



**SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:**

- Four new members added to the UR Family
- Check out the January and February event calendars
- New officers elected for 2012
- Take a trip to Reed Gold Mine

**INSIDE
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The Baffle

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 1

JANUARY 12, 2012

Why

Hello UR Brothers and Sisters! Well.....A brand New Year. I love this time of the year. Most everyone is all fired up and ready to start a new year. The only bad thing about this time of year is the cold! I would like to thank all of our new officers, and also thank the officers from last year for all of their hard work. Please help me welcome our new members to the family this month.

One day last year one of my non-riding buddy's asked me "why in the world would you guys want to start a riding club", and I quickly said "because.....ah, well really it was..... (and I pulled out the best answer you can give a non-biker)you wouldn't understand". The real answer was that I had no idea how to answer that question! I had no idea "why".

So over the next few months I started looking for my "why". I had lots of "whys" to start with. Because our old club was told no, because this small group of people liked riding together, because we were told we couldn't, and on and on and on...., but I kept looking.

I found out that not only are there a lot of "whys", there are all different "whys" from person to person. Why did you join? Why did I join? Why?

Could it be to help the community? Maybe it is because you enjoy being in a group of bikes. Could it be because of the brotherhood? Maybe

it's the honor of wearing the vest and the UR logo. Could it be so you can spend more time with your spouse? Maybe it's the meetings.

I found that the "why" keeps changing, and always stays the same, accumulates I should say. I mean the first "why" was because we were told we couldn't, that will always be a reason "why", but I had to add taking a bag of toys to the Ward Street Mission to the list too.

We all have our reason for joining this group – we all may have several – we all may be adding to the list, but we all have our own main reason "why", find it. Find your "why" and never forget it.

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:



Ernie and Beth King reside in Lexington and ride a Harley-Davidson Fat Boy.

Barry and Bk Gaither live in Greensboro. Barry rides a 2006 Yamaha Royal Star Tour Deluxe and Bk rides a 2011 Honda Stateline.



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

“Four new members have been added to the United Riders family.”

Welcome 2012 United Rider Officers



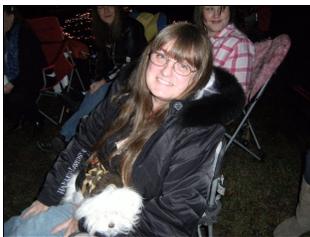
*David Hess
President*



*George Bunce
Vice President*



*Jeff Kirby
Secretary*



*Joey Steele
Treasurer*



*Delbert Hinshaw
Head Road Captain*



*Randy Small
Safety Officer*



*Kim Hinshaw
Photographer*



*Odell Pritchard
Historian*



*Rhonda Hess
Membership Officer*



*Arizona Bunce
Editor*



*Lane Kirby
Webmaster*

A huge thank you goes out to our 2011 Officers for all of their hard work.

Lady Rider News: Women Are Biking More Than Ever

It's a very different world out there than it was a couple of decades ago. Women have always ridden motorcycles, but it hasn't been until recently that SO many women are deciding to sit on the front of the bike and steer their own course! Today, nearly one out of every ten motorcycle owners is a woman! This fact is changing the look and feel of motorcycle riding.

Twenty years ago, if you had stepped into a bike shop, you'd find a bunch of guys hanging out, tinkering with their big, black Harley's. The shop would be set up to attract the attention of men. It wouldn't necessarily be clean, and it wouldn't have a lot of gear to choose from. There was a particular look and feel to motorcycle riding and it looked a lot like the men who rode.

Today, a bike shop might have an altogether different look and feel. The shop might be cleaner and brighter, with few men with wrenches hanging around. One side of the shop might be dedicated to women's bikes, and there will be more colors on that side to choose from. There might be an entire section of riding gear, in bright fluorescent colors for style and safety. There might be a variety of helmets to choose from, many of which are brightly colored. There might even be a few women hanging around the bike shop, ready to help you with any problems you have or to sell you a bike!

There are no firm reasons for this change in the bike ownership trend, but many people speculate that it has something to do with women making their own money and having more disposable income for themselves. With women no longer dependent on men for their spending cash, they are freer to follow their own dreams and desires. Having that money gives many women the confidence they need to do something that used to be considered daring or risqué.

The motorcycle culture has changed as well. No longer is it only a group of bearded men riding hogs, rolling through towns causing trouble. Women have their own motorcycle clubs, their own motorcycles, and their own culture. That culture is as varied as the women

who ride. It's not all about the babes that sit on the back anymore. It's about serious women who are enthusiastic about riding and exploring new things.

According to the Motorcycle Safety Foundation and the Motorcycle Industry Council, the median age of women who own motorcycles is 42. The majority of first time motorcycle buyers are between the ages of 35 and 50. Many speculate that this is because women of this age have finished raising their children and they are out to do something for themselves. In many cases, this is something they've wanted to do for a long time! A large percentage of these women hold college or professional degrees and are married.

Fully one-third of the people who take motorcycle safety courses now are women. This may be a surprising figure, but not to industry insiders. They've seen this coming for many years. Manufacturers such as Harley Davidson have begun to tailor their sales tactics toward women. Harley holds "garage parties" for women only, where issues particular to women are addressed. These concerns range anywhere from the fears women might have about riding to which bikes are best suited for women.

Women are becoming more and more involved in motorcycle riding and this change is changing the look and feel of the sport. Many more women are feeling confident and secure enough to take up the sport and to be successful. Motorcycle riding is fun and it is for everyone!

Sheri Sandoval



“Motorcycle riding is fun and it is for everyone!”

From the Web: Did You Know?

Did you know that the United Riders website has been re-designed? You can check it out at www.unitedriders.us and there has also been a "Members Only" section added to it as well. This is a secure area that only the members can view and it requires a password. If you didn't catch it when I sent it out, just ask me or another member. This area is still being designed so check back here often. I hope everyone likes it and finds it useful. There is a "Feedback" button at the bottom of the Home page where I can be emailed with suggestions or if you find something that does not work.

Lanée Kirby
Webmaster



Treasurer's Corner

Welcome to the new year! I want to thank you for your support in making me the new Treasurer. This is new for me so I would appreciate all your patience. If anyone has any suggests or comments, feel free to let me know. Keeping track of the money is the easy part!! It's the writing of this Treasurer's Corner every month that has me terrified! But, as everything else in life, I will get thru this too. I have some big shoes to fill. Sheri was the best and she set my goal very high.

Thank you,
Joey Steele,
Treasurer



Destination: Reed Gold Mine

GOLD!!!!!! Gold has been a magic word throughout much of our history. Gold, God, and Glory were foremost on the minds of the Spanish as they explored the New World. Many of the first English adventurers who came to North America were also motivated for a desire to find gold. The English heard stories that the Spanish had found gold in the Southern Piedmont, but they overlooked the area and prospected the Appalachians. We all know of the great "Gold Rush" in 1849 that sent many people on a massive stampede to California with dreams of getting rich, and led to California being known as the "golden state". But wouldn't you know that gold was first discovered right here in North Carolina. Although it's a little embarrassing.....here is the story.

John Reed was sent over by the English to help suppress the Revolution in the Colonies, but he deserted and headed north from South Carolina. After a few years he had settled down and married Sara Keiser and had accumulated a rather large farm in Cabarrus County, close to the Stanly County line. John and Sara had eight children and times were tough (they could have really used some gold). One day one of his boys, 12 year old Conrad Reed, was walking along the creek that ran through the farm and stumbled on a "heavy yellow rock". He brought the rock that weighed 17 pounds to his father, who quickly used it to solve one of the family problems.....hold the heavy door open in the kitchen.

It was 1799 when Conrad found the "rock", and John had a suspicion that it might be gold in 1802 (can't get much by John). A jeweler from Fayetteville (problem # 1) comes to John's farm to give an estimate on the large nugget. John sells the nugget, valued at a few thousand dollars, for \$3.50 (problem # 2). In 1803 John, and three other area land owners, start prospecting for gold along Little Meadow Creek on

John's property. Of course, the prospecting was only done in the "off season" when nothing needed to be done in the fields. During the first year of "mining" John found a 28 pound lump of gold that sold for \$4,000.00, but of course John only got ¼ of that as part of the agreement with the three other "partners".



By 1805 the mining started to get serious and "equipment" was being used, such as sifters, pans, and pumps. They also started using mercury to separate the gold from the dirt and sand. The successful mining created great excitement in the area and even got the attention of President Jefferson who sent a representative, William Thornton, to purchase the land in the area. Area landowners declined to sell as they all had plans of striking it rich themselves. Although many people in the area did find gold on their property, none of them made much money for their efforts.

In the mid 1820's shafts were being drilled on the Reed Farm, one of the first shaft's produced 18 to 20 thousand dollars worth of gold. This continued for several years. In 1834 John entered into an agreement with his sons and son-in-laws. The agreement was that John would receive one third of all gold mined and the other two thirds would be split with the other "partners". This was fine with everyone involved (I mean, John did own the land), and the Reed Gold Mine was gaining national attention until a 13-pound nugget was discovered that started a 10 year legal battle between John and the "partners". Sara died in 1842 and John soon

followed in 1845. John and Sara were buried on the eastern slope of Mansion Hill. In accordance to John's will, the plantation was sold following his death. The new owners, a couple of the son-in-laws and someone who actually knew how to mine gold – George Barnhart, were not able to make any profit either.

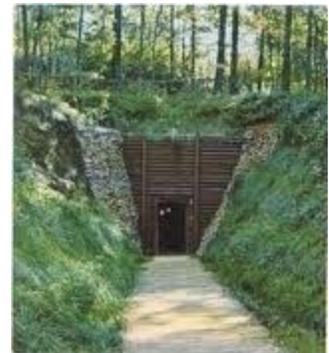
The mine continued to suffer until it was sold and declared a North Carolina historic site. During its peak years the mine did produce over one million dollars of gold and helped North Carolina lead the nation in gold production until 1848, when gold was discovered in California and the great rush began.

Now you can enjoy the ride down NC-49, across the lakes, and into Midland and visit the place where gold was first discovered in the United States. You can do a little panning for gold yourself Tuesday thru Saturday from 9:00 to 5:00.

Reed Gold Mine
9621 Reed Mine Road
Midland, NC 28107
704-721-4653 (gold)

Take my advice, enjoy the ride down on the Hog, and if you find any gold don't take it to Fayetteville to sell it, and don't split it with the in-laws.

David Hess
President



"Now you can enjoy the ride down NC-49, across the lakes, and into the Midland and visit the place where gold was first discovered in the United States."

Monthly Meeting Minutes

Meeting held at Bill's Pizza on December 8, 2011

- ◆ Kathy lead group in prayer, requests were made for Angie, Randy and Kathy's cousin.
- ◆ Observed birthdays for the month.
 - ◇ Alan Hethcox
 - ◇ Diane Hethcox
 - ◇ Joann Proctor
- ◆ Treasury report was given by Sheri.
- ◆ New members were announced; Ricky Cline, Lloyd Luquer and Rose Crutchfield.
- ◆ Ward Street Mission thank you letter was read and announced that a contribution was made by Jack and Joey Steele.
- ◆ Officer selection rules were read and announced to be placed on our website.
- ◆ Upcoming rides were discussed and Christmas party was announced.
- ◆ New officers were announced for 2012.
- ◆ Lloyd discussed new laws going in effect on 12/1/2011.

Jeff Kirby
Secretary



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

**SIGNAGE
INDUSTRIES**
SIGNAGE INDUSTRIES CORPORATION

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

The Biker Wave

If you've ever ridden a motorcycle, driver or passenger, you've surely seen "the biker wave". It comes in many different variations. Most popular is the left hand low stretch at 45 degrees with the index and middle fingers out, pretty much a low peace sign. Also popular is the same gesture with only the index finger extended. There's the gloved-palm flashback, the gotcha-pointed finger, the howdy-peace sign, rock-and-roll devil fingers, the down-low wrist-flipper, and the "a-ok" symbol. The list goes on and on. Some riders simply just raise a few fingers off of the hand grip, others nod, while yet some give a full -on, how-ya-doin, nice-to-see-ya, flail my hand in the air type of wave. Last but not least, there's the "both-hands-in-the-air, two-thumbs-up, thank-you-God-for-making-it-spring-again" wave. This particular wave is awesome because anyone who does it is quite obviously totally excited that they can ride again after a crappy winter, spent scratching an ever growing beer belly. You might have never seen that last example, there might have only been a select few who reside in my neighborhood.

What does this gesture mean? Where did it come from? Why aren't some riders waving back at me?

There's no one answer to any of these questions. A simple Google search lead me to a wide variety of answers to each. To most riders the "wave" is a sign of comradery or brotherhood amongst the biker community. Some sources say that riders use this "signal" to let other bikers know that they're "OK" or rather "doing well". A lot of bikers only wave to other riders that have the same style motorcycle as themselves. I've seen this quite often, a Harley rider won't wave to a sport bike rider or a Goldwing rider and vice versa. Some bikers don't ever wave to anybody no matter what. These are most likely Harley owners who are just pissed because they still owe \$15,000 on their bikes after 10 years and they'll never be as comfortable as Honda riders.

I recently read an article that states: one day in 1904 Arthur Davidson and William Harley passed each other on their motorcycles. Since they knew each other, they waved. Well, another biker saw the two "Kings of Motorcycles" doing this and thought this was a biker necessity and the tradition was born. Historically, I think that waving at other bikers stems from back when motorcycles weren't as common. The fact that motorcycles were rare led to the same sort of forced teaming that happens when you're stuck in an elevator with someone. Normally, you might not ever talk to that person, but due to the rare circumstance of being stuck, you feel compelled to acknowledge and strike some level of amiability with this person. In the same way, motorcycles were such a rare circumstance that riders felt compelled to strike a level of amiability with each other. Today motorcycles aren't nearly as rare and there are many more bikes then there were even 16 years ago when I started riding. Never the less, "the biker wave" tradition lives on!

Here are a few loose guidelines of when to wave and when not to. 1) on the interstate; unnecessary, 2) in a curve; unnecessary 3) in the rain or at night; unnecessary 4) on a mellow two lane road; proper. 5) on a highway with little traffic; proper 6) At or near a rally; unnecessary and 7) in traffic; unnecessary.

Every once in a while, somebody starts whining about Harley riders not waving back. Before those whiners dismiss all Harley riders as mean-spirited, they should consider that there are probably very good reasons why their waves are not being returned....

Top Ten Reasons Why Harley Riders Don't Wave Back

- 1) They're afraid it will invalidate their factory warranty.
- 2) Leather and studs make it too hard to raise their arm.
- 3) They refuse to wave to anyone whose bike is already paid for.
- 4) They won't let go of handlebars because they might vibrate off.
- 5) The rushing wind could blow the scabs off their new tattoos.
- 6) They're angry over the second mortgage needed to pay for the new Harley.
- 7) They just discovered the fine print in their owner's manual revealing that The Motor Company is partially owned by rice-burner manufacturers.
- 8) They can't tell if other riders are actually waving or just reaching up to cover their ears, like everyone else.
- 9) If they wave back, they risk being impaled on their spiked helmet.
- 10) They're upset that after spending \$30,000, they still don't own a bike that's as comfortable as a Goldwing.

To be totally fair, let it be noted that sometimes Goldwing riders don't wave back, either. Again, to facilitate a better understanding....

Top Ten Reasons Why Goldwing Riders Don't Wave Back

- 1) They aren't sure whether the other rider is waving or making an obscene gesture.
- 2) They risk getting frostbite if they take their hand off the heated grip.
- 3) They have arthritis and it is difficult to raise their arm.
- 4) The reflection from the etched windshield was momentarily blinding.
- 5) The on-board espresso machine had just finished.
- 6) They were asleep when other rider waved.
- 7) They were involved in a three-way conference call with their stock broker and accessories dealer.
- 8) They were distracted by an oddly shaped blip on their radar screen.
- 9) They were simultaneously adjusting the air suspension, seat height, programmable CD player, seat temperature and satellite navigation system.
- 10) They couldn't find the "auto wave-back" button on their dashboard.

If you initiate a wave or choose to reciprocate a fellow biker's friendly (or unfriendly one-fingered version) wave, be sure to do it safely. Always be aware of your surroundings and constantly take note of road conditions.

George Bunce
Vice President



Doggie Tails

Hi, guys. My name is Little Man. Mom says that I'm the club mascot. I'm not sure what a mascot is but if it's someone who loves to ride - that's me!! You may see me around - I ride with Mom and Dad on our 2011 Triglide. I have met a lot of people and gone a lot of great places last year and look forward to this year. Sometimes I don't get to ride. Mom says they won't let me in restaurants but I don't know why - I like to eat! And do you know what happens after a ride if I'm lucky? CORN DOGS!! WOOF!!

Little Man
Club Mascot



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 Odell & Kathy Dinner Ride - Meet @ DK Cycles at 6:30 PM
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 Wheelin for the Homeless Planning Meet- ing @ Rixster Grill 1:00PM
29	30	31				

FEBRUARY 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 United Riders Business Meeting	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 Open Mem- ber Meeting - Bill's Pizza Eat @ 6:00 PM Meet @ 7:00 PM	10	11 United Rider Sweetheart Dinner
12	13	14 VALENTINE'S DAY	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 Kim & Delbert Din- ner Ride - Meet @ DK Cycles 7:00	23	24	25
26	27	28	29			



United Riders Riding Club

609 Vista Drive
High Point, NC 27263

Phone: 336-918-6714

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:

Delbert Hinshaw ~ January 7th

LaDonna Buck ~ January 13th

Joey Steele ~ January 29th



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