

Arkansas Eagle Riders



Dec 2023

Presidents Ramblins

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I am honored that you wanted me to be your first president of our new Club. I would like to again thank all of our staff and the Transition Committee volunteers who worked diligently to form our new club. I will assist Vin next year any way I can. I also plan to continue handling our Membership next year. Remember it is time for membership renewal. It will be the same dues next year, \$20/\$30 for solo/couples respectively. I will be bugging you thru the 1st Qtr next year to renew. Then, remove anyone who did not renew from our Membership role and email.

Don Hewett
AER Club President

'Tis Christmas and our last meeting of the year! I'm looking forward to seeing all of us at the Charismas party on December 11 at the DeSoto Club in the Village for our annual Christmas Party at 5 PM for social hour and 6 PM for Dinner. Marcus Sugg will entertain us with music for dancing until 9 PM. We're having Chicken, Pot Roast or Salmon (same as last yr) for dinner. Get your dinner orders in to Don by Dec. 5 if you have not yet.

I'm very proud of our Club for the year of rides and trips and all the activities we have we have enjoyed. Welcome again to all new members who have joined our Club. I want to thank our staff and all volunteer members who have stepped up and taken charge of activities to assist when needed. Many members volunteered again this year to help the Salvation Army ringing the bell at Walmart on Fridays. I think we have a great membership of which we can all be very proud.

2023 Activities



2023 Staff

President

Don Hewett

Vice President

Scott Pennington

Treasurer

Butch Robbins

Newsletter/Webmaster

Valerie Hewett

Ride Coordinator

Bill (Brush) Brusenhan

Membership Enhancement

Mike Neal

Facebook Administrator

OJ & Jan Miles

Meet to Eat

Dan & Angie Drennon

Quarter Master

Dan Drennon

Safety Enhancement Advisor

Vin Hayes

OFFICIAL AER EVENTS (AR Eagle Riders)

December

**Dec 11 Christmas Party Scott & Don
5.30 Social 6 PM Dinner**

**Merry Christmas
and
Happy New Year**





Safety Article

WHAT'RE YOU LOOKIN' AT?

By Vin Hayes

In the past, we have had a few discussions about optics and visual skills applicable and important to motorcycle riding. Let's revisit some of the finer points in this month's newsletter and, hopefully, bring in some newer information that could help you to improve your own skills. Of course, we use all of our senses when riding, but our vision is certainly most prominent and is essentially active pretty much 100% of the time. As I've said before, your eyes can only see and focus on WHAT THEY ARE LOOKING AT. While riding a motorcycle, your success, your very survival is most dependent on visual ability and performance.

SCAN – We've touched on this previously but it certainly bears repeating as it is likely the most important function to promote a safe ride and avoid any mishaps or accidents. We are all aware that it is most important to constantly keep our eyes and focal points moving at all times. A fixed stare guarantees that you will miss most visual inputs all around you as you zip along the road. Developing a functional and repetitive scan will assure you the greatest opportunity to see the most visual cues. Has your left turn signal been flashing for the last 10 miles? Were you suddenly shocked when that redneck pickup just zoomed by you on your left? Did you miss that girl in the bikini sunbathing by the side of the road? If you were utilizing a continuous, proper scan, you likely wouldn't have missed any of those. Go to our website, www.areagleriders.org and click on the tab for "Safety Articles" and read the article on "Situational Awareness". To review, there are 6 items in a proper scan and you should spend about 1 second on each item to fulfill the sequence and then repeat it over and over again.



Safety Article

Here is what it should look like:

FORWARD-LEFT SIDE-FORWARD-RIGHT SIDE-FORWARD- LEFT REAR- FORWARD- RIGHT REAR- FORWARD- INSTRUMENTS. REPEAT, REPEAT, REPEAT!

FORWARD – Whether you are on your own or riding in a group of any size, your forward focal point should be about 150 yards up the road looking “through” the vehicles directly in front of you. Your field of vision should provide you with a cone of focus of roughly 60 degrees assuming that you don’t STARE. Normal optical physiology dictates that you will see moving objects much sooner and accurately than fixed or static objects. Obviously, the more things you are able to see up ahead, the greater prepared you will be to avoid them or to initiate braking. A common error in group riding is to STARE at the rear of the bike in front of you. That is DANGEROUS, you have clearly eliminated roughly 80% of the visual cues available.

LATERAL – As mentioned above, it is just as important to SCAN the area just ahead and on both sides of the road. In your lateral SCAN your focal point should be about 75 yards just ahead and to the side. This is undoubtedly your best opportunity to spot a deer or a dog alongside the road and be prepared to avoid it or initiate proper braking. This lateral SCAN also enables you to see debris or roadkill which could pose an issue for you or the riders behind you. Remember, you can’t see what you are not looking at.

Ride to Murfreesboro



Ride to Murfreesboro



Ride to Murfreesboro



Ride to Murfreesboro



Ozark Cafe



Region B ride to Ozark Cafe

Reflections



This is Sherri's bike at her house with the Japanese Maple Tree leaves reflecting off of her motorcycle tank

Trunk or Treat



Trunk or Treat



Morgan & Pat Reynolds



Mike Neal

Trunk or Treat



Linda Sturgeon
with her dogs
And
Linda & Ron's
Trikes.

Do not know who
the masked man
is

Leaf Peeping

By Jan Miles

Day 1 of the Jasper Leaf Peeping Trip. We had 15 folks on 13 bikes. Theresa drove up to meet us in Jasper. We drove straight to the Huddle House in Clinton for breakfast. Then took 16 to Jasper. The trees were unbelievable and the roads challenging (in a good way). We stopped at Who-Da-Thought-It-Arkansas for a break. And then again at the overlook for the Arkansas Grand Canyon. Ate dinner at the Ozark Cafe. Then played Mexican Dominoes before hitting the sack. Long, fun day



Leaf Peeping



Leaf Peeping

Day 2 - another beautiful day! Had breakfast at Big Daddy's before going by Maplewood Cemetery in Harrison. Breakfast was great. The maple leaves had peaked at the cemetery but still worth the stop. Stopped in Boxley Valley at the elk watching area but no sightings for us! We ate at Ozark Cafe for dinner again since every other cafe is closed on Mondays and Tuesdays. Note to self. Day 2 - another beautiful day! Had breakfast at Big Daddy's before going by Maplewood Cemetery in Harrison. Breakfast was great. The maple leaves had peaked at the cemetery but still worth the stop. Stopped in Boxley Valley at the elk watching area but no sightings for us! We ate at



Leaf Peeping



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Day 3 - Another beautiful day! Rode to Osage Clay Works where the pottery is created on site. They also carry locally sourced sauces, jams, honey, relish, etc. Originally, the building was a general store. Beautiful old structure. *Added a couple of pictures DJ took inside the building.*

Headed to Oark Cafe for lunch. On the way, we stopped at an overlook for more pictures. Words and pictures do not capture the beauty we see while riding through the trees. Fortunately, there are not many places to stop or we would never get to our destination! ☐

As usual, the Oark Cafe did not disappoint. The burgers were fabulous!



Leaf Peeping

