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Illini Free Spirit Riders

Sponsor: Fox Valley Cycles
419 Hill Avenue – Aurora, Illinois 60505 – (630) 851-2910 – www.foxvalleycycles.com

NEWSLETTER & EVENTS

October 2009



Newsletter

- After a relatively nice September, October has felt more like November, and the weather continues to have a strong negative influence on motorcycle riding in the Midwest this year. However, this gives you time to properly clean and prepare your machine(s) for winter storage. If you do not want to do it yourself, or if you lack the time, FVC is offering a detailing service this year.
- FVC is again offering their version of Happy Hour on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:00PM-6:00PM with 15% off all in-stock parts and accessories.
- Come in anytime in October and receive 10% off helmets, 20% off in-stock Tourmaster, and 15% off tires.
- FVC also has their *snowblower* line out and ready to sell. ☹

Safety Tips

- As the days grow shorter and the nights grow longer, visibility becomes every more important. There are a couple of things you can do to improve your visibility on the road. The main point is that you want to make sure you are seen by all the drivers around you. Your eyes should be constantly be moving to make sure you know what is going on around you and that you can make sure others see that you are there.
 - Wear bright colored gear: When you wear bright colored gear you stand out. You are hard to miss and do not blend into your surroundings. I understand you may not want to go out and buy yourself a full set of bright yellow or neon green motorcycle leathers. This can be accomplished pretty cheaply as a matter of fact. Get and wear a reflective motorcycle vest. You know the ones, they look like the kind road crews wear. Another good thing to do would be to put some reflective tape on and around your helmet. Stand out, don't blend.
 - Blind spot riding: Stay where other drivers can see you. Most likely you also drive a car so you know what I am taking about here. Cars have blind spots between the side mirrors and the rear view mirror, this is where you want to stay away from when riding near other vehicles. Do your best to stay out of this area, if you can't see the driver in his or her mirrors they cannot see you.

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President's Message

There is no consensus among motorcyclists as to when riding season ends. Even in our own little club, we have some members who stop riding when daytime temperatures get down into the lower fifties and others who ride in almost any temperature, as long as the roads are clean. Most of us, I think, fall somewhere in-between. But then that's how competent motorcycling works; we each know our respective limits and strive to ride within them. However you measure it, I hope you have enjoyed this riding season as much as I have.

Please don't forget to turn in all of your Participation Challenge entries to the Fox Valley Cycles office by October 31. I would suggest avoiding the last-minute rush, if possible. Then, on Friday, November 13, don't miss the Participation Challenge party at Fox Valley Cycles, starting at 7 PM.

Finally, as we enter the last quarter of 2009, it is time to start thinking about the election of officers for 2010. Technically, we nominate and elect our officers in one evening, during our December meeting. This time around, however, we are encouraging open discussions on the matter during our October and November meetings. This will be a great opportunity to ask questions and to give those who are thinking about stepping up a chance to share their ideas. Please don't be shy. —Michael D'Aversa

Calendar

Roving Dinner	October 21 6:30PM	Baci Italian Ristorante, 407 W Lockport Rd, Plainfield, IL (815) 436-3588*
Last Sunday Ride	October 25 TBD	TBD***
Dinner	October 28 6:30PM	Bridge Street Café, 213 S Bridge St, Yorkville, IL (630) 553-9230*
PC ends	October 31	All Participation Challenge tickets <u>must</u> be turned by this date!
Daylight Savings Time ends—November 1		
Dinner	November 4 6:30PM	Larry's Diner, 24522 W Lockport St, Plainfield, IL (815) 436-3055*
First Saturday Ride	November 7 TBD	TBD***
Meeting	November 11 6:00PM	Meeting at FVC and dinner at (restaurant TBD)**
PC Party	November 13 7:00PM	Participation Challenge Party at FVC—you must RSVP by November 10
Roving Dinner	November 18 6:30PM	Paulie's Pub & Grille, 444 N Eola Rd, Aurora, IL (630) 499-8956*
Dinner	November 25	No Dinner—Thanksgiving tomorrow
Dinner	December 2 6:30PM	Larry's Diner, 24522 W Lockport St, Plainfield, IL (815) 436-3055*

** worth 2 Participation Challenge tickets —** worth 3 Participation Challenge tickets—***for the remainder of this year First Saturday and Last Sunday rides will be worth 5 tickets*