

Communication, Communication, Communication

By Jim Roberson

What is communication? The Oxford Dictionary defines it as a noun 1. the action of communicating. 2. a letter or message. A very important issue was brought up in the Educator Roundtable at the Rider Education Seminars last weekend. It concerned communication or more specifically the lack thereof.

Our rides together are supposed to be fun as well as safe. But some of the fun goes away when someone gets assigned to a position they don't like. This is true for not only that rider but possibly the people around them. If you do not like where you are assigned in the pre-ride meeting, you need to speak up and let the road captains know your preference. We are all friends and should be able to feel comfortable stating a personal preference. All of us are entitled to our own likes and dislikes. Who knows, your stating a preference might allow someone else to be where they want to be.

Another thing that misses in the communication world is telling the other riders what you are going to do. Most of us have not mastered mind reading yet so we need to be told. Almost all of us have CB's and if someone does not we all know the hand signals. Telegraph what is happening going from front to back and make it possible for the road captains to engineer a safe ride.

I think this is enough for this session. Next time and in subsequent articles we'll delve into such subjects as telling someone their technique needs improvement and the **BIGGIE** Rider/Co-Rider communication.