

Chapter C started the year out the same way we did last year. We “rode” to Red Robbin for our annual New Year’s Day ride and lunch. With the temperature was in the teens but was cold enough that nobody rode. We had 10 people there and managed to get caught up on things that happened during the last month.

One interesting thing that happened before we even got to Red Robin was when Brenda and I started to enter the roundabout just short of the restaurant I looked up and decided it might be smart to stop. There was a car in the roundabout heading straight at us from the wrong direction. The driver seemed puzzled but I just waved her on and waited until she got out of the way. I’m not making this up either as I had two witnesses. John & Teresa Gull just happened to be right behind us. John and I discussed it and neither of us had ever seen anybody going around a roundabout in the wrong direction. No paint was exchanged so all was well.

It didn’t take us too long to get our food but we still managed to kill about 1 ½ hours in the process.

We held our meeting at Perkins on the 15th and it was pretty short. We had 13 in attendance, but this time of year there isn’t a whole lot to talk about when it comes to riding. Bill Hanson started us off with giving a list of the riding courses scheduled for the year. If anybody is interested in a specific course the information is readily available on the District website under rider education. There were also a lot of funny looks around the room when it was mentioned that at the end of the article on a motorcycle trip to Peru the author’s background in riding was mentioned and that he liked to ride long distances. One statement said his longest day in the saddle was 2500 miles which nobody could comprehend how he did it.

A reminder was given to all in attendance for the location and dates of Mid-Winter and the District Rally with no new information to be passed on.

We are still looking for replacements for Chapter director and Newsletter effective the first of March. In addition Bill Tucker is requesting that if anybody does something they think might be of interest to the rest of the District membership to write an article for the District Newsletter. The subject can be pretty much anything as long as it isn't anything controversial and isn't what GWRRA is all about. He's interested in FUNNY, FUN, stuff. He also says he reserves the right to edit or not use the information if it doesn't conform to the above. Bill has his email address listed on the District website.

We did discuss the supper ride will be just meeting at McFarland's restaurant in Topeka at 6:00 pm on the 5th of February.

The only birthdays for February are Randy Benteman on the 13th and Jeff Ellett on the 20th. No anniversaries, which seems odd since it's the month of Valentine's Day.

With that we held the 50/50 drawing with Teresa winning one and Sandy Davis winning the other.

The chapter had 4 members make the trip to Hutchinson for the Mid-Winter Rendezvous. I'm not sure how many people were there but it appeared to be a good turn-out. Things got off to a good start with about 20 of us going to the Anchor Inn for their Mexican Buffet and from what I could tell we all ate too much, for myself I think the desert portion was the best. I know I ate way too many strawberries and pieces of pineapple. A piece of probably useless information I found out while waiting outside for some of the others was the building was initially a horse shoeing business for a man named Johnson then became a hotel and finally the Anchor Inn so the building is both fairly old and definitely flexible.

Friday evening after we returned to the motel, things settled into meeting new friends and catching up with old ones until we had a scary situation take place. Garry Vanbuskirk fell and injured his head and had to be

taken to the local hospital and then sent on to a level 1 hospital in Wichita. The last word we got was at the closing ceremonies and he was doing fine and was probably going to be released Sunday.

The district put on a good event with plenty of things to do so if you didn't enjoy yourself it wasn't their fault.

One thing that really stood out was the dinner before closing. Last year both meals were virtually not fit to eat and the caterers more or less acted like "oh well that's the way it goes." The food was so cold one guy took the plates from his table to his room, which was real close, and heated them in the microwave. Even though it was a different location with different caterers the district was promised the food would be much better. I for one am here to say I totally agree that they did what they said. The service was good and quick the food was hot and very well prepared and when you finished a course you didn't have to look at the plate for an extended period of time as it was gone quick.

After the dinner the closing ceremonies were kept pretty short, which is always very good and then we wrapped it up for another year.

Don & Brenda Williams
CD/Newsletter Editors