

MARYLAND RETREADS



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At the February breakfast meeting, all the talk was about 'Punxsutawney Phil' not seeing his shadow. Oh yea, and football. Even a few of our members didn't see their shadows on the way into the meeting. EARLY SPRING, WOO HOO.



We stayed warm inside as we held the monthly meeting. We had 43 members and guest with one motorcycle in the parking lot. One die hard rider and

a previous MD Retreads leader and organizer of the Maryland Retreads organization.

We reviewed our Retreads activity schedule for the next couple of months including upcoming rides, dinner outs, ice cream and other possible activities. Bowling is in our future.

The Eastern Pennsylvania Winter Banquet was highlighted. Art is looking for anyone willing to help with this years International Rally at Bird-In-Hand in May. If you would like to share some of your time, please contact Art with your interests. The door prize was won by Cleo's guest and possible future member Ron. The 50/50 drawings were taken home by Jon M. and Jon G. Congratulations to all.

Before concluding our morning a sub set of our members stayed behind to help put together our schedule of after breakfast rides for the next couple of months. I think we have a good start put together the beginning of our riding season. Thanks to everyone who is willing to be a part of the success of our organization.

Please let us know if you have a ride or some place interesting you would like to share with the group so we can get it on the calendar as well.



Since our last newsletter we have enjoyed two events, both on the same day. We enjoyed an afternoon of bowling with our Retreads family. It was a lot of fun, a few great laughs, who knew, we even have quite a few accomplished bowlers. A great event that I believe we are looking forward to doing again.

Thanks to Rick, Lynn, and Augie for putting this together.

The February dinner out was held at the Famous Daves in Frederick. later that afternoon. Retreads laughing, eating, and just



all around having fun. That's what it's all about.

March is around the corner and we are looking forward to the breakfast meeting. We are planning to gather at Lynn & Augie's and then go to visit the Western Maryland Railway Historical Society, in

Union Bridge at 1pm. (Weather permitting).

If we're lucky, we'll get a break in the weather and maybe we'll see a few bikes in the parking lot. You know once one or two come out, they all start to come out. Hey, but let's be smart and safe, we're going to have plenty of time and lot's of good riding.

See you at breakfast!

Jeff & Patsy



Join us for Dinner Out!
*Thanks to Ron & Sharon
for planning these!*

Saturday, March 18th - 1pm. Brother's Pizza,
11882 Buchanan Trail East, Waynesboro, PA 17268
www.bros-pizza.net/ 717-765-8808

Saturday, April 22nd - 3pm. Mission BBQ,
17301 Valley Mall Rd., Hagerstown, MD 21740
443-491-8777 <http://mission-bbq.com/node/923>

Wednesday, May 24 - 6pm. Kountry Kitchen,
17 Water St., Thurmont, MD 21788 301-271-4071

Let's Celebrate Spring With Ice Cream!
Thanks to Augie & Lynn for planning this!



March 20 is the 1st day of Spring, so let's get together for ice cream that week!

Join us March 24, 7pm at Little Red Barn Ice Cream Cafe, 4610 Lander Rd., Jefferson, MD 21755
www.littleredbarnicecream.com/
301-378-8100

Thank You For Your Support

After the February breakfast the Retreads opened their hearts and pantries to help our community. Two large collection boxes were filled with non-perishable food items to take to a local food bank.

Thanks everyone. Micah's Table Food Bank of Washington County thanks you as well. If you wish to view their website it is:
www.southcountyfoodpantry.org/micahs-backpack/



Member & Friend News



March Birthday's

- March 2 - Craig Grimes
- March 10 - Ron Gue
- March 15 - Jan Grimes
- March 16 - Rick Baum
- March 22 - Quinn Harry
- March 22 - Robert Schlote

Hal R.
Rick & Pam M & family
Otho K & family



Reason to Ride 2016 & 2017

Craig & Jan presented the Reason to Ride 2016 award to Jeff & Patsy. They had 62 photos submitted for the 2016 challenge. As safety was a concern, many of the photos were taken by Patsy as they went through towns and over bridges. A portion of Jeff's motorcycle helmet or the rearview mirror were in many of the photos. There were also photos of national parks and dinner outs where they were off the bike and a photo was taken.

Thanks to Craig and Jan for coordinating this event raising funds for our charities through your donations. Craig and Jan are working on the new 2017 challenge and anticipates having this available at the March meeting.

Riding Tips:

While riding your bike during the day, make sure your headlight is on and set to high beam. While riding at night, set your light to low beam.

Always make sure the Kill switch is 'off' or your bike will fail to start. This is commonly overlooked. Make sure your gas shutoff petcock is always set to 'on'.

Never neglect your own safety. Wear the proper attire that will help protect you while riding.

Remember that a motorcycle requires more skill and coordination to operate than a car. Riders must ride aware, know their limits, and ride within them. You must also be aware of and understand your motorcycle's limitations and the environment in which you ride.

2017 Retread Rallies

Future International & other rallies being planned.

Flyers will be in future newsletters as they are available.



March 31 - April 1, Coffeyville Retreads April Fools' Rally, Coffeyville, KS

May 15 - 18, International Rally, Bird-in-Hand, PA

July 17-19, Western PA Rally, Cambridge Springs, PA

August 17-19, Dodgeville Get Together, Dodgeville, WI

September 19 - 21, New England Regional Rally, Portland, ME

Mark Your Calendars

1st Sunday of each month breakfast (except December) 9am, Mountain Gate Restaurant, off Rt 15 just South of Thurmont, MD.



Monthly after breakfast group rides are planned. If inclement weather, ride will be postponed until later in the year. If you have a ride you would like to lead or a suggestion for a ride, please let us know.

March 5, 9am - Breakfast and weather permitting going to the Western Maryland Railroad Museum in Union Bridge. If you forgot to bring a donation for the food drive to the February meeting, we will take your item at the March meeting.

April 2 - Jeff will lead a ride

May 7 - Blessing of the Bikes after breakfast / Allen will lead a scenic ride

June 4 - Ron will lead a scenic ride

July 2 -

August 6 -

September 3 - Randy will lead a scenic ride

Laughter the BEST Medicine*Male or Female?*

You might not have known this, but a lot of non-living objects are actually either male or female.

Here are some examples:

FREEZER BAGS: They are male, because they hold everything in but you can see right through them.

PHOTOCOPIERS: These are female, because once turned off, it takes a while to warm them up again. They are an effective reproductive device if the right buttons are pushed, but can also wreak havoc if you push the wrong buttons.

TIRES: Tires are male, because they go bald easily and are often over inflated.

HOT AIR BALLOONS: Also a male object, because to get them to go anywhere, you have to light a fire under their butt.

SPONGES: These are female, because they are soft, squeezable and retain water.

WEB PAGES: Female, because they're constantly being looked at and frequently getting hit on.

TRAINS: Definitely male, because they always use the same old lines for picking up people.

EGG TIMERS: Egg timers are female because, over time, all the weight shifts to the bottom.

HAMMERS: Male, because in the last 5,000 years, they've hardly changed at all, and are occasionally handy to have around.

THE REMOTE CONTROL: Female. Ha! You probably thought it would be male, but consider this: It easily gives a man pleasure, he'd be lost without it, and while he doesn't always know which buttons to push, he just keeps trying.

Membership Report

We had a total of 73 members in 2016. 66 of these members have rejoined for 2017. Thank you for continuing your support of the Maryland Retreads Motorcycle organization. Continue to spread the word about our organization.



Maryland Retreads Application/Renewal Form

Retreads Motorcycle Club International, Inc.
AMA Charter 3233

Visit us at www.mdretreads.weebly.com to learn about our group.



Please type or print clearly

Date _____

Applicant _____ Co-Applicant _____

Renewal _____ New Member _____ Sponsored By _____

If renewing you may skip any further entries that have not changed. Be sure to sign below.

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

County _____ E-mail address _____

Important: MUST BE SIGNED BY APPLICANT AND CO-APPLICANT, if any.

By voluntarily applying for membership, I understand that the Retreads cannot assume responsibility for any aspect of my safety. I understand the sport of motorcycle riding has an inherent safety hazard. I also understand that my participation in any Retread activity is strictly voluntary and further, I release and hold harmless the Retreads from any loss to my person or property.

Applicant sign: _____ **Co-Applicant sign:** _____

Applicant's Birthday ___/___/___ Co-Applicant's Birthday ___/___/___

AMA number(s) if members _____ Co-Rider _____

Year joined the Retread organization (if known) _____ Co-Rider _____

May E-mail and/or telephone number be given to other Maryland Retread Members? Yes ___ No ___

May your name and photo appear on website? Yes ___ No ___

How would you prefer to receive your newsletter? US Mail _____ Email _____

Occupation _____ Co-Rider Occupation _____

Make of Motorcycle: _____ Model: _____ Year: _____

Second Motorcycle(s): _____ Model: _____ Year: _____

Other MC affiliations _____

A donation of \$15 for single membership or \$20 for a couple's members is requested.

Please make check payable to: Retreads M/C

Amount enclosed \$ _____

Please return application to Jeff & Patsy Ensminger, 6105 Mary Ann Ct., Boonsboro, MD 21713

T-Shirts Anyone?

We will place a group order for t-shirts and full-zip hood sweatshirts. Need 12 pieces to place the order. Bring the form to the March breakfast. If we get a minimum order, we will plan to have the ordered t-shirts for the April meeting. We will not be ordering polo's, as we typically do not have a minimum order. Make checks payable to MD Retreads.

Colors for t-shirts with pockets: Ash grey, lt. blue, red, orange, Carolina blue, safety orange, sport green, sand, safety green. T-shirts without pockets - any color which a black logo would good on. Here is the link to see shirt colors Click on Catalogs then Alpha www.bjscustomcreations.com

Men's sizes - S, M, L, XL (2XL add \$2 / 3XL add \$3)

Pocket T-shirt - Price is: \$17 (2XL add \$2 /3XL add \$3)

T-shirt without pocket - Price is: \$15 (2XL add \$2 / 3XL add \$3)

Pocket long-sleeve t-shirt - Price is: \$20 (2XL add \$2 / 3XL add \$3)

Long-sleeve t-shirt without pocket - Price is: \$17 (2XL add \$2 / 3XL add \$3)

Colors for full-zip hooded sweatshirts are sport-grey or safety green. Price is: \$32 (2XL add \$2/3XL add \$3)

T-shirt order form

Please print clearly

Item _____

Size: _____ Color _____ Price: _____
2XL add \$2 or 3XL add \$3

Item _____

Size: _____ Color _____ Price: _____
2XL add \$2 or 3XL add \$3

Item _____

Size: _____ Color _____ Price: _____
2XL add \$2 or 3XL add \$3

Total items _____ Total Cost _____

Make checks payable to MD Retreads

Ten motorcycle tips for Riding Safe

1. Make eye contact - Never assume others see you. Always try to make eye contact with drivers who may be about to pull into your path.

2. Read "vehicle language" - Even when drivers, cyclists and pedestrians do see you approaching, they often misjudge your distance and speed. Don't rely on them.

3. Watch out for left-turning vehicles at intersections Getting hit by an oncoming vehicle that's turning left is the most common type of motorcycle crash.

4. Check behind when turning left from a highway- Watch your mirrors and make sure you have plenty of space behind. The drivers behind might not slow down for you.

5. Look out for hazardous road conditions - Wet roads, fluid spills, sand, gravel, highway sealant, railroad tracks, potholes and other road-surface hazards reduce your traction. They cause many falls.

6. Take it easy on the curves - Many crashes happen there. You might overshoot the road or cross the centre line and get hit by oncoming traffic. Watch the road ahead, slow down and choose the correct lane position -before entering a curve.

7. Wear a good helmet - Helmets prevent head injuries in 67 per cent of crashes and deaths in 29 per cent. Make sure your helmet has a sticker showing that it meets current safety standards. Avoid buying a used helmet. It may have been in a crash, and the damage may not be obvious.

8. Wear protective clothing designed for motorcycle riders - It can provide some protection during a crash, as well as shield you from the weather and flying debris. Keeping warm and dry will help you stay alert and maintain coordination. Wear your riding gear in layers so you can adjust to changing conditions. Jeans give little protection. Never ride in lightweight pants or shorts.

9. Protect your eyes and face - Constant wind can make your eyes water, preventing you from spotting hazards. Flying insects, dust and debris can hurt your eyes and face. The best protection is a full-face helmet with a built-in face shield.

10. Be visible - Wear bright, reflective clothing. Add extra reflective material to it or wear a reflective vest. Likewise, buy a bright-coloured helmet and stick reflective tape to the back and sides. Always keep your headlight on. Ride in the lane position where other drivers can easily see you and you've got room to move. Avoid all other vehicles' blind spots.

MARYLAND RETREAD MOTORCYCLE CLUB

Jeff & Patsy Ensminger

Maryland State Representatives

6105 Mary Ann Ct.

Boonsboro, MD 21713



Pre-Riding Safety Check Tips

1. Maneuver your bike into a place where there is at least six feet of space all around so that you can properly perform your safety check.
2. If your bike has a center stand, place it on the stand.
3. If your bike has a windshield, make sure you wipe it free of dirt and check for cracks or any other type of defect.
4. Check to make sure all lights work by turning the ignition on. Turn on both the high and low beam lights to make sure the headlights work. Also make sure the taillight lights work.
5. Press the brake pedal to make sure the brake light works. Also squeeze the break lever to make sure the break light comes on.
6. Make sure both the front and rear turn signals are functioning properly.
7. Check the horn.
8. Check for foreign objects in your tires by running your hand along the sidewalls and the part of your tire that hits the road. If any foreign objects are found, do not ride your motorcycle until it is fixed. Making sure your tires are 100% functional is very important. Faulty tires will likely result in a serious crash.
9. Make sure your tires are properly inflated.
10. Examine your entire bike for any loose parts, i.e. bolts, antenna mounts, plastics and/or any other items that would affect your riding safety.
11. Check your motorcycle engine's oil levels.
12. If your bike has a chain, make sure that it has proper free play and it is nicely greased.