

Rider Education Report

Hello everyone. I would like to thank all our veterans for keeping this great country safe and free so we can enjoy riding how, where and when we want.

A thought to ponder for this month:

**Your mind is the garden.
Your thoughts are the seeds.
You can grow flowers or
you can grow weeds!**

What are you choosing to grow today?

For me, Fall is full of activities and events. It seems there are hundreds of festivals and harvest gatherings every weekend until Thanksgiving. If work was not so crazy-busy for me, I might be able to enjoy some of them. I was fortunate enough to be granted two days off last month and took the opportunity to take a short ride to the Virginia Rally in Roanoke. Planning for that trip took most of my free time for October, but it did give me a chance to get some fresh air and nearly 1200 miles to ponder my next article.

On our way home from the Rally on Sunday, in a small West Virginia town where we decided a local Italian restaurant looked like a good option for lunch, we were suddenly reminded that education can happen at any time in any place. It is often written that to stay alive while riding a motorcycle, it is important to be vigilant to see the dangers around you, to anticipate where dangers you cannot see may appear, and to ride in a manner that permits you to be seen by other motorists and road users. I believe we were doing exactly that when, immediately after parking in the restaurant lot, we were greeted by the local Deputy Sheriff. He was very eager to explain to us the rules associated with the red octagon signs we had just rolled past, and how these rules are for our own safety and for the safety of others. When he was finished with his educational lecture, we thanked him for sharing his knowledge and promised to practice safe riding henceforth.

That's all for this month. Please stay safe, remember an educational moment can happen any time, and for those who participate, have a happy Thanksgiving.

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