida District Educators
Bob and Barbara Groff
Joe and Jan Mazza