

I do believe that summer is really here. This weather takes me back to when I was a youngster yes believe it or not I was a youngster many years ago, actually more years than I want to admit to, it reminds me of when I joined the Boy Scouts and started working my way up through the different levels of the Scouts, of course you had many things to learn . The first thing I learned was the scout motto which was (BE PREPARED).

I guess you're going to say, what's this got to do with the GOLD WING ROAD RIDERS. It has a whole lot to do with it. The Boy Scouts had levels of achievement that required you to train and study to gain merit badges in order to advance from the Tenderfoot level through the level of second class then to first class and eventually on up to Eagle Scout. Eagle Scout was like being a level four Master Tour Rider in GWRRA. The Scouts had levels of achievement just like GWRRA has in their Rider Ed Levels program. The levels program in the Boy Scouts was challenging and the end result was that you became a better person which provided you with a work ethic and would make you more successful in life.

This is where the scout program becomes more like the GWRRA Rider Education levels Program. You can become a level one rider or co-rider just by committing to riding safely, nothing more than that. Once you've achieved that I'm sure that with the help of your GWRRA friends you will want to accept the challenge of going to level two. This will require a little more commitment because now you will have to take an Experienced Rider Course and have ridden at least five thousand miles safely since joining GWRRA. Now that you're a level two surely you will want to attain the level three status. Yes, you will have to put out some effort and take a CPR or First Aid Course or both if you choose while staying in your level two status. Now that you've gone that far and accomplished all this why not ride that twenty five thousand miles, wait one year, and be recognized as a level four Master Tour Rider. Maintain this for five years and you will be a Senior Master. Five years later you will be a Grand Master and five years that after you will be a Life Master which is a great achievement in itself.

Now I suppose you're thinking what does this have to do with me? Well believe or not you can attain all of this here in the District of Florida with absolutely no cash money outlay. How might you ask? Well you remember the bike raffle that the Florida District Rider Education has each year at the Florida District Convention? The proceeds from that raffle goes to conducting of all our rider/co-rider courses which you receive free.

Judy and I look forward to seeing you out there on the road. Ride safe and be sure that you Keep the Shiny Side Up and the Rubber on the Road.

Don & Judy Danbury  
Senior Master Tour Riders  
Senior District Rider Educators