



“YOU NEVER TALK TO ME ANY-MORE....”

by John Del Santo

How many times has that line been used when a relationship was headed downhill to disaster? Communication is important. Communication is *very* important when you are getting ready to change directions on your bike.

The more you let the other drivers *know* what you are going to do, the less chance there will be that they'll do something unexpected and get in your face. Signal your intentions. Naturally, people being what they are....we should keep our eye open for those “me first” drivers who will see our signal, and then will try to beat us to the opening that we are heading for.

When we are slowing or changing lanes, many of us feel that *hand*-signals are noticed quicker than directional-signal lights by the cars close to us in traffic. A brain picks up motion quicker than light. A California law reads that if our bike has (working) electric directional signals, then we must use them; we aren't supposed to *just* use hand signals alone. But we could certainly use *both* if we want to....clicking on the directional signal, and then using a hand signal to communicate to the drivers that are near us in heavy traffic. Whatever works.

When we are downshifting for a stop or turn, a couple of flashes on our brake light should wake up the driver behind us to the fact that we are slowing down so that we don't surprise them... we'll reduce the odds of being mowed down by someone who's not paying attention. In the early morning and late afternoon when the Sun is glaring low in the sky and most of the other drivers are squinting, trying to see, having our headlight switched to High-Beam will make our presence a little more evident. And....don't hesitate laying on your horn (AND being ready with throttle or brakes) if someone near you in traffic looks like they might change into your lane without checking their blind spots. Wake 'em up !

Ride Report- “The Michael Kennedy Memorial Ride” - February 13th, 2005

By Ron Farkas

The interstate was wet that Sunday morning with low hanging clouds and little sun shining through. Meeting up with friends and fellow Red Hot Riders at the House of Motorcycles we choose to honor Michaels' memory with a ride to one of his favorite places, Borrego Springs.

Deciding to start a little late it allowed the clouds to move on bringing the sun out and hopefully some dryer roads.

Our route led about 30 riders out I-8 to Hwy 67, then up to Ramona and finally out to Dudley's at Santa Isabel. We stopped to warm up, dry off and re-group. After about a 20-minute break we mounted up and headed for Montezuma Grade. The plan was to stop at the overlook and take some pictures of the group with the great desert scenery in the background. Heading down the grade the sun finally made a full time appearance just as we rolled to a stop at the view- point. Finally it was dry and warm - just the kind of day I'm sure Michael would have enjoyed. Several of us got out our cameras and did our best shutterbug impersonations snapping pictures of the group, the scenery and the view of the valley below.

Rolling down the grade and into the Town of Borrego, we came to a favorite spot at Christmas Circle. Once we parked and got our gear stowed, Richard French called us all together to say prayer for our friend and fellow Red Hot Rider, Michael Kennedy. The club had some memorial “handouts” made with a picture of Michael on the outside and a “Motorcyclist Prayer” on the inside. After the prayer and a moment of silence, the club provided lunch for everyone. A day, a ride, and the friendship of others that I know Michael would have been proud to be part of. “Thanks” to all of you that made this ride happen!

Red Hot Rider Notes

DAYTONA on Speed Channel this week

TUESDAY 3/8—Two Wheel Tuesday—1 Hr

THURSDAY 3/10—3 hrs—Qualifying and Super Stock finals

FRIDAY 3/11—3 hrs—Super cross

SATURDAY 3/12—5 1/2 hrs - AMA Supebike, Flat Track , & the 200 (run with 600s this year)

Check your local listings for times

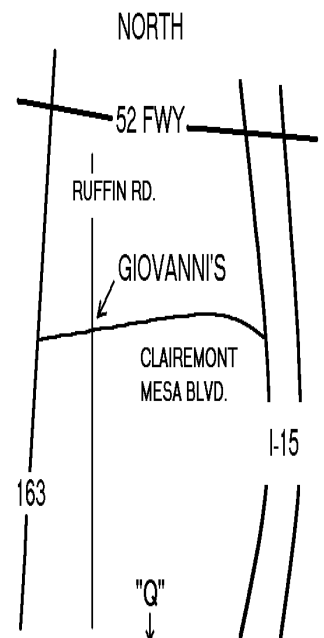
Last Chance for Re-newel of your RHR membership for 2005!

Starting April 1st the House of Motorcycles will remove all the RHR members that have NOT RENEWED their membership by March 31st.

Please , if you want to continue to receive your discount from HOM, you must re-new your membership this month.

You can down load the re-newel forms from the Red Hot Rider Web site- or come to a monthly meeting and ask for Ron Farkas

MEETING LOCATION
Giovanni's Restaurant
9353 Clairemont Mesa
(858) 279-6700



Meeting Report - February 2004
By Ron Farkas

It was cold last February 9th, but a large amount of us braved the weather and showed up on our two wheels at Giovanni's. Although the rain had stopped for that night, little did we know the amount of rain headed our way this February!

Jim Branch started out with a recap on the efforts to work with Diane Jacobs' office concerning the intersection where Michael Kennedy lost his life. A reply to our requests to improve the warning of the intersection or to increase the sight line were finally sent, but the reply was mainly government double speak for "NO". Jim and the club will not give up on this issue with alternative methods to bring attention to this problem intersection will be explored.

Our speaker for that night started off by taking a quick poll by asking the member-

ship, "Who wears Sidi boots?" The results were surprising as over half of the members present raised their hand in response to his question as the sales representative from Motonation (the US distributor for Sidi) was good enough to give us the history of Sidi and how their competitor Alpinestars were "cousins". It seems that the founders of both companies worked together developing hiking boots and it was their sons who founded the two companies. Examples of their latest boots were available for inspection as well as Motonation catalogs (and stickers) for the membership to take and review at home. Before the night got any colder the meeting was over, and good thing that it was, as a chance of rain may have decided to return before we could get back home !

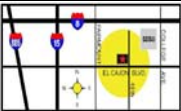
DEATH Valley Ride APRIL 16th & 17th

Interested in an Over-riter? - well there may be some room left on the Death Valley ride—two routes planned, an easy one (350 Miles) and a challenging one (450 miles)- contact Richard French for details (rfrench3@ san.rr.com)



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EVENT CALENDAR

- MAR 9-WED Club meeting at Giovanni's
- 12-SAT AMA Superbike at Daytona
- TBA Overniter to Palm Springs
- APRIL 13-WED Club meeting at Giovanni's
- 16 & 17—Club Over niter to Death Valley
- 25-MONRHR Track Day at Willow (Big Track)
- 29-May 1 AMA Superbikes at Fontana

Inclment weather may cause the cancellation of any of the above RHR events. Contact Jim Branch at (619) 460-0669 the evening before a RHR scheduled ride/Track day if weather is a question. You can also check out the Web site for up-to-date changes in the Schedule : www.redhotriders.com

MotoPro
House of Motorcycles

1425 South Coast Highway
Oceanside, CA 92054
(760) 433-4333

Next Meeting: 3/9/2005

March 2005:

Gary LaPlante, owner and operator of MotoVentures (<http://www.motoventures.com/>), will be down from his dirt-riding ranch in Temecula to tell the Club about his off-road and trials riding training courses and his guided dirt-bike tours in the Southwest. This is an excellent opportunity to find out about the many activities this expert rider, trainer, and tour guide has to offer. Join us!

Club Meetings:

Giovanni's Restaurant in Kearny Mesa, Corner of Clairemont Mesa & Ruffin Roads
6PM 2nd Wed of the Month

Newsletter Submission:

Newsletter submission can be sent to Ron Farkas, email is: hondaron@cox.net, Phone & Fax: 858-486-3257

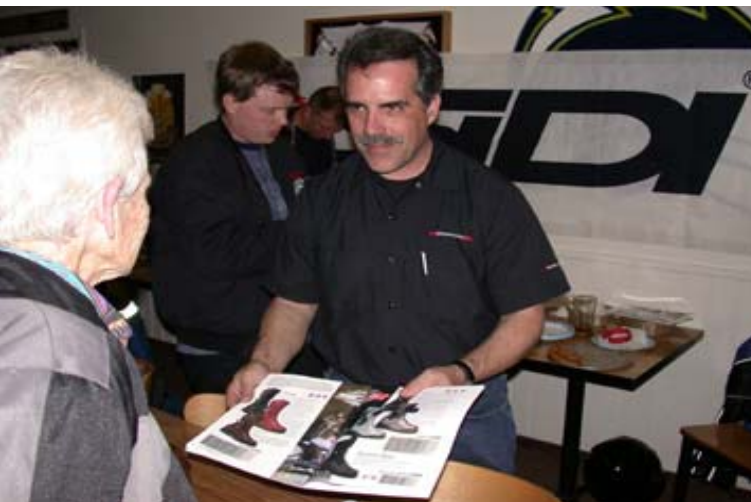
Officers 2004-2005

President.....Jim Branch
Vice President.....Chris Crawford
Secretary.....Michael Gorga
Treasurer.....Ed Krugman

Committee Chairman

Rider Education.....Vacant
Activities.....Richard French
Merchandise.....George Devereaux
Publication.....Ron Farkas
Membership.....Ron Farkas
HRCA Liaison.....Dale Stark
Referee.....Rached Maalouf
Legislative Officer:
Andy Mansker

Black Bird Bonny checks out new boots at February's Meeting



A great view, and a great day for a great ride—half way down Montezuma Grade on our way to Christmas Circle in Borrego Springs.

