

## Street Strategies

I recently dusted off and re-read a book given to me by my son, Adam, titled “Ultimate Street Strategies”, written by Pat Hahn of the Motorcycle Club of America. In it I found what I call the Golden Rules of Safe Motorcycling. I am going to list a few I feel every GWRRA member, whether rider or co-rider, should be aware of in order to travel the highways and byways of this great country of ours safely.

1) Get the best suit, the best helmet, the best boots and the best gloves. Treat yourself—you’ll be glad you did.

2) Develop a defensive riding strategy. In driver education I always taught my students to expect other drivers to make the wrong decision so they would be prepared to react at all times. The message was, “Leave yourself an out”.

3) Take rider skills training. Continually honing your rider and co-rider skills will go a long way in keeping you safe, and hey, courses are free here in Florida.

4) Wear protective gear. Dress for the fall, not the weather.

5) Riding a motorcycle into traffic without a game plan is ignorant at best, suicide at worst.

6) Think of an intersection not as a place where two roads cross, but as a savage dagger thrust sideways into a harmonious flow of traffic. Remember, most accidents involving a four wheeled vehicle and a motorcycle occur during left turns at intersections.

7) Just being aware that you’re out there on your own and particularly vulnerable is half the battle.

8) Law enforcement’s primary purpose is to preserve harmony by singling out deviant behavior and putting a stop to it. Of course law enforcement officers, Shrader for instance, may have different ideas about what’s deviant and what’s not.

9) Group riding rule number 1. Ride your own ride. Everyone is responsible for his or her own safety. GWRRA liability insurance covers GWRRA. Each rider must depend on his or her own insurance for coverage.

10) When riding with a passenger, remember that you’re riding for two. Technically, the risk doubles when that passenger gets on.

These are just 10 of the many strategies discussed in this very informative book. Being aware of and putting them into practice hopefully will give us an edge and keep us safe.

Now it’s time to think about winning and riding a new 2010 Gold Wing. The raffle tickets have been mailed to you and should be in your possession by the time you read this. If you have any questions about them you can E-Mail or call us. We are very appreciative of the effort you all put into the ticket sales. It’s this effort that keeps Florida Rider Education NUMBER 1!

Ride Safe, Have Fun  
Joe and “Gracie Mazza”