



"A Hand for the Downed Rider"

The Helping Rider

A.I.M VANCOUVER

100 ~ Fall ~ 2009



G. F. Strong Show n' Shine !

Thanks to all of you that braved the rain in the morning and rode in, or drove to the 9th Annual GF Strong S&S. Thanks to the band, Ovations, Ron Of ChromeDreams and Amelia of Urban Wasp for Judging, Gospel Riders expertise with the food, Dave From AZZKIKR's for bringing several bikes for the patients to view, BC Lions for the game passes, GF Strong staff for setting up and welcoming us, and to all those who sponsored, donated and volunteered. The patients, their families and the staff at GF and us at AIM say a BIG thanks to you all.



"HELPING INJURED RIDERS SINCE 1983"

Serving over 250,000 on-and-off road motorcyclists throughout the province, A.I.M. is a benevolent, non-profit society registered under the provincial Societies Act and holding a Federal Charitable Tax Number. A.I.M. is committed to assisting injured motorcyclists by providing legal assistance, knowledge of rights, assistance with emotional support as well as regular hospital visits and helping with aspects of recovery not covered by other agencies. It is operated solely by volunteers and relies on memberships and donations for funding.

www.aimvancouver.com

The Helping Rider

#100 ~ Fall ~ 2009

Vancouver A.I.M.

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The Helping Rider is published by the Association For Injured Motorcyclists *Vancouver Chapter* and is free to all interested readers. Advertisements are welcome. Articles and letters to the editor are also welcome.

Disclaimer

Although we welcome your input, articles submitted and printed in the newsletter do not reflect the opinions of the Association For Injured Motorcyclists as a whole.

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AIM meetings — New Location

Third Thursday of the Month 7:00 pm

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All are Welcome! Rain or Shine!

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Size	\$ per Issue	\$ per 4 issues
1/8 of page (Business card)	40	150
1/4 page	80	300
1/2 page	160	600

Rider went down??? Call us at 604-580-0112 with

full name and hospital if you know it.

NOMINATIONS & ELECTIONS

Just want to remind you all that The Elections for the Association for Injured Motorcyclists is around the corner.

Nominations, October 15, 2008

Nomination & Elections November 19, 2008

Please come to the meeting and join the us. We do need your assistance as it has been pretty busy this year. As a Member, your vote counts. If you are a Non-Member, become a Member and vote. If you don't want to be a member, that's ok too, just come visit, and enjoy, as everyone is welcome. We would like your input, ideas etc.

Just so you know, all positions need to be filled. Some of the directors would like to retire or sit back on the sidelines and help when needed. So if you choose to run for a position, you won't be walking in blind. There are those of us that will help and walk you through if you need be. Also remember, one does not need to be on the board to volunteer at:

- Working a table to promote AIM and what it does
- Sell memberships and pins
- If you are good at typing, and/or taking minutes at a meeting
 - Proficient in accounting, and QuickBooks.
 - Fund raising
 - Experienced in websites, and/or is willing to teach us.
- Write stories, articles, take pictures, help with the newsletter
- Researching events, times and dates to fill the Calendar
- Maybe you don't ride but support AIM and could transport the canopy, table, boxes to and from functions (all fits in standard size car) · How about just plain ole, come to the meeting, sit, relax and enjoy. Have a sense of humor as we do like to have fun.
- Or maybe if you were injured or know of a person who was injured that can give us feedback, so that we may learn through their experience and help others.

All of us on the Aim board are volunteers, some are non-riders, very long time riders, and or grew up around riders all our lives. We have seen a lot during those years and some of us lost dear friends to bike accidents. Some have been luckier, survived and know very well how lonely and frustrating it can be, staying in a hospital. So don't be shy, Join Us!



Membership Report

The membership picture for 2009 has been the best one for many years. In July we reached a total of 332 paid up members. Unfortunately, due to some memberships not being renewed, we have a current paid up membership total of 307. The good news is that this is approximately 100 more than this time last year. I would like to ask you all once again to check the expiry date on your card now and then and if it is getting close or if you receive a notice in the mail, please send in your renewal.

I'd also like to remind you that the Annual General meeting for AIM is coming up on November 19th and we really need to get some new people involved in the running of AIM. Although we need people to staff our booth or do other duties at the events we attend there are many other "behind the scene" tasks to be done. If you think you may be interested in joining the board or if you just have a question about specific areas of interest to you, please call us at (604) 580-0112 or send an email to info@aimvancouver.com.

Although the riding season is starting to wind down for many of us, I'd like to remind you all, especially the year round riders that the fall and winter weather brings additional hazards with more rainy, windy days and less daylight hours so take extra care out there.

Ride Safe,

Greg Swallow - Membership Director



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MOTORCYCLE ACCIDENT?

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E. James McNeney

You already know many non-riders think motorcycles are dangerous and you shouldn't even ride one. What you may not have thought about is that most lawyers are non-riders, and may share this prejudice. Do you want that kind of lawyer? It is in the best interest of the insurance company to settle as quickly as possible! They are representing the insurance company (NOT YOU!) You need someone with experience when dealing with corporate insurance companies like ICBC. E. James McNeney has been protecting the rights of auto accident victims since 1977.

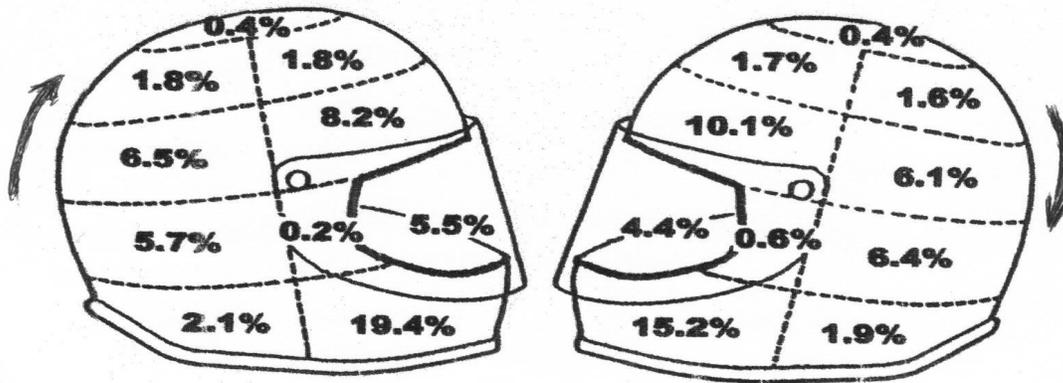
Do you know your rights in BC? Ask us now!

Toll Free: 1-800 535 6565

Tel: 604 687 1766

Here's some helmet safety? info for you to mull over

Assembled and presented by "Smokey"



The above drawings show the percentage of deaths caused from various points of impact on the helmet. Note that the highest percentage occur from impact at lower front and upper front areas. The arrow shown on the left helmet indicates the direction of helmet rotation from lower frontal impact, while the arrow on the right shows the direction of helmet rotation from upper frontal impact. When helmet rotation occurs the spinal cord can be severed.

I was watching one of those programs where they do all kinds of dangerous stunts and this one caught my eye, this guy bills himself as the real crash test dummy! It would seem that there are some things that they need a real person to perform that a crash test dummy can't do! This guy gets in the car without a crash helmet and proceeds to crash the cars in various ways. They take the drivers door off and set up high speed cameras at the point of impact! When asked why he doesn't wear a helmet he says the weight of it would break his neck on impact. Point taken.

Psychology research has uncovered an interesting phenomenon that relates to the I-didn't-see-you excuse. It seems that humans are subjected to so much incoming information that one part of the brain serves as sort of a subconscious mental "spam filter." The filter passes on to the conscious part of the brain only information that corresponds to what the person is concerned about, what the psychologists call "attending to". If a driver is thinking about (attending to) buy a new car, the spam filter will pass along anything related to cars, including automobile dealerships and billboards with car ads. The flip side is that if the driver is not concerned about some things (such as being on the lookout for motorcycles) the motorcycle will not be seen even if the driver looks right at it!

Al Greaves (Smokey)

Newsletter Editor.

www.aimvancouver.com



Gas secret for all riders

As an owner of a large displacement bike with big pistons (06 Street Glide) I am cursed by having to run premium fuel at a premium cost. In hot weather or when riding hard, my HOG needs at least 91 octane and runs best on 94 which costs 15 to 20 cents more than regular. It is frustrating having to use the premium fuel when every domestic car. even the ultra high performance Corvette is perfectly happy with regular !!

However, a fellow rider gave me a tip the other night. In town, when it is not too hot and I am gentle on the throttle, the hog gets along ok with midrange 89 octane, which only costs 5 to 7 cents more. Both Chevron and Petro Can as well as Esso offer the mid range in most of their stations.

I didn't know that Husky/Mohawk has regular which is 90 octane at the same price as the 87 octane from all other manufacturers!! The Street Glide loves the 90 octane now the weather is cooler and if I want to upgrade, the premium at Husky/Mohawk is 94 octane at the same price as the competition charges for 91 !!

Nice to support the small guy sometimes and save a bit of coin at the same time.

Craig Heale, Visitation Director



Christmas Dinners

Last year, several of us on the board were invited to the Gospel Rider's Christmas dinner (see page 10) and also to the Christian Riders Christmas dinner (see next page) and we highly recommend that if you like delicious food, buffet style and love great company, these are the places to check out. Everyone is welcome. Hope to see you there!

Dave



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The BC. Safety Council, after serving B.C. since 1945 and more specifically the motorcycling community since 1971, has closed its doors as of October 15th. It is a huge loss to the motorcycling community in B.C. and BCCOM wishes all staff and board members good luck in future.

Do you know?

You are travelling 40 km/hr (25 mph) and you go down on your bike. How many seconds does it take to wear through your denim jeans and you start losing skin?

- a) 2.0 seconds
- b) 3.2 seconds
- c) 4.0 seconds

Answer on page 8.....

Apology for the Newsletter being late

Normally the newsletter comes out in time for the toy run and due to other issues, it is way past its time. My apologies to you all!

Chris



14TH ANNUAL
CHRISTIAN MOTORCYCLISTS
CHRISTMAS DINNER
NOVEMBER 28, 2009
6:30 P.M.

\$12.00 PER PERSON
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MISSION FOURSQUARE CHURCH
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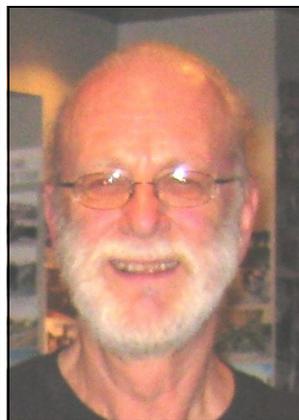
Head northwest on Abbotsford- Mission Hwy/Mission Bridge
Exit on Hwy 11. Turn left at Horne Street. Turn right to go over the
overpass. Take the 1st right onto 1st Avenue. Turn left at Stave Lake
Street. Turn right at Prentis Street. Mission 4 Square Church on left
hand side of road after you go past the Heritage Park Centre.

INFORMATION:

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Assume they cannot see you, Ride Safe!



Visitation Report

The busy season is upon us. We are actually getting more phone calls from other sources than from our posted number which means people are more aware of us. One rider (PW) from the interior was hit by a deer and is left partially quadriplegic but is making some recovery and is in GF Strong.

A previous rider from the Kooteneys who was struck by a left turner has now been discharged back home. We will keep in touch.

Our long term rider in George Pearson recently had increased pain in his low back and was running a high fever and had to go back to VGH.

Visited a downed rider who was struck in a parking lot. His friend phoned us immediately, Scruffy and I were able to visit him at the emergency ward at Royal Columbian Hospital by 6:30 that evening. We ensured that he knew his rights and arranged to visit him at home the next morning. The next day Dave and I visited him at his home. Gave him more information, the contacts sheet and the ICBC sheet from the Journal.

I attended the GF Strong 50th Anniversary/barbeque on behalf of AIM to raise our profile. Pointed out to various staff that we had donated the barbeque and many of them were already aware of that, which is good – words travels fast. I established contact with a new Social Worker named Jan Vetter, who indicated a willingness to advise us if someone comes in who has been injured in a motorcycle accident. I will arrange a meeting with her when it is convenient for Dave to attend as well.

Gary Richardson,
Director, Visitations

2009: Jan 1 - Sep 17 Total

Visitations	149
Phone consultation	84
Riders helped	32
Family members helped	20

Current Roster:

GF Strong	2
George Pearson	1
Home	1

Answer: From PAGE 7

0.4 seconds. So after just a little more than 1/3 of a second, your skin is coming off.

Speak with anyone who has had an accident and required skin grafts. These are one of the most painful things you can experience. They have to scrub the sand and dirt out with a brush (ouch). These accidents frequently occur when the rider just has to make a quick run down to the shop or a friend's place which is not that far, and they do not bother to wear their gear. Wear your gear -- It is better to be safe than sorry.

Gary Richardson,

In order for us to visit a downed rider, we **NEED YOU** to inform us, the name of the injured and hospital name or a phone number where they may be reached, **OR** please give them **AIM's** Phone number **604-580-0112**



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PLEASE Ride SAFELY!!!

I Didn't See You

If you allow another motorist to knock you down, you'll probably hear the same lame excuse: "I didn't see you." Certainly there are occasions when the other driver really couldn't see the motorcyclist, but many veteran motorcyclists have long had a sneaking suspicion that the excuse is mostly a cop-out. When a driver attempts a sudden left turn in front of a motorcyclist and knocks the bike down, do we expect them to say, "I saw you but I was in a hurry and I figured you'd get out of my way?"

This "I-didn't-see-you" excuse has led some safety experts to believe that the problem is simply that motorcycles are inconspicuous in traffic. The solution, theoretically, is to be more conspicuous. The suggestions are to wear brightly colored riding gear, and add a modulator that flashes the headlight.

High-mileage riders roll their eyes at the conspicuity stuff. Perhaps the veterans have a more realistic understanding of the I-didn't-see-you myth. Does the conspicuity stuff really work, or is it more of a magic talisman than a dependable safety device? Conspicuity devices are based on the assumption that the other guy will get out of your way if he can only see you.

So it really can be true that a driver looks right at you and sees you, but your image gets filtered out and never gets to the conscious part of the driver's brain. That would explain how a driver might not comprehend a motorcyclist wearing a high-visibility jacket and the bike flashing its headlight.

Since we can't control every situation, we often depend upon other motorists to not run us over, like it or not. Motorcycles are narrower and more difficult to see in traffic. Other motorists don't always comprehend how rapidly a motorcycle is approaching because a 7 inch diameter headlight doesn't give motorists a clue about your approaching speed. So there is a case for motorcyclists to be a little more conspicuous for the benefit of those drivers on the road who are really trying to avoid collisions. The veterans know that avoiding collisions depends on being prepared to get out of the way of the other guy, whether he sees you or not

Al Greeves (Smokey)

Newsletter Editor.

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Lorne Winder C.P.(C), F.C.B.C.
CERTIFIED PROSTHETIST

Dave Moe C.P.(C).
CERTIFIED PROSTHETIST

Gospel Riders 2009 Christmas Dinner

Dec. 5th - 6PM

Eagle Ridge Gymnasium
1160 Lansdowne Drive. Coquitlam

with
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INFO - 604 377 8769



Membership Rates are going up!

It has been many, many years since the rates went up, at least 10+ years and well over due. The cost of printing, postage, pins, patches has skyrocketed in the last several years.

As of January 1, 2010, singles will increase from \$20 to \$25, couples & clubs from \$30 to \$35 per year. So if you are due in 2010 and would like to pay in advance before Jan 1, 2010 at the lower rate, send in your payment by cutting out the application form at the bottom of this page and mail it to us with a cheque for either, \$20 for a single and \$30 for a couple before Dec 31, 2009.

Ride Safe!

Chris

Newsletter is in color at
www.aimvancouver.com/news/



Association for Injured Motorcyclists

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Ph. 604.580.0112 Fax. 604.580.0114

www.aimvancouver.com



Whether you are an accident victim or a sincerely interested party, please take our appeal earnestly. We are serious about our livelihood. WE NEED YOU! ... Become a member and give us support for effective representation on all matters of concern to Injured Motorcyclists.

Name: _____ Ph: _____ Cell: _____
Address: _____ City: _____
Prov: _____ Postal Code: _____ Email: _____

Return this application with your payment to the address above. Make checks payable to
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VISA ONLY please

Expiry

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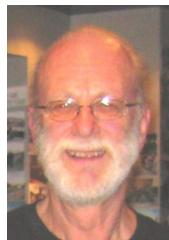
**News From The USA Motor-
cycling World**



A legislative committee in Utah has approved a bill that would reward motorcycle riders for wearing helmets. A bill sponsored by Rep. Ronda Rudd Menlove, R-Garland allows motorcyclists cited for traffic violations to have \$10 knocked off the fine if they were wearing a helmet. Currently, anyone under age 18 in Utah is required to wear a helmet while riding.

A new law in Oregon will require all new motorcyclists in the state to pass a rigorous training course, in hopes of reducing deadly wrecks. Oregon will become the third state in the country to mandate this law. Law-makers also voted to double the fine for riders caught without the proper license. It jumps to 720 dollars starting in January.

Greg Swallow



Busy, Busy, Busy

Well, fellow AIMers, we have been busy beavers this summer, and are still going strong. We have attended so many events that we have almost lost count! Trev Deeleys, Davidson Pitt

Stop Restaurant, Wings & Wheels Fly & Ride, Azzkirk's Customs, Ashcroft Drags, Hawg Zotic, Mission drags, Sasquatch Inn, Dukes Pub, Langley Cruise-In, both Toy Runs, Almost every weekend was filled. Hope I got them all!

We have sold memberships, accepted donations, raised our profile in the community at large, and made many new friends as well. The socializing at the events has also been a bonus on another account, making AIM available so that people have informed us about riders they knew in the hospital.

Hope to see you all again next year at all these events and any new ones that come about. Ride Safe

Gary Richardson

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GF Strong S&S

The client Poker Run was a Big hit, lots of compliments about the food and what AIM does. Many, thanks from the families and clients for all of you who support this event. Wishing more of you to show up next year as it makes a Big difference to the families and clients.

