

The Toronto Wing's



Kickstand



Toronto Wings – Chapter “T” of the Gold Wing Touring Association
April 2008



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- Coffee Nights:** Every Thursday
8:00 p.m. Tim Horton's
4400 Dufferin Street
(In the Canadian Tire Plaza)
- Breakfast Meetings:**
(in the winter) (Date & location determined each month) check out our website for changes as we often try new locations in the winter
- Web site:** <http://www.torontowings.com>
(check regularly for meetings and changes)



Ramblings from your Editor(s)

I hope everyone had a wonderful St Patrick's Day, Easter and/or Passover. Also spring has come! I don't think you can appreciate what it has been like living with Rose the last few months.

I thought she was having an affair with someone as she was always on the computer. Seems "eBay, autotrader and others" were her preoccupation. After that discovery I just went to bed at a reasonable hour while she surfed for GL 1800's.

We renewed our motorcycle insurance and finished shoveling snow. Now we are waiting for the salt to disappear and the melt to continue so we can get out our 2 wheelers and play since spring has started.

Our plans are still a work in progress. It is exciting to read about the places we hope to go and all the sights to see. We have secured Rose's parents to look after our 4 legged "Amber" while we are gone. I also exchanged my Canadian dollars for American while the exchange was good! Seems like it is just around the corner and Rose wants to convert more maps.... Can you believe it.....3 months to go.... April, May, June and then we are off..





Riding Motorcycles on Gravel: Find the Real Road Less Traveled.

By erik@openroadjourney.com

Like most things, to be successful you need to keep things simple. Gravel roads are no exception.

There are only three rules I keep in mind when riding gravel:

Read the Road.

Easy on everything.

The motorcycle knows best

Let's look at each rule in detail.

Read the Road

This is probably the single most important thing you can do to raise your confidence on gravel. Simply put, you're looking for parts of the road where the gravel has been pushed clear and you can ride on the hard-packed dirt underneath.

Most often these will be in the shallow of the road. What's a shallow? Good question. Over time, paths get made in the road where a car's tires push the gravel out to the sides of the road. These are shallows.

I've included a picture below to help.



Shallows are a gravel road's sweet spot. You want to ride in these as much as possible. If you take the chance to stop and look at a

shallow, it usually contains very little gravel and just consists of a hard pack dirt surface - like asphalt. Stick in the shallows whenever you can.

As you're ability to read the road and spot shallows increases, your confidence on gravel roads will grow ten-fold.

Easy on Everything

Why do gravel roads make bikers nervous? For the same reason bikers get nervous when they get caught in the rain. Less traction.

With less traction you want to go easy on everything including turning, braking, accelerating, and your overall speed. Sudden movements require more traction to execute. If you try a sudden movement on a surface with less traction, like wet asphalt or gravel, the bike is probably going to lose traction and not do what you want.

Don't jerk the handlebars to make a sudden turn. Don't "panic jam" the brakes to slow down. Don't roll your throttle back like your blasting off the line (unless you're trying to throw gravel out from behind you and hit your buddy in the head). Moderate your speed and go easy on everything.

The motorcycle knows best.

If "Reading the Road" is the single best thing you can do to raise your confidence on gravel, than "Realizing that your motorcycle knows best" is the single best way to increase your enjoyment of riding a gravel road.

Your motorcycle is going to wiggle on a gravel road. It's going to feel like its sliding all over the place. Your front tire is going to jerk about. Let it. Your bike knows best.

Awareness that your motorcycle is going to

do this will help you form the appropriate behavior. The natural tendency for most riders is to try and control every movement on gravel - don't.

Just relax, keep a firm grip on the handlebars, and a light touch when controlling the motorcycle. Don't try to control every movement of the bike, allow the bike to move under you. The law of science that a body in motion tends to stay in motion definitely applies in this instance. Keep your head up and your focus on where you are trying to go. The bike will wiggle its way to where you want.

This rule probably takes the most getting used to, especially for those of you with heavier bikes. Be confident in yourself and your motorcycle and you'll be fine.



Summary

However you may view gravel roads - whether as a white-knuckle experience from hell or an opportunity to find some cool new unexplored place - learning to ride gravel opens up a whole new world of possibilities for you and your bike.

As for that meandering gravel side road up the mountain that I was considering trying on my eight hundred pound Harley cruiser? I ended up on a grassy knoll at the top of a mountain overlooking what seemed to be about one hundred miles of beautiful earth. Needless to say, I was smiling ear to ear. Enjoy and keep ridin'.

GPS Again

submission
by Linda



Rose has been trying to talk me into getting a GPS for my Burgman. She says they have come a long way.



I still feel a map is the best way to go.



....of course there are other GPS devices called "tracker"s that you may want to install on your bike for a tracking of a different type!

Check out this link below:

Hitman- trackers



What's the main reason for motorbike accidents in Jamaica?

Check out the following pictures:



Did you see it?

Nobody is wearing a helmet!

Passport Photos & Information



Last month we wrote about the passport requirements for the USA and the advantages of a passport. Linda had submitted her passport application to the Mississauga office. She promptly received her new passport back within 2 weeks.

Rose on the other hand still has a valid passport until end of March. She felt there was no need to submit early. Since our big trip is not until July, Rose will likely submit her application end of April. That will give her adequate time to have it processed and still have it back in time for our annual trip to Pennsylvania for the May long week end. All the little things are falling into place as we prepare for the big adventure west.

I'm Not Buying a Gold Wing GL1800

by Rose



With the up and coming changes to the 2009 Gold Wing and with a fantastic 1500 Gold Wing the question I keep asking myself iswhy change?

.....I have seen a few bike offers and thought they may want to sell me some Florida property (swamp land)so you have to be careful on the "internet". Now only looking with "one eye".

Submitted by Jason Choy



click box below:

OHIO Honda Plant Closing Info



Joke Submission by Rose

You Can Take it With You

There was a man who had worked all of his life, had saved all of his money, and was a real miser when it came to his money. He told his wife, "When I die, I want you to take all my money and put it in the casket with me. I want to take my money to the afterlife with me."

And so he got his wife to promise him with all of her heart that when he died, she would put all of the money in the casket with him. Well, he died. He was stretched out in the casket, his wife was sitting there in black, and her friend was sitting next to her.

When they finished the ceremony, just before the undertakers got ready to close the casket, the wife said, "Wait just a minute!" She had a box with her, she came over with the box and put it in the casket. Then the undertakers locked the casket down, and they rolled it away.

So her friend said, "Girl, I know you weren't fool enough to put all that money in there with your husband." The loyal wife replied, "Listen, I'm a Christian, I can't go back on my word. I promised him that I was going to put that money in that casket with him." "You mean to tell me you put that money in the casket with him!!!!?"

"I sure did," said the wife. "I got it all together, put it into my account and wrote him a check. If he can cash it, he can spend it."



Linda's dream when she wins the lottery!
Ps...we would be pulling my wing behind this baby!

click box below:

All you need is the lottery winnings

Few photos to make you smile



where did the road go?



Shown at <http://www.sportbikerider.us>



April Birthdays

Sharon	April 5th
Nedda	April 22nd
Paul H	April 25th

****Dave H, Sam G, Roy B, Patricia P,
***please confirm your birthday with Linda
this month so we can update our listing for 2008**

Movie Submission by Rose

for Linda



click the link below:


I remember you..... Open Wide!



OK we need a reminder of our 2007 trip!!!

by Rose

Just a reminder of what we have to look forward to this summer. Click the boxes below. You will need to wait while they load and open in a new window.

[dingo's perspective](#)  [dingo's perspective](#)
Download as flash file orhtml file

GWTA REGION J STORES

Great **2008 gifts** below.
If you are interested then email Linda.

Check out the region availability
at our Toronto Wings Website

<http://www.torontowings.com>
(then click the "stores" button
on the left side of the page



Linda Pennock *Region J Stores*

Bikechick222@yahoo.ca

Logo Patch1:



10" - \$16.50,
6"-\$12.25,
4"-\$8.25

Logo Patch2:

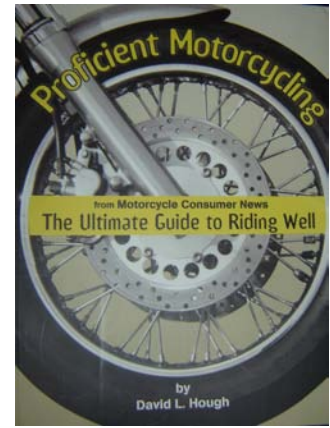


10" - \$16.50



Bob has lent us his book

- *Would anyone like it for *April?
- * Bob has his book back.



Webmaster Bill requests that all members go to the Toronto Wings Website and look at the members page. He asks you to verify that your current information is correct. If you are not on the website members page, let him know and he will add you.

Go to: <http://www.torontowings.com/> and choose the “members” tab on the left

Hey New members....welcome and come on out and meet the Toronto Wings gangGet to know everyone before riding season begins....see you at coffee night on Thursday!



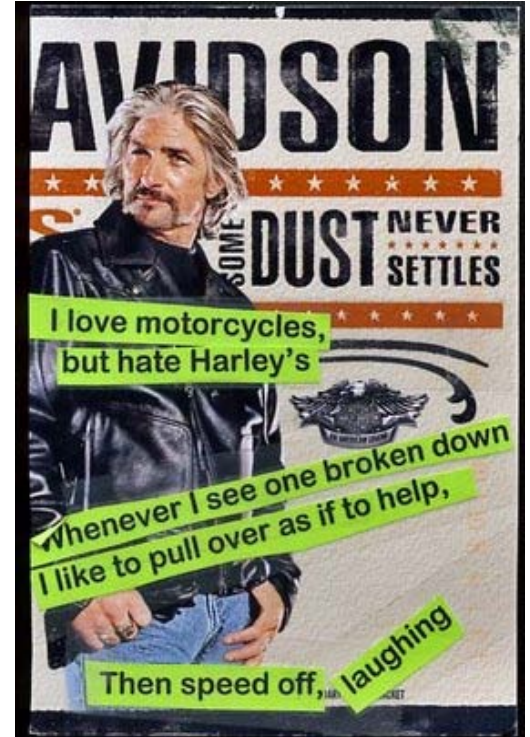
submissions by Steve Daiter



our BAD RIDER!!!

*** 25 Signs That You Have Grown Up

1. Your house plants are alive, and you can't smoke any of them.
2. Having sex in a twin bed is out of the question.
3. You keep more food than beer in the fridge.
4. 6:00 AM is when you get up, not when you go to bed.
5. You hear your favourite song in an elevator.
6. You watch the Weather Channel.
7. Your friends marry and divorce instead of "hook up" and "break up."
8. You go from 130 days of vacation time to 14.
9. Jeans and a sweater no longer qualify as "dressed up."
10. You're the one calling the police because those %&@# kid next door won't turn down the stereo.
11. Older relatives feel comfortable telling sex jokes around you.
12. You don't know what time Taco Bell closes anymore.
13. Your car insurance goes down and your car payments go up.
14. You feed your dog Science Diet instead of Mc Donald's leftovers.
15. Sleeping on the couch makes your back hurt.
16. You take naps.
17. Dinner and a movie is the whole date instead of the beginning of one.
18. Eating a basket of chicken wings at 3 AM would severely upset, rather than settle, your stomach.
19. A \$4.00 bottle of wine is no longer "pretty good stuff."
20. You go to the drug store for ibuprofen and antacid, not condoms and pregnancy tests.
21. You actually eat breakfast food at breakfast time.
22. "I just can't drink the way I used to" replaces "I'm never going to drink that much again."
23. 90% of the time you spend in front of a computer is for real work.
24. You drink at home to save money before going to a bar.
25. When you find out your friend is pregnant you congratulate them instead of asking "Oh S*\$# what the hell happened?"



Bonus:

- 26: You read this entire list looking desperately for one sign that doesn't apply to you and can't find one to save your sorry old butt. Then you forward it to a bunch of old pals & friends 'cause you know they'll enjoy it & do the same

link submitted
by Paul C

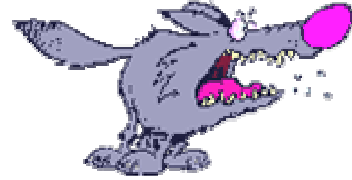


click link below

[Goldwing Wheelies](#)

New rider? Experienced Rider? Former Rider? Female Rider? Motorcycle Enthusiast?

Want to meet new friends? Share places to ride to? Talk Bike Tech/Repairs?



Join us for our coffee night

Every Thursday 8:00 p.m.
Tim Horton's
4400 Dufferin Street
(In the Canadian Tire Plaza)



...unless we have a meeting
(then we won't be at Tim Horton's that Thursday)

Meeting dates and times are posted on our website



Check us out..... and click the link

<http://www.torontowings.com/>

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