

GeorgiaChapter D Road-eNews

April 2017

Volume 2

Issue 4

**Chapter D Monthly Gatherings are on the second Saturday of each month.
We meet at the Golden Corral at 2025 Market Place Blvd., Cumming, GA.
We eat at 9:00 and meet at 10:00**

**Weather permitting, we usually have an impromptu ride to destinations unknown.
Join us for Fun, Friends, Knowledge and no doubt, good memories.**

What's the Origin of the Easter Bunny?

Alexandra Sifferlin

Easter is the Christian celebration of the resurrection of Jesus, but the seasonal chocolate eggs and the bunny who delivers them are nowhere to be found in scripture.

The exact origins of the Easter bunny are clouded in mystery. One theory is that the symbol of the rabbit stems from pagan tradition, specifically the festival of Eostre—a goddess of fertility whose animal symbol was a bunny. Rabbits, known for their energetic breeding, have traditionally symbolized fertility.

Eggs are also representative of new life, and it's believed that decorating eggs for Easter dates back to the 13th century. Hundreds of years ago, churches had their congregations abstain from eggs during Lent, allowing them to be consumed again on Easter. According to History.com, in the 19th century Russian high society started exchanging ornately decorated eggs—even jewel encrusted—on Easter.

But how did the Easter Bunny begin delivering eggs on American shores? According to History.com, the theory with the most evidence is that the floppy-eared bearer of candy came over with German immigrants:

According to some sources, the Easter bunny first arrived in America in the 1700s with German immigrants who settled in Pennsylvania and transported their tradition of an egg-laying hare called "Osterhase" or "Oschter Haws." Their children made nests in which this creature could lay its colored eggs. Eventually, the custom spread across the U.S. and the fabled rabbit's Easter morning deliveries expanded to include chocolate and other types of candy and gifts, while decorated baskets replaced nests. Additionally, children often left out carrots for the bunny in case he got hungry from all his hopping.

Bunnies aren't the only animal traditionally associated with Easter in every country. Some identify the holiday with other types of animals like foxes or cuckoo birds.

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April 8th Gathering has been cancelled in lieu of Chapter D attending the Spring Fling for Chapter T.



Announcements

CPR First Aid Recertification

April 1, 2017 – Chapter S is hosting a renewal class in Winder at the Fire Dept. HQ, Training Room, 222 Pleasant Hill Church Rd NE, Winder, GA 30680. Again, this is a renewal class intended for those that have previously had CPR and First Aid Training. This class is 4 hours in duration and is available to a limited number of students, on a first come, first serve basis.

Calling all Roadies with or without talent...

Do you have a hidden talent such as singing, playing an instrument, or a comedy routine? If so, you are wanted by Chapter D.

We are looking to enter the talent show at the Georgia District Rally. The categories are: serious junior; serious adult; serious group; comedy junior; comedy adult; comedy group.

Chapter D is renowned for their award winning talent at the District Rally. How about we get back into the swing and put together an entry worthy of a Golden Globe or Oscar nomination?

If you are interested, please let Connie, Colleen or Carlos know. There will be a planning session soon.



Chapter T
Spring Fling
April 8th
10:00am-1:00pm

Blacks Creek Baptist Church
3754 Blacks Creek Church Rd.
Commerce, GA
\$10 per person includes
lunch.

3rd Annual Chapter B-2 Traveling Scavenger Hunt

Saturday, April 29th 9:00 a.m.
Beaver Creek Biscuit Company
1451 Six Flags Road, Lithia
Springs

\$10 fee includes hot dog lunch.

33rd Annual South Carolina
District Rally
Beaufort, SC
May 5-6, 2017

Old Bay Market Place
948 Port Republic Street, Beaufort, SC
Registration \$25.00 per person

Chapter Q
13th Annual Dessert Auction
& BBQ

May 13, 2017
Museum of Aviation
Warner Robins, GA
Registration fee \$5.00 per person
includes BBQ lunch.
Auction begins at 12:30

Alabama District Rally
Sitcom Mania
May 18-20, 2017
Mobile, AL

Registration fee \$30.00 per
person
See flyer for details



Jerry "Peaches" Horack	April 5 th
Judy Ciccarone	April 12 th
Robin Blalock	April 24 th



Chapter D Staff

Connie Woodmansee
Colleen & Don Taylor

Jenny Reasons
Carlos Lozano

Open
Carlos Lozano
Wayne Sanders
Joel Reasons
Carlos Lozano
Colleen & Don Taylor

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Assistant Chapter Directors &
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Couple of the Year 2017

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Goodies Store



Pin Keeps	\$6.00	USA Flags	\$15.00
Chapter Flags	\$15.00	Georgia County Patch	\$6.00
10" GWRRR Black/Gold Griffin	\$12.00	10" GWRRR Red Griffin	\$10.00
4" GWRRR Black/Gold Griffin	\$5.00	4" Georgia Peachy Patch	\$6.50
4" Region A Patch	\$5.00	Georgia Visitation Head Pin	\$3.00
Georgia Chapter D Hanger Bar	Free	Flag Pin small	\$1.00
Flag Pin Large	\$2.00	A Team Pins	\$4.00

District Staff

Larry & Pam Clemmer
Dick & Gail Cross

Vance & Fern Oakes

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Lawana Woodward
Frank & Melinda Brothers
Robert & Karla Greer

Carlos Lozano
Jim & Sue Jackson

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★ GRAPEVINE, TEXAS · AUG. 29 - SEP. 2, 2017 ★

GAYLORD TEXAN RESORT HOTEL & CONVENTION CENTER

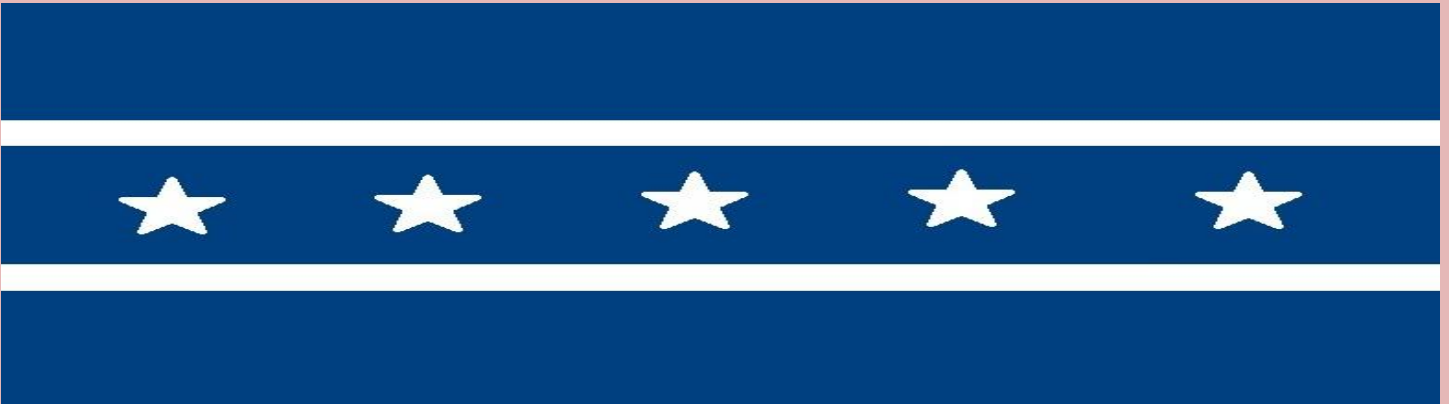
Rearview Mirror



Our very own Carlos Lozano participating in the talent show at the Florida District Rally. This just proves that the fun is there for the taking...so go take it!

March 11th was our monthly gathering. We had a great turn out. For those who did not attend, you were missed. Hopefully we will see you next time, which will be in MAY (see page 1). April 8th gathering will be cancelled to attend the Chapter T Spring Fling. We love supporting our other chapters – and have a lot of fun doing so...just ask Wayne.

March 22nd was a new night for our dinner ride. O'Charley's was the destination and Wednesday was selected for the "free pie" dessert offerings.



Southern Stars and Stripes Drill Team Update

The Southern Stars and Stripes Drill Team has their first exhibition this year on April 22nd at the annual Georgia Police Memorial Ride. It is a tribute to fallen police officers that usually draws an average crowd of 2,000. The event starts and ends at the Atlanta Expo Center, escorted by an active police motorcade. The line of motorcycles has been as long as 13 miles. Local Channel 2 t.v. station will be covering the event. This is basically organized by the Blue Knights, a nationwide brotherhood of motorcycle police officers. The event draws Knights from all over the southeast. Friday kicks off the event with vendors, live band and a candlelight vigil. Saturday morning starts at 8 am and the ride departs at 11 am. Your \$35 rider entry fee and \$15 co-rider entry fee includes: ride shirt, ride pin, lunch, access to vendors and entertainment. Our drill team will be on exhibition at 10ish. Come out and cheer them on.

April 30th will see the guys on exhibition for Forsyth County Motorcycle Safety Day. The event will be in the same location as last year – across the street from the Cumming Fairgrounds. Come on out for some kicking tires, telling lies, vendors and hanging out with folks just like you.

Stay tuned for more events to be announced throughout the year.

Motorist Awareness

Safe Driving Tips for Motorists by the Office of Traffic Safety

A Division of the Minnesota Department of Public Safety

About half of all motorcycle crashes involve a collision with another vehicle. In many crashes, the driver never saw the motorcyclist — or didn't see the rider until it was too late. There are many reasons why other drivers do not see motorcyclists.

- Most car drivers aren't familiar with motorcycles and don't look for them in traffic.
- Motorcycle riders often wear leathers which are usually dark in color and can easily blend into the background.
- Motorcycles are smaller than other vehicles, so they are more difficult to spot in traffic and can be hidden by other vehicles or roadside features.
- Daytime headlight use does not give motorcycle riders much of an advantage anymore, due to the widespread use of daytime running lights on cars.
- The smaller size and single headlight on the motorcycle make it more difficult for other drivers to judge a rider's speed and distance.

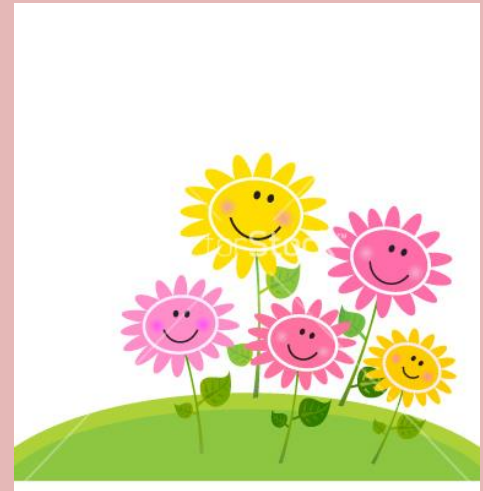
The Minnesota Motorcycle Safety Center encourages everyone — drivers and motorcyclists — to practice these techniques to make motorcycling safer for everyone.

- When turning left: Most crashes between vehicles and motorcycles involve turning left at an intersection. If crossing traffic or turning left, look twice for motorcycles before turning.
- Blind spots: Motorcycles are easily hidden in traffic. Always take a second look over your shoulder — don't rely solely on your mirrors.
- Weather: Rain and sun glare can make a motorcycle "invisible." Take an extra moment to make sure the way is clear.
- Signals: Use turn signals. This allows the rider to anticipate traffic flow and find a safe lane position.
- Larger vehicles: Cars and trucks can conceal a motorcycle traveling behind it. Take an extra moment after a larger vehicle passes before beginning a turn.
- Eye contact: Motorcyclists make eye contact often to feel confident that other drivers see them. Give a nod back to acknowledge them.
- Distance: Motorcyclists prefer to use a large space cushion, allowing them more time to react. Do not cut in front of a motorcycle and eliminate the safe following distance.
- Signals: Most motorcycle turn signals do not cancel automatically. If a cycle is coming, and the signal is flashing, wait a moment for the cycle to pass.

Additional Safe Driving Tips

- Watch aggressively for motorcycles.
- Search the traffic constantly and expect to see motorcycles.
- Check blind spots before changing lanes or merging, especially in heavy traffic.
- Double-check traffic at intersections before turning or pulling out.
- Motorcycles can easily be hidden in traffic. Look for a helmet above, tires below, or a shadow alongside a vehicle.
- Anticipate hazards that may confront the motorcyclist and predict how the motorcyclist may react to the situation.
- Poor road conditions, bad weather, flying debris, oil slicks, and heavy traffic pose high risks for motorcyclists.
- Allow a minimum three-second "space cushion" when following a motorcycle.
- Pick out a fixed object ahead of you. When the motorcycle passes the object, count off, "one thousand one, one thousand two...." If you haven't passed the same object after two seconds, your following distance meets the two-second minimum.

- In poor driving conditions, at higher speeds and at night, use a four or five-second following distance to give the motorcyclist more space.
- Watch out when turning left.
- Because motorcycles are smaller than other vehicles, it is harder to see them and more difficult to judge their approach speed in traffic.
- Share the road.
- Do not drive in the same lane as a motorcycle. It is unsafe and illegal.
- Treat motorcyclists with the same respect and courtesy you afford to other motorists.
- Observe and obey all traffic laws, signs and signals.
- Failure to obey and yield the right-of-way can result in the death or serious injury of a motorcyclist.
- Stay focused on the driving task. Inattentive driving is a major cause of vehicle-motorcycle crashes.
- Remove all possible distractions that can interfere with the driver's attention, and remove any objects that may block the driver's view.
- Looking Twice May Save A Life!



SPRING RIDING TIPS

Spring weather is unpredictable, so be aware of wet, slick roads. Even if the sun is shining, a spring shower might have just happened in the area in which you're traveling. Roads are always slickest after a brief rain because dirt and oil rise to the surface and haven't had a chance to get washed away. Patches of melting snow and ice can also make roads slick and hazardous, so keep an eye peeled, even in warmer spring weather.

Standing water can also prove dangerous, so be alert for puddles that can cause you to hydroplane and lose control. Puddles can also hide potholes, which can be deep and dangerous for motorcycle riders.

The only way to drive safely on a motorcycle is to drive defensively. One of the biggest factors cited in motorcycle collisions are drivers who say they didn't see the motorcycle. Make yourself and your motorcycle as visible as possible. Leave your headlights turned on at all times. Wear brightly colored clothing that makes you more noticeable.

Always use turn signals and check to be sure your intentions are noticed by other drivers before you change lanes or pull out in traffic. Use your horn if you think someone hasn't seen you to alert them of your presence and your intentions. Don't drive in the blind spots of other vehicles. Be on the lookout for potholes and cracks in the road. Your motorcycle is much more susceptible to damage or loss of control if you hit one. If you can't avoid a pothole, slow down as much as safely possible to lessen the chance of loss of control or damage to your tires and wheels. Don't slam on your brakes, which can cause damage to your front-end suspension. Swerving to avoid a pothole can cause you to lose control of your bike – don't do it.

Gravel can also prove hazardous to motorcyclists due to loss of traction. Always avoid sudden braking or veering on gravel. Sudden acceleration can also cause you to lose control.

Road debris can spell trouble for motorcycle riders. Keep your eyes peeled on the road ahead to avoid hitting something that could cause an accident.

And last, but not least, always wear a helmet to increase your chance of surviving a crash.