



WING'D RIDER

Chapter KY-Y
Mayfield, Ky.



October 2024

Volume 24 Issue 10

Where We Meet: Majestic Family Restaurant
700 South 6th Street
Mayfield, KY 42066

Pins & Patches:
Open

Rides beginning at the "Blue" Building:
901 N. 15th Street, Mayfield
(hint: the building isn't blue!)



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**Chapter
FUNDRAISER**



From the Chapter Director



Wow can you believe all the flooding and damage from the Hurricane, please keep all these people in your prayers and all the rescuers and people trying to rebuild the roads and everything.

It's that time of year for the farmers to be out trying to get their crops out of the field. Please give them some room when you meet them on especially small roads. If possible pull in a driveway to give them a little more room.

We are planning a ride this Saturday to Reelfoot Lake to eat a little fish, so try to keep the day open. Nice weather forecasted and great friends on hand so bring someone with you.

As always if you see or know of someone who rides and it doesn't matter what they ride invite them to join us.

Dan and Rita
Chapter Y C/D's
KY Assistant State Director

View From The Saddle



October seems to be that transition month that puts summer in the rear view mirror. Temperatures are getting really comfortable, mornings actually have a bit of a nip to them and green begins to give way to yellows, reds and brown. I love it!

Soon I'll be pulling out my long sleeved shirts and riding thru falling leaves. We need to watch leaves that have gotten wet and stacked up on the road but, generally, we can blow them off the road when our bikes zip past them. Deer will be moving more as we get closer to November and the rut so keep your eyes moving and when you see deer number 1 cross the road, start looking for more.

Fall is a great time to ride and I have another ride to west Texas coming up. I'll head back to my brother's in the Texas Hill Country on October 5, if my plans don't change. I plan to take a different route this time as I intend to bypass the Dallas/Fort Worth area by heading SW from Texarkana. My brother says to stay away from I-35 south anywhere between Dallas and Waco so I have a route laid out that keeps me off I-35. It's 1,000 miles from here to Leakey, TX so two 500 miles are in store for me.

Last time on my way home from my brother's I got in to stop and go traffic south of Fort Worth and it was 104 degrees. No fun. So with a friendlier route and a few weeks later in the year it should make this a much more enjoyable trip. I'll spend a few days at my brother's place helping him with a few projects and riding the 3 Sisters roads that crisscross Leakey, TX and getting caught up before heading back home.

The other half of October being a transition month is what we're transitioning in to...winter. After I get back home it will be time to winterize my equipment which will include changing oil in the tractor, making sure the antifreeze is up to par, and adding my diesel fuel additive to it and my pickup. Garden hose reels will need to be disconnected from the hydrants and drained. All of those leaves that fell and blew in to my ditch will need to be blown out to prevent the culvert under my driveway from plugging up.

All of the gas powered equipment will either be run dry or have a gas stabilizer added. I've used Stabil for years for this protection but I recently watched a YouTube video by a reputable small engine mechanic who uses Ethanol Shield instead of Stabil. Her video showed a container of gasoline with a bit of water added and then added Stabil. The water remained in the bottom of the container, even after vigorous shaking. Then she did the same experiment but added Ethanol Shield and you could see the water droplet being absorbed by the Ethanol Shield. Sold me. So that's what I'll be winterizing my equipment with and adding to my 5 gallon gas cans with each fill. It will also be added to my last few Wing fill ups, since I'm never sure which stop at the gas station will be the last for the coldest days of winter.

Next thing you know there's Jack-O-Lanterns on porches with ghosts and goblins decorating front yards. Just as suddenly it's roasted turkey and pumpkin pie time and you know what's after that. Then it's time to welcome 2025 to our calendars. Wasn't it just a couple of years ago that people were afraid the world would end when Y2K was upon us?

Go for a ride. That will make you feel better.

Steve Knode

Rider Education Report



Practice Makes Perfect is a New York Times Best Seller about a small-town sweetheart and an emotionally unavailable bad boy that try to find some common ground. The setting for this novel is Rome, Kentucky, which is near Owensboro. This book gets a 96% approval rating from Google users. I think some of our members may know of this location and perhaps have even passed through during a ride. If you have yet to discover Rome, perhaps this book will help.

“Practice makes perfect” is also a traditional saying, but it is not grammatically correct or true. It is correct, however, to say “Practice makes one perfect” because it is grammatically correct. But if the “one” is human then this statement is also not true. What I know to be true is that improvement of a skill does not happen without practice. The Oxford Languages offers the definition of practice as a verb, meaning “perform (an activity) or exercise (a skill) repeatedly or regularly in order to improve or maintain one's proficiency.”

Motorcycling is a skill that we can and should practice often. Some riders offer the excuse that training classes and opportunities are hard to find and expensive to experience. I do not believe either reason is true. The former GWRRA published a pamphlet Parking Lot Practice that was free to any member and listed six different on-bike riding skills with instructions, course diagrams, common failures, and advice on how to correct them. In preparation for this article, I did a quick internet search, and the pamphlet is still out there, free of charge. (I am happy to email it to you if you want a copy.) Finding a place to set up the different exercises is likely the biggest challenge one will face. Church, school, and abandoned mall parking lots are good places to start. Any parking lot that is relatively flat, clear of light poles, concrete curbs, and other obstructions will work. If the parking lots are marked so the spaces are perpendicular to the travel lanes, this is ideal. Small objects can be used to mark the different points for stopping, turning, and boundaries of the exercise course. These objects can be anything handy. When I practice, I use old tennis balls that I have cut in half. These make good markers because they are visible (bright yellow-green), forgiving if run over (rubber shells with fuzzy outer covering), and less slippery than things like paper or cardboard markers, or even the vinyl mini-cones designed especially for motorcycle training. Be sure to bring water with you to stay properly hydrated.

Practicing riding skills can be a workout if your training session lasts very long. And you may not notice an immediate improvement during your time at the parking lot, but the next time you ride to work, or go back to the lot for another session, you may find the skills come a little easier. Remember, Rome was not built in a day, but little by little over an extended period of time. So it goes with riding skills. Practice may not make you perfect, but it will help you get better, and it may help you get back in touch with your mechanical friend, without having to actually travel to Rome.

Richard Artmayer
KRR State Educator

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October

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

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Chapter Gathering
Majestic Restaurant

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11

12

August Moon
Murray

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19

Columbus and
Indigenous People
Day

Just Burgers
Paducah

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23

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26

Willow Pond
Eddyville

27

28

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31

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HALLOWEEN

2024