

Oct 2024

Arkansas Eagle Riders



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Vin's View

Well, it looks like the oppressively hot days of Summer are behind us and we are now all able to enjoy the absolutely best riding weather of the year as we ease into Autumn with cooler temperatures and much lower humidity. Hopefully, we can all get in lots of riding before winter begins to bite. On October 21, we will embark on our annual 4 day excursion to Eureka Springs with a number of exciting day trips planned while we are up north. During our next meeting on October 12, we will be having a thorough discussion about group riding protocol and everyone's responsibility in fostering safe operation within the group. Let's ride a lot and ride SAFELY.

HAPPY TRAILS

2023 Activities



OFFICIAL AER EVENTS (AR Eagle Riders)

2024 Staff

President

Vin Hayes

Vice President

Mike Neal

Treasurer

Butch Robbins

Newsletter/Webmaster

Valerie Hewett

Ride Coordinator

Bill (Brush) Brusenhan

Membership Enhancement

Don Hewett

Facebook Administrator

Sherri Stuckey

Meet to Eat

Dan & Angie Drennon

Safety Enhancement Advisor

Vin Hayes

10/21 – 10/24 - Eureka Springs, Jan/Mike
12/9 - Christmas Party at Desoto Club



Even the Zombies do Yoga
At the Fitness Center





Are you a Scared Rider

Every so often I get a message from someone who's had their first crash or close call, and now they're intimidated to get back on the bike. Or, the incident stirred concern within the family, and the rider wants to know what they can say to their spouse or parent to convince them that riding is safe.

With no cage, seat belt, or airbags to protect you, the simple, brutal fact is that riding a motorcycle is not safe. You intuitively know that, without reading the stats, but here are a couple anyway. According to the National Safety Council, motorcycles are 3% of the registered vehicles on U.S. roads but account for 17% of occupant fatalities. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates that motorcyclist fatalities are 24 times the rate per mile traveled of deaths of people in cars.

It's easy to ignore that reality until your first incident, and then the veil falls. The "it won't happen to me" naiveté is gone. These newly spooked riders have eaten from the Tree of Knowledge and can no longer deny that this thing they enjoy doing could injure them, or worse.

They're hoping for some sage advice or better yet a silver bullet that will ensure their safety and restore the ignorant bliss they once enjoyed. There is no panacea, however, so I'm left with the unpleasant responsibility of reinforcing their newfound awareness. My response usually reads something like this:

I'm sorry to hear you're scared, but the reality is that motorcycles are dangerous, so your concern is warranted and healthy. There are myriad factors that we can control to help limit the risk (get proper training, wear the best gear, make smart choices about when/where to ride, remain sober, ride defensively, etc.), but there's no denying that when we get on a bike instead of into a car, we are ratcheting up our chances of injury and death. It's an unfortunate truth that you need to address, both with yourself and with your loved ones.

Similarly, I hope that my candid response to these riders helps lay the groundwork for an honest assessment of their risk tolerance. Motorcycling is certainly fun, but it needs to be taken seriously, and we should address the risks head on so that we have a better chance of enjoying the ride for decades.

HAPPY TRAILS

VIN

Jack's Restaurant



This is one of the places we use to ride to about 15 years ago.

It still looks the same



Mt Magazine



Mt Magazine



Mt Magazine



AER Picnic



AER Picnic



AER Picnic



AER Picnic



AER Picnic



AER Picnic



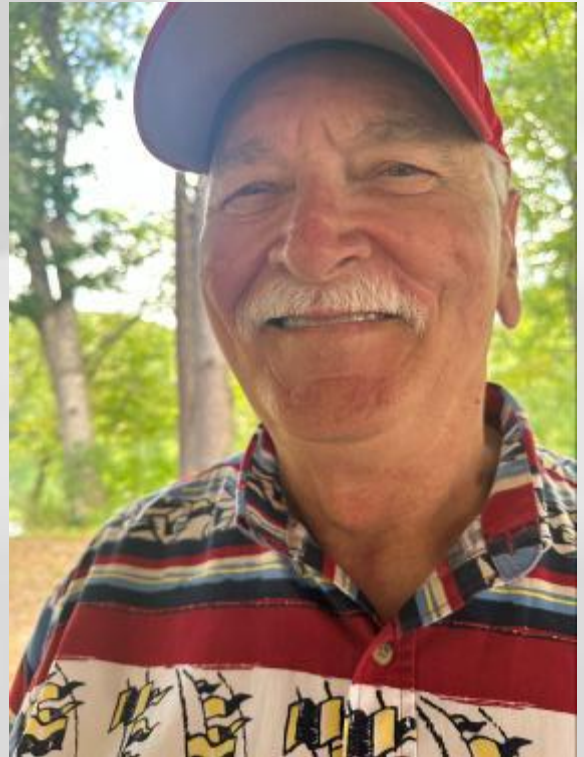
AER Picnic



AER Picnic



AER Picnic



AER Picnic



AER Picnic



AER Picnic



AER Picnic



AER Picnic



AER Picnic



Skylark Cafe



Skylark Cafe



Skylark Cafe



Skylark Cafe



Ride to Waldron



Ride to Waldron

