

"I am Thankful. . .

I know that I mentioned in my last article to you that I was going to make this the second in a series about the levels program, but I decided against that. I guess the ability to change my mind about what I think is one of the benefits of being both writer and editor of the Educator's Corner.

So here goes . . . I am sitting, here on Thanksgiving Day and taking some time to think about the last year in our chapter. There is no doubt in my mind that we have been truly blessed. Chapter E accumulated more than 158,000 safe miles; went on countless trips while binding our friendships even stronger. While the past year has been spectacular from a safety perspective, Dave and I believe we can do better, so we will continue to push the safety within the chapter in 2009.

First, Dave and Ron have scheduled a number of Parking Lot Practice sessions and are looking forward to your participation. There are few among us who can say without hesitation that they do not need to improve their riding. Parking Lot Practice will give you a chance to work on your slow riding skills that will absolutely translate into day-to-day riding prowess and safety. Do make it a point to come out to at least one of the sessions this year. (For further information about Parking Lot Practice and other Chapter events go to Chapter E's Calendar on our website located @ <http://www.gwrra-wae.org/>

Secondly, I am going to focus this year on the GWRRA levels program; I would like to see all of the active members of Chapter E enroll in the program. I do not know whether you are aware, but Chapter E has the largest number per capita of Level IV Master Tour Riders in the District. I would love to see us be the chapter with the largest number per capita for the levels program overall. With your help and participation, I am sure we can accomplish that together. To sweeten the pot, I am extending the time for those of you who are not in the levels program to enroll at no cost until December 31st. Please think about this seriously and join. Who knows, the life you keep safe may be your own.

Lastly, there is a District Safe Mileage contest for the chapter who accumulates the highest number of Safe Miles between January 1, 2009 and June 30, 2009. The chapter with the highest number of safe miles will receive a cash award and the bragging rights over the district. I know we have some hard-core riders in the Chapter, so please make sure you give Scott and Karla your mileage as of January 1st so we can win this sucker. Again, I want to thank all of you for your great riding and terrific friendship and I am looking forward to another stellar and safe year in 2009. As always . . .

**Ride Safe and Ride Well,
Bob Reagle, Chapter E Educator"**