

**SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:**

- Three new members added to the UR Family
- Check out the December and January event calendars
- Look inside for riding safety tips
- Take a trip to Fort Fisher

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VOLUME I, ISSUE 9

DECEMBER 8, 2011

The Baffle

Wow

Hello UR Brothers and Sisters! Well.....Here we are – December and to me it feels like it should be July. The year really went by fast for me, and for this club. It just seems like last week we were planning our Spring Ride, and earlier this week we were getting excited about our first big charity event and yesterday we led the Bikers for Boobs ride..... Wow!

As we move into next year we have some plans for improvement. We plan to improve in details and communication with club members. Our new website that Lanee is working on will be a huge step in that direction. We want to do all we can to make this the perfect riding club. We need your input to do this. If you have any questions about anything pertaining to the club, please call me, anytime. I had a member tell me a couple weeks ago “sometimes I think you’re all crazy, and then everything works out”. That tells me we need to improve communication.

I would like to welcome our new members, Ricky, Lloyd and Rose. These will be the last ones for the year. This takes our 2011 membership to 47 paid members! Not bad for a new club, from 20 to 47 in one year, without any membership drive – WOW! We decided to only “advertise” by word of mouth, and this has gotten us great members. This is how we will make our club better – great people as members!

I would also like everyone to take the time to thank our officers for their hard work this year. Please take additional time to thank our new officers for stepping up to the plate – George,

Joey, Jeff, Randy, and Odell. We also need to thank Sheri, Angie, and Sergio for their time and effort this past year. Thank you all for everything!

We all should be excited about next year. I have said this a million times, and I will say it again. We had to crawl before we could walk. Let’s stand up and start walking next year. More events, better decisions, more fun, and more riding! I want everyone on a bike to know who the United Riders are and want to keep an eye out for our events because they know that they will be both fun and helpful to the community. If you liked this year, you’re going to love next year, if you didn’t enjoy this year, you’re going to hate next year.

We know we have the best Riding Club around – let’s make sure everyone else knows it too! Are you with me? Can I get an Amen? Fasten your seatbelts, put your tray and seatback in the upright position, and prepare for take-off – WOW!

As Always..... Love your family, laugh with your friends, and enjoy the ride!

David Hess
President – United Riders



Welcome New Members

The United Riders would warmly like to welcome our new members to our family:



Lloyd Luquer and Rose Crutchfield reside in Greensboro and ride a Harley-Davidson Heritage Softail.

"Three new members have been added to the United Riders family."

Ricky Cline lives in Greensboro and rides a Harley-Davidson Road King.



*Welcome new family members! We look forward to riding and making memories with you!
~United Riders Riding Club*

Monthly Safety Tip: Riding in the Fog

Fog can turn the best road into a slippery beast whose breath blinds the rider. While there are some techniques to control the monster, there are times when it's wise simply to get off the road.

Some riders measure the density of the fog by how far they can see ahead. They use the stripe method. If they can see twenty stripes ahead, the fog is only moderate. Ten stripes mean a fairly nasty fog. When it gets down to two or three stripes, it's time to pull off the road.

One technique some riders use it to tuck in close behind the vehicle ahead. This is great unless the car suddenly slams on the brakes and gives the biker a tour of his trunk and back seat. And what does it mean when those tail lights suddenly vanish? Perhaps that he's closed the garage door. It is better to increase following distance to four to six seconds. This will allow the rider to react to any unexpected hazards.

Since visibility is limited, it would seem better to use high beams to see further. However, fog is composed of millions of tiny droplets of water, and each of these is like a minuscule mirror, throwing the full power

of the high beams right back into the rider's eyes and further limiting his ability to see. Low beams allow the rider to see.

Fog is made of water, and that gets on the road, making it very slick. Riders should avoid sudden changes in direction and speed. Braking and acceleration should be done slowly. Corners and turns should be made as close to vertically as possible.

It is easy to overdrive a motorcycle's headlight under the best of circumstances. When it is foggy, there is only one thing to do—**SLOW DOWN!**

Ride safe friends & keep the rubber side down

~Sergio Sandoval, Safety Officer



Bikin' Elves

Note: Article is a direct excerpt from Ward Street Mission Email Newsletter 12/01/2011 – Va-ROOM!



Last week, the United Riders biker group roared into town to donate toys for the 2011 Ward Street Mission Toy Assistance Program for area families in need.

In the "Va-Room" of their arrival and departure, every creature was stirring (except the mascot Shih Tzu...).



Destination: Fort Fisher

At the dawn of the Civil War the Confederacy took control of a neck of land in Southern North Carolina near the mouth of the Cape Fear River and constructed what was to become the largest and one of the most important fortifications of the South.

The Fort was little more than a few sand batteries with less than two dozen guns until July, 1862 when Colonel William Lamb was put in charge. Under his command the Fort was built up to cover more than a mile of Sea defense. At times there were as many as 1000 men working to build the Fort. Once completed, the Fort consisted of 22 guns mounted on 12 foot high batteries and two larger batteries standing 60 feet high on the Sea face. The land face was equipped with 25 guns spread across 15 mounds standing 32 feet high. The Fort also contained bombproof rooms for powder storage, telegraph office, a hospital, and barracks for the troops. The Fort was able to withstand the extreme shock of cannonballs from ships due to its construction of sand, unlike Forts made of brick and mortar.



With the Fort in full operation the Confederate army was able to ensure

that the blockade runners (streamline, fast ships, used to pass through the Unions blockades off the coast) were able to keep supply lines open from Bermuda, the Bahamas, and Nova Scotia. This allowed the Confederate Army to keep supplies to General Lee by trading cotton and tobacco for food, clothing, and munitions with the British. The Union made several attempts to shut the Fort down, but quickly learned that Fort Fisher was almost impossible to penetrate, and that as long as the Fort was in operation the Confederate Army would continue to be strong. With the protection of Fort Fisher, Port Wilmington was able to keep the Confederate Navy at full strength.

As the war continued the Union was able to shut down all other Ports, leaving Wilmington, and Fort Fisher, as the last and most important strategic target. The first major attempt to take Fort Fisher and Port Wilmington was on December 24, 1864. After two days of constant fighting the Union Army and Navy made no headway, and decided to pull back, because the Fort was too strong to assault. They returned again on January 12, 1865 with all available ships. This continued for three days until the Union Army sent in 3300 infantry and attacked the land face. This attack lasted for several hours until the Fort was taken late that night.

With Fort Fisher in Union hands the Confederacy

was surely doomed. This made for an easy attack on Port Wilmington and within weeks of taking Wilmington, the war was over.



Approximately 10 percent of the Fort still remains along with a restored palisade fence. Tours of the Fort starts at the visitor center where you can experience an audiovisual program that presents the rich history of the Fort. The tour continues with a walk through the grounds of the Fort. The Fort is open from April 1 – Sept. 30 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and from Oct 1 – March 31 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. You can also visit the North Carolina Aquarium while at Fort Fisher.

One of the biggest reasons for the Fort's success was a cannon known as "the 32-pounder" a large, loud, cannon that was able to sling a massive 32 pound projectile through the side of the Union ships.

So if you need a place to go, fire up that large, loud Harley and head down Hwy 421 through Carolina Beach to Fort Fisher and see what a bunch of Southern Boys can do with a lot of sand, and a big gun.

**David Hess
President**

"So if you need a place to go, fire up that large, loud Harley and head down Hwy 421 through Carolina Beach to Fort Fisher and see what a bunch of Southern Boys can do with a lot of sand, and a big gun."

Treasure's Corner: In God We Trust

The phrase was conceived by Salmon P. Chase, the U.S. Treasury Secretary under President Abraham Lincoln. Chase wrote in an 1861 letter to James Pollock, then Director of the Mint in Philadelphia, that "no nation can be strong except in the strength of God, or safe except in His defense. The trust of our people in God should be declared on our national coins."

The motto arose surrounding the turmoil and heightened religious sentiment that existed during the Civil War. The Reverend M. R. Watkinson, in a letter dated 13 November 1861, petitioned the Treasury Department to add a statement recognising "Almighty God in some form in our coins."^[4] However Treasury Secretary Chase did not submit the motto with the words "In God We Trust" until December 9, 1863.

The act approving the motto to be placed on the 1-cent and newly created 2-cent piece passed April 22, 1864. This was followed in 1866 by the 5 cent nickel (1866–1883), quarter dollar, half dollar, silver dollar, and gold dollars. An 1865 law allowed the motto to be used on coins. The use of the motto was permitted, but not required, by an 1873 law. While several laws come into play, the act of May 18, 1908, is most often cited as requiring the motto (even though the cent and nickel were excluded from that law, and the nickel did not have the motto added until 1938). Since 1938, all coins have borne the motto.

In God We Trust is a part of History and United Riders. We are not a religious organization but are family and friends who believe in the comfort of prayer.

Over the past year our group has experienced illness, surgery and death of family members and friends. The friendship and faith we hold together, helps us get through those tough times. It's comforting to know you have friends there with you during whatever you may be going through and always willing to help where ever needed.

I want you all to know it has been my sincere pleasure serving you as your treasurer this past year. We have grown and it just keeps getting bigger & better. I'm proud to be a part of this great group of friends who have become like family.

As I start to turn over the Bank Ledgers and purchasing info to Joey, I have no doubt in my mind she will do a great job for you.

*Merry Christmas to you all
and a Prosperous New
Year!*

Sheri Sandoval, Treasurer



Classifieds

If you need your patches sewn on your vest contact Dora Hunt, 854 Mt. Zion Church Road, Thomasville, NC 27360, (336) 867-5965. Please leave name and number if no answer.

For all of your sign needs please contact



P.O. Box 4879 Archdale, NC 27263
(336) 434-4126 FAX (336) 434-3616

www.signageindustries.com

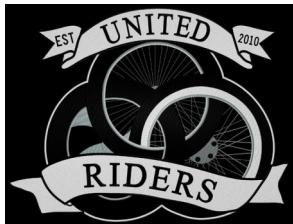
If you have items you would like to have posted in the Classifieds please contact Arizona Bunce at sunshinedaisy37@hotmail.com or David Hess at dhess@vecoplanllc.com

DECEMBER 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 United Riders Business Meeting	2	3 Toys for Tots Ride - Meet @ DK Cycles at 10:30 AM
4 Mills Home Ride - Meet @ DK Cycles at 12:00 PM	5	6	7	8 Open Mem- ber Meeting - Bill's Pizza Eat @ 6:00 PM Meet @ 7:00 PM	9	10 Brenner's Children's Hospital Toy Run - Meet @ DK Cycles at 12:00 PM
11	12	13	14	15	16	17 UR Christ- mas Party @ Kim & Del- bert's at 6:00 PM
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 CHRISTMAS	26	27	28	29	30	31

JANUARY 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 NEW YEAR'S DAY	2	3	4	5 United Riders Business Meeting	6	7
8	9	10	11	12 Open Mem- ber Meeting - Bill's Pizza Eat @ 6:00 PM Meet @ 7:00 PM	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				



United Riders Riding Club

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E-mail: unitedriders2010@yahoo.com

United Riders is a group of friends and family who enjoy riding and the time spent making memories with each other as a group. We care about the community and the needs therein trying to help make a difference in a positive way. All those with the willingness to accept the groups' values and show respect for each other are welcome to join us in our endeavor to improve our community.



Announcements

If you see the following family members, wish them a Happy Birthday:

Alan Hethcox ~ December 7th
Diane Hethcox ~ December 23rd



If you have items you would like to have posted in the Announcements section please contact Arizona Bunce at sunshinedaisy37@hotmail.com or David Hess at dhess@vecoplanllc.com