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Newsletter Editor
Open

TRIKE RIDERS INTERNATIONAL™

National Newsletter

March 2009

Bob & Linda Larsen

All I can say is WOW, to what is happening in TRI. We are getting more and more people coming forward to help us get things moving in the right direction. TRIKES magazine is growing because of the members that have been sending articles to be published. I was really impressed with the content when I received the pre-publications lasers to check before the magazine went to press.

Membership recruitment is really starting to take off. We have booths/tables at a whole bunch of rallies this year and the best thing is that our membership is stepping up and volunteering to man the booths. We will have a booth at Americade this year as well as Wing Ding, and the Davis rally. We are also going to be at rallies in LA, TX, FL, TN, NC, AL, IL and we are still working on more. Then we have Joe Jenkins that is a walking, talking advertisement for TRI. Joe has so many things going in membership recruitment that I can't keep up with him. It would not surprise me at all if I got a call saying Joe set up a road side stand to flag down all the trike riders going by. GREAT JOB JOE.

Something else that we are doing is to have member "Meet & Greet" meetings at some of the rallies. At the Florida Rally in Kissimmee, Larry Goulet, George Armstrong, and Jim Eckhardt have made arrangements with a local hotel to hold their meeting during the rally and also have plans for a dinner on Friday night before the meeting. Wayne Hogan, District Director of Tennessee, also came to Florida for the meeting. What a great way to meet your fellow TRI members in your area plus letting new members know about us. So here it is, if you get an email informing you of one in your area, plan on going. You never know how many new friends you will find. Besides, we all need to eat!

Last but not least, Lin, I and the staff want to thank all those members that have shown confidence in us by renewing their membership with TRI. We will do everything we can to not disappoint you and to take TRI to an all new level in 2009.

Thanks again for being members & staying members of TRI

RIDE SAFE / RIDE SMART

Spirit of Three Rally Update

We are happy to report that the rally planning is coming along better than expected. The rally registrations are coming in at a great pace as are the phone calls from the vendors that have shown an interest in joining us.

I believe I did say the band for Friday night has been booked and the Thursday night movie for the open air "drive-in" is going to be one that is going to be loved by everyone.

We are working on putting on a few seminars and two that we have already confirmed are ones that I think a lot of you will be interested in. One will be on the Harley Davidson motorcycle and the other one will be on websites. In addition we are going to have a meeting for all the TRI Chapter, District and Region Directors as a chance for everyone to meet each other as well as to get questions answered.

WHERE ARE YOU? PLEASE USE ME!

Did you know that Google is the #1 used website in the WORLD? Of course you did. You've probably used it several times yourself today. And, if you "Google" Trike Riders International, it will direct you to our national website. Further, if you Google, trikes, trike groups, trike organizations, or trike riders, You can find the Trike Riders International Website. But our exposure is not extensive.

My TRI compatriots and triker family, did you know that the latest traffic count, ranks us 4,395,217 of the most-used websites. TRI members, with the exception of a few of us, don't, or rarely use, the website, trikes.org. By comparison, BTW (Brothers of the Third Wheel) ranks 1,156,952 in total traffic. even though they have fewer members, and, from the evidence I have, have declining membership rolls. Quite simply, BTW members USE their website often. Very few TRI members take advantage of what our TRI Website has to offer.

Let me provide another example. I often use the website classifieds to buy and sell trike parts, accessories, and riding gear. I placed an ad for a trike my friend was selling, and separately, for two helmets, I was selling on the For Sale section of our TRI Message Board. I sold neither, and received no inquiries for one, and one inquiry for the other item in two months. In comparison, I sold the same helmets 30 minutes after ad placement on "our sister" (GWRRA) organization's

For Sale section of their Message Board.

I'm not chastising you all; rather I'm saying that too few of us are using or taking advantage of one of the perks of our TRI membership. I would have loved to sell my helmets to a TRI member. What I'm suggesting is that we use our website, contribute to it, and get to know our fellow trikers by our participation and exchanges of communication with them. I've met several great TRI members through the use of the TRI Website and the Message Board. I hope to meet them in person at the Branson Rally. Let me and others meet you!

Use the Message Board, ask your questions, discuss your trikes's needs and strengths, submit your trike's picture for us to see, check out the newest information about TRI, new TRI Chapters, etc. And, let us know about you! The Website is ours; it is yours; ----Let's use it! TRI it, you'll like it! And, we'll come to know you. All you have to do is to access trikes.org on the website, sign in, and participate.

Larry Goulet
Director of Membership Enhancement



**BE SURE TO
READ
"PLEASE USE
ME"**

CENTRAL REGION

Hello Fellow Trikers, from the Central Region: For those of you who have been wondering what happened to Joe Jenkin's, he has accepted the Central Region Assistant Director position working along side Lisa Wert, our Region Director.

We still have one more position to fill in the Central Region and that is for a Newsletter Editor, Contact Lisa Wert , 612-781-2540 or Joe Jenkins, 217-316-1333.

The Central Region has been quite busy with rebuilding and preparing for the Central Region TRIKE-IN 2009. It should be a great time! We have several sponsors providing door prizes for the participants. We are currently working on putting together a couple of events for everyone, rides, cook-out, 50/50 and a couple of other surprises. Please feel free to invite your friends to

join us. Our web site has a registration form, as well as hotel and camp ground information. www.tri-centralregion.org . TRI MO-5 is on fire! In February they got 3 new members and 4 new sponsors and currently 5 TRI Booths planned so far. These booths are at sponsors in the area at their open houses they have planned. Included in the 5 are 2 GWRRA State Rallies. Our hope is to revitalize our current chapters, as well as possibly start some new chapters. MO-5 is now meeting 2 times a month. The first and third Sundays and the whole group is just buzzing. Come to our website triker-mo1.tripod.com and check us out. We are constantly adding events so come and check it out often.

Joe Jenkins

Bob & Mary Hough

Hi TRI members, I would like to introduce our new District Director for Kansas. He is Bob Young from Lenexa, Ks. Lenexa is a town on the southwest side of Kansas City. Bob has worked many years with fire and rescue in the Kansas City area. Bob will be working on starting chapters in Kansas. Congratulations are also in order for Joe Jenkins, who has recently been appointed as the Assistant Region Director for the Central Region.

Along with the Kansas chapter, we are working on these other areas. George Marrero in Dover, Pennsylvania, David Best in Batavia, Ohio, Will Wright in Knoxville, Tennessee, Emmitt Grant in Foley, Alabama, Reginald Haston in Montgomery AL, Reginald is our Region Director for the Southeast Region. Don Guidry in Jennings, LA. Don is our District Director for

Louisiana. Don Guidry and Henry Vaughan are working on a chapter in Hemphill, TX. Henry is our District Director for TX. Sherry Cochran is about ready to launch a chapter in the Pueblo, Colorado area. I have also talked to Frank Reis. Frank lives in Wellesley, Ontario, Canada and Gary Carlile has just formed a new chapter in Kokomo, IN that is now up and running.

I would like to thank these members for stepping up to start new TRI Chapters.

If you like to contact one of these members, give me a call at 319-352-5181 or e-mail me at m.hough@mchsi.com.

Thanks
Bob & Mary Hough



AMERICADE TRIKE RIDER COURSE

We are pleased to announce that TRIKE RIDERS INTERNATIONAL has been selected by the Americade Staff to conduct the Trike Rider Course this year at Americade. For any of you trikers that are going to be at Americade in June and need a course, here is your chance to get one. For you GWRRA members that require a TRC for your levels program this course will count as credit towards those levels.

To register go to the TRI website, www.trikes.org, click on the Americade

button and print out a registration form., complete it and mail it to the address on the form. You must be a fully paid Americade registered participant and also send a check for \$50.00 to secure a spot. Upon completion of the course the \$50.00 deposit will be returned when the course completion cards are issued.

Bob Larsen

**Trike
Rider Course
AT
AMERICADE**

STAFF ANNOUNCEMENT

Lin & I would like to welcome Jim & Lynn Eckhardt to the TRI staff as our National Treasurers. In addition to the normal duties of the treasurers, Jim & Lynn will be responsible for working with the Chapters, Districts and Regions in helping them set up and get the necessary EIN numbers, as well as answering any questions they might have regarding checking accounts. In addition, they will also have the responsibility for being sure that all Trike Rider International year-end reports are submitted and charter

fees have been paid by the chapters. It will also be part of their responsibility to insure that the proper paperwork is completed and all funds have been accounted for when and if a chapter, district or region should happen to be inactive for a period of time. While they will be available for help and advice for our treasurers, the treasurers will still report directly to the Chapters, Districts and Regions Directors.

Bob & Lin

TRI Meeting In Kissimmee FL



Above are some of the attendees at the Friday evening TRI meeting held on 3-13-09 at the Kissimmee Florida Rally. In the front row, sitting between Larry Goulet and Bob Larsen, we have vests on, are Doug & Jan Ort from New Haven, IN who are TRI members # 59 and part of the TRI founders group when TRI was formed in 2003

Trike Show Winners Kissimmee. FL

All three bikes entered from the TRI Chapter, FL-1 Spring Hill Wingnuts (Florida) won trophies in their respective classes at the 30th Florida District Wing Gathering on March 14, Kissimmee. Lynn and Jim Eckhardt and Val and Joe Cuce won first and second place trophies in the Trike Custom Class Judging. Katherine Goulet took home a second place trophy in the Bike and Trailer Class. This marks the first time there were TRI entries at a GWRRA Rally. Congratulations to them.

Larry Goulet



Joe & Vail Cuce



SECOND PLACE, TRIKE CUSTOM CLASS

Jim & Lynn Eckhardt



FIRST PLACE TRIKE CUSTOM CLASS

**LET'S ALL GO
TO A
MOTORCYCLY
RALLY AND
HAVE SOME
FUN**

Katherine Goulet



SECOND PLACE, BIKE & TRAILER

TRI Membership Table



KISSIMMEE FLORIDA

MUST SELL

John needs to sell his trike due to a job loss. If you know of someone that might be interested have them contact John.



2005 SUZUKI - LEHMAN "Tramp" Trike. Less than 1000 miles. Just like new. Extra wide rear tires no longer available & chrome spoke wheels. Mustang wide Touring Seat with Wide Backrest. Luggage rack with custom colored blue Willie & Max Saddlebag. Engine Guards with Lehman covers. Suzuki Windshield. Over \$2800. in accessories Metallic Blue & Black. Must sell due to job loss. \$16,500 John 914-403-3527 or JNRIII@msn.com



Sam & Leona Wilhelm, #010972, Covington, VA, 2007 C-90 Suzuki Boulevard



CHECK OUT
THE
TEXAS
LOUISIANA
ROUNDUP
ON PAGE
7

Richard O'Leary, FL, 2006 GW 1800 with Roadsmith Trike kit. TRI # 10489





The LA TRI DEUCES Chapter which represents the second TRI Chapter in Louisiana was chartered after a group of twenty-nine friends and motorcycle enthusiast decided that they wanted to form a special group for rides and fun. Many of us had been members of GWRRA and had made many rides with friends and to Rally's and events with them but wanted to break away and do some special things on our own and involve for the most part Trikers. Two close friends who had been riding trikes much longer than I, approached me about starting a TRI chapter which was not as regimented or formal as the GWRRA seemed to be and would allow us to include the many friends that still rode 2 wheel motorcycles. We called a meeting of all who would be interested in joining and starting a chapter. We met and passed out copies of the TRI operations manual to review with all possible members. We discussed the benefits of starting a Chapter and everyone was interested. When asked who they would like to be the leader of their chapter they selected me as the chapter leader and Stanley Salter as the assistant leader. Stanley and George Crump are the two friends that approached me about a new chapter and who have been instrumental in getting the chapter up and moving. Of course we had to have a treasurer who met the requirements as established by TRI and we were fortunate enough to have Sue Fontenot (who had been a treasurer for a GWRRA chapter) to volunteer to step into that position. George Crump, who has the most experience as a member of a GWRRA chapter and motorcycle group, had been an educator for a chapter for about 5 years, and has kept the us pointed in the right direction by giving some great advice in directing the chapter through its initiation and set up. He also has volunteered to be our ride coordinator and safety person. At the first meeting we all agreed that we wanted to ensure that safety was the base issue in all of our rides. We wanted to have fun but not at the expense of losing friends to accidents while out together. We realized that many new members that wanted to join our chapter probably would not be experienced in riding with groups and therefore we needed to include safety training as a part of our rides. George Crump was a natural to fill that position based on his previous experiences and training with.

We were blessed that one of our good friends volunteered to be our chapter editor and monthly calendar publisher. Charles and his wife Cynthia have been of great value to us in getting not only the monthly calendar together but also in getting our web site established (latrideuces.org/). The chapter has come together only because we have some great members that give unselfishly of their time and talents.

As a group we decided that our meetings would be held on Thursday nights as on Fridays there were to many distracters, such as High School football, and other events. Saturdays we felt were for riding and we focused on Saturday rides for our calendar of events. We felt that the third Thursday of each month would be when we held our chapter meetings, primarily because I and the assistant chapter director both work and it fit in well with our work schedules. The Thursday night rides were designated as all biker dinner rides to encourage friends and others in the area to join us for fun and an excuse to take your sweetheart or significant other out for the evening and dinner. We have recently had two other couples join our chapter as well as TRI, due to this type of fellowship event. Our Saturday rides are oriented on riding scenic area's of Louisiana, or visiting Historic locations within the area. We like to have our member's make recommendations on places they would like to visit or go as well as have them volunteer to lead the rides if they have experience and training in group riding. Many times George will plan some type of safety training to be incorporated into our rides.

Most of us love being involved in TRI because it is a great way to make new friends, get out of the house to have fun and do some thing exciting and different. At our meetings we discuss different ways we can make money for the chapter to continue to be involved in the community we live in. Our goals at this time are to participate in the parades within the area, as well as the toys for tots around Christmas time. We are continuing to strive to find ways we can assist through out the area. Our desires are to demonstrate to our public that because you ride a motorcycle does not mean you're a Hells Angel or other type of cyclist that hot rods around the country creating mischief and trouble.

Rocky D. Houser
Chapter Director

DISTRICT AND REGION EVENTS

More and more is starting to happen in TRI for our members. Plan on making the Louisiana/Texas roundup scheduled for April 24, 25, 26, 2009. if you can. Here is a great example of what can be done when we start to think out of the box.

What I mean by that is that the District Directors of Louisiana and Texas have put their heads together, as well as their resources, to set up this event for our TRI members in both TX and LA. This is what it is all about, getting together and sharing the friendship of each other and having fun.

The central Region has their '2009 Central Region Trike in' scheduled for June 12, 13, 14, 2009 in Litchfield, IL. For additional information visit the events section on the TRI website www.trikes.org or contact Lisa Wert @ 612-781-2540 or kitchenpamperer@aol.com. Here is another chance for several of our members to get together, lets take advantage of it,



TRI TX/LA Roundup

Trike Riders International



April 24th, 25th & 26th

The TRI Chapters of Texas and Louisiana are coming together to meet each other and ride in the beautiful surrounding area of Toledo Bend Lake. The place is Emerald Hills Resort in Florien, LA. For your reservations call **800-533-5031** and mention that you are with the TRI TX/LA Roundup and you will get our \$60.00 room rate. Among local area attractions are Hodges Garden which is directly across from Emerald Hills Resort and they have over 700 acres of wild and cultivated beauty. Historic Natchitoches is close by and also Toledo Bend Lake. The Kisatchie National Forest offers picnic areas, group use areas and lots of other attractions. With 50/50, Bingo, Raffles and Rides to the beautiful landscapes around us there will be something for everyone to do. This is a no fee, no agenda get together, so come and join in the fun. We would like for all trikers and bikers to come join us April 24, 25 & 26.

For more information contact either our Texas or Louisiana District Directors below.



EMERALD HILLS RESORT



www.emeraldhillsresort.com



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Adventure....Fellowship....Knowledge